PARTNERS

Issue No. 17 Summer 1995 Free to Residents and Businesses in East Hampshire

EAST HAMPSHIRE

Partners

ORGANIC FARMING

HOUSING MATTERS

GET FIT, STAY FIT

AGRI-STUDY

YOUNG PARTNERS

SUMMER ROUND UP ISSUE

Printed on Environment Friendly Paper

NewsNewsNewsNews

The front cover photograph shows Council Chairman Maurice Johnson with Mr John Cavindish, Chairman of Farringdon Parish Council and new playground equipment in the Parish.

NEW CHAIRMAN WORKING FOR STRONGER LINKS WITH PARISHES



East Hampshire's new first citizen is Councillor Maurice Johnson who has been elected as Chairman of the Council.

A closer working relationship between the District Council and local Town and Parish Council's will be Mr Johnson's theme for his year of office.

Councillor Johnson was himself a Parish Councillor from 1979 to 1987 and was Parish Council Chairman of Medstead Parish Council, from 1983 until 1987 when he was first elected to East Hampshire District Council to represent the North Downland ward in relation to the District as a whole.

As well as devoting time to the District Council as a member of several Committees, Councillor Johnson works as a part time lecturer and personnel consultant. His principal interest is in environmental matters and the preservation of the quality of our local environment.

" The District Council is working hard to get closer to people and to improve services and value for money in every part of the district. Town and Parish Councillors are at the most local level of community representation and I will welcome every opportunity to visit them and to listen to what they have to say about the service they receive from the district".

HEALTH CO-ORDINATOR APPOINTED

Mary Downs has recently been appointed Health Development Co-ordinator. Mary will lead and co-ordinate the work of various agencies, business groups, and individuals with an interest in health and formulate a local health strategy for East Hampshire.

The jointly funded post has been created as the result of a partnership between the District Council, Health Commissions, The County Council, Town and Parish Councils and local public and private sector service providers.

" Health should be viewed in the broadest sense - not just the absence of illness, but all issues involved in improving the quality of life," said Mary. " Education, income , environment, employment, housing; all affect health and connect with many other aspects of the District Council's work.

EAST HAMPSHIRE'S COMMITTEE TEAM

Following the local elections the District Council elected Chairmen for Council Committees.



***From left to right the photo shows** David Clark- Deputy Leader and Chairman of Corporate Review Sub Committee, Tony Murrell- Chairman of the Housing Committee, Beverley Seymour- Chairman of the Community and Leisure Services Committee, Peter Rodgers-Leader of the Council and Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee, Pelham Ravenscroft-Chairman of Development Policy Committee, and Teresa Jamieson-Chairman of Environment Committee.*

CONTACT WITH THE COUNCIL

We hope you have found this edition of Partners magazine to be interesting and informative. If you wish to contact the District Council on any of the services featured in this issue, please write to us at:-

East Hampshire District Council, Penns Place, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU31 4EX
or telephone 01730 266551
Minicom Service for Hard of Hearing 01730 234103

TENANTS VOTE ON HOUSING TRANSFER PLAN

As **Partners** went to press, East Hampshire District Council's 5,800 tenants were due to vote on the proposal to transfer their homes to the newly-formed East Hampshire Housing Association.

If tenants vote in favour of the transfer, the Housing Association would be able to provide lower rent rises in the years ahead. The transfer would also provide much needed funds for repairing and improving tenants' homes and - vitally - for the building of new homes for rent. If tenants decide against the transfer, then the Council will retain ownership of its housing stock but will have to face Compulsory Competitive Tendering for its housing services. This option would not provide any additional money for repairs, improvements, or for new homes, and could result in private companies managing key housing services for a profit.

The outcome of the secret ballot, run by the Electoral Reform Society from 1st to 24th July, will be determined by a simple majority of those voting. If more than half are in favour of the proposal then all homes, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, would transfer to East Hampshire Housing Association. If more than half are against the proposal, all homes would remain with the Council and preparations for Compulsory Competitive Tendering would begin. District Councillors were all set to consider the outcome of the ballot results at a meeting on 3rd August.

Look out for the results of the ballot in your local newspaper (all District Council tenants will be informed of the result by personal letter).

GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME



Liz Mould, a Dog Warden with East Hampshire District Council, is running the Kennel Club's **Good Citizen Dog Scheme** at her training club at Napier Hall, Horndean.

This is a national scheme for all dogs (pedigree or not!) and their owners. There is no age limit and the course is designed to train pets and their owners to be "good citizens". Dogs must have completed their vaccination programme to take part.

The training course is not difficult and when successfully completed owners will receive a Kennel Club **Good Citizen Dog Scheme** Certificate.

Any members of the public or Dog Training Clubs interested in taking part in the scheme should contact Liz on (01730) 266551 Ext. 4318 (day) or (01705) 593070 (evenings).

HOTEL OCCUPANCY SURVEY

A survey of hotels and self-catering units in East Hampshire is being undertaken by the Southern Tourist Board this year. Recognising the importance of tourism to the local economy, the District Council has commissioned the survey (which will take include bed-and-breakfast accommodation and local guest houses) to try to assess the pattern of demand for visitor accommodation in East Hampshire.

Hotels in the District received their first survey questionnaires by post in July. This will cover the first six months of the year, and a second questionnaire will be sent out in January to cover the remaining 6 months of 1995.

The results will help all those involved in local tourism to make better informed decisions on marketing and planning issues. **All hoteliers taking part in the survey will receive a summary of the findings.**

SURE SIGNS OF WHERE TO STAY

EAST HAMPSHIRE EHDC Partners

Tourist Information

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The Treloar Trust undertakes all capital projects with money raised from voluntary contribution. £2.6 million is required to build a new boarding house for the youngest students at the School, and a National Appeal is to be launched to raise this sum.

For further information or to make a donation please contact the Trust Director on 01420 22442

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ATTO

CAA

Organic Farming



"You are what you eat" - but do you really know what's in the food in your larder? Farming has become increasingly intensive since the late 1940's. Government policies have encouraged farmers to increase production of both crops and livestock - creating a system which is heavily reliant on chemicals.

Now, interest is growing in "organic" food production, which The Soil Association describes as a "safe and sustainable alternative to modern, intensive farming methods". Organic farming "produces nutritious, unadulterated foods without the use of artificial chemicals, pesticides and fertilisers". It is also an environmentally friendly food production system, with great emphasis on animal welfare. The recent study of farming in East Hampshire (see page 19) estimates that around 5% of local farmers are involved in producing organic foods.

So, what does "organic" mean to the farmer? An East Hampshire producer who belongs to a small network of organic farms spoke to **Partners**: "Well, we prefer to say that we farm in the natural or traditional way. Our group produces meat - all our animals are fed on a natural diet and our lamb and beef are hung before consumption. We have a number of regular customers, but some are surprised at first to see that they can tell what sort of meat they're buying by its colour and aroma, and not just by what's on the label!" The network operates on a break-even basis, with produce sold amongst group members. Regular deliveries are made to customers.



A Natural Approach

"One of the fundamental issues for us is to keep the land as it should be. We've farmed our own 30 acres for 12 years now, and the land is as "natural" as it ever will be. But if any nearby farmers spray their land with artificial fertilisers or other chemicals, for example, then it's impossible for us to stop it from seeping on to our pasture through the water system. We want to be honest with our customers, so we tell them that our produce is as natural as we can get it."

