



Steve Brine's WINCHESTER POST

Another 100% positive publication produced at no cost to the taxpayer by local Conservative MP Steve Brine and the team. It is delivered by volunteers across the City of Winchester, Kings Worthy, Alresford and surrounding villages.



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Westminster Report

The latest from Parliament including internet bullying, autism, IP Bill and how to win PMQ tickets.



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Local news

New children's hospital, flood defences, Pitt Vale refused, a £1m donation and Hyde 900.



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Farewell my Summer Tour

Details of Steve's 2016 tour, Spare Change for Real Change, city office space and an award-winning business.

FUNDING AND PLACES BOOST FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS

Conservative County Council invests more than £30m in our children.

Steve Brine has welcomed news that Hampshire County Council have delivered 1300 new places and spent over £32m on Winchester schools since 2013, following a long running campaign.

A baby boom in 2008 led to a serious shortage in the number of primary places and Steve made the issue a local priority upon being elected working alongside colleagues including Cllr Fiona Mather.

The result was the expansion of a number of city primary schools as well as the opening of the first 'all-through'

5-16 school at Westgate, visited recently by the Education Secretary.

Steve told The Winchester Post; "The figures speak for themselves but the reality for young parents such as myself is peace of mind in a state system locally that has every school ranked 'good' or 'outstanding'. Of course there will always be issues around sibling entry and school transport, because ultimately we're dealing with people's lives, but the capacity challenge has been met and that's great.

"Equally, nobody is complacent and great thought has been given to the



Children from Stanmore School at Parliament's Education Centre in March 2016

inevitable secondary 'bulge' as the new baby boomers head for 'big school' later this decade. I am confident we have a local school system that is where we need it to be; now and for the future."

More: www.stevebrine.com/schoolplaces

■ In recent months Steve Brine has welcomed the following schools to Westminster: Harestock Primary, Perins, Twyford School, Stanmore Primary, St Bede and Hiltingbury Primary. You can find out more about schools visiting Parliament on Page 2.

GOOD NEWS FOR LOCAL COMMUTERS

Big wins as the government publishes details of the new South Western rail franchise.



Steve joins the opening of the new Cycle Hub at Winchester this September

The Invitation to Tender has emerged for the company who will run future local train services.

Specified improvements include at least 95 additional services per day Monday to Friday from December 2018, earlier and later trains on many routes from December 2018, an increase of 20% in capacity at peak time from December 2020 and faster journey times on at least 70% of all services from December 2020.

Also included are an improved fares and ticketing experience that includes introducing smart ticketing to cater for part-time commuters, swifter compensation arrangements, improved punctuality and fewer cancellations.

Steve Brine says; "These are a very welcome list of demands from government, and it has been made clear to bidders that these are the bare minimum expected. Smart ticketing was a manifesto commitment I won so it's pleasing we're now seeing progress."

Network Rail invested over £3.6 million in recent years to deliver improvements at Winchester Station including the new footbridge and car park. The Department for Transport expects to announce the preferred bidder in February 2017 with the new franchise planned to start next June.

More: www.stevebrine.com/trains

NEWS

from the House

IN BRIEF

UoW PRAISED IN PARLIAMENT

The success of the University of Winchester's degree apprenticeship program was raised in the House of Commons in June. Responding to a question from Steve Brine, the Universities Minister said the Sparkford Road facility was "exceptionally strong", performing consistently well with regards to both student satisfaction surveys and graduate prospects.

Jo Johnson MP confirmed Winchester was "leading the way" in degree apprenticeships, and noted that 95% of its students go on to employment or further study.

CHURCH LEADERS' PRAYER BREAKFAST

Church leaders from across Winchester joined Steve in Westminster this Summer for a very special breakfast event.

The National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast, which is organised by Christians in Parliament, is an annual opportunity for Parliamentarians and their guests to gather for a variety of speeches, music and prayer. Joining Mr Brine this year were Revd Phil Collins from Alresford, Nigel Hemming of the Winchester Vineyard Church and Revd David Rowe from Christ Church.



More: www.christiansinparliament.org.uk

CHILD SAFETY ONLINE

Winchester MP Steve Brine showed his support for Stand Up to Bullying day in July, ahead of a House of Commons debate on keeping children safe online.

Hosted by Eastleigh MP, Mims Davies, the Parliamentary drop-in showed how industry is tackling this important issue. Steve met with Carolyn Bunting of Internet Matters at the event.

More: www.internetmatters.org

MP STRIKES MEASURED TONE ON IP BILL

Steve Brine spoke in measured but firm tones as he addressed the House on the Investigatory Powers Bill earlier this year.

Steve Brine told the Commons that the world will continue to be a dangerous place and warned we cannot stop the world because we want to get off as the terrorists continue to adapt to using new technology. The MP also spoke of his concerns over new powers being used inappropriately but added that many of his constituents will take the view that, if someone has nothing to hide, they have nothing to fear. "The truth is probably somewhere in between", he said.

