



# Steve Brine's CHANDLER'S FORD POST

*A positive publication produced at no cost to the taxpayer by local Conservative MP Steve Brine and delivered by volunteers across Chandler's Ford, Hiltingbury and North Millers Dale.*

- Page 2, Steve's latest Westminster Report featuring visiting schools, Justice Select Committee and All-Party Group work
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## 'HAVE A HEART' CAMPAIGN SUCCESS

**Chandler's Ford MP Steve Brine is delighted that the children's heart unit at Southampton General Hospital has been saved.**

The Have a Heart campaign, led by the Daily Echo, secured over 250,000 signatures to back Southampton as the NHS carried out its Safe & Sustainable review in congenital heart surgery across England and Wales.

Steve was among those who led the charge among MPs from the South; sponsoring a debate in Parliament in June 2011, meeting affected constituents and representatives from the Trust as well as delivering a huge petition to Downing Street.

He told *The Chandler's Ford Post*; "We are obviously

delighted. This has been a very long process but the right decision has been made. I think it was easy to see paediatric cardiac work as a highly specialist type of surgery whose loss would have had minimal impact on Southampton General but it soon became clear to me that the wrong decision from this review would have had major knock-on effects for the hospital and many other services.

"Whichever way you looked at it, Southampton came out right at the top when it came to quality of paediatric cardiac services so this was the right call."

**More, including latest legal challenges via:**  
[www.stevebrine.com/childrensheartssurgery](http://www.stevebrine.com/childrensheartssurgery)



*Steve Brine joins campaigners in London this Summer where the Safe & Sustainable committee met to reveal their decision.*

## A STRONG TEAM FOR CHANDLER'S FORD



*Chandler's Ford County Councillor Colin Davidovitz (centre) and local MP Steve Brine work together with Borough Councillor Judith Grajewski and Parish Councillor Margaret Atkinson (inset) to provide a strong and competent team for local residents.*

*Experienced Chandler's Ford County Councillor Colin Davidovitz is up for re-election in May and he's hungrier than ever to represent the area - and balance the books.*

Local resident Colin Davidovitz has been the County Councillor for Chandler's Ford since 2001. In addition to his work locally he is a key member of the team running Hampshire's £1.8bn budget. He works closely with local MP Steve Brine, Borough councillors and the new Chandler's Ford Parish Council to deliver a strong and competent team for local people.

*The Chandler's Ford Post* asked Colin how, when Hampshire County Council has had to cut its budget by over £100 million, has it been able to freeze Council Tax and protect and even improve its services?

Colin says; "The answer lies in the way the Conservative run Council is managed. It is led by Ken Thornber with an experienced Cabinet behind him and a Chief Executive whose career has been steeped in the Business Services side of Local Government.

"Even before the last election the County Council's Cabinet foresaw the impact the 2008 banking crisis would have on future Local Government funding and prepared plans to protect the delivery of its vital services to enable it to implement its cost reduction projects immediately the new Government took power.

"A freeze on recruitment, staff pay and Councillor allowances, coupled with a voluntary redundancy scheme for staff opting to leave the Council helped to reduce costs and stabilised staffing. At the same time the Council's property estate was rationalised, leading to the disposal of 53 office buildings to reduce running costs even further.

"This has allowed the County Council, despite rising inflation and the huge reduction in funding from Central Government, to pay for the cost

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**A Green Winchester publication, printed on paper from sustainable forests**



# WESTMINSTER REPORT...

## Justice Select Committee



**Steve Brine is a member of the influential Justice Select Committee, chaired by veteran Lib Dem MP Sir Alan Beith.** Recent work from the committee includes; Post-Legislative Scrutiny of the Freedom of Information Act, the work of the Ministry of Justice and the Attorney General, interpreter services in court and Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the Children and Families Bill.

The main current inquiry, which reports later this year, is looking at the Youth Justice system and recently took committee members – including Steve - to Oslo and Copenhagen. He says; "I really value my place on this committee and am relishing the youth justice work especially. Of course, we must punish those who commit crimes but we should, as a country, do so much better to keep young people away from trouble in the first place and we simply cannot afford to maintain the current rate of re-offending which is pushing our prison population to bursting."

