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John Tweedell

New specially designed doctor's surgery for hospital site in Emsworth announced

Four of the five members of the Emsworth Surgery Group met with Dr Chinwala of the Emsworth surgery during November. This independent group is solely concerned with the aim to build a new doctors' surgery in Emsworth and represents several Emsworth interests: the ERA, the Patients Participation Group, the Friends of Emsworth Community Health, a ward councillor and Emsworth Forum. The purpose of the meeting was to learn the current position of the practice in its negotiations with the various NHS departments involved with the provision of a new surgery in Emsworth.

Perhaps for the first time since the closure of patient beds in Emsworth hospital in 2005, there is now definite news of positive movement toward this long awaited and essential development of the hospital site.

NHS Property Services Ltd. intends to provide a new specially designed

surgery on the hospital site which it owns. The Emsworth doctors' practice will then be able to rent a new building that will properly meet their own requirements and those of their patients and staff. The adjoining garden owned by the Friends will remain as accessible and not be affected.

A Project Manager has been appointed who has the job of investigating the design and build specification in consultation with Dr Chinwala and the many other parties having an interest in the development. The doctors have engaged their own Project Manager to assist with their interests in the new building specification.

With numerous factors yet to be finalised, a firm time scale for start, yet alone completion, cannot be given, but Emsworth doctors are hopeful that they, their patients and staff will all enjoy the benefits of the new surgery by the end of 2016.

Peter Tier

Christmas wrapped up in Emsworth

Emsworth lit up when the Christmas lights were switched on and Father Christmas arrived on his sleigh at the end of November. Always quite a thrill. The fun started in St. Peters Square with community carol singing and music led by Canon Simon Sayers. It featured the Emsworth Concert Band as well with pupils from the village's primary schools taking part. Emsworth's youngest school age resident, Esme Howard, switched on the Christmas lights with a little help from the Mayor of Havant.

Father Christmas moved on to his special Grotto with some Emsworth town Elves on hand to help. Local children took it in turn to meet Santa and enjoyed getting their special Christmas present and a big ho, ho, ho from him too. A brightly lit seasonal Festive Market was held alongside the grotto, with hot food and mulled wine to enjoy. Sausages, some tasty pork pies, lamb burgers, pizza and even ice cream were all on the menu. The hot chestnut seller and the adorable donkeys by the manger gave the market a very traditional feel.

Most shops around Emsworth, from North Street right down to the Quay stayed open. The Emsworth Fire Brigade welcomed children to the station so they could climb onto the fire engine – what better way to start the Christmas period?

So many of Emsworth's shops entered into the spirit of things with their own delightful displays. Year on year, they never fail to capture the feeling of Christmas past and present.

Visitors and residents were able to take advantage of free parking in early December and many took the opportunity to catch up with some Christmas shopping, enjoy some local eateries and to simply enjoy seeing the Christmas lights spectacle across the whole town.

Emsworth's fabulous local produce market took centre stage in mid-December. It was a real delight, especially with



John Tweedell



Left: Elves at the Co-op spreading Christmas cheer; above: Santa arrives; below: school children sing their hearts out

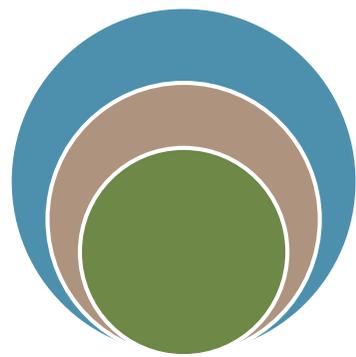
so many hand-made and home-made arts and crafts and some unusual fresh vegetables to choose from. Locally grown produce from around Emsworth was in abundance and with some gorgeous cakes and hot freshly ground coffee to enjoy, it was a real treat.

A special Christmas Market held just before the big day, wrapped up the run - up to Christmas nicely. The Salvation Army brass Band played in North Street and a special 'Santa Trail' was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Last minute shopping was a pleasure.

St Peters Square came to life again in early January when residents were invited to recycle their Christmas Trees free of charge, with an invitation to make a small donation to the Wheelyboat Trust. (Thanks go to Brightside Nursery for that and thanks to the EBA for planning so many top events for Christmas time).

It was another Happy Christmas in Emsworth.

Lesley DiFonzo



Emsworth Residents' Association

The Ems

The Ems is wholly owned and published by the Emsworth Residents' Association.

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Editorial

Please send all letters, articles and event notices for publication to Lesley DiFonzo: editor@emsworthresidents.co.uk or by post to the above address.

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The next issue will be published during the first week of April 2015. Please try to submit all letters and articles by 5 March 2015. If you want to submit after this date, please email the Editor first.

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Committee Meetings

Committee Meetings	AGM and QGM Meetings
12 January	26 January (AGM) (public)
2 March	
13 April	27 April (public)
1 June	
13 July	27 July (public)
7 September	
12 October	26 October (public)
16 November	

Chairman's Letter

A warm welcome and a Happy New Year to you all.

The past six months have been both challenging and exciting as we continue the rejuvenation of our community newspaper. We'll be bringing new areas of interest to *The Ems* and hope to increase the subjects and local themes it embraces. All without detracting from the long held independent voice we have cherished for so many years.

We are lucky here in Emsworth to have many talented, professional people who work tirelessly and unpaid for different associations, societies and groups to ensure Emsworth remains an interesting, vibrant and safe place to live and work in.

I am delighted that Lesley DiFonzo has agreed to accept the roll of Managing Editor of *The Ems* in 2015. She has already provided a lot of help in producing the November/December edition and comes to *The Ems* with skills from a publishing, journalism and marketing background.

Ali Beckett's artistic layout shines through and we are lucky that Ali (from Emsworth's Oysters) has agreed to work with us on the design and lay-out of future editions of *The Ems*. John Tweddell and Brian Picknett's photography has made such a difference to the look of the paper and David Harris' business writing and acumen is paying off. It seems we have a really strong team behind *The Ems* to go forward with this year.

We have taken this opportunity to review and update our practices and have recognised the need for an Advertising Manager who can liaise with our advertisers, who have all helped us so much during this period of transition. Phoebe Atkinson-Eberle has agreed to take on this role on a voluntary basis and she is already making contact with advertisers and introducing new systems to make things clearer and easier for all.

The Editorial Board is introducing greater transparency in the content of

The Ems by welcoming contributions from different groups and societies in Emsworth. Please do contact Lesley if you wish to submit an article, letter or short story. You can send emails to: editor@emsworthresidents.co.uk or call 01243 430462.

My sincere thanks go to Richard Jannaway who worked so hard in difficult circumstances to put the last issue of *The Ems* together and saved the day for the ERA and *The Ems*. We are all immensely grateful to him and wish him and Frances luck in their future ventures.

Our day to day monitoring of planning matters has kept us busy this year and we submitted many representations to the Borough Council and other bodies in 2014 (See Charles Ashe's report). I have already reported our success in reaching agreement at a public examination conducted by a government inspector into HBC's Local Allocations Plan.

This resulted in restricting the use of the remainder of the gap between Emsworth and Havant to community uses such as recreation or sport. Such a good example of the need to keep up to date with new planning legislation and use the new systems these changes introduced. This all helped to achieve an effective outcome rather than merely shouting from the side-lines.

We are working closely with other Emsworth groups, county and local councils along with the Environment Agency to find ways to improve flood defences as well.

I would like to thank Richard Swaine for arranging a memorial service, a plaque and rose garden to commemorate the Commonwealth War Graves in Warblington Cemetery. The dedication ceremony took place on 30th November last year and the full story can be found in this issue of *The Ems*. The ERA provided a donation to help with its foundation and ongoing assistance by Havant Borough Council.

Jo Dyer, Chairman

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John Briggs - A Man of Emsworth

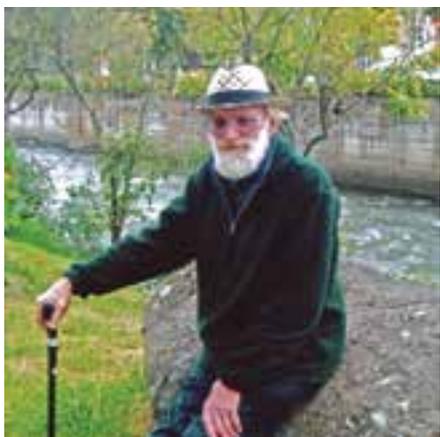
A personal recollection by Ray Cobbett

Former ERA President, John Briggs, who died in October, aged 81, would not have described himself as an Emsworthian. Such sobriquets, he might have argued, more properly describe people born in the village as many families who are still around were. John was born in Bognor or Bognor Regis as it was called in 1932.

At 16 John became a boy soldier serving in the Royal Signals including time in their famous motorbike display team until he was invalided out 12 years later. A spell in the family import/export business followed and then one day in Arundel John met Stella and they went off to live in Australia for a few years Their 18 month overland journey back from Australia to the UK was one of many epic trips they did over the next 40 years.

Emsworth became their home in 1976. Stella taught sociology at Havant College and John worked as a Buyer for Wadhams Stringer, the coachbuilders. Two daughters, Laura and Emma, completed the family. Around 1980 John began his long association with the Emsworth Residents Association. A keen diarist, he loved writing and contributed features and articles to various newspapers, county magazines and, naturally, *The Ems* which he edited for some years.

We first met in the early nineties while I was preparing for the 1993 county council election. John became chairman for three years and then vice president and president. Never a man to take his responsibilities lightly he was uncompromising when it came to the ERA's political



independence. These were the days when the Quarterly General Meeting (QGM) heard formal reports all of Emsworth's four councillors. Non agenda items could always be deferred to the Kings Arms, John's local pub or in the Town Brewery.

John's green credentials were impeccable. He was a life member of Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace. I once mentioned Havant Council were recycling 30% of domestic waste. He wasn't impressed saying that he managed 80%. During his seventies, despite deteriorating health, John and Stella re-conquered the world with al fresco trips to China, Mongolia via the trans Siberian railway, Tibet, Sri Lanka, Costa Rica and the Galapagos. Eventually John came home and stayed home and passed peacefully away in the house and town he loved. An Emworthian perhaps not, but a man of Emsworth absolutely.

John is succeeded by his wife Stella and daughters, Emma and Laura.

There will be celebration of John's life in the Town Brewery on 21 January starting at 7pm all are welcome.

Oooops! An Apology

In the article I wrote that was published in the last copy of *The Ems*, unfortunately I gave some incorrect information as to who had completed the work on the bus shelter roof. The work was in fact carried out by Peter Griffiths and his son Joe from Louch & Sons (photo below). I have spoken to Peter and apologised profusely for my error.

As Peter said 'I am a local Emsworth lad and was happy to give up my time for this worthy project as I have the necessary skills' and an extremely good job he has made of it.

I was on holiday when he did the work so I was a little sad not to have been there. Having spent many hours cleaning the roof I would have liked to have seen what the sub structure looked like. However, Peter tells me

that it is made of solid oak so is set for 15 to 20 years to come. In way of mitigation I was working on information that I was given to me when I returned! No excuse really.

Peter, I hope that this now corrects my error and the Emsworth Residents really do appreciate your work!

Chris Hallam



Emsworth Residents Association – Community Chest

The Residents Association set aside an annual sum of £4,000 (in four quarterly amounts of £1,000) to assist community organisations by giving small grants. Any group, charity, school or voluntary group within Emsworth's boundaries may apply. The money is intended for seed funding for new projects and we do not normally fund the same project twice.

The money available is intended to help build a stronger and more active community. Examples of funding given so far include help for:

- A local choir to provide items of clothing to identify them as a group
- An environmental project to encourage children in the growing and understanding of food
- Planting of trees
- Development of a children's playground
- A sports event to encourage fitness in the community
- Wemsfest – printing of programme
- Peek-a-Boo children's community activities (photo below)
- Emsworth Schools Community Fireworks
- The provision of a tool store for Brook Meadow Conservation Association
- Home Start, Havant who provide support for parents in the early years

We have also provided funding, outside of the Community Chest umbrella, towards the following:

- Completion of the shore defence works at Nore Barn
- Seed funding for the 2014 Christmas lights function organised by the Emsworth Business Association
- The provision of a commemorative plaque and a rose garden in Warblington Cemetery to mark the War Graves there

- A contribution to the Emsworth and Southbourne Community Christmas project to provide lunch on Christmas Day for those who are alone or unable to join their families

We do not fund grants for the benefit of one individual, medical research or hospitals, projects where the money will be used for religious projects, work where there is a statutory responsibility to provide funding or profit-making organisations.

Applicants can apply for up to £1000 quarterly. All decisions are made by residents at ERA Quarterly General Meetings.

Details of the scheme and an application form can be found on www.emsworthresidents.co.uk or by contacting the co-ordinator Jill Millar on 01243 377071 (e-mail jandgmil@btinternet.com).

Jill Millar



Lisa Jade Photography

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Community News

On a beautiful late autumn afternoon, our war dead were honoured

Early last year, on a wet March day, I walked through Warblington Cemetery with a friend and we counted 25 Commonwealth War Graves headstones, all noting the personal details of former military and merchant servicemen from WWI and WWII. In addition, we noted some five war casualties who have civilian headstones.

These are the facts, although, few who will have visited this most idyllic setting overlooking Langstone Harbour would have known it, for there was no single place where the memory of these men was honoured and no signs from The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) to denote their final resting place.

Many of the graves appeared unvisited and were without shrubs or roses as you would expect to see in a military cemetery. Only a few headstones were visible and we found those randomly scattered

to the west side of the cemetery.

We discovered that the CWGC care for cemeteries and memorials at 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. The policy in the UK is to create a plot with borders and horticulture when there are 10 or more headstones together. Unfortunately, there are not enough headstones in a group at Warblington to do this. The CWGC do visit the cemetery as part of their bi-annual inspection of the area in order to check that the headstones are clean, safe and legible and with easy access.

Last year was the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of WWI and the 70th anniversary of the Normandy landings and I felt we should do better; after all, we are enjoying a life that those who lost their lives fought for.

My initial contacts with The CWGC gave me a better understanding of their role and that led me to Havant Borough



John Tweddell

Council. Once I understood their position which was; they are very supportive and willing to undertake work necessary but couldn't finance the project. I approached The Emsworth Residents Association who agreed to a request for funds.

By October, with the funds secured, I worked with the relevant Borough Council Managers to agree a plan to create a rose garden near to the entrance of Warblington cemetery and a marble tablet, with an appropriate dedication.

On Sunday November 30, on a beautiful late autumn afternoon, a ceremony took place at Warblington cemetery. The Mayor of Havant, Councillor Marjorie Smallcorn unveiled an engraved marble tablet in a peaceful and new rose garden. The Reverend Canon Simon Sayers brought into sharp focus those local Emsworth families who have lost their

loved ones in war since 1914. A bugler sounded 'the last post' and standards were lowered in the traditional way.