"Of course, there are times when, for example, an animal becomes ill and - because there aren't many homeopathic vets around - we do have to rely on anti-biotics and other treatments to regain the animal's health. Then we would allow a good length of recovery time before considering slaughter, so that the animal's system has a chance to regain its natural balance".

Concern for Animals

Animal welfare is another major issue. "We raise our animals using very traditional methods. Our beef cattle are a grass-based breed, so they are always given grass-based feedstuffs. It really goes against the grain to hear of herbivores being fed on fishmeal and other foods that just aren't part of their natural diet".

"Our animals live out, and spend much of their lives on the land that they were born on. We try to keep transport down to an absolute minimum, perhaps just moving calves from one farm to another". Slaughter is a problem, though, and it seems that some more recently introduced regulations and management practices do make it harder on the animals: "It's no longer possible to have animals slaughtered on the farm, as a vet has to be present. Unfortunately this does mean a journey to the slaughterhouse. Also, we've found that not all slaughterhouses will guarantee to return our own meat to us".

Positive System

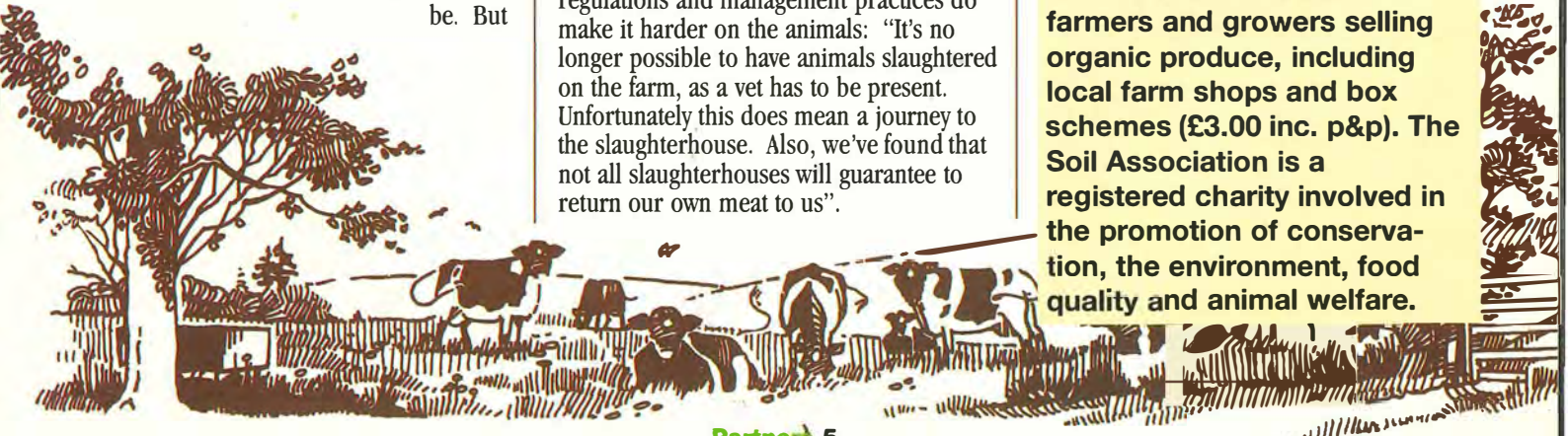
"Organic, or natural, farming is a very positive system. It's not so much about what you **don't** put on the land or feed to your animals, as what you **do** - looking after the land and the livestock. After all, you are what you eat and surely it's better to eat foods which have been naturally produced!"

The Soil Association's Symbol Scheme standards for its producers include bans on systems such as the battery cage for egg-laying hens, and confinement crates for mother sows, in which the animals cannot even turn around. Instead, organically kept pigs and chickens have plenty of room to behave more naturally and can enjoy fresh air and sunshine.

Petersfield-based farm animal welfare group, **Compassion in World Farming**, applauds the organic approach. CIWF's Campaigns Director, Philip Lymbery, said, "We welcome organic farming as a practical alternative to the cruelty of the factory farm. Its practices clearly have the potential to provide farm animals with a high standard of welfare, and a life worth living".

Where to Buy

Write to The Soil Association at 86 Colston Street, Bristol, BS1 5BB for for a list of farmers and growers selling organic produce, including local farm shops and box schemes (£3.00 inc. p&p). The Soil Association is a registered charity involved in the promotion of conservation, the environment, food quality and animal welfare.



Housing Matters

East Hampshire Housing Association

TIME FOR A NEW BEGINNING?

Understandably, many people think that when the District Council transfers its stock to East Hampshire Housing Association (see News pages), it will cease to be a key player in housing provision, but nothing could be further from the truth. The District Council has always had the task of ensuring that housing resources meet local demand. From next Spring, the District Council will enter an exciting new era as the coordinator of affordable housing throughout East Hampshire.

After the transfer of housing stock to the East Hampshire Housing Association , the District Council will still be a statutory housing authority with responsibility for:

- **Assessing housing needs in the area**
- **Drawing up an annual strategy for meeting that need**
- **Deciding on homelessness applications.**

In addition, the Council has resolved that it will continue to:

- **Provide housing advice**
- **Manage a Common Housing Register for the area**
- **Provide funding for affordable housing schemes within the District**
- **Monitor and liaise with providers of affordable housing in East Hampshire**
- **Play a lead role in developing Community Care**

The District Council has already promised that the money received from the transfer will be spent on affordable housing. This will lead to around 350 new homes being built for people in East Hampshire in housing need.

Chairman of the Council's Housing Committee, Tony Murrell, said "This will be an exciting new beginning and will give us an opportunity, not just to ensure that a high quality affordable housing service goes on being provided for tenants in East Hampshire, but for the Council to play an important role in making sure that the housing needs of future generations are met."

BRINGING BACK THE EMPTIES

The District Council has introduced an Empty Homes Strategy which will help to make use of the local housing stock.

Making use of empty homes in East Hampshire within the District is not an entirely new idea - the District Council already leases over 80 properties from private owners. But in the past, these properties had to be in reasonable condition before they could be leased, as there was no money to carry out improvements. Now, through working in partnership with Housing Associations, the District Council has been awarded additional funds which mean that **the owners of empty properties may be eligible for grant aid.**

Grant aid can be provided at no cost to the owner. In return for this investment, the owner would be required to enter into a 5 - 10 year lease agreement. Under the terms of the lease agreement, the Housing Association involved would:

- undertake the repairs/refurbishment
- maintain and manage the property during the lease
- hand back the property in an agreed condition at the end of the lease
- pay a GUARANTEED RENT

If you have an empty property that is in reasonable condition - or if you think it may qualify for grant aid - and you are interested in discussing lease arrangements, then please contact:
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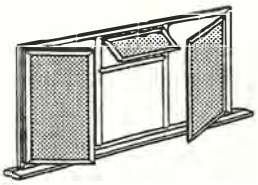
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GETTING FIT AND STAYING FIT IN EAST HAMPSHIRE

Exercise and healthy eating are not everyone's idea of fun - but there are all sorts of ways of getting into shape in East Hampshire.

