



Caroline Dinenage

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



*The Duchess of Cambridge presents Sir Ben Ainslie with the trophy
© Robin Jones/Digital South*

The spotlight was on Portsmouth Harbour this month as the America's Cup World Series got underway. Despite the final day being cancelled due to bad weather Sir Ben Ainslie and his team emerged victorious. It was an incredible weekend that really showcased both British sailing and our local area to a worldwide audience. I was so proud to see it all taking place on our doorstep – Gosport's spectators had a terrific view from Haslar wall! We're already looking forward to the race's return next year.

Our shores also played host to the P1 Grand Prix of the Sea, back for a third year at Stokes Bay. Despite yet more challenging weather the event was a success with fun for all the family back on dry land.

Local hero, Anna Wardley, this month announced another mind blowing endurance swim - you may recall back in 2012 she kicked off swims around 5 islands, including Portsea and the Isle of Wight. She's now set to take on the Balearic Swim Challenge, a 215km swim from Menorca to Mallorca to Ibiza to Mainland Spain.

We heard that Gosport has been successful in its bid from the Coastal Community Fund, a project which will give our area an economic boost. We will be able to bid for up to a £50,000 share of a new £3 million Coastal Revival Fund. The announcement underlines the Government's belief in the Gosport area and our strong vision for its future.

With lots of exciting plans for developments in our area, I met up with Crown Estate for a tour of its sites around Gosport's waterfront including Royal Clarence Yard.

Over in Lee-on-the-Solent at Daedalus, plans are coming on well too. Fareham Borough Council has published its 'Daedalus Vision' which you can view here: <http://bit.ly/1Fhcnt>. In addition to this Tidebank have begun to develop Daedalus Park, with the first business units expected to be ready next Spring (subject to planning). Next month the Marine Coastguard Agency national training centre will become operational in August. All of this great news shows just how far this formerly disused airfield site has come since we embarked on the project back in 2010.

Cutting edge businesses continue to be attracted to the site but to go on enticing enterprise and employment opportunities to our area, we need road improvements. With Hampshire County Council having now submitted planning permission for the Stubbington Bypass to Fareham Borough Council, I'm pleased that progress continues to be made.



With local endurance swimmer, Anna Wardley





At the Tesco Neighbourhood Food Collection

During the General Election campaign, I met a group of campaigners from Bridgemary who are fighting for a new bus stop. This month, I was delighted to arrange for their petition to be delivered to Parliament and hope to hear from the Department for Transport soon.

Our area's community spirit really shone through when I visited the Tesco superstore at Rowner to participate in a Neighbourhood Food Collection trolley dash. This initiative helps to support families facing difficult times and I was overwhelmed by the kindness of local people who'd donated a huge amount of food.

I also paid a visit to Barclay House, a temporary accommodation shelter, and met resident Lorraine Brownsea

who has transformed the garden into a children's play area and vegetable plot which is tended by residents.

I was proud to attend the launch of Care After Combat, a charity providing support for ex-service personnel who have found themselves struggling to adapt to life in 'civvy street'. The charity is supported by Falklands Veteran Simon Weston and comedian Jim Davidson as well as the Gosport based Falkland Veterans Foundation.



With Simon Weston and Jim Davidson at the launch of Care After Combat

As the school summer term drew to a close, I dropped into Brune Park School to receive a petition from students calling for big supermarkets to only stock fair trade bananas. I also visited Crofton School for a catch-up with the head teacher and Crofton Anne Dale Infant School to present pupils from Year 2 with their citizenship awards.



Receiving a fair trade petition from Brune Park pupils

I was delighted to see wonderful Alex Hannard from Stubbington at an event in Parliament hosted by Anthony Nolan charity. Alex received a lifesaving stem cell transplant a few years ago and he and his family have been fantastic ambassadors for this important cause.

Last year the Government announced that it would establish a 'Gosport Independent Panel' to finally investigate the events surrounding deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital between the 1980s and early 2000s. The Panel,

chaired by the Bishop of Liverpool, who led a similar Hillsborough Panel, are calling on anyone who has concerns about the historic treatment of patients at the hospital to come forward in confidence. For details visit: <http://bit.ly/1LHbrF5>.



With Alex Hannard

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 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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