After 'reveille', General the Lord Richards, the former head of the Armed Services and an Emsworth resident addressed the gathering of current and former service personnel and those from the merchant service by comparing the WWI soldier with those of the modern era.

Over 50 Royal British Legion crosses were placed in the new rose garden on the day and these included one by Amelia Allison age 5 and one by Flt Lt David Bowker who was a pilot in the RAF during WW II.

Visitors to this most idyllic setting have a special place of remembrance now, where the memory of men who lost their lives in war can be honoured.

Richard Swaine

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Emsworth sunrise shines with BBC South Today viewers

A sunrise photograph taken by local photographer John Tweddell has proved to be a hit with BBC South Today viewers. Taken on 9 December it appeared

on that evening's weather forecast and run up lots of likes on Facebook. It then became the BBC profile picture on its Facebook header page.

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Community News

Tree care at Emsworth Primary School

Emsworth Tree Wardens have been busy cutting and clearing vegetation from around young trees planted at Emsworth Primary School and have also completed a survey of all the trees in the grounds.

The tree planting project started in 2009 with around thirty trees (Rowan, Silver Birch, Wild Cherry and Oak) along the northern edge of the playing field as part of a landscape plan produced by Hampshire County Council Education Department. This was followed up in 2013 with the children again helping Tree Wardens to plant a similar number of trees, this time including Alder. Many of these had been grown from seed locally.

This year, as originally planned, the area around the trees has not been mowed so that it will create a natural area with wildflowers. It has also protected the trees from over enthusiastic grass cutting! A walkway/path may then be introduced. Management included a late summer cut with a combination of hand scything by Richard Jannaway and power scythe help gratefully received from Maurice Lillie of the Brook Meadow Conservation Group. The arisings were

raked and removed a few days later by Emsworth Tree Wardens to encourage the growth of wildflowers next year.

The school has an enthusiastic Gardening Club which will include tree care (supported by Emsworth Tree Wardens). For the young trees, this includes keeping the immediate area around each one clear of vegetation, mulching and watering (when necessary) as well as checking and removing guards when appropriate.

A tree survey carried out in May this year, recorded 34 different trees in or adjacent to the school grounds. Most of these are native to the British Isles or at least have been growing in Britain for a very long time. The trees provide year round interest in terms of colour, bark, leaves, flowers, fruit and shape. In addition, ad hoc plant surveys (May-June) recorded over 30 different wildflowers. The trees, shrubs and wildflowers support a wide variety of wildlife by providing shelter and a source of food.

There is enormous scope to use this natural resource right on the doorstep to teach young people about the value of the natural environment in terms of



Emsworth Tree Wardens working at Emsworth Primary School

wildlife, shade, air quality, drainage, general human well - being, etc. Current plans include developing a Hedgerow Foraging project at the school with The Tree Council and a hands-on learning programme to be facilitated by Ed Bond, Education Officer at Tuppenny Barn. In

both these projects, children learn about growing fruit & vegetables, food, cooking, wildlife, trees and the environment as an integral part of the curriculum. Emsworth Tree Wardens are involved in both these projects.

Yvonne Copeland

Museum exhibition needs your help

We are looking to gather together and record the history of Emsworth and the surrounding area during the period 1939-1945.

Were members of your family living in Emsworth at this time? If so were they involved in the war effort – in any capacity? Or part of the Home Guard?

Local industries included the building of landing craft and Horsa gliders, camouflage net making, making parts for

Stirling bombers, fuel tanks for training aircraft, ammunition boxes etc. and a variety of other items.

Please let Dorothy Bone know if you have information, pictures or stories that will help to complete the picture of Emsworth in WWII.

Contact Dorothy Bone at the Emsworth Maritime and Historical Trust (Emsworth Museum) on 01243 378091 or email dorothybone@btinternet.com.

Are Hedges Trees?

Some readers may have noticed increased activity around the Horndean Road hedge during the summer. Emsworth Tree Wardens were responsible for getting the hedge coppiced and planted (2012-2014) with grants generously provided by the Emsworth Residents Association and have been helping the council to maintain it, especially to make it look its best before the Emsworth Show. This involved very serious weeding and pruning, as well as

litter picking, and attracted some interesting (and interested) comments from various passers-by. More hands make lighter work and it is hoped to start earlier next year so that the hedge is given the best possible chance of development. Some replanting will also be needed, especially in the southern section.

Anyone interested in helping with these ongoing projects, please contact me, Yvonne on 389877.

Yvonne Copeland

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Reviews - as it happened

Bluesman pays his dues at Tuppenny Barn

Gravel voiced, American blues singer, guitarist and harmonica player, Guy Davis enthralled a full house of over 100 fans at Tuppenny Barn in late November last year. The concert which had been held over from Wemsfest was well received with the normally staid Emsworth audience even joining in on some numbers.

Veteran blues singer Guy, has been recording and touring for most of his life and had previously played in the Emsworth area. He performed a solo acoustic set using both six and 12 string guitars with harmonica accompaniment.

The act was a mixture of his own songs together with blues standards from Willie Dixon, Howlin' Wolf, Blind Willie McTell, Sonny Terry and Mississippi Fred McDowell.

Guy was wowed by the venue which he rather surrealistically christened the "Flapjack Palace". The striking timber frame circular structure that is the Tuppenny Barn Education Centre certainly leant itself to this type of concert. The acoustics were excellent and the artist was able to maintain an intimate communication with the audience.

In an interview with The Ems before the concert Guy explained that he had recently been touring Russia where there is now tremendous interest in music. "Blues is a universal language, no matter where I play people can relate to the emotions in my music." Guy has been playing in England for over 20 years and was about to start the "Light of Day" tour which would take in several venues in Great Britain, Switzerland and Italy. Guy really likes England, "the people are friendly and they really appreciate good music", he added.

The concert was consistently good with the audience especially enjoying

Guy's rendition of "Little Red Rooster", a song written by Willie Dixon but made famous by the Rolling Stones who took it to No 1 in 1964. Guy also played a very bluesy version of the Bob Dylan classic, "Lay Lady Lay" from the Nashville Skyline album of 1969.

Another highlight was a frenzied harmonica solo which Guy had first performed in a New York stage version of Finian's Rainbow.

As well as being an excellent musician Guy was quite a raconteur and he held the audience with his expositions on American politics, British weather and a variety of other topics.

We really need to thank Mark and the Wemsfest team for bringing such an accomplished musician to the Emsworth area and hope it will not be too long before we are able to see Guy perform again. Special thanks also to Maggie Haynes of Tuppenny Barn Organics for use of their splendid venue.

For more information see: www.guy-davis.com

David Harris



Bluesman Guy Davis at Tuppenny Barn

Art that is no longer visible

Every Friday morning at the Hewitt's Centre in South Street, a group of highly talented artists meet to produce stunning pieces of art. The project is known as "Art Invisible" because the artists come from that least visible section of society, the 1.5 million people in Britain who have learning difficulties. It is a privilege to watch them at work creating a range of stunning, mainly abstract works.

Project organiser Debbie Lyall set up the Right to Work Community

Interest Company (CIC) in summer 2014 to help people with learning difficulties earn a living through their art. Debbie had previously been a Head of Department at Highbury College.

On 22/23 November a range of the student's works was exhibited and offered for sale at the Hewitt's Centre.

For more information contact: Debbie Lyall, The Right to Work CIC, Art Invisible, 07931564399 or email debbie@therighttowork.co.uk.

David Harris



David Harris

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The Wild Ponies perform at the Hewitts

A small but appreciative audience were captivated by the Williams' unique blend of folk, alt country, American, roots and Southern Gothic. Wild Ponies perform their own material of finely wrought, highly emotive songs, often reflecting the darker side of life in America. Domestic violence, drinking whiskey and murder are explored along with NASCAR racing, grandmothers, tarot cards and things that breakdown. Doug is a highly accomplished guitar player - electric and acoustic, and a good singer in his own right. The bands sheer professionalism really shined when Doug broke a guitar string towards the end of the set and he effortlessly switched to acoustic while Telisha continued to sing and play bass.

The band showcased their new album at the Hewitts at the end of last year. "Things that used to be" which is available on the Continental Rose label and were able to sell many copies to the enthusiastic audience. They managed to produce a "big" sound which never overwhelmed the cleverly crafted lyrics. Telisha sang with great feeling - she not only wrote the songs but many were based on her personal experiences of growing up in small town rural Virginia.

They ended the set with a beautifully understated version of the Patsy Cline, country classic, "I fall to pieces".

Wild Ponies are made up of husband and wife singer, songwriters, Doug and Telisha Williams. They have been together since High School and spend most of their time playing gigs across the vast expanse that is the USA. The couple had arrived early in Emsworth and said they had enjoyed walking around the Millpond and eating fish and chips on the harbour wall.

"We really like England - the audiences listen to our music", confided Telisha who sings and plays acoustic double bass to accompany her husband on guitars. "Why the double bass?" "It is a really sensuous instrument - it is the one most like the human form and I really like being on stage with the bass when I perform" revealed Telisha.

The Hewitt's lended itself well to this type of music and created an intimate atmosphere where there was a visible connection between the band and the music. The Wemsfest crew can be congratulated for putting on such a memorable evening.

For more information see: www.wildponies.net

David Harris



David Harris

The Wild Ponies 'We really like England - the audience listens to our music'.

Vacancy for the post of Coordinator for Emsworth Museum

Emsworth Maritime and Historical Trust (EM&HT) is seeking a suitable person for the post of Co-ordinator for Emsworth Museum as the present Administrator retires next year.

The successful candidate must have an enthusiasm for working in an environment of a wholly volunteer run organisation entirely funded by donations, subscriptions and grants. The applicant will be responsible for

recording and caring for the Museum's artefacts representing Emsworth's unique cultural heritage for the education, benefit and enjoyment of present and future members of the public of all ages. An inspirational person with an interest in local history, a good communicator and someone who would enjoy working as part of the team responsible for running a small independent museum is required.

The Co-ordinator will be required to be in attendance at the Museum for 2 sessions each week for most of the year, each session being of 2 hours, days and times subject to negotiation. The Co-ordinator will be responsible to the General Committee of the Trust. The post is a voluntary one, not salaried employment but an annual honorarium will be paid to cover expenses.

Please apply by e-mail or in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the Emsworth

Maritime and Historical Trust, Mrs D. Bone at dorothybone@btinternet.com or at 24 Hollybank Lane, Emsworth

PO10 7UE, who will be pleased to provide more details on request.



John Tweedell

Regular exhibitions are held at the Museum

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The Ems Interview

It's all about celebrating community and food. Emsworth's fabulous British Food Fortnight entry and its accolade award, 'Harvest Heroes' *Lesley DiFonzo talks to Alistair Gibson*

"Well community doesn't just happen, people live in a certain location, a certain area but that doesn't make them a community. It needs people to get together with a common purpose and British Food Fortnight gave us that opportunity to celebrate all that's good about British food and to bring the local community together."

"We're proud in Emsworth to have so many local businesses rather than the big retailers, so it's important as a community we retain them and support them. British Food Fortnight in Emsworth, provided that opportunity to work together, celebrate all that's good about food, all that's good about our community and also provided the opportunity to build a food mountain for the Beacon Food Bank." Canon Simon Sayers

From an early age, Alistair Gibson has been passionate about food and the community. His parents started the Brookfield Hotel in 1972, having bought the property as a house in 1971. It started as a six bedroom hotel, expanded quickly and by 2006, the hotel was sold as a 40 bedroomed hotel.

As an only child, Alistair was very involved in the family business and soon became the hotel's ideas man. One of his first successes was in 1984 when he decided to celebrate Oysters. "We borrowed a rowing boat and put it in the middle of the restaurant, filled it with ice and I sat in the boat opening Oysters every evening for a fortnight."

He'd entered a competition - 'National Eating Out Week' and needed to come up with something original as the theme. It worked, they won the competition and already it showed Alistair's flair for creative ideas and his growing love of all things food. Alistair had earlier worked

in Cape Town, South Africa for several years, where he was responsible for developing and managing large events.

He was approached by the then Chair of the Emsworth Business Association to say that Havant Borough Council had offered £500 to organise an Emsworth food weekend and would he like to organise it? He went back with Amanda Thomas from The Brookfield Hotel and Chris Allwood - and said "no." Instead they asked for £2000 and said, "With £2000, we'll create a 3 day food festival though." HBC agreed and local company 'Ingenico' generously matched the amount. So the first 'Emsworth Food Festival' was born.

"In the first year we had 18 stalls and by the third year, we had closed car parks, had an awful lot of stalls and marquees with businesses and everyone joining in." The event had become huge and was so popular amongst visitors and a lot of residents and their associations all supported it. Alistair says, "It was one of the proudest moments of my life."

Although the festival continued for 7 years, Alistair left after the 4th festival as he felt it had taken over his life and he needed to get it back. "People were so proud here in Emsworth, they flew flags and the feeling of being part of something special was overwhelming."

Alistair's first thought when Emsworth won 'British Food Fortnight Harvest Heroes' last year was, "How great for Emsworth." This was the icing on the cake for Emsworth and put it firmly on the food map in the UK. The team went to a reception in London, late last year, to receive the award. (A beautiful piece of hand carved and engraved Dutchy of Cornwall wood, which the team has had mounted and it will tour Emsworth, so

Clockwise from top: Emsworth British Food Fortnight logo; Alistair Gibson and team receive the 'Bring the Harvest Home' award; mountain of donated food in Emsworth square; family enjoy apple pressing as part of National Apple Day celebrations in Emsworth



John Tweedell

John Tweedell

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John Tweedell

Alistair handing an Apple Day award to Joe Russell

Generosity of residents ensures regular food bank collections

Following on from the success of Emsworth Food Fortnight last year, which saw a mountain of food donated by residents to the Beacon Food Bank, the Emsworth Business Association has said that a regular Food Bank collection point has been set up in Emsworth.

The collection point ties in with monthly market weekends and can be found outside the Emsworth Co-op on both Saturday and Sunday.

‘Working with the Southern Co-operative underlines the real community spirit in Emsworth and this initiative shows a true legacy from the all the effort that was put into the success that was the Emsworth British Food Fortnight’, said Alistair Gibson

‘The Southern Co-operative are pleased to be supporting the monthly food collections at our store in Emsworth as part of our ongoing commitment to addressing the issues close to our communities’ hearts. Since we started working with the food bank in Portsmouth in 2011, we have grown our support as local need arises, and now work with 14 food banks across our trading area including the Isle of Wight, Chichester and Bognor.’ Jessica Hughes, the Southern Co-operative.

Lesley DiFonzo

look out for it in different places around the town).