Physical activity is integral to the Government's Health of the Nation Strategy which seeks improvements in health in key areas including coronary heart disease and stroke.

A consultation paper "More People, More Active, More Often", sets out proposals for a comprehensive physical activity strategy.

Research findings reported in the paper indicate low levels of physical activity among adults while the latest scientific evidence shows the health benefits of physical activity.

The aim of the paper is to stimulate comment and it invites suggestions on developing the strategy which the District Council will be responding to.

Partners has been seeking out some active local residents to find out what keeps them in trim:

SWIMMING

Fun
"The most fun is trying not to get one's hair wet.. I always swim at least half a mile. I've learnt many a part in a play while swimming up and down and worked out the occasional paragraph to say at a Planning Committee".

Physical Requirements
"Anyone can swim - you can leave it for years and years and then pick it up again immediately".

How Much Does it Cost ?
" Its very cheap at Petersfield Outdoor Pool its £1.80 for an adult and £1.10 for a child ".

Is it good for you ?
"Swimming exercises your whole body - feet arms and shoulders ".

Does it help you to make new friends - or get away from it all?
"Both - I like to get away from it all - but others come and socialise - sometimes its like a coffee morning in the swimming pool !"



Councillor Elsa Bulmer - At Petersfield Open Air Pool

FENCING

Fun
"Something else to do besides school - its great fun and we enjoy competing ".

Physical Requirements
" You don't need to be fit to start - its more a matter of skill than strength and fencing helps to make you agile. You can do it just for fun or enter competitions".

How Much Does it Cost ?
" Its £3.00 for a two hour session - the equipment is expensive but its all provided".

Is it good for you ?
"You might get a few bruises but its all in the spirit of the sport. Its good for your agility and movement and improves your hand eye and feet co-ordination after a few sessions."

Does it help you to make new friends ?
"Yes definitely - with people of your own age and adults too"

How did you get involved ?
" all you need need to do come along to a session".



Henry and James - At Alton Sports Centre

WHITE PAGES OF SPORT

There are all kinds of activities in East Hampshire from Absailing to Volleyball. These are listed in the White Pages of Sport and Recreation Directory which is published by the local Sports Councils.The directory is available at many public buildings as well as at the District Council offices. To keep residents up to date the second edition is planned for April 1996.

SHORT MAT BOWLING

Fun
"Its friendly, competitive and it keeps you fit, especially around your middle."

Physical Requirements
" You can play whatever your age ".

How Do You Get Involved ?
" I first read about it in a newspaper article and then joined the club - a good thing about this game is that we play it all the year round".

How Much Does it Cost ?
" We have a £ 5.00 annual subscription and a charge of £1.25 per weekly session".

Does it help you to make new friends ?
"Yes, we play a lot against other clubs and we are quarter finalists in the Southampton League. We're now hoping to form a Portsmouth and District League - we have five clubs but we need a sixth".



Ken Graham - President/ Captain Barton Hall Short Mat Bowling

WALKING

Fun
" I'm interested in the countryside, farming , the landscape, wildlife - and this is all rolled into one when you're out walking .

Special Attributes
" All you need is an appreciation of the outdoors".

How Much Does it Cost ?
" Its not at all expensive ".

Is it good for you ?
" Yes it keeps you fit and I really enjoy the challenge of a 20-25 mile walk".

Does it help you to make new friends ?
" Walking can be very social - but I often like to get away from it all".



Robin Truscott- On the Southdowns Way

TRAMPOLINING

Fun
" Its fun learning different kinds of moves".

How Much Does it Cost ?
" Its £14.00 a term plus £1.00 per session ".

Is it good for you ?
" Yes its good exercise and makes you more flexible".

Does it help you to make new friends ?
" Yes you meet people and make friends".

Where Can You Trampoline in East Hampshire ?
Alton Sports Centre



Justine Tripp at Alton Sports Centre

STEP AEROBICS

Fun
" Its a good excuse to act like a child again, jumping up and down on a box - you build up a sweat and there's a great feel good factor".

Physical Requirements
" You don't have to be super fit - all shapes and sizes of people do it - and you can take it easy ".

How Much Does it Cost ?
" Its £2.50 per session - there's no special equipment - and boxes are provided".

Is it good for you ?
"It raises your metabolism, tones your figure and relieves stress".

Does it help you to make new friends ?
" Its up to you - some like to socialise others prefer to get away".



Claire and Sarah - At Merchistoun Hall - Horndean

KITING

Fun
" Running after the Kite when it flies very high".

How Much Does it Cost ?
" You can a buy a good Kite for only £2.50 but there are some more expensive ones".

Is it good for you ?
"It gets you into the open air".



Amie and Anna at Butser Hill





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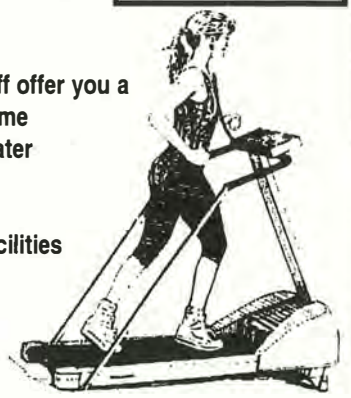
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Meet Alice, the Mad Hatter and friends for a fun filled day for kids. With bouncy castles, face painting, a large disco and party games all day, there's plenty to keep them amused. Kids wearing a silly homemade hat get a special admission rate and can then enter the Silliest Hat competition.

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- shopaholics East Hampshire
- eating out

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County Library
27 The Square
Petersfield
Hampshire

tel. (01730) 267728

Open: Mon - Sat,
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Alton Tourist Information Centre
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Hampshire

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Tourist Information

PLEASE PULL OUT AND KEEP

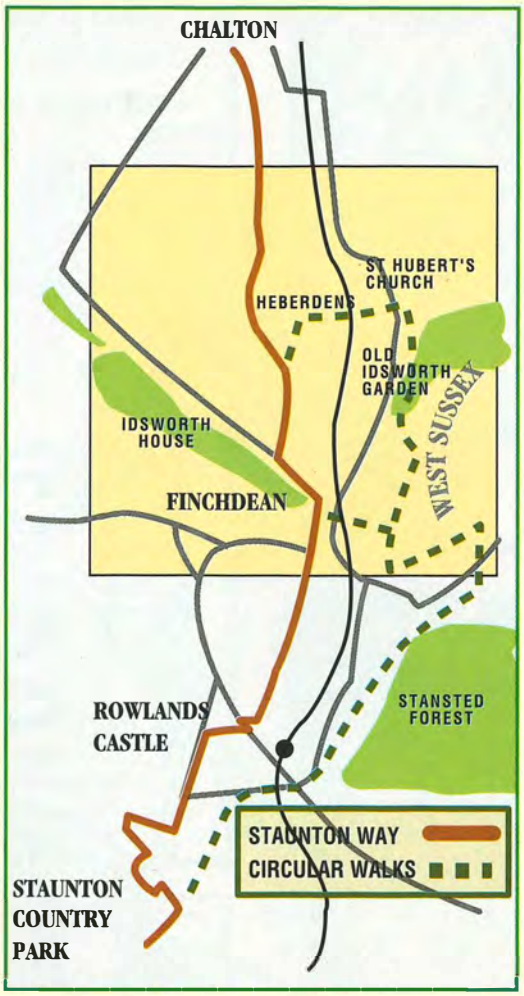
Feel like a breath of fresh air? Why not enjoy a 2½ mile walk along part of the Staunton Way?

