

Caroline Dinenage

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Your local MP reporting back from Westminster



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

I hope you all enjoyed the Bank Holiday and are making the most out of what's left of summer! Despite the holiday season being in full swing it's been business as usual this month and there's been a lot going on in both Gosport and Westminster.

But firstly, a word on the riots that plagued some of our towns and cities recently, such acts of sheer criminality have no place in our society and were carried out by a small minority, hell-bent on causing needless destruction.

I am proud to say that our region wasn't disrupted by the senseless violence, and am pleased that the Government has announced it will fully support all those whose livelihoods were affected.

I was glad that Parliament was recalled for a day and I returned too. I was pleased that the House came together in condemnation of these crimes and stood united in its determination to rebuild our communities.

On a brighter note, this month saw our region take yet another step towards economic recovery, as the Solent LEP area of the Daedalus airfield was awarded Enterprise Zone status by the Government.

Since my election last year, I have been working hard to draw Government attention to the potential of Gosport as an excellent place to do business. In recent months I've shown Government Ministers from the Departments for BIS and Transport around the Daedalus site, held a debate on the need for greater Government investment in SME's in the South of England, particularly the Gosport peninsula, and kept up the pressure with my Ministerial colleagues in Westminster.

I am hopeful this news will act as a catalyst for economic growth that will have far-reaching benefits for the local area, as well as the region, and I look forward to the Daedalus Enterprise Zone flourishing as a centre of aviation engineering and marine excellence in its own right too.

Although Parliament may be in recess it's been a hectic month of visits and meetings in the constituency. I enjoyed a great day out courtesy of the Beryton Road Residents Association, as a guest at their annual Funday. With the lure of a bouncy castle proving too much for my children, and lots of interesting stalls and wonderful activities the whole family was entertained!



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*Caroline with Arctic Convoy Veterans
and Russian Defence Official*

As regular readers know, I am a longstanding supporter of the Arctic Convoy veterans and I was honoured to attend a wreath laying service at the Royal Navy Memorial along with 3 other local MP's. The ceremony was well attended by veterans and forces families from across the area and was a fitting way to mark the 70th anniversary of the first convoy setting sail for Russia. I will continue to campaign for greater recognition of their heroic sacrifice and will keep on lobbying my Ministerial colleagues on this important issue too.

I was really impressed with all the classic cars on display at the Gosporters Vehicle Rally at Stokes Bay. It was wonderful seeing hundreds of motoring enthusiasts from around the country come together and share their passion for fine cars - all whilst raising money for the Mayor of Gosport's nominated charities.

I was delighted to attend the Lee-on-the-Solent Carnival, I had a lovely time and was lucky enough to meet with some familiar faces from the sci-fi world! On Bank Holiday Monday I joined the throngs of visitors at Stubbington Fayre, which was as popular as ever. I also popped into the Lee-on-the-Solent Community Centre 'Party in the Park' to enjoy a hot dog from the BBQ!

All these local events are a testimony to the hard work of so many and prove that community spirit remains incredibly strong across the entire Gosport peninsula. Having attended these events for a number of years now, I am proud to say they are firm fixtures within the community calendar attracting hundreds of visitors, and showcasing the very best of what our area has to offer.

The start of the new Barclays Premier League season has long served as the traditional curtain raiser for our very own Gosport FC, and I was happy to attend the annual youth football festival which highlighted the abundance of footballing talent at our disposal. It was encouraging to see such high levels of skill from all the age groups that participated and it certainly bodes well for the club's future.

To finish on a sporting note, with the Olympic Torch due to pass through the Hampshire area at some point during the 70 day relay next year, I'm working hard to convince officials that Gosport should be given the opportunity to host the Torch. If you are yet to do so, I recommend that you nominate someone who has made a difference to the community to be a Torchbearer so that they can take part in this once-in-a-lifetime experience too, and full details can be found on my website.

Best wishes,

Caroline



*Caroline at the Lee-on-the-Solent
Carnival*



*Caroline at the Gosport FC
Youth Tournament*

GET IN TOUCH

Please feel free to contact me on any issue, or to find out when my next surgery is. It is also possible to come up to Parliament to have an official tour. I'm always happy to arrange tours of the Palace of Westminster and Big Ben for my constituents. Just please contact my office to book at least two months in advance to make sure you get a place - the tours are very popular!

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