Their entry had been judged best by all the judges, including chef, Raymond Blanc. They were looking for events that strengthened the local community, educated people about British food and eating locally, and supported the economy.

In 2012 Alistair and Giles Babb, Chair of the EBA talked about starting a Food Fortnight. Alistair soon found ‘Love British Food’ and ideas started to flow. They applied too late to be included in British Food Fortnight in 2013 but were quick off the mark in 2014. Alistair had wanted to register Emsworth the town rather than as an individual but there was no such category. Incredibly, the organisers of British Food Fortnight created a special category with Emsworth as the first entrant. The Brookfield Hotel paid the £400 fees. Many other towns followed. Winning the top award in their first year is a huge achievement by Alistair and his team and is such a

wonderful thing for Emsworth.

To organise such a big event, Alistair and Giles enlisted the help of many, including Lulu Bowerman. They became the key team behind Emsworth Food Fortnight. Alistair wanted to involve local education colleges and schools in the fortnight and so contacted the catering departments of three local Colleges. Highbury, South Downs and Chichester.

“They were all offered the opportunity to ‘take over’ the Brookfield Hotel’s kitchen and restaurant to deliver a 3 course Great British menu devised and prepared by the students themselves. The lunches all sold out within a week of being announced.”

Alistair saw the need to involve as many Emsworth locals, restaurants, businesses and pubs in the Food Fortnight. “Two local markets were quickly included, organised by Phoebe Atkinson and Hampshire Farmers’ Market showcased some of the counties own produce, while the ‘A Thought for Food’ Market concentrated on more local producers.

“From local cider and hand raised pork pies to Emsworth’s own brand of sausages, the event was so exciting.”

“Our local rising band, Heronshaw played on the roof of The Blue Bell Inn, giving a perfect end to a perfect day.” Alistair’s, son is a member of the band, so he’s a proud dad too.

The fortnight’s finale was an open air Harvest Festival in Emsworth Square. Working with the Beacon Food Bank, this was the moment when Emsworth showed its generosity and built a food mountain, which exceeded all expectations.

Ruth Scott, from the Beacon Food Bank, had this to say to Emsworth, “On behalf of all the team at Beacon Food Bank, I would like to say a big thank you to the generous people of Emsworth who donated so much food to us over the Emsworth Food Fortnight. It really exceeded our expectations.”

This year’s Food Fortnight is already being planned and a special events team has been set up to get things rolling.



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Community News

Lots raised at Emsworth's Charity Ball

With the aim of getting as many people out to enjoy a trip on Emsworth Harbour waters, the Wheelyboat Trust is delighted with the support it has been given by Emsworth's business community. The idea behind the trust is to open up the Harbour to people who might never get the opportunity to take a trip on the water.

The special JQD wheelyboat is designed with easy access for all. Wheelchair users, young children, physically impaired and the elderly can all get onboard with a little help.

Recently, a spirited group of Nursery children enjoyed a trip as part of their school's 'Shoreline Project'. When asked what the children enjoyed most about their experience on the wheelyboat, they said, 'We loved going fast' and 'I liked the water splashing on my face'.

Emsworth's annual charity ball, held at the end of last year, raised £3685 for the Wheelyboat Trust and was organised by the Emsworth Business Association. Hosted by the Brookfield Hotel, guests enjoyed a Champagne and canapé reception followed by a 3-course meal, with some fun entertainment in between courses by Magician James Prince.

The fund raising highlight of the evening was provided by well-known Auctioneer John Cameron from TV programme's 'Cash in the Attic' and 'Put your Money where your Mouth is'. Eight auction lots were auctioned and raised just under £2,000.

Auction lots included 'A Champagne afternoon tea on the tide' donated by Café Cruises and 'A personal portrait with local artist Bethany Moore'. Perhaps the star lot though was 'Lunch with the Magnificent 7' which contained a voucher for lunch for 2 people in seven

of Emsworth's well renowned restaurants and cafes.

Andy Beadsley, Director of the Wheelyboat Trust said, 'Since its launch in 2012, the Wheelyboat has provided an important service for people of all abilities in Chichester Harbour and we are immensely grateful to Emsworth's Business Association for adopting us as their chosen charity this year.'

'The funds generated will not only cover our costs of running the Wheelyboat Trust for the next two or three years but will enable us to develop the service we provide and help more people, especially those with mobility impairments, so they too can enjoy the wonderful environs of the Harbour,' Andy added.

Please get in touch with Andy to find out more on 01798 342222 or 07860 650023 or email, info@wheelyboats.org.
Lesley DiFonzo

The 'Wednesday Group' raise record funds in 2014

The Wednesday Group is a small group of local ladies from the Emsworth area who since 1996 have been supporting local charities though an annual Christmas Fayre.

The Fayre started life in the Old Red Cross hall on the main road before moving to what is now the Hewitt Centre before establishing itself as an annual event at the Brookfield Hotel in 2002 in the run up to Christmas.

The Wednesday Group has always supported the Rowans Hospice as its main charity and has for many years donated a £1000 a year to this worthy cause. Alongside the Rowans Hospice

funds have also been donated to smaller local charities including The Stroke Club, the Remembrance Garden and Talking Newspapers.

Last year's Christmas Fayre took place on 8th November and saw not only a record amount of visitors but also raised the wonderful sum of over £1,700.

The Wednesday Group would like to thank the local business's and volunteers who supported the Fayre last year and over the previous years and the people of Emsworth who have come and supported our Fayre over the last eighteen years.

A group of young people having a wonderful time on the JQD Wheelyboat which takes people of all abilities for trips on Chichester Harbour



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Community bands together against flood threat



Peter O'Shea

More than 20 residents of a flood-threatened area in Emsworth banded together on a Saturday in late November last year and built the first part of a flood defence which they hope will save their homes. Young and old turned out in Lumley Road to build a wall containing more than twelve hundred 20kg sandbags.

They were helped by volunteers from the Environment Agency and consultants Opus International, all fortified by a plentiful supply of home-cooked food, it was a remarkable community achievement.

The wall will eventually link with an earth wall in Brook Meadow, and a wall to be constructed in front of properties running north from Rose Cottage in front of the three rows of terraces, to effectively create an 'island' and counter the flood threat from the River Ems and high tides.

Twenty properties in the road were flooded on Christmas Eve last year and West Sussex County Councillor Sandra James who chairs the River Ems Flood Forum was also present to assist with the sandbag moving.

'The length of the sand bag wall was just short of 100 metres. Opus calculated that we shifted roughly 14 cubic metres of sand bags weighing about 25 tonnes, and all done by hand! What a great effort!' Mark said.

And Chris Clode, chairman of Emsworth Flood Action Group, confirmed that, following the first stage of flood defences being put in, there are more to come for the Lumley Road area.

He said: 'We hope that once all the schemes are completed it will go a long way to alleviating the flooding problems that we have suffered for the past few years.'

Mark Ringwood

13 year old Angel Harmer gets her 'Young Chef of the Year' prize

The Brookfield Hotel in Emsworth hosted the 'Young Chef of the Year' prize giving at the end of last year. The competition was fierce but 13 year old Angel Harmer's skills shone through to claim the top prize.

The competition took place at Hayling College and was won by thirteen year old Angel, a pupil there. Angel was awarded top marks by Amanda Thomas (General Manager at The Brookfield) and her fellow judges, Head Chef James Parson, of The Langstone Hotel and Helen Kinbell, former Head of Year at Horndean College of Technology.

The competition is open to all local full time college students between the ages of 11 -17. The aims are to develop

cooking and food presentation skills and give consideration to healthy eating and hygiene. The students gain organisational skills and the ability to cope in a demanding situation.

Angel's winning menu was: Citrus spiced salmon, Flattoush salad, Cinnamon cigars with syrup and poached apricots with walnuts & clotted cream.

Angel's Winning Menu
Citrus spiced salmon
Flattoush salad,
Cinnamon cigars with syrup and poached apricots with walnuts & clotted cream

Amanda told The Ems, 'I am always in awe of these young people, who put their hearts into planning, costing, preparing, cooking and serving their dishes,

under examination conditions. They are all to be congratulated for their ability to cope in a demanding situation'.

Thanks go to Havant Rotary for supporting the event. Lesley DiFonzo

Young Chef of the Year competition hosted at The Brookfield Hotel



John Tweddell



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Community News

Artwork for Hampshire Farm Open Space – an update

As part of the Redlands Grange housing development, Bellway and Bloor Homes agreed to fund a piece of art for the open space.

Local artist, Charlie Carter from Petersfield, has been selected to design, make and install a piece of public art on the 40 acre open space. Charlie is currently gathering information from local people on the history and various uses of the site. He hopes to hold a community engagement session showing his work so far and ideas for the space early in 2015.

Have you got any stories, recollections or photos of Hampshire Farm?

Five potential artists (three local and two from further afield) were interviewed in early December by a panel of five: Shaun Harkin (Bellway

& Bloor Homes), Louise Gilbertson (Havant Borough Council), Jo Dyer (Emsworth Residents' Association), Richard Hitchcock (Westbourne Parish Council) and myself, Frances Jannaway (Emsworth Tree Wardens). The range of materials used by the artists included metal, stone and wood. The panel was unanimous in their choice of artist.

Many thanks to all those who contacted me in response to the article I wrote in the November/ December issue of *The Ems*. Nearly all the people who responded were local artists, contributing lots of interesting ideas which I hope will be taken up as the open space evolves.

The 40 acre open space is now open to the public. Two of the temporary fences have been removed but the one on Westbourne Road is to remain for the time being. The reason is that Highways have stipulated that a survey needs to be carried out to assess the visibility of this access point to motorists. It is likely that the developers will be required to install reflective bollards on both sides of the



A celestial microscope sculpture at Portsmouth Grammar School is an example of the work of artist Charlie Carter

Charlie Carter

compounds by the end of March 2015. The official opening is planned for April 2015.

If you have any stories, recollections or photos of Hampshire Farm which could be of interest to the artist, please contact me on 01243 430314 or frances.jannaway@gmail.com. Further details will be posted on www.emsworthresidents.co.uk, in local newspapers, on noticeboards and in shop windows around the town.

Frances Jannaway

New main style branch Post Office scheduled for Emsworth

Good news. The Post Office, located at the Co-op in Emsworth is being updated and refurbished and will become a main style branch from the end of January. Better opening hours, an open plan design and the same products and services. It may also include a retail counter Post Office service.

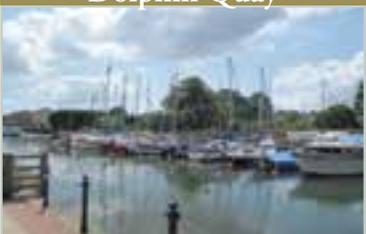
Work is scheduled to start on January 19th and the branch will close temporarily during refurbishment and will re-open again on 28th January at 1pm.

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 Saturday 15 August
 Saturday 19 September - [Start of Emsworth British Food Fortnight](#)

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Steve Ullathorne



Top entertainment coming to The Spring
 Top: Rory McGrath and Philip Pope
 Below: Jai McDowall

Emsworth Maritime and Historical Trust (Emsworth Museum) talks

Monday 19 January A Sailor's Life and Death on the Mary Rose

An illustrated talk by Trevor Sapey (Mary Rose Trust)

Mr Sapey will display replica artefacts and equipment used by the gunner, navigator, archer and barber surgeon to give an insight into life on the Mary Rose. The sinking and raising of this Tudor warship will also be covered together with much of the conservation work and background to and building of the recently opened museum.



Geoff Hunt, PPRMSMA

Monday 16 February What the Butler Saw

An illustrated talk by Dr Bob France

Discover the eccentricities of formal dining from table etiquette to wine adulteration, promiscuous seating and chamber pots. 'Stedman', the Regency butler, shares his experiences. Hear tales from Petworth, Uppark and other great houses.

Irreverent and amusing but historically accurate.

Monday 30 March Emsworth's Oysters

Talk and showing of the Emsworth's Oysters film by Linda Newell.

Talks are held in the Mountford Rooms, Emsworth Community Centre, North Street, Emsworth PO10 7DD starting at 7.30pm.

Admission: members of Emsworth Maritime and Historical Trust - £2.00 non-members - £3.00. Tickets on the door or in advance from the Museum on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons between 2-4pm. NOTE: the museum reopens 13 January. www.emsworthmuseum.org.uk

The Spring launches a lively programme

The Spring Arts and Heritage Centre, Havant have published their January-April 2015 programme which promises to offer something for everyone.

The truly dynamic Dynamo Youth Theatre kick off 2015 with their own adaption of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen*. This charming story will make a change from the usual seasonal pantos and is suitable for all the family.

Other theatrical performances include 'A Journey Round My Skull', a play inspired by auditory hallucinations and 'Elizabeth I: Virgin on the Ridiculous' a humorous look at Tudor history. Music fans will enjoy Eagles tribute band, Alter Eagles, folk band Phil Beer and the Bully Wee Band, talent show winner Jai McDowall and legendary folk singer/guitarist Martin Carthy.

The Spring also has regular film screenings including: *The Fault in Our Stars*, *Walking on Sunshine*, *The 100 year Old Man* and *A Promise*.

One of the big names coming to the Spring is top comic Rory McGrath who appears in an evening of comedy and song with Philip Pope. Their performance on Thursday 19 March is called *Bridge over Troubled Lager*.

A monthly book group held at The Spring includes regular talks and if this is not enough then there are regular workshops covering dance, drama, storytelling, crafts, hip hop, painting, drawing and Pilates.

Newly appointed Marketing Manager, Ayad Andrews told *The Ems* 'we are really excited about our 2015 programme. We have many acts that will appeal to young people especially Britain's Got Talent performer Jai McDowall.' Ayad also revealed that million selling recording artist and musical theatre performer Gareth Gates was booked to perform at The Spring on Friday 31 July 2015. 'Do book your tickets early' requested Ayad, 'many of our performances are bound to sell out'.

The box office is open from 10am, Monday to Saturday and there is a café and licenced bar. Tel: 023 9247 2700 or see www.thespring.co.uk.

Events Special

Organic year ahead for Tuppenny Barn

2015 is going to be an exciting year for Tuppenny Barn. The organic smallholding, based Near Emsworth, already has a loyal following for its twice weekly produce shop and vegetable bag scheme and occasional community event. The customers enjoy fruit, vegetables, herbs and flowers all freshly harvested from the field along with quality produce bought in from other organic producers.

With their iconic Education Centre nearly completed, Tuppenny Barn will start to deliver a full range of events based around wellbeing and healthy lifestyles. Project Director Maggie Haynes commented: 'Over the last few years we have made a start with organising events but most of these were fund raisers. We are now moving into offering regular workshops and sessions for all ages.'