This circular walk centres on Finchdean, near Rowlands Castle:

Start out from the village of Finchdean. Before 1710 this tiny village used to lie on the main London to Portsmouth thoroughfare, whilst all around rose the great Forest of Bere!

Follow the waymarked signs and approach St. Hubert's Church at Idsworth from the west. Taking the path towards Heberdens, the little church in the field makes a striking focal point. Its charming interior is enhanced by the 14th century church wall paintings. The church was sensitively restored in 1912 and today its simple, rural dignity attracts visitors from all over the world.

Close to St. Hubert's Church is the site of the Old Manor House, once owned by Edward the Confessor. He is reputed to have used St. Hubert's Church as a hunting chapel on his visits to the Manor. Only the old garden of the house now remains (private property).



The way ahead then crosses three stiles in quick succession. Between them notice the odd hole in the ground - which is probably all that remains of a brick, igloo shaped, ice-house once used for storing ice for the Old Manor.

Walking along the edge of the woodland, you'll see the railway line below you. Walk down to the edge of the field and under the railway bridge and back into Finchdean.



For details of the full 12-mile linear walk along The Staunton Way, call in to Staunton Country Park, Middle Park Way, Havant, to pick up a leaflet, or tel. (01705) 453405.

ALICE HOLT WOODLAND PARK



EASY ACCESS TRAIL

At Alice Holt Woodland Park (on the A325 near Bucks Horn Oak), Forest Ranger Roessa Yorke has designed a 1 1/2 mile Easy Access Trail which will help everyone with mobility problems to enjoy being in the forest this summer.

Roessa Yorke talked about her design suggestions to local groups, who also helped to test the route for ease of use as the trail began to take shape. Along its wide pathway, the trail now has surfaces and slopes suitable for wheelchair users. For people with difficulty in walking, steps and kerbs have been eliminated and resting places provided. Clear waymarking has also been inluded on the trail so that the visually impaired can enjoy making their own way along the route. In the near future, people with learning difficulties will also be able to use specially designed information boards to follow the trail.Written and taped information guides on the Easy Access Trail will also be available from the park's Forest Centre.

The Easy Access Trail, which was completed with the help of volunteers, wanders through 5 different types of habitat deep into the forest. These woodland glades and tracks open up the heart of Alice Holt Woodland Park to all visitors.

For further information about Alice Holt Woodland Park and the Easy Access Trail, please contact the Forestry Enterprise at South Downs District Office, Bucks Horn Oak, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 4IS, tel. (01420) 23666.

UMMER ROUND - UP

gardens of glory

Take time to enjoy some of East Hampshire's wonderful gardens:

Bohunt Manor Gardens, Old Portsmouth Road (A3), Liphook, tel. (01428) 722208 - come and enjoy the beautiful herbaceous borders, specimen trees and lakeside walk with a wide variety of waterfowl. Suitable for wheelchairs and prams - no dogs please. **Open daily throughout the year.**

Jenkyn Place, Bentley, tel. (01420) 22561 - a well designed garden with a large collection of rare plants, roses and double herbaceous borders. **Open until 10th September: Thursday to Sunday, and on Bank Holiday Monday, between 2.00 and 6.00 pm.**

The Physic Garden, rear of 16 High Street, Petersfield, tel. (01730) 268583 - small walled garden, orchard, wild flowers, herbs, plants and shrubs known in the 17th century. **Open daily.**



The Physic Garden, Petersfield

Grayshott Literary Festival



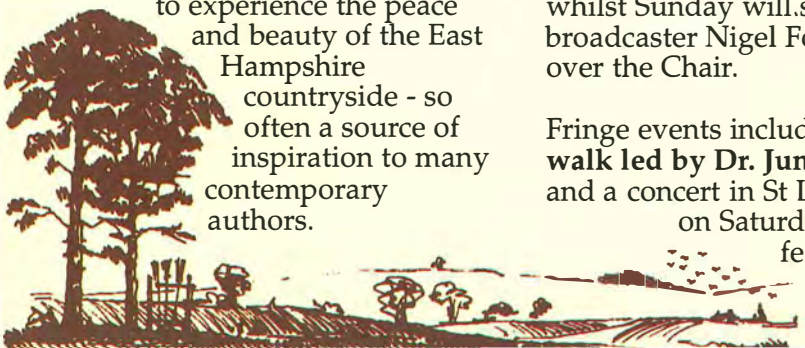
22nd to 24th September 1995

Grayshott, where writer Flora Thompson was once assistant postmistress, is holding its first Literary Festival in September. This late summer Festival will bring together writers past and present, poets, broadcasters, illustrators and playwrights.



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Alfred Lord Tennyson and George Bernard Shaw all lived and worked in the area and George Eliot, Edward Thomas, Jane Austen, William Cobbett and Gilbert White lived in nearby towns and villages.

Grayshott is surrounded by National Trust land and if you visit the Festival you will be able to experience the peace and beauty of the East Hampshire countryside - so often a source of inspiration to many contemporary authors.



Flora Thompson will be featured in the literary heritage section of the Festival, alongside **Bruce Chatwin, Jane Austen, Edward Thomas, James Joyce, William Cobbett** and **Gilbert White**. A colourful line-up of contemporary writers includes **Simon Brett** ("After Henry"), **Martin Newell** (The Independent), **Dianne Doubtfire** (novelist and writer of books for budding writers), **Nicholas Murray** (Bruce Chatwin's biographer), and **Nigel Forde**, writer and presenter of Radio 4's "Bookshelf" programme. Local writers are represented by **Jo Smith, Michael Nyman, James Willis** and **John Dunne**. Local schools, libraries and bookshops are also taking part. On Saturday,Broadcaster and District Councillor Eugene Fraser will be keeping order, whilst Sunday will.see broadcaster Nigel Forde taking over the Chair.





Fringe events include a **literary walk led by Dr. June Chatfield** and a concert in St Luke's Church on Saturday evening, featuring **Savourna Stevenson** (Harp) and **Guy Whateley** (Organ). Two East Hampshire Folk Dance groups will be performing in The Square at lunchtimes - **Knickerbocker Glory** Appalachian Clog Dancers on Saturday and **Alton Morris** on Sunday. **Children's sessions** will be held at Grayshott Library on Saturday and The Grayshott Bookshop on Sunday.

Entry to events on Saturday and Sunday is £10 per day (£18 for both days) and concessions are available. Tickets can be collected or ordered by post from The Grayshott Bookshop, 8 The Precinct, Grayshott, Hindhead, Surrey, GU26 6LQ, tel. (01428) 604978.

For further details and a free Grayshott Literary Festival bookmark, please contact: Julia Fry, Arts & Community Manager, Community & Leisure Services Division on (01730) 266551 extn. 4383.

The Grayshott Literary Festival is a co-operative venture between East Hampshire District Council, the community of Grayshott and local businesses.

