

Caroline Dinenage

May 2013
Issue 29

Your local MP reporting back from Westminster



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

It's been another action-packed month, both in Gosport & in Westminster. I kicked off proceedings by attending an anti-bullying action day hosted by Hampshire Constabulary. With many incidents of hate crime going unreported, this event brought both the police & members of the disabled community together to build confidence & improve relations.

Up in Westminster, I was honoured to attend the State Opening of Parliament. No one does ceremony quite like the British & this was no exception! Keen not to be outdone in the royal visitor stakes, Gosport also played host to a very special guest this month, as HRH the Duke of Edinburgh attended the 130th annual dinner of the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors hosted by QinetiQ at Haslar.

In my role as Vice-Chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for the Armed Forces, I was honoured to be invited onboard the magnificent HMS Illustrious when it was moored at Greenwich. As an MP for a constituency with a rich naval heritage, it was a pleasure to look around the last of the Invincible-class of aircraft carriers, in the same month we sadly said goodbye her sister ship HMS Ark Royal.

It was also a time for reflection, as we marked the first anniversary of the disappearance of Gosport sailor LS Timmy MacColl. Having facilitated meetings with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office & Ministry of Defence, I will continue to raise Timmy's disappearance at every opportunity. This month also saw International Missing Children's Day and I was reminded of the continued challenges faced by the family of missing Gosport toddler Katrice Lee.

With the multi-million pound Rowner regeneration in full swing, I met with First Wessex CEO, Peter Walters, to discuss the redevelopment. I followed this up by attending the grand opening of the Tesco Superstore at Rowner which has created 170 new jobs for local people. I also got my hands on a fantastic I ♥ Gosport bag designed by budding artist, Anya, from Gomer Infant School & will be carrying mine with pride around Westminster.

I enjoyed visiting the Community Service Day at St Matthew's Church, Bridgemary and it was an excellent chance to meet some of the voluntary groups and organisations that are so valuable to our community. The Sports Showcase at HMS Sultan was also a great way to see some of our local sports clubs in action.

I appreciate the importance of school sport in keeping young people fit & healthy and visited Bay House School to listen to the difficulties they were having securing funding for a much-needed new sports hall. I have written to the Chief Executive of the Education Funding Agency, urging him to urgently reconsider that decision and would encourage local residents to do the same.



At the Anti-Bullying & Hate Crime Day



Meeting with First Wessex CEO



With budding artists from Gomer Infant School

For the latest news visit www.caroline4gosport.co.uk

Having long-campaigned for large-scale improvements to the local roads in & around the Gosport peninsula, I'm delighted that the newly elected transport boss of Hampshire County Council, Cllr Seán Woodward, has put the case for a Stubbington bypass right at the top of the agenda. I'm looking forward to discussing this further with Transport Secretary, Patrick McLoughlin MP, next month, when he visits Gosport at my invitation to see firsthand the problems that motorists have to endure everyday.



With Cllr Woodward

Regular readers will know how keen I am to promote Gosport's world class maritime sector. The Gosport Marine Scene Group which was formed in the winter is already making enormous progress. This month saw a networking event for marine companies at Haslar Marina and the Group have organised the GoWaterSport Festival which will take place at Royal Clarence Marina on Sunday 9th June. All are welcome; book your free tickets [here](#).

We were also delighted to hear that the Global Ocean Race team along with the Caterham Formula One ocean racing team will be based in Gosport, bringing in all-important local jobs and investment. I also attended the Marine Advertising Agency Press Lunch, which provided the perfect opportunity to show key players from across the sailing & yachting industry the world class facilities the peninsula has to offer.

As a strong supporter of our local schools, I visited Haselworth Primary to meet with the head teacher and dropped into Brockhurst Juniors to see Year 4's work on memory & anatomy of the brain. I was also honoured to open a new garden at Brockhurst Pre-School that was sponsored by local company Huhtamaki.



At the opening of the BioWare Garden

I visited one of Huhtamaki's factories this month and was pleased to learn about their recruitment drive for local apprentices. I also paid one of my regular visits to our biggest local employer Vector Aerospace.

I finished the month by meeting with representatives from the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust to see the work they're doing at Hill Head beach to ensure our marine environment remains protected for people to enjoy for many years to come.

I thought it would be useful to remind you of upcoming local events and items of interest.

The hugely successful 'Bridging the Gap' fund is open for a new round of applications, the deadline for expressions of interest is 21st June, please click [here](#) for more details.

Now in its 6th year, Gosport's Big Day Out will take place on Sunday 2nd June. With a special focus on family fun, heritage and water sports there is something for all the family to enjoy. Click [here](#) for more info.

And finally, with only a handful of tickets still remaining, join me for a Cheese & Wine Evening at the fabulous Diving Museum, Stokes Bay on Friday 7th June, contact office@goscons.plus.com for more details.

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!

Constituency Office: 02392 522 121

Westminster Office: 020 7219 7078

Email: caroline.dinenage.mp@parliament.uk

Website: www.caroline4gosport.co.uk

Address:

House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA