



Caroline Dinenage

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



*With Kris Hopkins at Daedalus
(image courtesy of 'The News')*

At last this month, we received the news that we have long been battling for – the Government has finally recognised the need for a new road on to the Gosport peninsular.

It has agreed to an initial investment for preliminary work, starting at the Peel Common roundabout, and the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership will work with central Government to secure the remainder of the funds for the construction of the new access road. After years of ministerial visits, parliamentary debates, endless meetings and letter-writing, I am delighted that we have taken the first steps towards a long-term solution.

Following the exciting announcement, I welcomed Kris Hopkins MP, the Minister responsible for local growth, to the Solent Enterprise Zone at Daedalus where he confirmed a £7 million investment for a new spine road on the site, facilitating the next stages of this important development.



With Karren Brady & local entrepreneurs

Having formed the Daedalus Strategy Group back in 2010, it's great to see this amazing site beginning to realise its potential; this month the Group met on the site to view the progress and discuss future projects. With the CEMAST skills centre looking fabulous and ready to welcome 900 new engineering students in September, I was delighted to mention the new college in a debate in Parliament as evidence of the importance of high end skills and vocational training.

It's also really important to get young people enthusiastic about the world of business and enterprise, so I was thrilled when inspirational business woman and TV star, Karren Brady agreed to participate in an 'Apprentice Challenge' with Bay House School as part of her role as the Conservative Party's Small Business Ambassador. She was joined by a panel of local entrepreneurs who listened to some impressive business pitches from students across all year groups.

Back in Westminster, I spoke in a debate on the new Small Business Bill and emphasised how an educated workforce is one of the most valuable commodities for small business growth. With that in mind, the Business, Innovation & Skills Select Committee (on which I sit) will soon publish its report on Adult Literacy and Numeracy with which I have been heavily involved.

After much anticipation, Sir Ben Ainslie revealed that his America's Cup HQ will be based in Portsmouth Harbour, bringing an £8 million Government cash injection to the £90 million project. This will not only create jobs and skills for local people but boost the economic fortunes of the many marine support companies on the Gosport peninsular, underlining our status as a world class hub for maritime and sailing activities.



*With Penny Mordaunt, Ben Ainslie
& Michael Fallon*

In addition to this fantastic sailing news, Gosport's marine business network, the Gosport Marine Scene has launched its new website: www.gosportmarinescene.com.

I had a very busy month handing out awards at local schools and clubs. First up were citizenship awards at Crofton Anne Dale Infant School and St John's Primary School, followed by the Loud & Proud and Give, Gain & Grow awards evening and finally presenting the Silver activity badges and Chief Scout Award to the 2nd Gosport Cubs. It's always wonderful to see the enormous focus on community activities in our area.

I was also invited to Lee-on-the-Solent Infant School's very special 40th birthday party - the children had all decorated their own T-shirts for the occasion and sang memorable songs from the 1970s (anyone remember the Wombles?!) I was honoured to cut the enormous birthday cake!

This month saw the launch of the Gosport Area and Information Network (GAIN) which brings together groups such as the Citizens' Advice Bureau and Gosport Voluntary Action to ensure Gosport residents get the best possible support, particularly in light of all the welfare changes. I was delighted to attend & speak at the launch event.

We had international guests this month when students from Pershie School in Ghana came to visit as part of their exchange with Crofton School. Having assisted with some visa issues, I was delighted to meet the group during their time in the constituency. Following lengthy delays for passports this summer, during questions to the Home Office I called on the Government to ensure that efficiency and customer service are at the heart of HM Passport Office activities in the future.

Thankfully, young people enrolled on the Gosport Summer Passport don't need to go through any rigmarole in order to participate in this fantastic scheme which offers three weeks of activities to 12-17 year olds for just £1. This year a record number of young people are enjoying the activities on offer; I was pleased to see many of them out enjoying sailing, kayaking and hair chalking in the picturesque setting of Lee-on-the-Solent.

Gosport & Lee Litteraction do a great job keeping our area tidy—their next 'clean-up' day is on 13th September from 10am at the Falkland Gardens in Gosport.

The Gosport Town Team is continuing to work hard to improve our High Street – I met with the Chair of the group for an update on how things are coming along and what is in store for the future.

Finally, this month we received the fantastic news that the British economy is now above its pre-crisis peak, following the lengthy recession which saw the economy shrink by 7.2 per cent. This continuing growth means there are more businesses, creating more jobs, so that more families can have the security of a regular pay packet. There is still a long way to go but these figures are incredibly promising and show that the Government's long-term economic plan is working.

Best wishes

Caroline



Handing out awards at Crofton Anne Dale



Cutting the cake at Lee Infant School



With Ghanaian Students at Crofton

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 and Big Ben 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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