EAST HAMPSHIRE EHDC Partners

SUPPORTED BY SOUTHERN ARTS

FESTIVAL of ARTS and CULTURE

SPORTS AND GAMES

There's something for everyone at **Alton Sports Centre, Petersfield's Taro Leisure Centre** and **Whitehill/Bordon's Mill Chase Leisure Centre**. The centres offer you a wide range of sporting and fun activities, from fitness classes, swimming lessons and martial arts, to sunbeds, fitness rooms, sauna, spa and steam rooms. Special holiday programmes will keep the children amused during the long school holidays and children's tea parties can also be arranged. You'll find multi-complex swimming pools at each centre, for the serious swimmer and those who just want a splashing time!

For full programme details, please contact:

Alton Sports Centre
Chawton Park Road
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 1RQ
tel. (01420) 82772

The Taro Leisure Centre
Penns Place
Petersfield
Hampshire
GU31 4EX
tel. (01730) 263996

Mill Chase Leisure Centre
Mill Chase Road,
Bordon,
Hampshire
GU35 0ER
tel. (01420) 472549

FUN FOR THE OVER 55'S

Lively **50+ Plus** groups are run at both **Alton Sports Centre** and **Petersfield's Taro Leisure Centre**, with the emphasis on "staying active" - why not try bowls, racquet sports, swimming .... or join a tea dance session?



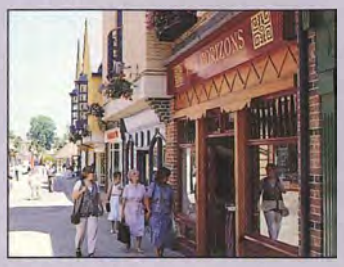
Merchistoun Hall at Horndean is the home of the new look **55 Club**, where people of 55 and over have an opportunity to meet with or make new friends, develop their skills and share them with others. A full programme of **55 Club** activities, ranging from Keep Fit, Self-Defence, to talks, debates, and sessions on everything from plumbing hints, aromatherapy, photography and creative crafts, is available from Merchistoun Hall, Portsmouth Road, Horndean, **tel. (01705) 597114.**

Shopaholics East Hampshire

SUMMER ROUND UP

East Hampshire has a wide range of summer shopping - its towns and villages can offer you everything from your weekly groceries to delicatessen foods, interesting and unusual gifts, goods for the home, and high quality jewellery and fashion clothing - plus much more!





Traditional markets are held in **Petersfield** (Wednesdays an Saturdays) and **Alton** (Tuesdays), complementing the wide variety of independent shops and shopping malls in each of these bustling towns. **Grayshott** and **Liss** also pride themselves on their friendly, personal service to customers and enjoy free parking, along with **Whitehill's** Forest Shopping Centre. If you're a shopaholic - start exploring your local shops now!

Eating Out

If you like to **take a coffee break** when you're out shopping .... if you're looking for somewhere different to **take your friends** .... if you're into **Japanese Cuisine** or **Cream Teas** .... or



Nippon Kan, Old Thorns, Liphook



China Tea Rooms, Petersfield

if you want to **celebrate a special family occasion** ... then East Hampshire's wide variety of town and country cafes, restaurants, pubs and wine bars are all here for you to enjoy! From full course meals to a homely snack, there's sure to be a place that's just right for your palate and your pocket.

For a Fact Sheet listing some of the best places to eat in East Hampshire, please contact your local Tourist Information Centre (see Page 11).

Backing Business

WORKING FOR YOURSELF

Being in a job you hate is bad enough. Not having a job at all is a great deal worse. Having a dream of being your own boss does not need to lie dormant until you realise it's too late to 'have a go'.

The **South East Hampshire Enterprise Agency** (SEHEA), which receives financial support from East Hampshire District Council, exists to help anyone in business - or who thinks that self-employment might be worth considering. Whilst it helps to have some idea of what you want to do, many clients have no idea, just a determination to 'go it alone'!

SEHEA's experienced business counsellors will help you through the complete process of exploring your ideas, investigating their potential (market research), pricing the product or service, and developing a business plan including the financial projections. You will also be helped with advice on how to present your case to a bank manager in order to open a business account.



John Furlonger of JD Electronics, one of the Liss Business Centre's successful businesses, with Chairman of the Council Maurice Johnson

Sounds complicated? Well, it isn't and most people will arrive at a decision to start-up or not as the case may be within about 6 to 8 weeks. You will be offered a free training course of four days when you will have the opportunity of talking to others in similar situations. Ideas are exchanged, experiences compared and a better understanding of the business world obtained. Once you have started, you will be offered training vouchers to the value of £50 towards the cost of each appropriate business course you choose.

To make an appointment to see a counsellor for this free and confidential service, telephone SEHEA's Alton office on (01420) 87577 (available Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings).

ALTON AREA ADVOCACY REGISTER

... a service provided **for** disabled people
... a service provided **by** disabled people

- A **free**, confidential service to enable individual disabled people to have a voice when dealing with the DSS/Benefits Agency and service providers
- The advocate is there as a partner, to help by listening, encouraging, liaising, negotiating, mediating, representing and helping disabled people speak for themselves, or speaking their words for them
- If you would like to use the services of an advocate - please contact our answering service, Monday to Friday, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, on (01420) 479000
- 24 hour answering machine 01420 478349

David Brown, Co-ordinator,
16 Schoolfields, Kingsley,
Bordon, GU35 9PQ

Breeding BIRDS of the Liss Riverside Railway Walk

During the early spring and summer last year, the District Council asked ***Mike Wearing*** *to carry out a 12-week survey of the breeding birds along the Riverside Railway Walk at Liss. The survey helped to assess the importance of the Riverside Railway Walk as a bird habitat and to looked at the effects on birdlife of the current management programme for the site.*

Despite disturbance caused by work being carried out along the various lengths of the walk, including thinning of silver birch and path resurfacing, and the increasing use of the area by walkers and cyclists, there is a growing variety of birds visiting and making their nests along the Riverside Railway Walk.



The riverside area is popular with both **Mandarin** and **Mallard** ducks, and a brood of Mandarin ducklings was seen during Mike Wearing's survey.



Look out for the Tawny Owl...

The **Woodpigeon**, whose breeding season continues right into the autumn, is a common resident, along with **Collared Doves**, and the highly vocal **Green Woodpecker**!

The number of **Wrens** along the Riverside Railway Walk has increased since a similar study carried out in 1993. These tiny birds are now the most abundant breeding species in the area, with with over 40 "territories" recorded during the 1994 survey. **Robins** are also finding the area a good place to settle.

After carrying out the survey, Mike Wearing said, "I think there are probably about 29 species of bird actually breeding in the area, with 15 species proven to be breeding during the study period".

Overall 53 species of bird were seen during the survey - compared with 42 in 1993. Only the Redpoll was seen in the 1993 breeding season and not in 1994, bringing the total number of species recorded up to 54. Add a recent winter survey, and the list rises to 61! More disappointingly, a number of birdboxes had been vandalised and Mike Wearing thinks that increased use of the area by humans will probably mean that the Kingfisher, although seen regularly, will not breed on the site.



...and the Song Trush

The increase in the number of species seen at the Liss Riverside Railway Walk shows that the current management programme continues to attract many different birds to the area and is helping to provide an important habitat - linking the village with the heathlands habitat of Longmoor Inclosure.



