



# Caroline Dinenage

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



*Visiting MonsterCAM at the Daedalus Innovation Centre*

This month was crammed with examples of how our area's proud maritime heritage continues to flourish today - both as a key driver for economic growth and underpinning our local identity.

The Marine Advertising Agency's annual press lunch at Haslar Marina goes from strength to strength and is a great opportunity to sell the Gosport area as a world-class sailing and yachting hub. Some of the UK's biggest marine companies, writers and publications were present, generating great networking and PR opportunities. This year the director of the new Swallows and Amazons film came along and spoke about how he hopes the film, some of which was shot locally, will inspire the next generation of sailors.

I was delighted to visit MonsterCAM at Daedalus, where around 65 staff are working on multi-million pound luxury boats up to 118m in length. With the Business Innovation Centre full to capacity (two years ahead of schedule!) the Daedalus Enterprise Zone is clearly bringing great economic benefits to our area.

The needs of our maritime community are boosted by our exceptional 3rd sector. I was delighted to visit GAFIRS at their Stokes Bay HQ to hear more about this fantastic, volunteer-run service and climb aboard their brand new lifeboat to see the first class medical equipment & technology on board.

It was great to catch up with the dynamic team at Gosport Marine Scene who work so hard (and for free!) to promote Gosport's maritime interests.

I had a super time at Hill Head Sailing Club for the RYA Push the Boat Out event. People of all ages and experience were able to get out on the water, via boats, paddleboards & kayaks. The bar and barbecue ensured that the landlubbers were kept watered and fed!

I am delighted that sailing on the Solent will be promoted on the international stage this summer when Lee-on-the-Solent man, Alain Sign, represents Team GB in sailing at the Rio Olympics 2016.

Lee-on-the-Solent is clearly a multi-talented place as it has also produced a national DJ Champion: Stanley Hood from Bay House School. I was thrilled to watch Stanley perform a set in the House of Commons alongside superstar DJ Carl Cox in aid of the Last Night a DJ Saved My Life foundation.

Over the harbour, I paid a fascinating visit to the University of Portsmouth to learn more about their massive investment in our region, with over 2500 local jobs. It was great to learn about the cutting edge motion capture and virtual reality technology in the Cultural & Creative Industry Faculty.

Infrastructure investment is crucial to our economic growth, so I was delighted to meet with the Solent LEP in Westminster to discuss their newly published transport investment plan. I stressed the vital importance of the Gosport constituency receiving its fair share of funding and for the Stubbington Bypass to be completed.



*With members of the GAFIRS team at their Stokes Bay HQ*



*With DJ champion, Stanley Hood from Lee-on-the-Solent*

I also attended an event in Parliament that highlighted how schools can play a vital role in providing apprenticeships. I was sure to relay the information to local head teachers.

I met Olivia Pinkney, the new Chief Constable for Hampshire Constabulary to hear about her priorities in her new role. I was really impressed by the depth of her local knowledge and determination to drive improvements. I was also pleased to catch up with brand new Police & Crime Commissioner for Hampshire, Gosport's own Michael Lane. I think he and the Chief Constable will be an excellent team.

This month I also met with National Grid for an update on the proposed IFA2 Interconnector at Daedalus. The planning application has now been submitted and a public meeting to discuss the plans took place on 23 May in Stubbington. I have written to the Secretary of State and will continue working hard to ensure local voices are heard on this very important issue.

I was honoured to attend HMS Sultan's 60th Anniversary Ceremonial Divisions along with the First Sea Lord. HMS Sultan contributes massively to our local community via training, teaching and employment but also through charitable work.



*Discussing the Solent LEP's transport investment strategy with local MPs*



*Catching up with Allan on his 40 mile bike ride for the Solent Diabetes Association*

The first Gosport Rotary Club Dog Show in Walpole Park was great fun and attracted big crowds. Not only did I get to cuddle a few furry friends and visit some great stalls, the event was for a good cause, with all proceeds to charity.

I also managed to catch Allan (the bear) & Nathan Farmer on their 40 mile bike ride around our area to raise money for Solent Diabetes Association.

In Westminster, I attended the Invictus Games Welcome Home Reception. The inspiring resilience of these tremendous British athletes was rewarded with a highly impressive medal haul!

Another great local group had a birthday this month—Gosport BMX Club were celebrating their tenth anniversary. Not only is Gosport BMX Club home to some world-class BMX champions, it has also been named no.1 in the South region for the fourth year running. Furthermore, they will soon have a brand new & improved track thanks to a £150,000 grant from Sports England.

The Home, Garden and Craft Fair at Royal Clarence Yard was another success and the reinstatement of the Water taxi link between Portsmouth and RCY proved highly popular.

Confidence in Gosport's effective Conservative council was clear in this month's local election results. The Conservatives polled 55% of the total vote, won 10 of the 17 seats and retained control of the council. Many congratulations to all of the candidates. I was especially pleased to see fantastic new female Councillors - Zoe Huggins, Diane Furlong and Kathy Jones.

Looking forward to next month, the referendum on Britain's continued membership of the European Union will be upon us. It is right that the British public will make this decision. To ensure you get your say on Thurs 23 June, make sure you are [registered to vote](#) by 7 June. (Anyone who was already registered to vote for the 5 May elections will also be registered to cast their vote at the EU Referendum. You do not need to re-register!)

Best wishes

*Caroline*



*Celebrating Gosport BMX Club's tenth birthday with Gosport's new Mayor, Cllr Lynn Hook*

## 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 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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