More: [www.stevebrine.com/westminster](http://www.stevebrine.com/westminster)

## Steve on his Feet



**Steve Brine speaks regularly in the House of Commons; contributing to debates, questioning Ministers and raising issues on behalf of his constituents.**

Recent appearances include; asking the new Justice Secretary whether he will work to divert young people away from the criminal justice system, praising the employment outcomes of graduates at the University of Winchester and questioning the Chancellor about market interest rates. He has also spoken about the future of local post offices in the House and raised the issue of primary school places with the Prime Minister.

## All-Party Groups

Westminster is buzzing with All-Party Groups raising the profile of issues on every subject you can imagine. Local MP Steve Brine is active in a number of groups and co-chairs the All-Party Breast Cancer Group. He is also Vice-Chair of the Autism Group and regularly campaigns on special educational needs issues across Parliament. He is also Vice-Chair of the Cycling Group and a key member of the Parkinson's Group and the Ovarian Cancer Group.

More: [www.stevebrine.com/westminster](http://www.stevebrine.com/westminster)



Steve Brine is Vice-Chair of the All-Party Group for Park Homes and is pictured here discussing the new Bill which Steve and his cross-party group of colleagues are backing.

## Local to London

**Steve Brine loves to bring constituency groups to Parliament and Spring 2013 will see the acclaimed Blue Apple Theatre perform in the Speakers' State apartments.**

Blue Apple is a theatre company which brings all the benefits of taking part in theatre to adult performers with learning disabilities. They will perform an excerpt of Living without Fear for MPs and Peers. The Spring will also see Steve host a reception for the Winchester based social action filmmaker called 'Fixers'.

More: [www.blueappletheatre.com](http://www.blueappletheatre.com) & [www.fixers.org.uk](http://www.fixers.org.uk)



## Visiting Schools

**Many local schools visit Parliament each year. The Education Service host a tour of the Palace of Westminster, hold special workshops and often a Q&A session with local MP Steve Brine.**

Pupils from Thornden School, Osborne School, Itchen Abbas, Twyford St Mary's, St Francis Primary and St Swithun's have visited recently and Steve Brine welcomes requests from all schools in his constituency.

If you are a local teacher and would like to organise a visit from your school, primary or secondary, please contact Steve's office on 01962 791110

or email [steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk)



Students from Thornden School in Chandler's Ford with Steve in Portcullis House during their visit earlier this year.

## BUSY FEW MONTHS FOR LOCAL MP



Schools Minister Nick Gibb MP visited Thornden School in February. With Steve they toured the school meeting students producing the annual yearbook and hearing a performance from some of the talented young people.



Chandler's Ford held the largest number of Jubilee street parties this year and the celebrations started well with the opening of the Jubilee Garden at the Fryern Rec by Lord Lieutenant Mary Fagan.



Steve supports Carers Week every year and June saw a special carers surgery at Wells Place in Eastleigh organised by One Community.



That old chestnut, but this time Steve volunteered to go in the stocks at Fryern School Summer Fete in July! Students and parents enjoyed throwing the sponges and lots of money was raised for the school.



First it rained then the sun came out! Steve and his young family enjoyed the Funtasia at Chandler's Ford Rec in May.



First it rained ... and then it kept going! Steve and Popcorn the dog enjoyed the Hiltingbury Extravaganza in September which returned after taking a break in 2011.

## THE ASPIRATION NATION

Prime Minister David Cameron closed last month's party conference with one of the strongest speeches of his career.

Local MP Steve Brine gives his reaction ...

"At this year's Conference I think we showed that the Conservative Party is THE serious party in British politics facing up to the difficult challenges of a changed world. Ultimately that is because we understand the country is in a moment of jeopardy, but crucially, we have a plan to deal with it".

- Tackling the debt crisis left by Labour, reducing public spending so we live within our means.
- Insisting on higher standards and discipline in our schools, so our children and our country can succeed.
- Reforming our welfare system so it pays to work and ending the something for nothing culture that's been choking our country.

Steve adds; "Labour are ducking the difficult challenges facing this country. Their only plan is to spend more and borrow more. You simply cannot borrow your way out of a debt crisis.