The programme will kick off in early January this year, with regular

yoga classes offered by local teacher Trevor Hoath. Homeopath Diana Tibble has been booked for an introduction to using homeopathy for family first aid and Rachel Elliott will be running a three week mindfulness workshop.

Regular creative writing sessions are also planned along with cooking classes delivered by BBC Chef and great supporter of Tuppenny Barn, Rosemary Moon.

Maggie added, 'The team are coming up with great ideas and our aim during the year is to have a number of educational events and also some fun ones such as a conker challenge.' In addition, new Education Officer Ed Bond will be working to build links with local schools and to deliver a range of school holiday activities. Ed said: 'Tuppenny Barn held some great children's event in 2014 such as jam making in the summer holidays and a bonfire day where the kids made their own butternut squash and then told stories around a fire.'

For more information see www.tuppennybarn.co.uk or call Maggie on 07977 536684. *Ali Beckett*



Activities and workshops for all ages are planned at Tuppenny Barn throughout 2015



Footprints: a new dog walking group in Emsworth

Footprints was set up in April 2014 as a fun, informal, dog walking group. The idea is to meet once a month on a Sunday morning at 10am and walk for about an hour and then have a coffee. It is open to dogs of all ages and breeds and their owners and friends. The walks are very close to Emsworth.

You do not have to have a dog or live in Emsworth to join us! The group is growing organically with each new walk.

November's walk was on Hayling Island beach between the Ferry Boat Inn and the Inn on the Beach. The weather was perfect and we had coffee at the Beach Cafe sitting in the warm sunshine

If you would like to come along email Judy Williams at judywilliams9@googlemail.com or call

07906214963. Please note this is a fun community venture there are no costs involved.



Friends of Hollybank Woods Winter Work Parties

Regular Sunday work parties meet at the top of Hollybank Lane at 10am finishing by midday. Tools and gloves provided. We finish with coffee and biscuits.

- Sunday 18 January
- Sunday 15 February
- Sunday 15 March

All welcome.

Science Discovery Group

Monday January 19th More than Georgian Clock Making

A talk by Malcolm Archer, Lecturer in Horology, West Dean College, Chichester.

7.30pm in the Drama Room at Warblington School, Southleigh Road, Havant, PO9 2RR. Admission £3.

Contact Sarah or John Simpson at 01243 371580 or jssimpson@btopenworld.com

Conservation at Nore Barn Woods

The Friends of Nore Barn Woods are hoping that people can join their conservation work at the woods in Emsworth, Hampshire following the opening of their shore conservation project.

A work day is being held on 10 January from 9:30am to 12:00 noon. All are welcome. Meet at the shore end of Warblington Road, Emsworth. Please bring gardening gloves – everything else is provided (including refreshments!). Contact: info@norebarnwoods.org.uk or see www.norebarnwoods.org.uk

Have you got any local news for us? Send your story and photos to the Editor

editor@emsworthresidents.co.uk



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Events at Emsworth Community Centre – Spring 2015

Mon 12 Jan Film: The 100 Year Old Man who Jumped out of the Window and Disappeared at 7.30pm. Tickets £5.00.

Wed 14 Jan How to use your iPad. This course is made up of 2 x 3 hour sessions on the 14 and 21 Jan (9.30am–12.30). Cost £35. To book a place call Community First on 0300 500 8085 ext 2.

Tues 20 Jan Absolute Beginners IT. Free to attend. This basic IT course is made up of 3 x 3 hour sessions on 20 Jan, 27 Jan and 3 Feb (09.30 – 12.30pm). To book see 14 Jan.

Sat 7 Feb Burns Night, including Traditional Haggis meal and Scottish Dancing. Tickets £12.50 each, ECA members £10, Family Ticket £28.

Mon 9 Feb Film: A Most Wanted Man at 7.30pm. Tickets £5.00.

Wed 11 Feb Using your Smart Phone course (10am–12 noon). Cost £20. To book see 14 Jan.

Wed 25 Feb How to use your iPad. This course is made up of 2

x 3 hour sessions on 25 Feb and 4 March (9.30am–12.30pm). Cost £35. To book see 14 Jan.

Sat 7 Mar Emsworth Mums - Children’s Table Top Sale (10am–12.30pm). To book a table call 07476 704917.

Mon 9 Mar Film: Mr Turner at 7.30pm. Tickets £5.00.

Sat 21 Mar Quiz Night at 7pm. Quiz Master Chris Bailey will have all the questions and answers. Tickets include a ploughman’s supper, ECA members £7.50, non-members £8.50 (Teams of 6 or join a table).

Mon 23 Mar Film: My Old Lady at 7.30pm. Tickets £5.00.

Mon 13 Apr Film: The Intimidation Game at 7.30pm. Tickets £5.00.

Tickets from the Emsworth Community Centre Office Monday to Friday (10am–12noon). To reserve tickets phone (01243) 373805 or email ems.ca@btconnect.com. Film tickets also available at Hallmark in the High Street.

Regular Groups and Activities at Emsworth Community Centre

ACTIVITY	DAY AND TIME		CONTACT	
Arts and Crafts				
Art - Monday Art Workshop	Mon 9.00 - 11.00 am	weekly	Edgar Bailleff	01243 376674
Art - Life Drawing Group	Mon 7.00 - 9.30 pm	weekly	Kate Simms	0771 762 0081
Art - Water Colours Course	Mon & Thurs 2.00 - 4.00 pm	weekly	David Moignard	02392 267498
Art - Pan Art Group	Tues 9.30 - 11.30 am	weekly	Cathy Burgess	01243 371005
Art - Phoenix Art Classes	Tues 1.30 - 3.30 pm	weekly	Jules Simmons	01243 824394
Art - Emsworth Art Group	Wed 9.00 - 11.30 am	weekly	Felicity Newton	01243 374267
Art - Friday Workshop Art Group	Fri 9.30 - 12 noon	weekly	Mike Gledhill	02392 78 6642
Craft - Friday Craft Sessions	Fri 9.30 - 12.30 pm	weekly	ECA Office	01243 373805
Craft - Pottery - Hole in the Wall Group	Meets throughout the week	weekly	Clive Yeomans	01243 375860
Quilting - Bourne Quilters	Mon (1st) 6.30 - 9.00 pm	monthly	Averil Menzies	01243 375506
Children & Young People				
Child Health Clinic	Tues 1.30 - 3.30 pm	weekly	Havant Health Visiting Jo and John Turnbull	02392 224588 02392 594209
Pre-School The Creative Station Art Classes				
- Little Explorers (14 mths - 5 yrs)	Thurs 09.30 - 10.20 am	weekly		
- Baby Discover (6 - 18 mths)	Thurs 10.50 - 11.40 am	weekly		
Pre-School - Peek-a-Boo (age 1 - 4 yrs)	Fri 10.15 - 11.00 am	weekly	Joanne Cone	07947 374222
	Fri 11.15 - 12.00 am	weekly		
Dance - Melana (ballet, tap, toddlers)	Classes throughout the week	weekly	Louisa Chandler	07717 327200
Brownies (1st Emsworth)	Wed 5.30 - 7.00 pm	weekly	Sally Beeneey	02392 360222
Drama - Tish Boom Drama (age 11 - 16 yrs)	Mon 6.00 - 7.00 pm	weekly	Lisa Dulson	07762 490266
Music and Singing				
Music - Emsworth Community Singers	Mon 7.30 - 9.30pm	fortnightly	Louise Russell	01243 389004
	Wed 7.00 - 9.00 pm	weekly		
Music - Recorder Group	Tues 2.00 - 4.00 pm	weekly	Janna Cundall	01243 372874
Music - Bagpipers	Fri 7.30 - 8.30 pm	fortnightly	James Bassett	01243 374451
Music - Renaissance Choir	Fri 7.30 - 9.00 pm	weekly	Alison Horncastle	01243 775020
Dance				
Dance - Aziza Egyptian (Belly dancing)	Mon 6.45 - 8.00 pm	weekly	Teresa Griffin	07534 347373
	Mon 8.15 - 9.30 pm	weekly		
Dance - Devils Jump Clog Dance	Thurs 8.00 - 10.00 pm	weekly	Clare Mach	02392 787478
Dance - Folk Dance Club	Mon 7.30 - 10.00 pm	fortnightly	Barbara Hammond	01243 370531
Dance - Tap Dance for Adults - Beginners	Mon 12.20 - 1.20 pm	weekly	Louisa Chandler	07717 327200
- Improvers	Mon 11.15 - 12.15 pm	weekly		
- Improvers	Tues 7.45 - 8.30 pm	weekly		
Fitness and Wellbeing				
Arthritis Exercise Class	Tues 10.00 - 10 55 am	weekly	Juliette O’Hea	02392 413885
Self Defence - Prescotts Choi Kwang Do	Tues 9.30 - 10.30 am	weekly	Julie Prescott May	02392 468148
	Thurs 6.00 - 7.00 pm	weekly		
Keep Fit with Loretta	Tues 6.00 - 7.00 pm	weekly	Loretta Gallagher	01243 372800
Keep Fit Club (over 60s) - Brendon Care	Thurs 10.00 - 11.00 am	weekly	Louise Martin	07974 212637
Kick Boxing	Wed 7.00 - 8.00 pm	weekly	Omar El-Kilany	02392 374333
Kung Fu	Wed 8.00 - 9.00 pm	weekly	Omar El-Kilany	02392 374333
Mediation & Spiritual Group – Samsara Om	Thurs (4th) 7.30 - 9.30 pm	monthly	David Wells	077 7571 1956
Parkinson’s UK	Fri (2nd) 3.00 - 5.00 pm	monthly	Colin Bradshaw	01329 667567
Pilates – South	Thurs 11.45 - 12.45 pm	weekly	Cheryl Bromley	07896 557770
Table Tennis (evenings)	Tues 7.45 - 9.45 pm	weekly	Dave Weltch	01243 371752
Table Tennis (afternoons)	Wed 1.30 - 3.30 pm	weekly	Brian Edwards-Picknett	01243 377389
	Fri 2.30 - 4.30pm	weekly		
Weight Watchers	Wed 9.30 - 11.00 am	weekly	Mish Cameron	02392 594652
Yoga - Cathy Baker	Mon 10.00 - 11.30 am	weekly	Cathy Baker	02392 483323
Yoga - Kathryn Bingham	Tues 7.00 - 9.00pm	weekly	Kathryn Bingham	02392 454657
	Thurs 9.45 - 11.15 am	weekly		
Zumba Fitness	Fri 6.00 - 6.45 pm	weekly	April Lane	07768 202000
Community Group Meetings				
Women’s Institute – Emsworth Branch	Fri (2nd) 9.30 - 12 noon	monthly	Eileen Kendall	01243 376039
U3A - Emsworth & District	Fri (3rd) 10.00 - 12 noon	monthly	Dorothy Lawson	01243 371481
U3A - Ems Valley	Classes throughout the week	various	Richard Swaine	01243 375544

New ‘Courtyard Market’ for Emsworth

In the last issue of *The Ems* it was announced that the December Emsworth Local Produce Market would be its last. Traders and customers alike were disappointed but the good news is that from February 2015 there will be a very small outdoor market right in the centre of Emsworth, and several of the traders from the indoor market

will be a part of the EBA Courtyard Food Market.

The Greenhouse Café is normally closed on Mondays and so Sian & George, the owners of this popular café are making their courtyard available to the EBA on Monday mornings to promote local food. The Courtyard Food Market will run from 10am until 2pm on the first and third Mondays of each month, beginning in February 2015.

The emphasis will be, as before, on local food producers and regular customers of the Emsworth Local Produce Market will be delighted

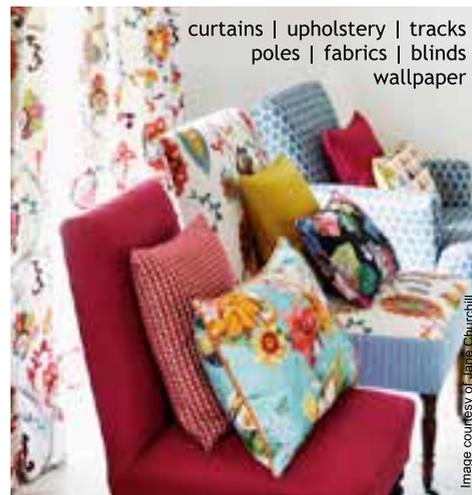
Bench Theatre Productions
Love and Information written by Caryl Churchill (Feb 25-28)
‘NSFW (Not Safe for Work)’ by Lucy Kirkwood (Apr 23-May 2)

to hear that Harry’s Posh Pork Sausages, The Crafted Coffee Co and Thrift Cottage Preserves all plan to be regular stallholders. Although the market will be tiny, the EBA is hoping that it will be able to showcase a wide variety of local food producers throughout 2015.

For more information see www.emsworth.org.uk.

Food Market Dates Courtyard Food Market / Hampshire Farmers Market

Feb	Mon 2	Mon 16	Sat 21
Mar	Mon 6	Mon 16	Sat 21
Apr	Mon 6	Mon 20	Sat 18
May	Mon 4	Mon 18	Sat 16
June	Mon 1	Mon 15	Sat 20
July	Mon 6	Mon 20	Sat 18
Aug	Mon 3	Mon 17	Sat 15
Sept	Mon 7	Mon 21	Sat 19
Oct	Mon 5	Mon 19	Sat 17
Nov	Mon 2	Mon 16	Sat 21
Dec	Mon 7	Mon 21	Sat 19



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Events Special

A look inside the Emsworth Community Centre

Welcome to the Emsworth Community Centre, a hidden gem behind the Fire Station (opposite Tesco's) in North Street.

The Emsworth Community Centre, which started in 1975, was the previously the Church School, before the current St James's School was built. Many local residents spent their school days here.

In the old school building we find the Assembly Room, which has recently been redecorated and now provides a lovely light room for Wedding Receptions and Birthday Parties as well as a great space for many art and music groups to meet.

Beside the Assembly Room there is a well equipped professional kitchen, suitable for catering for large events and making tea and coffee for the various groups that meet in the building.

Behind a door at the far end of the Assembly Room we find a Computer Suite with 6 student computer workstations.

The Lumley Room, a lovely light dance studio with a wooden sprung floor, was added in 1987.

Then in 2004 the Mountford Wing was built, with a large and small hall, providing further much needed facilities.

All sorts of activities happen here for all ages. Access is wheelchair and pram friendly and there are disabled toilets with baby changing

facilities. The rooms also have hearing loop systems and free Wi-Fi

On a Wednesday morning for example you will find the Emsworth Art Group in the Assembly Room, who also has their annual Easter and Autumn Exhibitions in the Lumley. In the Reception Area you will find the mums chatting while their pre-school children are in Melana Dance lessons in the Lumley Room.

In the Lounge area students may be having a coffee before their IT Course in the Computer Suite. Both beginner and advanced computer courses are regularly offered. Courses have also started on how to use your iPad.