Photographs by Mike Wearing
Illustrations by Dan Powell

- *Two new leaflets, describing* ***The Birds*** *and* ***The Mammals of the Liss Riverside Railway Walk*** *will be published by East Hampshire District Council later this year.*

- *If you wish to visit the Liss Riverside Railway Walk, car parking is available (courtesy of the MoD) at the Longmoor Inclosure off Forest Road, Liss.*

Grayshott Literary Festival



22-24 September 1995

Are you stimulated by good writing, both past and present?

Are you interested in the countryside and its relationship with literature?

Do you write, but feel the need to meet and talk with budding writers and established authors?

Would you like to spend a weekend close to beautiful heathland?

Then the Grayshott Literary Festival is for YOU

Choose each day between the varied lectures and workshops. Experts from a wide range of disciplines and genres will be speaking on subjects including novel writing, classic authors, poetry, playscripts and issues of the day....

Surrounded by National Trust land, you may follow in the footsteps of Tennyson, Conan Doyle, George Bernard Shaw and Flora Thompson, all of whom found pleasure in the local countryside

Entry to Saturday and Sunday
£10 per day (£18 for both days) - concessions available

Tickets available in person, or by post from
The Grayshott Bookshop 8, The Precinct, Grayshott, Hindhead, Surrey GU26 6LQ ***(01420) 604798***

Fringe events include
Lunchtime entertainment in the village
Guided literary walk
Saturday evening concert in St Luke's Church

Enquiries: Julia Fry Arts & Community Manager
Community & Leisure Services
Tel: 01730 234383 Fax: 01730 234385

EAST HAMPSHIRE EHDC Partners

Supported by Sound Arts

Festival of Arts & Culture

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a purpose built luxury nursing home situated in Liphook with facilities for long or short term care or convalescence. Nurse call to all rooms, Parker Solo bath, passenger lift, special diets catered for. Most rooms have en-suite facilities.

Visitors welcome at any time.

For further information please call or write to: Matron

29 London Road Liphook
Hampshire GU30 7AP
Tel: 01428 724453



B E D A L E S A R T S

an expanding public arts programme including concerts, plays and a full exhibition programme at Bedales Gallery

4 - 23 September
MIND UNDER MATTER - an exhibition of sculpture by locally-based artist Stephanie Reiss, Rob Baldwin, Adam Butcher and Celia Dickson

27 September - 18 October
THE QUESTION OF SCALE
paintings by twenty contemporary artists
Southern Arts Touring Exhibition Service

30 October - 18 November
BRITAIN-ON-SEA - photography exhibition
The Royal Photographic Society/Agfa Centenary Commission

opening times : Mon - Fri 2 - 5 pm, Sat 10 am - 1 pm
admission free

Bedales Memorial Library, The Barnyard and the current exhibition will be open to the public for guided tours on Sunday 17th September from 2 - 5 pm and it will be possible to view work in progress on the new theatre. This event is part of the national programme Heritage Open Days '95, organised by the Civic Trust.
Please see local press for further details.

BEDALES SCHOOL, CHURCH ROAD, STEEP, PETERSFIELD GU32 2DG (01730) 263286
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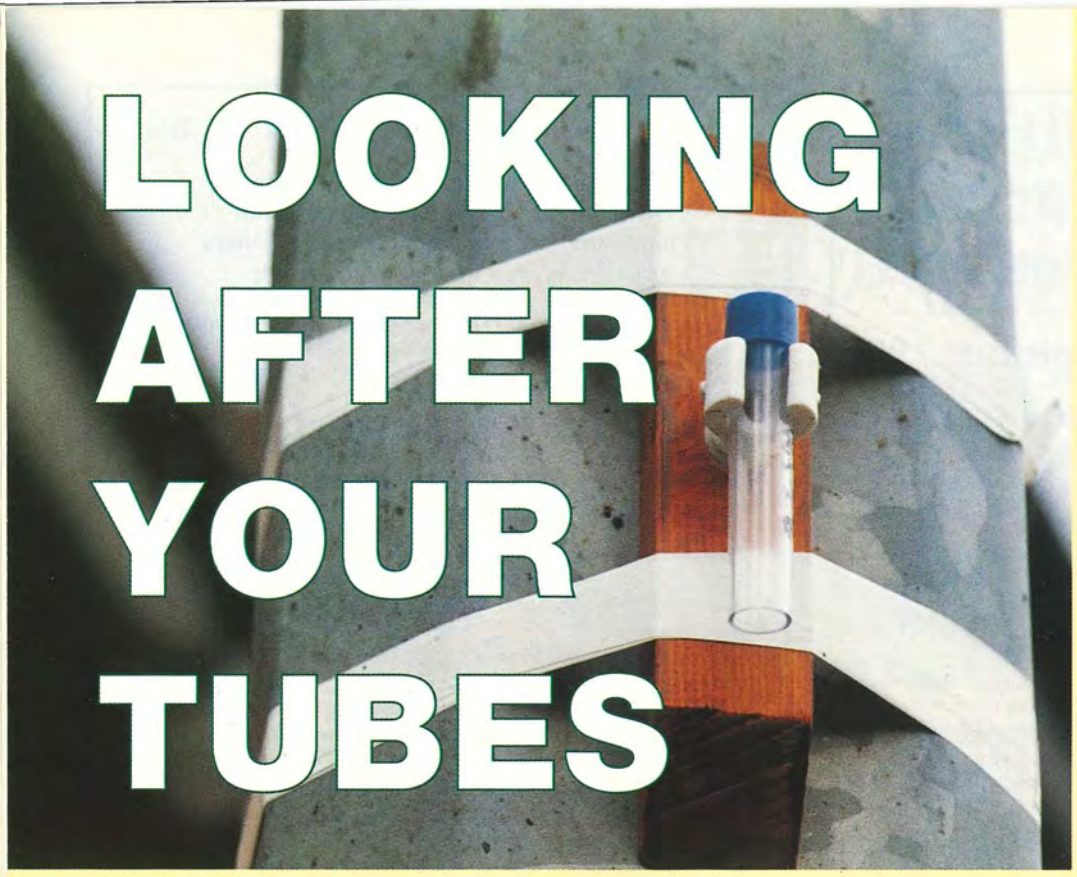
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Tel: (01420) 487222

LOOKING AFTER YOUR TUBES



You may have seen one of these devices in your area - and wondered what it is. It is a diffusion tube which measures nitrogen dioxide emissions - a pollutant which research shows can cause lung infections, bronchitis and asthma.

You may have seen one in Petersfield, Alton, Liphook, Bordon/Whitehill, or Four Marks. The tube in the picture is at Horndean.

The scheme is East Hampshire's contribution to a nationwide monitoring programme and seeks to identify problem areas. The results of the first year of monitoring show that all areas of East Hampshire are well within European Directives, which allow for a rating of 100. The highest level in the area is at Horndean which is rated at 33.

AIR QUALITY

The scheme fits in with a broader strategy which will monitor levels of a wide range of toxic air pollutants in the local environment. These include Benzine, Sulphur Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, Aromatic Hydrocarbons and Lead.