"The Conservatives will always back people who work hard and want to get on in life. We are the party of people who want to be better off, who strive to make a better life for themselves and their families."

More: [www.conservatives.com](http://www.conservatives.com)

## A STRONG TEAM (Continued)

increases in social services provision, as many more vulnerable people live longer with more complex health and mobility problems need care, together with the rising cost of protecting the welfare of vulnerable children. This year alone, an extra £11 million has been needed to top up the funding of Adult care and another £3 million for services to children and young people

"Since it repaired the 30,000 potholes that appeared in our roads after the worst winter for many years, the Council is spending millions more on a five year programme in strengthening our 5,000 miles of roads to make them more resilient to severe weather conditions while replacing every lighting standard in the County with more carbon friendly lighting units that will reduce energy costs.

"Reducing costs and improving services has been the watchword for the County Council over these difficult times, but its main focus is to safeguard and improve the quality of life of all living and working in the County of Hampshire who continue to benefit from the lowest Council Tax in the South East and get the best value for their money, according the National Audit Commission, that rates the Conservative run Hampshire County Council as one of the best managed in the Country."



## NEWS IN BRIEF



**Rat problem refuses to go away**  
Hiltingbury: Local MP Steve Brine has been contacted by a number of constituents, including Mrs E Chakrabarti, concerned about the rising problem of rats in certain parts of Chandler's Ford. Sewer baiting is no longer carried out on a routine basis in the borough and many people are reluctant to seek pest control services because of the charges that may be incurred.

Steve says, "The Council really needs to get on top of the problem and Southern Water need to come to take the issue seriously in this area. The status quo is clearly not an option." Do you have experience of rats near your home?

Email [steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk)

## Constabulary's move to Chandler's Ford is back on.

Chandler's Ford: Hampshire Constabulary's move to Alpha Park in Chandler's Ford is back on.

The new scheme is capable of accommodating 600 staff and departments relocating there include the Force Enquiry Centre, Information Technology and Corporate Communications Team.

Work is due to start on site in September 2013 and the construction will be completed in February 2015 with occupation likely to be from April 2015 onwards.

Residents with questions can Email: [EDP.Alpha.Park@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:EDP.Alpha.Park@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

## Success for Summer Park Sport programme



Eastleigh: Park Sport has benefitted from an Olympic summer of sporting activity and success with over 16,000 local children enjoying the Council's Park Sport scheme, an increase of 50% on the previous year.

The huge increase in participation is included around 10,000 free swims at Fleming Park, Wildern and Hamble and around 5,000 booked attendances at 350 different sport and activity sessions together with skate jams and Friday night football sessions. The popular Park Sport scheme is now in its eighth year.

## Got a problem with the 46 bus?

MP Steve Brine has been speaking with residents across Chandler's Ford and Hiltingbury experiencing a number of issues with the 46 bus.

Steve said: "I know Stagecoach are reviewing this service, which takes students to Peter Symonds College, and would like to hear from local students and parents on this. The service has been far from ideal already this term, and I hope to see positive news soon."

Email [steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk)



# NEWS IN BRIEF

## MPs likely to debate Assisted Dying

**Parliament:** MPs are set to face a further debate in the near future on the law around assisted dying. The House of Commons debated the subject in general terms earlier this year but the Tony Nicklinson case, ruled on by the High Court this Summer, has thrown it back to Parliament and a passionate debate is getting underway. You can see what your MP Steve Brine said in the recent debate via:

[www.stevebrine.com/assisteddying](http://www.stevebrine.com/assisteddying) and please get in touch with your on this most difficult of subjects via:  
[steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk)

## Port upgrade given green light



**Southampton:** Steve Brine has welcomed a £150m expansion of the port of Southampton which will create 200 jobs and safeguard around 2000 more.

The major infrastructure project, which will upgrade the port to accommodate the largest container ships, had been caught in red tape and held up by a legal challenge by rival dock owners in Felixstowe, but the Marine Management Organisation has now given the go-ahead for expansion work to begin. Steve, who joined fellow Hampshire MPs in lobbying the government for a speedy resolution, said; "This is very good news for the whole area, including Winchester & Chandler's Ford where there will be positive knock-on effects up the supply chain."