In the large Mountford Room people are gathering for the weekly Weight Watchers session. While in the smaller Mountford Room you may find a training session or a group meeting.

The Emsworth Community Association, which manages the Community Centre, also runs a variety of events.

Monthly films are shown on the second Monday of the month in the Mountford Rooms both at 3.30pm in the afternoon and 7.30pm in the evening. Free tea and biscuits are provided before an interesting short film and a short break before the feature film.

Other social events are organised throughout the year includes the



John Tweedell

very popular Burns Night and Quiz.

Following the recent showing of the Ping Pong Film promoting Table Tennis to all ages, there are now thriving Table Tennis sessions on a Tuesday evening and Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

An ECA member is now trying to start a friendly Cribbage Club on a Thursday afternoon from 2pm to

4pm. Beginners welcome and tuition can be given.

To hire a room or for more details on activities and events, contact the Emsworth Community Centre on 01243 373805 or email ems.ca@btconnect.com. Our website is www.emsworthcommunitycentre.org.uk

Office open: Mon-Fri (10am to 12noon) *Karen Fellows*



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Community News

Emsworth Yacht Harbour is celebrating 50 years

This year, Emsworth's own marina is celebrating 50 years since its foundation. As part of the celebrations, Emsworth Museum has agreed to hold an exhibition later in the year and throughout the year a special photographic exhibition can be seen below the Deck Café.

Nestling in the most picturesque of settings, to the east of Emsworth's natural harbour, the marina is always filled with boats, visitors and an array of wildlife. Emsworth Yacht Harbour has a bustling community of marine and other businesses – including boat builders, a classic boat restorer, an RYA school and chandlers along with the award winning Deck Café.

Thorney Island's unspoilt walks are a few steps away, with their abundance of water fowl, birds and wildlife.

The Yacht Harbour's early beginnings as a logging pond were to change in 1965, when the colourful owner, Rear Admiral Percy Gick saw the possibility of turning it into safe, all-year round berthing for around 200 boats. He recognised that the land was ideal for setting

up not only a marina but also a thriving business community around it. So Emsworth Yacht Harbour and Emsworth Shipyard were founded. The entire area was dredged and two yacht basins were dug out around a central peninsula. The admiral enjoyed 25 happy years until he sold the business following his retirement, aged 77.

Since 1993, the Wakelin family has run Emsworth Yacht Harbour. One of their first jobs as new owners was to undertake a complete re-dredge of the harbour and then to carry out significant refurbishment of the shipyard and buildings to encourage new tenants. They created new, smaller workshops and extended the harbour office building quite significantly, to improve onshore facilities and provide The Deck Café with its new home.

The Wakelin family has never stopped improving the site, replacing the old pontoons with new walkways and fingers, installing ship to shore electric and providing exceptional onshore facilities. Most pontoons have been upgraded.

The whole yacht harbour is surrounded by trees and fauna and is frequented by swans, moorhens, ducks, herons, cormorants, terns and other wildlife.

The marina entrance is protected by a sill. (Walk along the small shoreline from the bottom of South Street and you'll see it from the far end). A parade of boats can be seen throughout the summer months going through the gap at high water. Most boats can safely navigate in and out of the harbour for around two hours before and two hours after high water, although it varies from boat to boat. Emsworth Yacht Harbour keeps day to day tidal heights and on approach to the yacht harbour, mariners can see a quaint post showing the depth in feet

and inches, as a visual guide. Alongside the sill entrance, port side is marked by an upturned red bucket. The perfect can. Shoreline walkers can see it too.

From January through until September, there is a small inside exhibition of photos and documents entitled 'The History of Emsworth Yacht Harbour' which will transfer to the Emsworth Museum in October. The photos are well worth seeing as they show Emsworth Harbour as it was through all the years, right up until the present day.

Information about the celebrations planned can be found on www.emsworth-marina.co.uk or call the Harbour Office on 01243 377727 for more details. *Lesley DiFonzo*

An photographic exhibition will celebrate 50 years of Emsworth Yacht Harbour



Medieval madness may soon end

A bill which has now reached the House of Lords, will, if passed, finally put an end to a long running legal anomaly, under which some unsuspecting home-owners unwittingly become liable for the cost of repairs to the chancels of their local churches.

When Henry VIII sold off former monastery lands in the 1530s, liability to pay for the cost of chancel repairs to churches remained with the land sold. In theory this would be paid for out of income from the land (tithes). Fast forward to 1932 when a law made court action by church authorities possible

to force certain homeowners to pay for chancel repairs. Over 5,000 properties became liable for such a charge.

To establish whether a homeowner was liable involved a nightmarish trawl through countless tithe records, parish boundary records, records of 'ascertainment' etc, which may or may not be located in the National Archives (now at Kew), as well as house deeds, which may or may still exist. One solution was and is to take out insurance against this happening, which normally costs £40 or £50, but not all affected homeowners were aware that they needed to do this.

Referred to as 'financial vandalism' by the National Secular Society, the scandal reached a peak in 2002 when the Wallbank family, who owned a farm in Warwickshire, received a bill for £100,000 for chancel repairs to their local church. They fought the case, but after a seven year battle, lost. Their legal costs were over £200,000 and they were forced to sell the farm. Recent cases of 'random' chancel repair bills being applied have occurred in Gloucestershire, Suffolk, Shropshire and Hereford and Worcester. In some the public furore which resulted forced the local PCC to withdraw the claims.

A change to the law which said church authorities must register all claims with

the land registry by October 2013 has resulted in some clarification, but some have argued that for every claim registered there are potentially still another 20 which could be levied.

The Law Commission (1985), Law Society (2006) and Synod of the Church of England itself (1982) have all recommended abolition, but the government has studiously avoided getting involved in this tangled web of confusion and legal wrangling. Private members bills, of which this latest is one, seldom get passed into law, but let us hope that the continuing public clamour to right this wrong may ultimately succeed.

Dr A Kittermaster

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Healthy Living

It needn't be a pain to keep healthy

It might surprise you to know that the average age of an Emsworth resident is 47- someone in the middle of their working career, busy with a family, and with little time to think about how to keep themselves healthy. So what happens then pain or illness strikes and gets in the way of an already busy day? Too many of us make the mistake of only taking action when a problem occurs, and then we seek out a short-term fix, rather than a long-term solution.

With a family to look after and a job to hold down, pain is the last thing we need, who has time for it? Yet back pain, like so many things, is something that can be successfully managed, and even prevented.

Incorporating a few simple stretches or exercises to help avoid back or neck pain is something that could become a good habit, like brushing your teeth?

If someone is in a 'must get healthy' mind then great. So one of the first things to do is to work out how this might be achieved. Would it involve a healthy eating plan? What about a new exercise regime? What do you need to change your life? Gym memberships can be pricey, and the difficulty with most gyms is that if they aren't within walking distance of our home, we're unlikely to attend regularly enough to make the membership worthwhile.

We don't have a purpose-built gym space in Emsworth and this can be a

blessing, as it forces us to use the facilities we have. Instead of a gym, what we have are some excellent Pilates and yoga instructors, bootcamps in the park, cycling clubs and much more. We are also lucky enough to have some of the most beautiful scenery on our doorstep. Current guidelines recommend 150 minutes a week, around 30 minutes 5 days a week, which can be divided into smaller blocks to make it easier to fit in to your lifestyle.

The additional benefit you have of living in Emsworth, is that Emsworth is a community like no other, friendly, supportive, and I'd like to say we're a fairly motivated bunch! Chances are, if you suggest to a friend that you'd like to go for a walk around Thorney Island after you've done the school run in the morning, you'll soon find that your group is gathering members and it becomes a regular event. (The full route around Thorney takes around three hours to walk, making it a great option for a Sunday afternoon family outing).

Exercise can be a social occasion! This is beautifully demonstrated by the groups of cyclists regularly encountered when travelling around the country lanes surrounding Emsworth and Westbourne. No, they don't just travel in packs, it's because there is a sense of camaraderie that comes from being part of a group - they motivate and encourage each other, even on days when it's grey and drizzly outside and staying in with a nice cup of tea and a biscuit sounds much more appealing! If you ask me, cyclists are doing social exercise just right!

It would be great to see more people in Emsworth embrace the concept of a 'health bank'. Every time you go for a walk or a bike ride, or even do some physical work around the house, think of it as making a deposit into your future health bank. That way, when pain or problems strike, you have a solid amount of good health habits to draw on! Remember - you get out what you put in.
Philippa McKernan - Acorn Health

It's time to shift those extra pounds

January is the time of year when some of us in Emsworth will set a new year's resolution and it's not uncommon for these goals of lose weight or get fit to be at the top of the list. So why is it, around six months later, only 8% or so of us have managed to stick to those resolutions?

Lose weight, in itself, is a vague term. How much weight? How quickly? How am I going to achieve this? The way to success is to set yourself an achievable goal that can show real results. 'I want to lose a pound a week, and my end goal is to lose half a stone.'

Christmas weight is no harder to lose than any other weight. In fact, research suggests that sudden weight gain - seemingly, the 'average' person gains around 2lb between November to January - is easier to lose than weight which has been put on gradually, over several years. The problem is, for most of us, losing weight isn't easy. It takes equal measures of commitment and patience.

Here's one simple tip that could make a difference: walking from St Peter's Square around the Harbour (or just part of it) and back is roughly 1.5 miles (2.4 km) - perfect for anyone, at any age and it should burn off around 200 calories! Walking part of it will help.

Behavioral and lifestyle changes have to be attainable - they should fit in with our day to day lifestyles. So if they can't change, we have to try to instead.

One more tip - Why not sit down before you do your weekly shop and plan what food you're going to eat in the next few days? That way, you'll be prepped and ready for the week ahead. We are lucky in Emsworth, we have our green-grocers, butchers, and farmers markets so getting hold of nutritious good-quality, local produce is easy, all you need is your shopping list!

Philippa McKernan - Acorn Health

Current guidelines recommend 150 minutes of exercise a week, we are blessed with beautiful scenery on our doorstep which makes walking a pleasure for all the family



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Healthy Living

A family life in Emsworth

As a family, we feel very fortunate to live in Emsworth. We moved here in December 2001 with an 18 month old and his sister on the way. We continually meet lovely people from all walks of life and of all ages. Through them and our own exploring we have discovered the wonders of living in such a special place.

During the week, I was often to be found exploring the shoreline of Emsworth discovering crabs, stones and shells or walking in Brook Meadows. Both were perfect for toddlers as you did not need to walk too far. As the children got older and attended Emsworth Primary School, Scouts and Brownies I became involved helping them to discover the local area by so that these local children could really appreciate this pocket of Chichester Harbour and grow up looking after it.

During school holidays we would attend the wonderful sessions run by Dell Quay Education Centre; pond dipping, bird watching, stream walking, making bird boxes, hedgehog homes and generally getting wet and muddy whilst having a fun time with friends. These were always very well attended and enabled us to explore the very different areas of the AONB that Chichester Harbour lies within.

As a family, we enjoy walking, cycling and sailing. Chichester Harbour is a haven for all these activities. When the Saltern's Way was opened (the children were 6 and 8), we took our bicycles on the train to Chichester, to cycle to West Wittering beach. This route is perfect for families as most is on a very well maintained cycle path, first along Chichester canal where we regularly sight herons, woodpeckers and various ducks pausing for a coffee at Chichester Marina. Cycling enables you to stop when you want to and enjoy the view at a leisurely pace. Our only problem was when we arrived at the beach the children wanted

to throw their clothes off, dive in the sea and build sand castles. We were worried that if they did all of this, they would have no energy for the cycle home!

Another cycle route we enjoy is the Hayling Billy line. From Emsworth, we cycle at low tide along the beach to the Langstone Bridge or cycle to Havant and pick up the Billy trail at The Spring Theatre. From there you are pretty much on the cycle path for its entirety. Along the Billy, the scenery is again varied, looking West across Langstone Harbour, passing many families fishing or enjoying a BBQ, cycling around fields and finally arriving at the Hayling Station theatre. From here, we sometimes go to the funfair for a family feud on the dodgems or via the ferry across to Southsea and cycle back up the cycle route that runs adjacent to the Eastern Road, through Farlington Marshes.

breathtaking views from each aspect of the circular walk and the huge variety of birds enjoying this hidden gem.

Paul and I were both very fortunate to grow up in sailing communities on the East Coast. Emsworth and the harbours are wonderful places to explore from the water. There are regular boat trips from various locations and Langstone and Hayling Island Sailing Clubs both offer one day a week where you can join in (a lottery funded initiative). This is a perfect way to introduce both children and adults to sailing. If you want to get out on the water on a kayak, you can launch from various slipways in the harbour, but do not forget you do need to have a harbour licence, available from the Itchenor Harbour Office.

We feel very lucky to be living in Emsworth and with an ever increasing extended family of little cousins that I often look after during the school holidays, I can continue to enjoy it to the full.

Caroline Fisk



John Tweddel

'As a family we enjoy walking, cycling and sailing. Chichester Harbour is a haven for all these activities'

With older children and a dog in tow, we now enjoy longer walks in and around Chichester Harbour. From Emsworth we walk along the foreshore at low tide or round the fields by Warblington church at high water to the Langstone pub for lunch. Alternatively circumnavigating Thorney Island holds the incentive of a delicious cake at The Deck, overlooking Thornham Marina on our way home. My favourite walk though is from West Wittering Beach around to East Head during the winter months. We have often cruised to East Head, mooring up overnight to enjoy the beach in the summer months but in the winter, I always think it is even more magical here. The diverse flora and fauna in such a small area, the



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Healthy Living

A cycling paradise

Emsworth and its surrounds are predominantly flat which makes cycling a pleasure for young and not quite so young alike. Ray Cobbett tells The Ems a bit about his friendly cycling group and David Harris recently talked to Robin Sheppard at Emsworth's own cycle shop

What's all this about fish on bicycles?

Push bike riding has never lacked eloquent support among the great and famous. William Golding, the Nobel prize-winning novelist, thought of life as a man riding a bike. Having got it moving 'we know that at some point he will stop and get off... that if he stops moving and does not get off he will fall off.'

Sherlock Holmes, creator, Arthur Conan Doyle, who lived for a while in Southsea, thought that the best thing to do when the spirits are low 'is go out for a spin down the road, without thought on anything but the ride you are taking.'

John F Kennedy said nothing compares with simple pleasures of riding a bike while HG Wells thought that every time he saw an adult on a bike, 'I have hope for the human race.'

Music legend Elgar reckoned he composed his best pieces while cycling around the Malvern Hills.

Nowadays you don't have to be a Bradley Wiggins to get anywhere on a bike as TV's Clair Balding reminded us during her two wheel odyssey around Britain.