Chairman of the Environment Committee Teresa Jamieson said " Clean air is a basic to the quality of life and it is our responsibility to ensure that pollution is monitored an challenged - this programme has run for 12 months and although the results at this stage are reassuring we will continue to monitor changes in levels and to seek reductions".

The District Council's Environment Committee supports and oversees the work, which it has agreed to continue.



More Information is available from Dan Gorvin (O1730) 234325

Pollution Watch

EAST HAMPSHIRE AGRI-STUDY



With 70% of land in East Hampshire in agricultural use, farming still dominates the local countryside.

As part of its work in the development of the local economy, the District Council asked ADAS to carry out a study of the farming industry in this area.

ADAS interviewed 6 leading farmers in East Hampshire and conducted a postal survey of 786 farmers and growers. The results showed that increased legislation, public concern about animal welfare and food safety - together with changes in EU policy and support arrangements - have all had an impact on farmers in East Hampshire.

Trends in Agriculture

LIVESTOCK

Livestock production in East Hampshire dropped substantially from 1983 to 1993. Dairy cow numbers fell by 46%, reflecting the imposition of milk quotas in 1984. A further decline of 10% in dairy cow numbers is predicted by the year 2005. Pig and poultry numbers also declined in the 10 years under scrutiny, though numbers are now likely to stabilise.

Suckler cow numbers rose by 60% and breeding ewe numbers increased by 55% over the same period. The introduction of "on-farm" quotas means that suckler cow herds and sheep flocks are likely to grow larger, but at the expense of many smaller units.

ARABLE CROPPING AND GRASSLAND

The cropping area in the district declined by 16% from 1983 to 1993, with Set-Aside becoming a dominant feature in more recent years. An increasing number of farmers are expected to grow industrial, non-food crops on Set Aside land. Winter wheat will continue to be the dominant cereal crop. The main non-food crops are for industrial oils, fatty acids, fuels and fibres.



HORTICULTURE

Crops grown under plastic, glasshouses and polytunnels remain important to the local economy. Vegetable growing has declined substantially over the 10 year period, due to supermarkets turning to large growers in East Anglia. Fruit production has also declined. Although nursery stock production has expanded, future returns will be linked to confidence in the building and housing industry.

FARM NUMBER AND SIZE

The total number of holdings in the area has increased by 5%. A high number of small holdings has been created by the splitting up of larger units into lots at sale. Changes in the tenancy law due to be introduced this Autumn will give freedom to negotiate length of tenancy and could result in small parcels of land being made available for rent.



WORK FORCE

The total number of people employed in agriculture fell by 21% in the 10 year period, although part-time workers increased by 7.5% There was a 48.5% decline in the seasonal/casual work force.

These trends are likely to continue as some very large farms are still over-staffed. Part-time farming will continue to increase as the number of sole income farmers declines.

TWO SPEED AGRICULTURE

It seems likely that two sections are developing within local agriculture - the hi-tech producers and those who diversify (into non-farming businesses based on farms) and make use of environmental grants. ADAS believes that the different needs of these two sectors of agriculture must be recognised so that wealth can be created in the countryside and retained there for re-investment. ADAS also calls for more collaboration between farm businesses.

ADAS estimates that up to 47% of the farm produce in East Hampshire is sold for processing or is consumed in the area. A small percentage of local farmers are involved in organic food production (see page 5), which is regarded by some as complementary to the mass production required to feed the population.

The Future

The study highlights the need to integrate the economic, environmental and social aspects of the countryside. ADAS comments that the rural economy needs to be strengthened so that it offers opportunities for employment or additional income of such volume and diversity that those who wish to work in the countryside are able to do so. The District Council is now considering how best to develop its own links with the agricultural industry.

YOUNG Partners

HIDE AND SEEK

The photographs on this page show just a few of the special features and places of interest in East Hampshire. But some are hidden away - in buildings, in the countryside, or maybe just around the corner - do you know where to find these hidden treasures?

See how many photographs you can match to the correct position on the map shown opposite - and to help you along, we'll give you a few more clues ...



Picture A
Map Position....?
the bullet holes are in the nearby Church



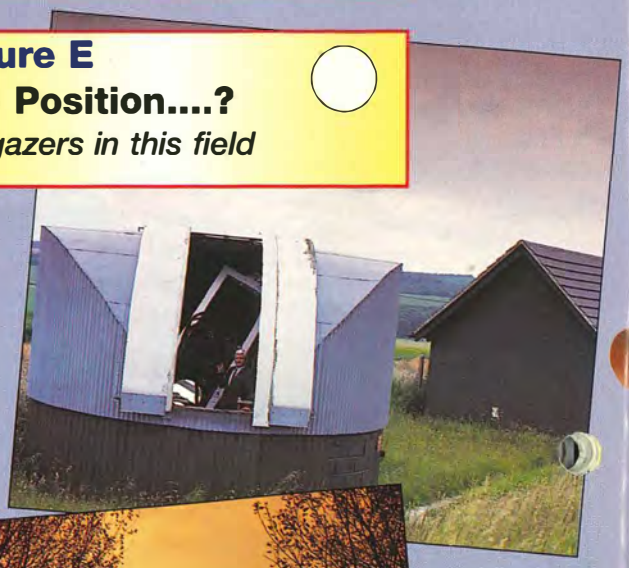
Picture B
Map Position....?
tropical reflections at an animal farm



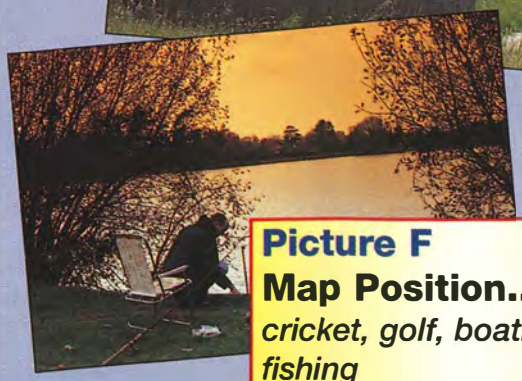
Picture C
Map Position....?
a homely feel to this cottage



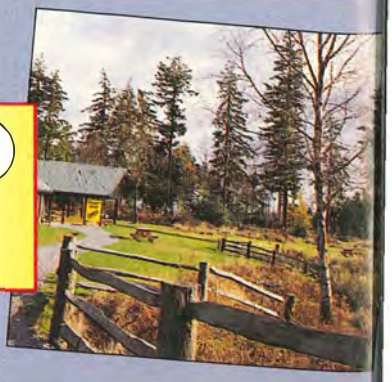
Picture D
Map Position....?
royally out of town, in the town



