

# Caroline Dinenage

February 2012  
Issue 15

Your local MP reporting back from Westminster



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

This month I put my long-term support for apprenticeships into practice when I joined Gosport's Costa Coffee for the morning. In between whipping up the lattes, I had the chance to hear about their brilliant programme with Fareport Training from their Manager, who started off as an apprentice himself 3 years ago! Apprenticeships are a great way for young people to get into work and acquire skills, as I witnessed once again on my visit to Norjon Engineering. As well as leading the field in precision engineering, this Gosport company provides local jobs & training.

The value of engineering & all forms of manufacturing is vital to Gosport so I was delighted to be elected as the Vice-Chairman of the Associate Parliamentary Manufacturing Group. We work to promote & support the manufacturing industries across the UK as part of this Government's commitment to securing a sustainable, balanced economy.

I've also had the honour of being elected to serve on one of Parliament's official committees. My new role on the Science and Technology Select Committee builds on my work in that area at NATO, and involves conducting inquiries into a range of issues - from alcohol guidelines to the engineering industry - and reporting our findings to Parliament.

Despite all this, I'm certainly not giving up the fight on some long-standing issues. In my ongoing campaign against piracy in the Gulf of Aden, I welcomed the Government's decision to allow armed guards on ships. In Transport Questions I stressed the huge economic impact of this blight on the seas, to encourage the Government to bring the necessary regulations for armed guards in as soon as possible.

I also questioned the Defence Minister on the progress of the independent review into the Arctic Convoy medal, and made it clear that it is unacceptable that these heroic men are still waiting for the medal they deserve. Some modern day heroes also popped into Parliament, as I hosted a briefing with the naval personnel who served in Operation Ellamy off the coast of Libya.



*As a Costa Coffee apprentice with Manager Reinis Niedritis*



*With the MD and apprentices at Norjon Engineering*

For the latest news visit [www.caroline4gosport.co.uk](http://www.caroline4gosport.co.uk)



*Fundraising for Macmillan at HEDCA*

Back in Hampshire, I visited the QA Hospital where I met with head nurses and the Chief Executive. The campaign to prevent vascular surgery moving to Southampton certainly paid off and I will now continue to work with the QA to ensure that its 'super-hospital' status is always upheld. I also held a constructive meeting with the Chief Constable of Hampshire Police, Alex Marshall, where we discussed the key issues in policing and I heard the good news that crime has fallen in our area.

I'm a firm believer that to address my constituents' concerns fully – whether they're about crime, health or any issue – I need to be out and about in the constituency. That's why I held an 'Open Surgery' on Gosport High Street last Saturday, so that everyone could come to share their views. It was fantastic to meet so many people, and I hope to see more at the next one, from 10.30am to noon on 17th March on the High Street.

One issue that has caused particular concern is the proposed relocation of P.R.U Quayside to the grounds of Woodcot Primary School. Although it's a County Council decision, I knew it was vital to meet with parents to discuss their worries and will do all I can to help everyone move towards a satisfactory arrangement. I'm committed to keeping in touch with all our educators, so I welcomed the opportunity to meet with college principals from across the area at a dinner in Parliament this month.

Although we face some serious issues, Gosport's always a fantastic place to be. Our great community spirit really came to the fore at the HEDCA Fun Day, where everyone helped to raise money for Macmillan



*On the High Street for the Open Surgery*

Cancer Support. There was also much cause for celebration, as the Gosport and Fareham rugby team powered ahead for a decisive victory over Effingham and Leatherhead, keeping us top of the league.

With such a fabulous group planning for the arrival of the Olympic torch, Gosport can look forward to even more celebrations. I met with everyone helping 'Gosport Go for Gold', and heard especially from the fantastic Big Noise steel band. It certainly set to be a great party!

Best wishes,

*Caroline*



*With the Big Noise at the Gosport Going for Gold event*

## 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!

**Constituency Office:** 02392 522 121

**Westminster Office:** 020 7219 7078

**Email:** [caroline.dinenage.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:caroline.dinenage.mp@parliament.uk)

**Website:** [www.caroline4gosport.co.uk](http://www.caroline4gosport.co.uk)

**Address:**

House of Commons,

Westminster,

London,

SW1A 0AA