Less famous but nearer home, Emsworth has its very own bike club. Let's be clear. If it's lycra, lung bursting 50-mile long tours or time trials you're after then sign up with the competition. But if a leisurely circular peddle around our local country lanes with well - spaced breaks in welcoming hostilities is

more your style, we'd love to hear from you. ray.cobbett@talk21.com

Hybrid's and classic shapes

Robin has seen many changes in the cycle industry over the years. 'Hybrid bikes which are a cross between a Mountain Bike and a Tourer are now very popular', he said 'but racers and children's bikes are a popular choice too.' Electric bikes are a favourite with the older generation and some who want to get further afield, so he is always at hand to help with those too.

'Always buy the best bike you can afford', was Robin's advice to anyone considering getting back into cycling. 'For an investment of £250+ you should be able to get a bike with good quality components and pay regular attention



Robin Sheppard owner of the popular cycle shop in North Street

David Harris

to maintenance and ensure tyres are pumped up and chains well lubricated.'

Robin never thought that one day he would be running his own bike shop. Emsworth Cycles is a prominent feature of North Street today but a couple of years ago the business was scheduled to close. He managed to raise enough funds to buy the business and in 2012 the shop re-opened as Emsworth Cycles.

A big part of the business is the repair side. Robin and his team of mechanics have a 'while you wait' service for minor

repairs. Customers who need to wait can benefit from the discount he negotiated with nearby Café Moka.

Having lived and worked in the Emsworth area for most of his life, he's got to know a lot of people.

Robin does not have a lot of spare time but when he does have a day off you won't find him cycling around the country lanes. 'I love fishing, any type, beach, boat, Carp, it's the perfect way to relax.' he confided.

'go out for a spin down the road, without thought on anything but the ride you are taking'
Arthur Conan Doyle



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Community Contacts

Arts and Crafts Groups

Art in Focus: Art history discussion group. Wednesday mornings and Thursday evenings each month in Emsworth. Contact: Tim Gwyther (01243 373080).

Bench Theatre: Club nights first & third Thursday of month at The Spring, East Street, Havant. Contact: Robin Hall (02392 484206).

Bourne Quilters: 7.15pm first Monday of each month, Community Centre, Church Path. Contact: Averil Menzies (01243 375506).

Emsworth Afternoon Flower Club: Meets 2pm, fourth Friday of month. St James' Church Hall, Church Path, Emsworth. Contact: Angela Lindsay, secretary (02393 817993).

Emsworth Art Group: Meets (9-11.30am) Wednesdays, Emsworth Community Centre, North Street. Contact: Felicity Newton (01243) 374267

Emsworth Evening Flower Club: Meets 7.45pm first Monday of month, Southbourne Village Hall. Contact: 02392 731831.

Emsworth Morning WI: Meets 9.45am, second Friday of month, Emsworth Community Centre, Church Path. Contact: Diane Lay (01243 430120). New members welcome.

Emsworth Community Singers: Main Choir meets each Wednesday (7-9pm), plus Beginners Group meets fortnightly Mondays (7.30-9.30pm) at Emsworth Community Centre, North Street. Contact: Louise Russell 07985 606670

Friday Workshop Art Group: Meets (9.30am-12 noon) Fridays, Emsworth Community Centre, North Street. Contact: Mike Gledhill 023 92 786642.

Hole in the Wall Group - Emsworth's Community pottery: Located behind Emsworth Community Centre. For more details see www.holeinthewallpotterygroup.com

Making Time: Facilities to work on craft projects, 9am-12noon, first Saturday of each month at the Meeting Place, North Street, Westbourne. £2 incl. refreshments.

Phoenix Art Classes: (1.30pm - 3.30pm) Tuesdays, Emsworth Community Centre, North Street. Contact: Jules Simmons (01243) 824394

Renaissance Choir: Join one of the finest amateur choirs. Contact: 02392 591462.

Children's and Youth Groups

Babies, Biscuits and Banter: Suitable for babies and young toddlers. Tuesdays, 9.30-11am in St James' Church office. Contact: 01243 372728.

Boys' Brigade: Meets at New Life Christian Church, Thorney Road, 6.30pm Mondays in term time, for boys aged 5-11yrs. Contact: The captain (07766900428), Church Office (01243 371893) or email boysbrigade@nlccuk.org

Girls' Brigade (1st): Tuesdays (5.45-7.30pm for ages 4-10yrs and 7.30-9pm for ages 10-18yrs), Emsworth Baptist Church Hall, North Street. Contact: Daphne Laycock (01243) 376572).

Girls' Brigade (3rd): Meets at New Life Christian Church, Thorney Road, Emsworth. 6.30pm every Monday during term time for girls aged 5-11yrs. Contact: The captain (0791 986 1551), Church Office (01243 371893) or email girlsbrigade@nlccuk.org

Girl Guiding UK: Rainbows (ages 5-10yrs), Brownies (ages 7-10yrs), Guides (ages 10-15yrs) Senior (15+). Contact Kate Garaty (01243 389450) or Lizzie Dickin (023 9241 0164).

Melana: Dance classes for young people up to 20 years, also pre-school 'music and movement' classes, at Emsworth Community Centre, North Street. Contact: Louisa Chandler (07717 327200).

Mumbaba: Music classes for babies and toddlers 9.30am and 11am on Wednesdays (during term time, St James' Church Hall, Church Path. Admission £3.50 per family. Contact: Chris (01243 389844).

Parents & Toddlers Group: Tuesdays, 9.45-11.30am (term time only), New Life Christian Church, Thorney Road, Emsworth, PO10 8BN. 01243 371893

Peek a Boo Moves: Dance sessions for 1-3 year olds (Friday, 10.15-11.15am), £4 drop-in, £3.50 prebook, at Emsworth Community Centre, North Street. Contact: Jo Cone (07947 374222)

Scouts: Livingstone Cub Pack, Beaver Section, Drake Cub Pack, Explorers, Scout Troop, all meet at the Scout Hut, Conigar Road. Contact: Michael Croucher (07764 461711) for more details.

Churches and Religious Groups

Baptist Church: North Street, Emsworth. Contact: 01243 375606

Emsworth & Havant Spiritual WFS Centre: Contact: Mary Burbridge-Bryant (02392 471675)

Good News Travelling Library: 10-1130am, first

Friday of month (except May & August), Waterside United Reform Church, Bath Road, Emsworth. Contact: 01243 370436

Methodist Church/Pastoral Centre: The Square, Emsworth. Contact: 01243 373773.

New Life Christian Church: New Life Centre, Thorney Road, Emsworth, PO10 8BN. Main contact: 01243 371893. Meetings for Senior Citizens 2.30-4pm first Wednesday of month. Contact and help with transport: 01243 371647.

St James' Church (C of E): The Rectory, Church Path. Contact: 01243 372428

St Thomas' Church (Catholic): 24 New Brighton Road. Contact: 02392 484520

St Thomas a Becket (C of E): Church Lane, Warblington. Contact: 01243 372428

Waterside United Reform Church: Bath Road, Emsworth. Contact: 01243 371718

Community Organisations

Community First HEH (formerly Havant Council of Community Service (HCCS): Services such as Call & Go bookable buses, lunch clubs and mobility scooter hire. Contact: 0300 500 8085, admin@cfeh.org.uk.

Ems Valley Community Transport: A voluntary body that arranges transport to hospitals, GP surgeries, dentists and occasionally shopping. To volunteer as a driver please telephone 01243 371903 or email evtsec@gmail.com.

Emsworth Business Association: Contact: Giles Babb (01243 373394).

Emsworth Community Association: Emsworth Community Centre, North Street. Contact the Office open Mon- Fri (10am - 12 noon) 01243 373805 or email ems.ca@btinternet.com

Emsworth Forum: Contact: Mike Bateman, email mike.bateman@dslpipex.com.

Emsworth Good Neighbours: Offers help with shopping, reading, writing letters, collecting prescriptions, transport to essential appointments. Contact: 01243 430999.

Emsworth Horticultural Society: Organises Emsworth Show, Horticultural supplies hut at Washington Road. Talks and coach outings. Contact: Lyn Davies (01243 373810).

Emsworth Museum: North Street. Open 10.30am-4.30pm Saturdays/bank holidays, 2.30-4.30pm Sundays April-October, 2.30-4.30pm Fridays in August. Contact: Mrs Dorothy Bone (01243 373780).

Emsworth Residents' Association: Publisher of the EMS. Contact: Jo Dyer (01243 372733) or email jolou.dyer@ntlworld.com

Emsworth-St Aubin Twinning Association: Contact: Hazel Willard (01243 379877) or Pam Burns (01243 373673).

Friends of Emsworth Community Health: (formerly Friends of Emsworth Hospital): Supports organisations providing health-related facilities in Emsworth. Contact: Jill Meeson (01243 371070).

Hampshire Constabulary Beat Services: Surgery first Wednesday of each month, Pastoral Centre, St Peters Square. Contact: 08450 454545.

Havant Friends of the Earth: Contact: Patricia Williamson (01243 378560).

Havant Rotary Club: Contact: Mike Valentine (02392 482818).

Mothers' Union: Contact: Margaret Cornick (secretary) (01243 378044).

Royal National Lifeboat Institution: For Emsworth Branch, contact: Mrs R Musker (01243 377186) or Mrs A Mant (01243 373987).

St John Ambulance: Fraser Road, Havant. Contact: Graham Wright (02392 476075).

SYRCH/Southleigh Community Hall: Contact: Claire Blake (01243 376733) or Steve Baldwin (07795 321689).

University of the Third Age, Emsworth: Meets at Emsworth Community Centre, Church Path, 10am third Friday of month, except July, August & December.

University of the Third Age, Ems Valley U3A: Meets at the Parish Hall, Church Path.

V Team Volunteers: Contact: (02392 481845).

WemsFest: Contact Mark Ringwood (01243 378742 or 07802 500050).

Health Organisations

Alzheimer's Society Memory Café: Support group for carers of people with dementia. Meets 10am-12 noon, fourth Tuesday of month (except December), United Reformed Church, Elm Lane, Havant. Contact: Ann Jones (02392 892035/4).

Emsworth Day Out Schemes: A programme for older people with disabilities. Wednesdays 10.30-2.30pm, Emsworth Centre, South Street, for lunch and days out. Contact: Irene Wood (01243 377143).

Emsworth Keep Fit Club: Emsworth Community Centre, North Street. Friendly exercise for older people. Meet Thursday mornings in term time, 10-11am, followed by coffee and a chat. Contact: Louise Martin 07591 645591

Emsworth Stroke Club: Meets 2-4pm most Thursdays in Emsworth Centre, South Street. Contact: Mrs G Knight (02392 473091).

Emsworth Surgery: 6 North Street. Contact: 01243 378812.

Havant Open Sight: For people with sight loss. 10.30am-2.30pm including lunch, first & third Tuesday of month, Emsworth Centre, South Street. Contact: Arthur Pike (02392 263016)

Southbourne Surgery: 337 Main Road, Southbourne. Contact: 01243 388740.

Walking to Health in Emsworth: Free, safe, short walks, Wednesdays at 10.15am. Contact: Pauline Bond (01243 376302) or Robert Self (02392 484412).

Nature Conservation

Brook Meadow Conservation Group: Work sessions 10am-12noon, on first Sunday & third Thursday in month: Sunday 4 & Thursday 15 January 2015, meet at Seagull Lane gate. Tools, tea/coffee and biscuits provided. Contact: Jennifer Rye (01243 376926).

Emsworth Tree Wardens: Taking care of Trees in Emsworth and surrounding area. Various ongoing tree-related projects. Contact: Ann Jolly (01243 372847).

Friends of Emsworth Memorial Garden: Helping to maintain the garden on the south-east corner of Hordean Road Recreation Ground. Meet at 10am on second Monday of each month, 12 January. Contact: Maurice Clarke (01243 373744).

Friends of Emsworth Waysides: A conservation group looking after waysides and verges in need of conserving in Emsworth. Contact: Jane Brook (01243 389131).

Friends of Hollybank Woods: Monthly Sunday work parties are planned this autumn & winter. For details, contact: John Bond (01243 376302).

Friends of Nore Barn Woods: Work sessions: 9.30am-12noon. Saturday 10 January. Tools, coffee and biscuits provided but bring gloves. Meet at shore end of Warblington Road. Contact: Roy Ewing (01243 370705).

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust: Holds monthly talks September-March, plus weekly wildlife walks and nature notes. See www.hwt.org.uk/events.php or call Andrew Powling (023 9225 8457).

Slipper Mill Pond Preservation Association: Contact Nick Madina (01243 377749).

Political Representation

Councillors

Chichester District Council
Mark Dunn, Wildham, Stoughton, Chichester PO18 9JG. Tel: 01243 535202, Email: mdunn@chichester.gov.uk (Westbourne Ward)

Bruce Finch, High Gables, Apple Grove, Emsworth PO10 8EU. Tel: 07751 351903. Email: bfinch@chichester.gov.uk (Southbourne & West Thorney Wards)

Robert Hayes, 6 Westview Cottages, South Lane, Southbourne, PO10 8PS. Tel: 01243 371388. Email: rhayes@chichester.gov.uk (Southbourne & West Thorney Wards)

Graham Hicks, Epworth House, 97 Main Road, Emsworth, PO10 8EX. Tel: 01243 371211. Email:

ghicks@chichester.gov.uk (Southbourne & West Thorney Wards)

Havant Borough Council (three Emsworth Ward Councillors)

Richard Galloway, 28a Clovelly Road, Emsworth, PO10 7HL. Tel: 01243 377009. Email: richard.galloway@havant.gov.uk

Brendan Gibb-Gray, 6 Chequers Quay, Queen Street, Emsworth, PO10 7AD. Tel: 01243 377355. Email: brendan.gibb-gray@talktalk.net

Colin Mackey, 19 Queen Street, Emsworth, PO10 7BJ. Tel: 01243 379777. Email: colinmackey@ntlworld.com

Hampshire County Council

Ray Bolton, 22 Wade Court Road, Havant, PO9 2SU. Tel: 023 9247 9682. Email: ray.bolton@hants.gov.uk

West Sussex County Council

Sandra James, Knapp House, Steels Lane, Chidham, West Sussex PO18 8TA. Tel: 01243 572533, 0330 2224 529. Email: sandra.james@westsussex.gov.uk

MP's

Andrew Tyrie, St John's House, St John's Street, Chichester, PO19 1UU. Tel: 01243 783519. Email: andrew.tyrie.mp@parliament.uk (MP for Chichester, including Southbourne and Westbourne)

David Willetts, 19 South Street, Havant, PO9 1BU. Tel: 02392 499746. Email: willettsd@parliament.uk. (MP for Havant, including Emsworth)

Sports and Social Clubs

Circle Dancing: Second Sunday of month, 2.30-4.30pm, Parish Hall, Church Path. Contact: Jane Richards (01243 378531).

