

Caroline Dinenage

MP for Gosport,
Lee-on-the-Solent,
Stubbington and
Hill Head



Commemorating Emmeline Pankhurst's birthday

It's hard to believe that July is over already! There's been a number of celebrations this month, with RAF100 showcasing a fantastic flypast over London and the 70th Birthday of the NHS, which took me to Westminster Abbey for a Service celebrating how the NHS has transformed the health and wellbeing of our nation.

Another cause for celebration was the World Cup which saw England reach the semi-finals for the first time since 1990 - I am sure we were all immensely proud of our boys!

The celebrations of 100 years of votes for women continued, I joined female politicians, including Stubbington Cllr Pal Hayre, to lay a wreath at the statue of suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst, commemorating her birthday. The [Voice & Vote Exhibition](#) is currently running in Westminster Hall at the Houses of Parliament, it's free and open until 6 October and tells the story of women in Parliament. As the 311th female MP I'm always fascinated by the experiences of those early women parliamentarians.

In Parliament, there were a number of new announcements this month including the [Public Sector Pay Rise](#) - meaning that teachers earning under £35,000 will get a pay rise equivalent to £800 in 2018-19 and the average member of the armed forces will get a pay rise worth £980.

It was a privilege to be part of the celebrations for the army medics that make up the 33 Field Hospital. At the end of this year they will disband, after 30 years at Fort Blockhouse, to merge with 2 larger Field Hospitals. I attended their Freedom of the Borough parade to celebrate their incredible service.

The [LGBT Action Plan](#) was announced this month. This Government has a proud record of advancing equality for LGBT people but there continues to be barriers to full participation in public life. The plan sets out over 75 commitments to tackle these.

The Department for Transport also set out its [Inclusive Transport Strategy](#), to improve accessibility across all types of travel for those with disabilities.

In my Ministerial role, I announced [£4.5 million for social prescribing schemes](#) across England, the funding will allow GPs to refer more patients to social activities, community projects and other types of support to improve health and wellbeing - these kind of schemes have shown an 80% reduction in hospital admissions.

One big topic that has been filling my mailbox this month is the [Chequers Agreement](#). The White Paper on Brexit that was published this month sets out the Government's proposed approach towards leaving the EU in March 2019. This includes ending the free movement of people, leaving the Common Agricultural and Fisheries Policies, ending our large annual contributions to the EU, leaving the jurisdiction of the European Courts of Justice and taking control of our laws.

Back in the constituency, it was great to present Crofton Anne Dale Junior School students with their Citizenship Awards. I also judged St John's Primary School's Got Talent which was very tricky indeed as there were so many fantastic performances. I enjoyed a visit to Alver Valley School to meet with their Year 6 pupils and staff.



Attending 33 Field Hospital's Freedom of the Borough Parade



With students from Crofton Anne Dale Junior School

I joined companies from Daedalus Business Park for a networking event, the diversity of enterprise and entrepreneurship which has sprung up at the site never ceases to impress me - with a range of exciting businesses in everything from training to cutting edge technology. It was also a pleasure to visit Challenger Lighting Services on Aerodrome Road, another local business success story, undertaking specialised lighting projects across Europe.

It was a pleasure to welcome Keith Crossley from Huhtamaki, another big local employer, to Parliament to receive a certificate at the APPG Corporate Responsibility Awards, recognising their local work in cup recycling - improving the state of our High Street and the natural environment.

As well as my usual weekly Friday surgeries, I held a pop-up surgery in McDonalds, which was busy from start to finish with Constituents raising everything from local parking to doctors appointments - and some just to say hi! I was really grateful to McDonalds for offering me this venue and always on the look out for other locations if you have any suggestions, I'll be popping up again at a venue near you in September!

I met with The Willow Group GP Partnership and the local Clinical Commissioning Group this month to discuss many constituents concerns regarding appointments and issues with the telephone/online booking system. GP recruitment continues to be a big local issue but a number of positive actions were agreed.

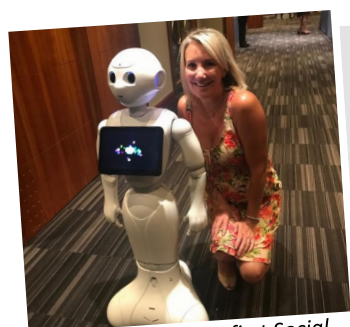


Networking with Daedalus Park Businesses

I also met with Bishop James Jones, who chaired the Gosport War Memorial Independent Panel, to discuss the next steps. Should you require assistance in relation to issues raised in the report please contact 01132 545290 or gosportenquiries@dh.gsi.gov.uk.

I completed my Dementia Friends Champion training this month – this means I can now train others to become Dementia Friends and make a positive difference to people living with dementia in their community.

I also attended the CarersUK 'State of Caring' Event, to discuss what more support can be offered to unpaid carers, there I met Pepper, the first social care robot employed by a UK Council! I also joined people with Arthritis to hear about life with the condition and learn how aids and adaptations in the home, funded by the local Council, can help people live independently.



With Pepper, the first Social Care robot

I met with Hampshire County Council's transport boss, Cllr Rob Humby, to discuss the Stubbington Bypass, Bus Rapid Transit extension and other transport schemes across Hampshire. And Hampshire County Council leader, Cllr Roy Perry, and I met to discuss a number of topics including adult social care, bus subsidies and street lighting.

It's always really important to keep right up to date with what's happening within the two Local Government Boroughs that make up my Constituency, so this month I also had one of my regular catch ups with both the Leader and Chief Executive of Gosport Borough Council and the Leader of Fareham Borough Council.



Speaking to constituents at my Open Surgery in McDonalds

The award winning [Gosport Summer Passport Scheme](#) is in it's 11th year and offers free activities to young people during the school summer holidays. It was great to see some of the young people and staff taking part with activities from Glow Dance to Football taking place. This year has seen a record number of attendees and figures show that there is a 33% drop in Anti-Social Behaviour whilst the scheme is running.

Did you know over 600 people have travelled into space but less than 100 have sailed around the world solo! It was a pleasure to meet the brave Gosport Yachtsman, Alex Alley, to discuss his Solo Round the World record attempt which is completely crowdfunded! You can buy a Pixel and upload a photo to feature on Alex's boat to help fund his world record campaign at [PixelBoat](#).

Finally, although Parliament has now broken for recess until September, my team and I will still be out and about across Gosport, Lee-On-The-Solent, Stubbington & Hill Head throughout August, so please do get in touch if you need us!

Best wishes

Caroline

GET IN TOUCH

Please feel free to contact me on any issue, or to find out when my next surgery is. I'm always happy to arrange tours of the Palace of Westminster for my constituents. Please contact my office at least three months in advance to make sure you get a place - the tours are very popular!

Constituency Office: 023 9252 2121

Westminster Office: 020 7219 7078

Email: caroline.dinenage.mp@parliament.uk

Website: www.caroline4gosport.co.uk

Address: 167 Stoke Road, Gosport, PO12 1SE