## Basics Bank – collection point opened at MP's 'shop'



**Winchester:** Steve Brine's shop in Winchester has extended its support for local charities and is now an official collection point for the Winchester Basics Bank. He says; "The basics bank is more in demand than ever. This is a really well run charity with a smooth unfussy operation to get help where it's most needed. Anything you can spare when passing would be really useful to them".

## M3 Motorway noise

**Chandler's Ford:** The blight of surface noise from the M3 continues to be a major headache for residents.

Local MP Steve Brine has pledged to pursue the issue since his election but is determined to level with residents. "There is no point printing leaflets about how terrible this is or even strolling around Scantabout with a noise meter looking busy", he says. "The fact is the Highways Agency will not re-surface outside of routine maintenance and that is not due until later this decade!"

"I promised to keep the pressure on and will be meeting the new Roads Minister this Autumn to make our case once again. My aim is to see if there is any way we can bring works forward as part of the major projects initiative Government is pursuing to get the economy moving again"

**Updates on this story via**

[www.stevebrine.com/chandlersford](http://www.stevebrine.com/chandlersford)

# County Council update on Velvet Bus

Local people who depend on the local bus service in Hiltingbury were shocked to learn that the commercially run Velvet Bus Service is to be discontinued by the bus company in late November of this year.

When he heard this, experienced local County Councillor Colin Davidovitz contacted Transport officers at HCC to see what can be done to maintain the service.

Colin told *The Chandler's Ford Post*; "As this newspaper goes to print, officers at the County Council are working hard to replace the bus service for the C1 & C2 routes serving Chandler's Ford, Hiltingbury and North Millers Dale and are tendering a contract

to provide a subsidised service right away. We are confident that there will be no interruption to the service and I hope residents will continue to use it in large numbers to ensure we don't end up in the same position a few months down the line."

Parish Council Chairman Margaret Atkinson added; "I am delighted to learn that action has been taken by HCC to ensure bus services are retained at their current level for the Chandler's Ford, Hiltingbury and Millar's Dale areas. Without access to private transport many areas in our Parish are remote and isolated."

Eastleigh Borough Councillor Mike Hughes has been meeting a number of residents concerned



Catch me if you can; the iconic purple bus on Hursley Road; and (inset) County Cllr Colin Davidovitz

about the threat to local bus services and liaising regularly with MP Steve Brine and Cllr Davidovitz.

You can contact Mike by emailing: [mhughes@eastleigh.gov.uk](mailto:mhughes@eastleigh.gov.uk)

## SURGERY AT DOVETAIL CENTRE



**Chandler's Ford MP Steve Brine continues to hold a regular advice surgery in the area, at the Dovetail Centre on Winchester Road.**

Steve tells *The Chandler's Ford Post*; "It would be very easy to just hold a surgery in Winchester each week but I made a decision from the start to hold one regularly in the area for the convenience of constituents. It's a good job I did because demand is as high as ever!"

If you would like to see your local MP at one of his Chandler's Ford advice surgeries, please contact Steve on 01962 791110 or email

[steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk).

Further information on surgeries and ways to contact Steve Brine can be found via

[www.stevebrine.com/surgery](http://www.stevebrine.com/surgery).

## SUMMER TOUR 2012

Winchester & Chandler's Ford MP, Steve Brine, undertook his second Summer Tour during Parliament's annual recess in 2012 taking in Alresford, Kings Worthy, Twyford, Sutton Scotney and the Fryern Arcade in Chandler's Ford.

"I love doing Summer Tour," Steve says. "It is so good to hold street surgeries across the area and judging by the response, constituents appreciated the move. One of the things I really value about coming over to Chandler's Ford is that I always get a wide range of issues. People always get straight to the point, and it was great to be able to speak to so many people over the lunchtime period."

More information and pictures:

[www.stevebrine.com/summertour12](http://www.stevebrine.com/summertour12).



## Ways to contact your local MP

### Email

[steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk)

### Phone

01962 791110 or 0207 219 7189

### Write

9 Stockbridge Road, Winchester, SO22 6RN



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