Coal Exchange Football Club: Contact: Danny Fellows (07759 695172).

Dance/Social Group: 8-10pm, Wednesdays, St James' Parish Hall, Church Path. £5 per couple incl tea. Contact: Brenda Payne (01243 378743).

Emsworth Bowling Club: Plays April to September plus bridge/cribbage October to March and other social events. Contact: Sally Pary (02392 484391) or Anne Beard (01243 375009)

Emsworth Bridge Club: Meets 7-10pm every Tuesday evening, Emsworth Sports & Social Club, Havant Road, Emsworth. Contact: Alan Thomas (01243 376037)

Emsworth Chess Club: Contact: Derek Shotton (02392 473083) or email mail@emsworthchessclub.co.uk. Meets Thursdays, 7.30 pm, Emsworth Sports & Social Club, 43 Havant Road, Emsworth.

Emsworth Cricket Club: Contact: Nick Webb (07920 485406).

Emsworth & Havant Homing Society: Contact: 01243 431320 or email admin@ehhs.fsnet.co.uk. Emsworth Rambling Club: Thursday or Sunday. Contact: Roy Gask (01243 431179).

Emsworth Sailing Club: 55 Bath Road, Emsworth. Contact: 01243 372850

Emsworth Slipper Sailing Club: Quay Mill, The Quay, South Street, Emsworth. Contact: 01243 372523

Emsworth Slipper Sailing Club Radio Sailors: Contact: John Galyer (07971 827995 or 02392 355745).

Emsworth Sports & Social Club: Contact the Steward (01243 376037). Located at 43 Havant Road, Emsworth.



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Community News

Bus services change for Emsworth

In the last edition of *The Ems* there was an article announcing changes to some of the bus services affecting Emsworth and the surrounding area.

In particular these changes stopped the No 36A which went to QA Hospital and changes to route 27 as from Mon 5 January 2015 and not from 31 December as had been previously mentioned.

The Havant Passenger Transport Forum that was due to take place on 26 November was cancelled at short notice, causing a certain amount of angst. However, the next meeting is not due to be held until sometime in February.

Route 27 is to be taken over by First Bus with details as follows:

Rowland Castle

Leigh Park

Havant Leisure Centre

Havant Bus Station

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It should be noted that an additional service 28A is to be provided by Emsworth & District to provide a service for commuters and school children.

The only way to reach QA Hospital by bus is to travel to Havant and catch a Stagecoach bus, which is not satisfactory. Any resident who might be able to assist with their views would be welcome to comment.

Please contact Chris Hallam (see committee list for details) or please email editor@emsworthresidents.co.uk.

Chris Hallam

Emsworth is the UK's first ever Red Nose town



Mark Ringwood from WemFest has secured another first for Emsworth with a simple call (and email). Emsworth is officially the first ever Red Nose town in the UK! It's all part of Comic Relief.

WemFest is working with Emsworth's Business Association and Emsworth Community Association to put on an exciting three day comedy festival in March this year.

Mark said, 'A year ago we looked at the calendar and saw that there was very little happening in Emsworth during March and thought there was no harm in making a pitch to take on the title as it would bring some life and colour to the community as well as hopefully raise money for good causes.'

The only proviso to using the title was that we didn't ask Comic Relief for any money. As a result we're also working with comedians Joe Wells, and Jeff Lane, who have a programme of comedy lined up with Wemsfest.

We are planning a three day festival of comedy from 13-15 March this year. The Crown Hotel have already been supportive in giving us free performance space and we hope to add at least two more venues.

We'd like to add a week-long series of workshops in schools and retirement homes but that will depend on a sponsor coming forward. It's going to be fantastic kudos for the town.' Lesley DiFonzo



A special year for Emsworth's Oyster boat Terror



After another successful season in 2014, Emsworth's Oyster boat *Terror* is starting trips around Emsworth Harbour in May in 2015.

This year is the unique Oyster boat's 125th birthday and so plans are underway to celebrate. *Terror* is the last remaining example of an open decked sailing boat, in service throughout Emsworth's once thriving Oyster industry. *Terror* is one of the most memorable sights in Emsworth harbour today.

Terror is being operated in a slightly different way this year. Although still owned by the Chichester Harbour Conservancy, *Terror* trips and maintenance is going to be the responsibility of the Friends of Chichester Harbour, operating under a licence from the Conservancy.

A team of volunteers from around

Emsworth and district are managing the upkeep and running of *Terror*.

Chris Clode, Chairman of *Terror's* volunteer management group says, 'The plan is to extend the 'trips in the harbour' season as much as possible by starting in May this year and ending in September, so more people can experience the thrill of sailing in a beautifully restored working Oyster boat.'

'Thanks to the continuing support of Emsworth Yacht Harbour, *Terror* will be based from the marina. With plenty of new car parking and excellent on-site facilities, this is the ideal place for *Terror* to be berthed and from where the public can join her to start their cruise on board.' Chris added.

To find out more contact Friends of Chichester Harbour www.friendsch.org or 01243 512301. Lesley DiFonzo

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Emsworth Library

The proposed library move

Letter to the Editor of the Portsmouth News from Councillor Keith Chapman, Executive Member for Culture, Recreation and Countryside at Hampshire County Council.

Dear Sir,
I'd like to thank everyone who responded to our consultation about the proposed move of Emsworth Library. We received close to 450 responses, with around one third of people either agreeing with the proposals or having no preference either way and over 60% against the move to the Community Centre.

I visited the library last week and was able to discuss concerns about the proposed move. The biggest concern was about the proposed layout of the library within the Community Centre, with some also concerned about parking, the perceived danger of crossing the road, and that the less central location might impact on the village centre.

I realise this is an emotive subject for

the residents of Emsworth. Indeed, one resident presented me with a petition of over 1000 signatures of people who would like the library to stay where it is. But I would like to put this into context. When we began this consultation on the proposed move in July, our overall savings target to April 2017 had not yet been set. We now know that the savings target is 14% and it is likely that similar savings will need to be found after that. This is on top of the 25%

savings we have already made.

In light of the continued financial reductions we are facing, we have had to look very hard at where we can find savings. At the same time, we are committed to transforming Hampshire's library service to ensure a sustainable and vibrant service, fit for the future, which reflects

the needs of future generations.

Moving Emsworth library from a leasehold building into the Community Association will help secure the library's future and save around £30,000 each year. We are not in a position where we can afford to ignore this saving. We can, though, make changes and alterations to the detail of the proposed library within the Community Association building, and we're working with the Community Association committee to see if we can find a proposal that is more agreeable for everyone.

Yours,
Councillor Keith Chapman,
Executive Member for Culture,
Recreation and Countryside at
Hampshire County Council

A report will go to Cllr Chapman's Culture and Recreation Decision Day meeting on 19 January 2015 where he will consider proposals about the future location of the library as well as proposals not to renew the lease on the current building when it ends in 2018.

Plans for Emsworth Library

Letter to Mrs Jo Collin from Michael Stott, Chairman, Emsworth Community Association

Thank you for your recent letter and the enclosed petition. I am sure you will have discussed your views on how Hampshire County Council spends its money with Councillor Chapman and I cannot comment on this aspect of your letter.

You will, no doubt, have learned from Councillor Chapman that the lease on the current library premises is extremely unlikely to be renewed in 2018. It is on this basis that the executive committee of Emsworth Community Association has agreed to negotiate with Hampshire County Council regarding relocation of the library to the community centre.

It has become clear to our committee that if we do not provide space for the library in the community centre, there will probably be no library at all in Emsworth after 2018.

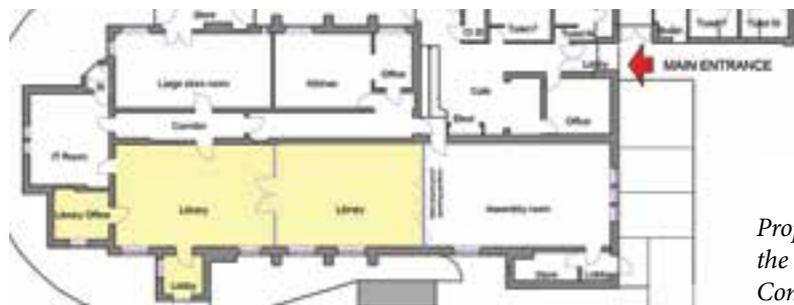
We have been working very hard to identify the part of the community centre which could be allocated to the library with least disruption to our members. With the current proposal (locating the library in the lounge and part of the assembly room) Emsworth Art Group is the only regular group which would be affected by the library relocation.

We have been able to offer your group two alternatives which, as you know, your chairman has put to the group members. The chairman has advised us that the majority of members are able and willing to change from Wednesday

mornings to Wednesday afternoons. Clearly it is not ideal, but making this change would be an important factor in saving the library for Emsworth.

Your petition and the number of signatures you have received clearly indicates how much you and the residents of Emsworth wish to retain a library in the town and our committee are fully in agreement with you.

As yet we have not agreed a definite plan with Hampshire County Council but we are all determined to find the best possible solution to this very difficult situation.



Proposed plans for the library in the Community Centre

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Planning

Emsworth's Boatyard is safe - for now

The battle to save Dolphin Quay Boatyard from being demolished and flats built in its place has been won – for now. But that doesn't mean the developer has given up.

The ERA and the Dolphin Quay Action Group believe the developer is likely to submit a new planning application for the plot in Queen Street.

On Friday 14th November the ERA and the Dolphin Quay Action Group heard that Wilson House, the applicants to develop this site, had been informed that the Appeal hearing for 20 November had been postponed by the Planning Inspectorate.

The Planning Inspectorate (PINs) had advised HBC that they were postponing the hearing because of potential Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) issues. EIA is a system of analysis which

affects a small number of planning applications usually where there is a particular environmental sensitivity. EIA may examine a single issue or several; in practice it covers many of the same topics as are considered by the usual planning process, for instance landscape, heritage and ecology.

Regarding the further environmental information, the Inspectorate had asked for:

1. Development works

A brief description of the anticipated construction works, likely plant and equipment needed to complete each aspect of the development and likely hours of work. Also details of excavation, piling and any expected residues and emissions, how noise, dust and risk of pollution would be managed during the works.

2. Visual impact

An explanation regarding the likely effects on townscape, views and settings, mindful of the Harbour AONB, Conservation area and proximity to several listed buildings.

3. Ecology

Further information is requested regarding any potential sources of contamination and disturbance during the development period, mindful of the European-protected status of the Harbour.

4) Flood risk

Further information regarding the impacts that potential flooding would have on the proposed development if the certainty of the works to the Queen Street Coastal Defence Scheme cannot be guaranteed.

In the view of HBC opinion point 2 was largely covered in the application, perhaps a few more viewpoints from the Harbour and Queen Street could be added. Points

1 & 3 appear to be aimed at minimising risk of pollution during works, for example fuel spillage or the disturbance of any historic contamination which might be present given the historic boatyard use e.g. paints, varnishes. Point 4 is very interesting, it picks up on to the point made in the Council's statement, that whilst the proposed floor levels would be above predicted floodwater levels in 2114, the height of water during such a flood would have implications for access, emergencies, rescue and parking, in the absence of fully-realised defence works for the eastern end of Queen Street.

Now on 26 November, the Planning Inspectorate have informed Havant Borough Council that the Appeal has been withdrawn.

The developer's agent confirmed there will be another planning application in the future. *Charles Ashe – Planning ERA*

The land to the west of Horndean Road and its proposed development

Serious questions have been asked about the development of the land to the west of Horndean Road and its proposed flood mitigation systems. Could the proposals make the problem of flooding worse rather than better? *Charles Ashe*, who leads on planning for the ERA, thinks so and presented this statement at a recent DMC meeting in Havant.

On behalf of the Emsworth Residents' Association, and in particular those residents who live close to this proposed development, I am making this statement to highlight the very serious concerns regarding the proposed flood mitigation. We have concerns as to the adequacy of the Flood Risk Assessment as currently available; without wishing to detract from the expertise of its producers we need to express those concerns. The independent report by ESI (commissioned by a resident in Horndean Road) makes a number of statements that suggests the Flood Risk Assessment submitted is wrong and therefore inadequate for the purpose of planning and should be rejected as supporting information.

ESI is a very reputable professional

company and the authors are very experienced flood specialists.

It should also be noted that it is highly unusual to have such differences of opinion expressed in writing, as there are between the two reports: one from the applicants, and one commissioned privately. This is not an arcane argument by two equally reputable organisations. It is ESI, in the form of two highly experienced hydrologists criticising a report by unnamed individuals in C&A Consulting Engineers. It is unclear who are the individuals and therefore what the precise expertise is of those compiling their report.

This initial assessment of the FRA accompanying the development proposals has found a number of significant problems which give cause for concern.

Briefly these are, as advised by ESI :

- The site in Zone 3, is against National Planning Policy Framework guidance
- No evidence of the sequential and exception tests is presented Para 3.2 ESI conclude the FRA fails to deal with the exception test (this is a methodology used for flood risk appraisal) and thus the whole basis for the FRA is wrong and would be invalid

- The compensation scheme is not level-for-level and therefore inadequate Para 3.3 Drawings in the FRA are not only wrongly labelled but appear to show compensating flood storage areas are filled before peak flood waters actually are generated. In other words there will be flooding even if the currently proposed mitigation measures are constructed perfectly.

- The flood levels are taken from inappropriate coarse flood modelling which is expressly not to be used for this purpose Para 3.4 The FRA relies on generic documentation known to be inaccurate which can only render the FRA conclusions inaccurate and inadequately modelling the degree of flooding that on site observations show to occur.

- No allowance is provided for climate change impacts on flood levels

- The 150mm freeboard is inadequate Para 3.5 Notwithstanding the inadequate volumes for storage the freeboard on the storage areas is 50% of what normal practice suggests it should be to allow for global warming.

- No consideration of drain-down times or groundwater influence in the attenuation in the SuDs drainage scheme has been made. These defects would be serious in any flood risk assessment. For a site as sensitive as this to flood runoff they require urgent attention and

the FRA is therefore considered to be deficient.

Impacts on Emsworth (including this development and the west side of Horndean Rd) are likely to increase in extreme flooding, due to the inadequate mitigation for infilling of the floodplain and the extra surface runoff created by the development. The works will create flooding not remove the risk.

It is therefore very surprising that the EA response appears to be dismissive. These are criticisms from a firm of highly reputable engineers and not lightly made. The devastating nature of this level of criticism needs to be very seriously examined, before allowing this development to proceed with the original FRA. If nothing else, consider the legal implications and possible claims from flooded householders as a result of the council knowingly allowing an inadequate FRA to go ahead.