Picture E
Map Position....?
star gazers in this field



Picture F
Map Position....?
cricket, golf, boating - and fishing



Picture G
Map Position....?
in Wonderland, in the woodland



Picture H
Map Position....?
a rider in the sky

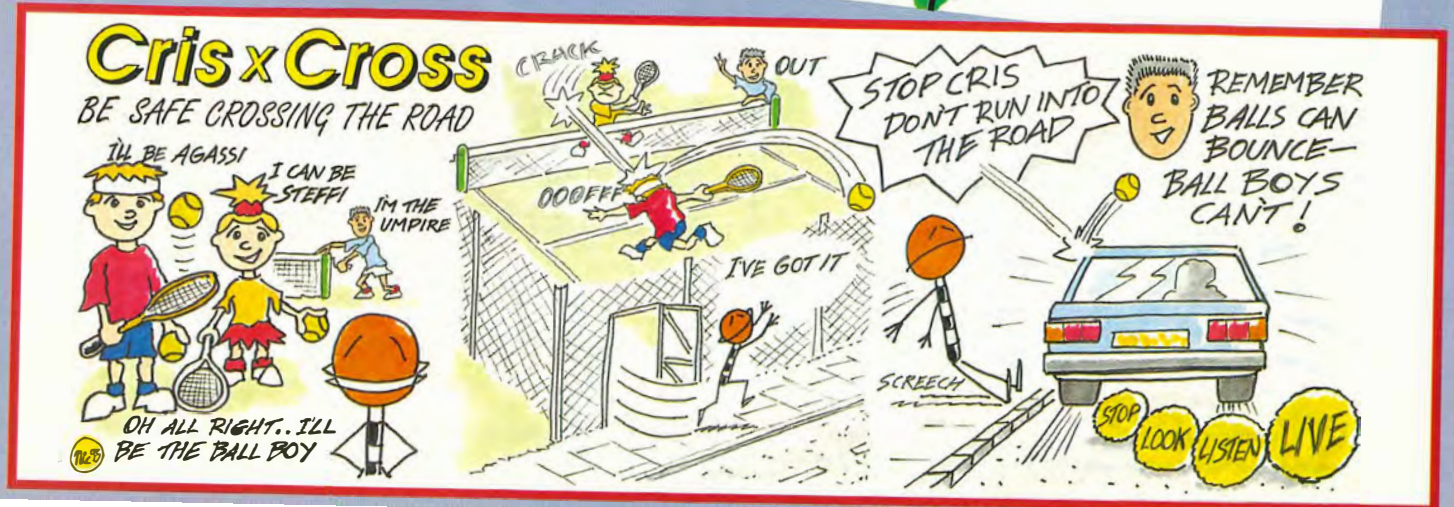


Picture J
Map Position....?
also famous for its topiary.



HIDE AND SEEK

Quiz answers on Page 22



READERS SURVEY

Partners aims to provide something of interest to everyone, in a readable and well presented format. It is also a cost effective means of bringing together all the issues which you need to be informed of, saving on advertising and the production of leaflets.

What do you think of Partners Magazine?

It would be of great help if you could complete and return the questionnaire on this page. This will help us to find out whether or not we are getting the balance right and to make any adjustments to the magazine that the majority of readers want.

It's your magazine - why not have your say in how it develops !

PARTNERS MAGAZINE READERS SURVEY

How much of Partners Magazine do you usually read ?

- All or most of the magazine ❑
- More than half of the magazine ❑
- Less than half of the magazine ❑
- Only one or two items ❑
- None of it ❑

How long do you tend to keep the magazine

- I dispose of it the same day ❑
- I keep it for 2 -3 days ❑
- For more than a week but less than a month ❑
- For 1-3 Months ❑
- More than 3 Months ❑

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
" Partners Magazine is useful and informative"	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
" I usually find something of interest in the magazine"	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
" The magazine is well written and readable"	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
" The magazine is well presented with good photographs and illustrations"	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
" Many of the stories covered are too serious - it should be more entertaining"	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
"Overall the magazine provides a good balance of relevant stories to all sections of community"	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

Are there any sections of the community who you feel could be better served by the magazine eg. eldely people, different parts of the district?

Please State .....

.....

.....

.....

Are there any particular topics which you feel the magazine ought to give more coverage to?

Please state .....

.....

.....

Do you have any other comments or suggestions for improving the magazine?

.....

.....

.....

What is the name of your town or village?

.....

Finally, WOULD YOU TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF

How old are you?

- under 14 ❑
- 15 - 18 ❑
- 19 - 25 ❑
- 26 - 35 ❑
- 36 - 45 ❑
- 46 - 65 ❑
- 66 - 75 ❑
- 76 - 85 ❑
- 86 or over

Are you?

- Male ❑
- Female ❑

Thank you for your co-operation - your views will be taken into account when the magazine is next reviewed.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMMENTS TO:

PARTNERS MAGAZINE SURVEY, c/o Steve Bradley, PR and Marketing Manager, East Hampshire District Council FREEPOST (GI/2189), Petersfield GU31 4BR

NO NEED TO USE A STAMP!

HIDE AND SEEK Answers to Young Partners Quiz (page 21 and 22):

Picture A - Map Position 1 (Civil War Armour at the Curtis Museum, Alton)
Picture B - Map Position 4 (Glasshouses at Staunton Country Park, Nr. Rowlands Castle)
Picture C - Map Position 7 (shopping and rural bygones at The Mallinson Collection, The Cottage Home, Selborne)
Picture D - Map Position 5 (The King's Pond, Alton)
Picture E - Map Position 6 (The Watercress Line at Ropley Station)
Picture F - Map Position 2 (Clanfield Observatory)
Picture G - Map Position 8 (The Heath and Lake, Petersfield)
Picture H - Map Position 9 (Alice Holt Woodland Park, Bucks Horn Oak)
Picture J - Map Position 3 (King William statue, Petersfield Market Square

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Taro sports centre Alton

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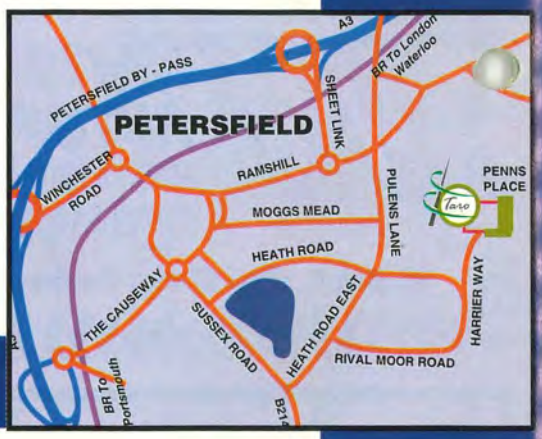
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The Taro Leisure Centre, Penns Place, Petersfield, Hants. GU31 4EX

Tel : 01730 263996

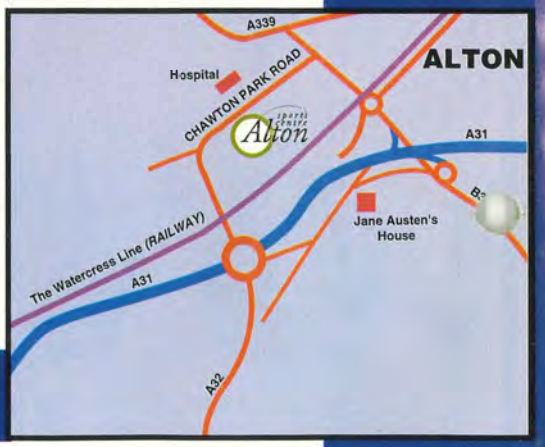


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- Creche, Bar & Cafe
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Alton Sports Centre, Chawton Park Road, Alton, Hants. GU34 1RQ

Tel : 01420 82772



Mill Chase Leisure Centre

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Mill Chase Leisure Centre, Mill Chase Road, Bordon, Hants. GU35 0ER

Tel : 01420 472549

