



# Caroline Dinenage

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



*Launching Gosport Community Lottery*



*Visiting Queen Alexandra Hospital to meet with CEO, Mark Cubbon*



*Marking the Sailors' Society Bi-Centenary in Westminster*

It's hard to believe it has been a year since the June 2017 General Election. So much has happened over the last year and this month is no exception!

The [EU \(Withdrawal\) Bill](#) has received Royal Assent. This historic Act will make sure the UK's laws – entwined with over 40 years of EU law – continue to work from the day we leave, ensuring a smooth and orderly exit. This marks the next essential step in ensuring that the UK is ready for life after we have left the European Union.

Plans to build a third runway at [Heathrow](#) were voted through in Parliament this month, good news for both inward economic investment and holidaymakers alike! This month I met with Heathrow Southern Railway to support the push for better transport links between Heathrow and the South Coast. The project aims to introduce direct access to Heathrow Airport by train from the South and improve the air quality around the area which is congested with cars.

Some people can find railway journeys difficult and I spoke with Leonard Cheshire to support their campaign to make rail journeys more accessible and less stressful for disabled people.

The Gosport Independent Panel Report into historic deaths at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital was published this month. The report, after a 4 year investigation, makes for distressing reading and you can read the report [here](#) and my statement on it [here](#).

This month Prime Minister, Theresa May, set out a [5 year funding plan](#) for the NHS with an increase in £600 million per week in cash terms in NHS funding. This means more doctors, nurses and better access to cancer and mental health services.

I visited Queen Alexandra Hospital to meet with the CEO, Mark Cubbon, to have a look around the overwhelmed A&E facilities and hear about the changes they are making to better prepare us for the challenges of the winter ahead.

It was great to join other Hampshire MPs to meet the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance Service and thank them for their fantastic, lifesaving work across our county. I also met with the British Red Cross, who respond to an emergency every four hours in the UK - from fires, to extreme weather, flooding and acts of terror. The charity, alongside Aviva, is calling for 10,000 volunteers to support in local emergencies. To get involved please click [here](#).

I also met with some lovely Guide Dogs, and their humans, to learn more about the daily problems blind or partially sighted people encounter with street obstructions and pavement parking.



International maritime charity [Sailors' Society](#) marked 200 years of supporting seafarers and their families around the world this month. It was great to hear about the care and support they provide.



With local carers at the Alverbank Hotel

Sticking with the Maritime theme, I had a great time giving out prizes at the Gosport Marine Scene Charity Pursuit yacht race which seemed like a fun way to raise money for local good causes. Other fabulous fundraisers were the HMS Sultan Summer Show and the Gosportarians Summer Festival - fantastic days of fun for all the family. Another great fundraiser is the [Gosport Community Lottery](#) which I launched this month which raises money for local good causes.

Carers Week took place this month, around 6.5 million people in the UK are Carers. To offer my thanks, I popped along to the Princess Royal Trust's Cream Tea for Carers at the Alverbank Hotel and met with young carers from our area at a Young Carers festival in Botley!



Reading with pupils from Crofton Anne Dale

I visited a number of schools this month at Gomer Juniors the Soccer Aid Playground Challenge was in full flow with students from Bay House School. I met with the head teachers at both St Mary's Catholic Primary School and Lee on the Solent Juniors to learn more about their plans for the future.

Newtown Primary School were celebrating [EqualiTeas](#) and I popped in to join them for lunch and to look at their wonderful work celebrating diversity and equality. I also cut the ribbon on the fantastic new library at Crofton Anne Dale Junior School, a bright and airy space funded by their very successful PTA. The team at Gomer Junior School won a prestigious prize at the TES School Awards for their innovative approach to teaching Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths - go Gomer!

The QinetiQ Schools Power Boat Challenge demonstrated the wealth of young engineering talent across our region. The competition aims to inspire future engineers, and sees local students design and build their own miniature remote control power boats, before putting them to the test in Europe's largest indoor water tank at the Haslar site.

I attended the Building Futures Training Course Ceremony to meet some of the students who completed a two-week construction training programme before they start work with Wates at the Daedalus site in September.



Speaking with students at the QinetiQ Schools Power Boat Challenge

I also headed to [Gosport Borough Hockey Club's](#) Open Day at St Vincent College where they had a number of activities and a match between the Royal Navy and Hockey 4 Heroes.

As regular readers will know, I set up a Taskforce to plot the best way forward for the future of Fort Blockhouse, HMP Haslar and HMS Sultan - all due for Government disposal. This month representatives from the MOD, DIO, Gosport Borough Council, Solent LEP and One Public Estate were among those in attendance at the meeting. I remain encouraged by the willingness to engage with local stakeholders and I will continue to push for reconsideration of plans to move HMS Sultan.

My [Scam Smart](#) event took place this month and was a great success with lots of local residents attending to pick up the information and tools to better equip them not miss a trick when it comes to protecting themselves from fraudsters.

Looking forward, on Friday 13 July I will be holding a drop-in surgery at McDonalds, Gosport High St. from 11.30am-1pm. If you have any concerns about local or national issues, or if you'd just like a chat, please do come along - no appointment necessary.

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!

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