Considering consent to this scheme on the basis that it would yield improvements on the flood situation for the village is misleading. The idea that the works as conceived by the FRA could actually cause further flooding is intolerable and the planning application should therefore be refused or at least deferred to allow these points to be investigated fully by an independent professional with experience in hydrology.

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Letters to the Editor

Barefoot Editor - barefoot bonkers or sound advice?



istock/kenon

Many thanks to Richard for his article in the last edition of *The Ems*, extolling the benefits of living in barefeet. As a Physio you may expect me to throw my hands up and say what a ridiculous idea, but No! I have studied this idea over the last five years and looked into much of the science behind the concept of barefoot running.

We have obviously been wearing shoes for hundreds of years, but choosing them as a fashion statement, or choosing a 'motion control' running shoe is actually quite a new idea. Roger Bannister broke the four minute mile in 1954 wearing a simple leather slipper. It was during the seventies and eighties that the big sports companies began to 'develop' the running shoe.

The shoes became more and more complicated and offered cushioning and control. At the same time the statistics for frequency of injury from running were increasing. Admittedly this coincided with a significant increase in the number of people choosing to run recreationally. There is however no evidence to suggest that more hi-tech shoes have made any impact on the likelihood of injury. If anything, the probability of injury has increased.

Recent research at Harvard University by Dr. Lieberman has studied the impact forces created by running and landing on your heel (encouraged by a cushioned

shoe) and landing on your forefoot in bare feet and the numbers are unequivocal. The accumulative load through your joints is three times more if you land on your heel. If you start to do the maths of your bodyweight and how many steps you take each day, the numbers soon become significant.

Here is the summary of a slide that I used in a recent lecture I gave on this subject for those of you that like numbers:-

10km run - 70kg athlete - 1 hour
 Heel strike (70kg x 6%) 60 strides x 60 minutes = 15.12 tonnes
 Forefoot (70kg x 1.5%) x 90 strides x 60 minutes = 5.67 tonnes

Interestingly all the big guns in the running shoe world; Nike, Adidas, Brooks, Saucony (to advertise a few), are starting to design minimalist shoes, offering minimal control and no support, that allow your foot to work as a foot. The extreme version of this is the Vibram 5 toed shoe (if you can call it a shoe!) favoured by the barefoot warriors.

In my clinic in the middle of Emsworth, I do a lot of work with amateur runners on the treadmill trying to re-educate both walking and running gait to make the foot do more work. As Richard suggested, if we get the feet doing the right thing the rest of the body starts to behave better.

I would also highlight the importance

of gradually changing from a normal running shoe towards minimal support. I think it can take up to six months to completely change from one to the other, as we condition our lazy shoe dependent feet to tolerate the new load.

Therefore, my reaction to Richard's article was 'Hallelujah' let the revolution begin. I hope we are about to see a generation of young hippies back in sandals, flipflops and barefeet.

Good work Richard, I look forward to seeing you around Emsworth, although as I write this looking at today's weather, you may need your waders! If you would like any further information or advice about barefoot running, then you can contact me at the Chris Gordon Physiotherapy & Sports Injury Clinic in Emsworth on 01243 372446.

Chris Gordon, Physiotherapist

New roof for war memorial



My mother, Mrs E Meredith was on the committee as a representative of the Emsworth Women's section of the British Legion when the memorial was planned and designed.

The building, including the roof, was the idea and work of a young Architect, Peter Elcock and was designed to match the roof of the then Black Dog.

No-one from Thorney Island was involved. Congratulations to everyone on its new look.

Tessa Daines

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Community News

A 4,000 year old Bronze Age skeleton found buried near Emsworth has been identified

'Racton Man' found at Racton Ruins between Emsworth and Westbourne has been the subject of months of research and investigation. His teeth, bones and dagger have all been analysed in an attempt to identify who he was.

It is now thought probable that he was a tribal leader aged 45, from the very early Bronze Age. He was found in a crouched position with a rare bronze dagger beside him.

Analysis of his bones carried out by the London Institute of Archaeology suggests that he suffered spinal degeneration and was around 6ft tall. He was also thought to have suffered from a chronic sinus infection and an abscess and tooth decay.

Bronze Age specialist, Dr Stuart Needham, said: 'What makes his dagger so stunning is the rivet-studded hilt. 'Its design is distinctively British, but of greater significance is the fact that it dates to the transition from copper to bronze metallurgy.

'This dagger is bronze and so this item would have been incredibly rare at the time. 'Its colour and keen hard edge would have distinguished it from the more common copper objects in use.

'We don't understand the social structure of this time, but he would have been a very prominent member of society, someone of great seniority.'

Chichester District Council archaeologist James Kenny discovered the skeleton in 1989. He said: 'The results from the research are staggering. 'We're in a privileged position because we have all of the facts to hand - from the original excavation to the scientific analysis that has just been carried out.

'This is very rare for burials around this period.'

Racton Man is currently on display at the Novium Museum in Chichester. Visit thenovium.org. *Lesley DiFonzo*

The skeleton of Racton Man on display at The Novium, Chichester



Business News

New Restaurant Planned for South Street

A new planning application and listed building consent have been received by Havant Borough Council for 25 South Street (formerly Oddbins). The application has been submitted by Havant architect, Martin Critchley on behalf of Dearbois Ltd a company run by Nicholas Ralls, a Prinsted based business man. The planning application envisages a combined café/restaurant with 2 first floor en-suite letting rooms and a terrace.

The café/restaurant would have up to 50 covers and occupy a 230 square metre area. The new restaurant is going to be named Woosters.

The existing barn at the rear of the property would be incorporated into the building together with a new single story extension. The planning applications APP/14/01165 and APP/14/01201 may be viewed on the HBC website.

David Harris

A planning application has been submitted to convert the old Oddbins site into a new restaurant called Woosters



David Harris

Business round up

The influential American newspaper, Wall Street Journal featured Emsworth restaurant, 36 on the Quay in an article about the use of snails in English cuisine. The restaurant is one of a few in the UK who occasionally feature snails on their menu.

The poet Simon Armitage visited Emsworth as part of a BBC 2 Culture show television special, 'The Great War: An Elegy', which was aired on 8 November. He wrote seven new poems featured in the programme.

In Emsworth he talked to Laurie Vaughan, whose father, Lieutenant Leonard James Bennett, a RN navigator, was captured when his plane crashed into the sea on a reconnaissance mission. He was sent to the notorious Holzminden POW camp in Germany. Together with other prisoners he dug a tunnel and managed to escape and return to Britain. Laurie read Simon's poem Lazarus, which celebrates the escape from a camp that had been regarded as escape-proof. The story was also told in the book 'Tunnellers of Holzminden' by HG Durnford (1920). *David Harris*

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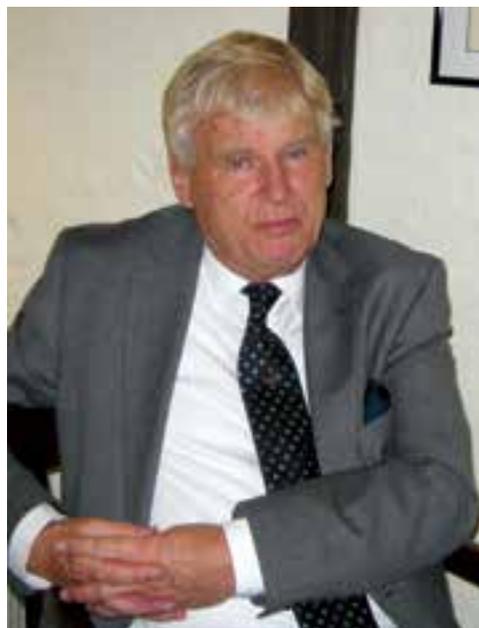
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It's been 50 years since David Hazle opened his Emsworth Estate Agents and the family is celebrating



It's a lifetime connection to Emsworth for David, as he first went to Emsworth Primary School and then to Warblington Secondary School. Leaving school in 1957 with the idea of working in an office, the Youth Employment officer pointed out a vacancy with the local estate agents, Butler and Cook. David took to estate agency work and qualified as a Member of Society of Valuers and Land Property agents. He worked at a number of branches and saw his original employer being taken over.

So in 1964 he made the bold step of setting up on his own and opened the office in South Street. Within a few days he had clinched his first deal and sold a building plot. The 1960's were a period of expansion for Emsworth with new semi-detached houses being built for around £4000. David has seen the property market ebb and flow in Emsworth many times over the last 50 years.

He still works in the agency for a couple of days a week and acts a specialist advisor on listed properties but says, 'The day to day running of Hazel's is now in the capable hands of my son Matt and daughter Sam who both had successful careers in marketing and hospitality before joining us.'

Hazel's is a rare example of a long established independent estate agents

Above: David Hazle
Right: the team at Hazle & Co celebrating with a Hazles' shaped cake

It was back in 1964 when David Hazle opened his Estate Agency, Hazle & Co in South Street in what was then the front room of Savages Sweet Shop. Hazles' took over the rest of the sweet shop and has continued to trade there for the last 50 years. So David and his family are celebrating.

In November last year they held a party for family, friends, colleagues and long standing customers. Hazles was completely transformed into a hospitable party venue, with some tasty food and fizz to enjoy. A small marquee at the back was filled with lights (and later people) and that helped to set the scene for a very special evening. David was toasted by over 70 people to celebrate his 50 years in business and a Hazles' shaped cake became the centre piece for the night.

Although he was born in Scotland, David's father served in the RAF and was soon posted to Thorney Island, which led to Emsworth becoming the Hazle family home.

The 1960's were a period of expansion for Emsworth with new semi-detached houses being built for around £4000

who have survived the volatility of the housing market and the rise in corporate takeovers. David attributed his success to adhering to 'old fashioned' values; good personal service and a code of ethics.

'Estate agency is about people and properties and to be successful in the business you need to be interested in both those areas'.

The family is looking forward to the next happy 50 years doing business in Emsworth.

Lesley DiFonzo & David Harris

A toast to a food and drink hero

Maggie Haynes, the founder of organic enterprise Tuppenny Barn, has been called many things in a career spanning 21 years with the British Army Intelligence Corps followed by ten years as a pioneer of healthy and sustainable living. But being named a 2014 Food and Drink Hero took her completely by surprise.

Her accolade was announced at a glittering ceremony on London's Southbank where the PEA (People, Environment and Achievement) Awards recognised inspirational people who are making a difference to the green agenda and their crucial contributions.



David Holmes

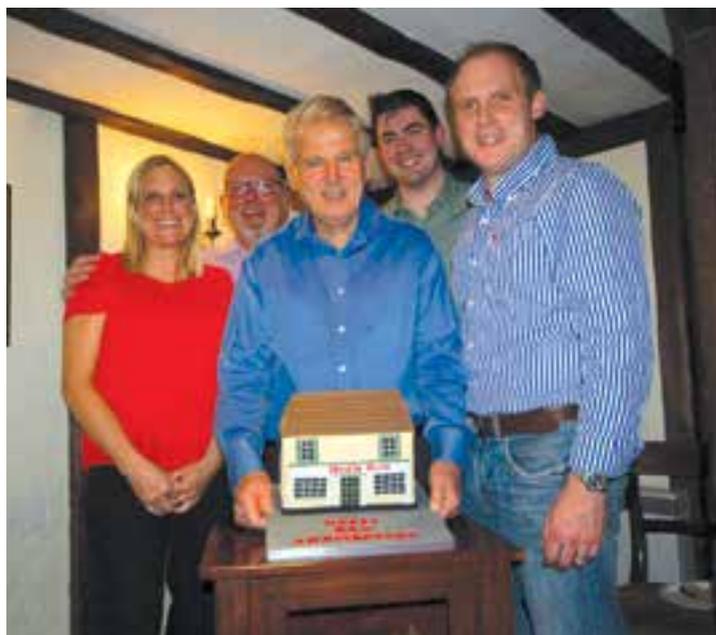
Facing competition from responsible food producers both local and national, Maggie took the top spot in a sector that recognised an

individual's efforts to increase public awareness of the range and quality of organic food and drink.

'It has been a succession of highs and lows since I started Tuppenny Barn Organics at Southbourne in 2005 but I have always believed that if you remain dedicated to your beliefs, you will succeed,' said Maggie.

'The PEA award is significant because it recognises the importance of what we are doing in a sector that is vital to everyone's health and wellbeing. The timing is also significant because we are entering a new year which will feature the opening of our eco-build education centre which will become a focal point for educational and community activities in the years to come.'

Now in its fourth year, the PEA awards bring together individuals and groups who have realised that 'business as usual' won't work. Instead, they're pursuing innovative ways to make the small changes that together could change the world.



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Schools News

Death of the Dredge

Ten young actors, directors and film crew trod the red carpet at Emsworth Museum in November for the premiere of Emsworth's Oysters – Death of the Dredge. The five minute film had been made by students from St James' Primary School with training and guidance from Millstream Productions.

The film is one aspect of the HLF funded Emsworth's Oysters project. In July a presentation was made to pupils about the project and those who were interested had to apply for one of the ten places on the scheme. They had to say which roles they were interested in and what skills they felt they could offer. They also had to be available for all the after school sessions and a day of filming during the October half-term.

When they returned to school in September Dan Musty of Millstream Productions worked with the selected children after school for six weeks to teach them filming techniques using professional equipment. They also learnt how to write a script and research props and costumes. All the pupils worked extremely hard and with great enthusiasm and very quickly learnt the basics of

making a film.

Teacher Rob Gallop commented, 'Whilst most 10 and 11 year olds are learning to be independent these pupils learnt to be interdependent. Once they had found their niche in the team, they had to learn that careful balance of concentrating on whatever they were responsible for yet still offering useful suggestions to others within the group in a positive way without treading on toes or deemed to be interfering. It has been great to see the children willingly extending their school day to 5pm and giving up a sunny day in their half term with always a smile on their faces.'

The film, Death of the Dredge, is set in 1904 and is based around an imagined conversation between local fisherman John Parham and Councillor John Kinnell. At this stage the harbour was closed following the 1902 typhoid scare and fishermen were finding it very hard to make a living.

On the Friday of the half-term, the pupils assembled at The Stables at Eames Farm where a film set had been created to represent The Blue Bell. The children spent all day, acting, filming and



Pupils from St James' School making the film, 'Death of the Dredge', right Assistant Director Josiah Wilson arriving at the premiere

directing. Josiah Wilson who took the role of Assistant Director said that working on the project had been a, 'once in a lifetime opportunity. The work behind camera and screen proves how much effort goes into a five minute film.'

The film was first screened at Emsworth Museum attended by the pupils and their families along with Marjorie Smallcorn, Mayor of Havant. The Mayor presented the children with a certificate and book about the oyster industry. The film will now form part of the new Emsworth's Oysters display in the museum.

Ali Beckett



Millstream Productions

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