Read in full; www.stevebrine.com/IPBill

Westminster Report

Steve Brine writes; This year's referendum turned Westminster upside down, ended the career of one Prime Minister, made that of another and did who knows what to the Labour Party.

Brexit of course continues to be the big story as the Government respects the result and works to take Britain out of the political structures of the European Union. However, we're not leaving Europe so let me reassure constituents non-membership of the EU does not equal isolationism – in fact it's the very opposite.

I will be keeping a cool head as always, pressing Ministers on key areas of negotiation as we seek not only a soft landing on the other side of Brexit, but a new deal for our country that makes a great success of it.

And contrary to what you may read, there are plenty of other things going on at the same time in the mother of all parliaments. I hope you find this update interesting and please remember, you can see more of my work in Westminster via www.stevebrine.com/westminster

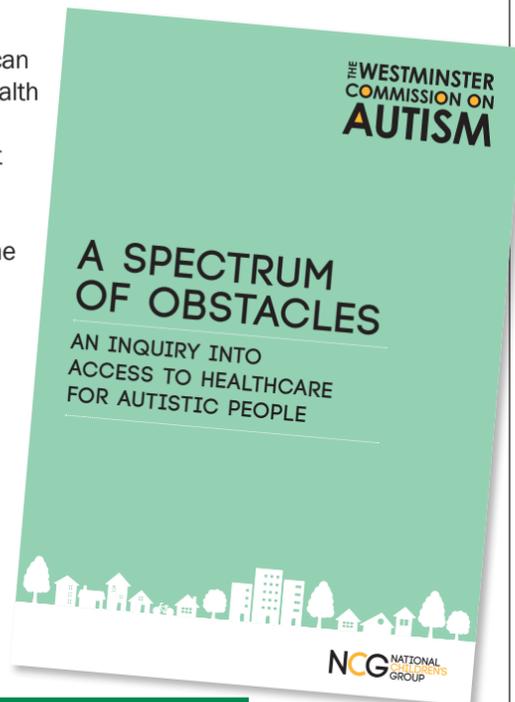
A SPECTRUM OF OBSTACLES

Steve Brine has warmly welcomed news that autism knowledge is to be included in the Initial Teacher Training Framework, after the All Party Autism Group campaign on the issue.

The MP says; "Our goal was for autism to be included in the new framework of core content for ITT courses, and it's great this has finally happened."

At the same time, a new report from the Westminster Commission on Autism has called for improved access to healthcare for all autistic people following a major inquiry.

Steve adds; "This population group can have increased health risks and reduced life expectancy, yet still face multiple obstacles to accessing the same healthcare that other population groups enjoy. It is clear that the knock-on effect on physical and mental health, and subsequently on employment chances, leads us to request positive action now."



More: www.stevebrine.com/autism

A COUNTRY THAT WORKS FOR EVERYONE



Steve Brine has welcomed the vision set out by Theresa May in her first conference speech.

The new PM set out a clear case for the "good that government can do", and how she wants to address a "deep and justified sense many people feel that the world works for a privileged few, but not for them."

The local MP was pleased to see working families at the heart of Mrs

May's agenda. He said: "We have an awful lot to be proud of over the last six years but this is about moving forward.

"Focussing on housebuilding, robustly going after businesses who avoid their taxes, putting workers on company boards and strengthening workers' rights are just some examples of a wider package to tackle unfairness and inequality. All alongside, of course, making a success of Brexit."

VISITING WESTMINSTER

As trailed on the front-page, Steve enjoys welcoming schools and constituents to Parliament. He says; "Hosting schools in Parliament is one of the best bits of my job. Any constituency schools who've not made the trip should definitely get in touch."

Steve has also once again thrown open his allocation of PMQs tickets to constituents and is inviting entries now for Wednesday 7th December 2016 and Wednesday 22nd March 2017. Find more details on PMQ ballots and tours, plus access to Big Ben after its refurbishment, via the link below.

More: www.stevebrine.com/visitingwestminster



Twyford School held a Q&A with Steve in June 2016

NEW CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Two million steps campaign launched after Winchester MP lands £2m in Budget.



The team at Southampton with MPs and campaigners and, inset, Steve launching #2MillionSteps in Parliament earlier this year

Winchester MP Steve Brine is playing a key role in the campaign to bring the first dedicated children's hospital to the South.

Back in the Spring, he welcomed £2m of matched Government funding announced by the Chancellor and is now backing the #2MillionSteps campaign which aims to raise the other half.

The push for the facility, to be built at Southampton General Hospital, is being led by well-known actors Sarah Parish and Jim Murray. The couple, who live near Winchester, set up the Murray-Parish Trust after they lost their eight month old daughter at the hospital in 2009.

They joined forces with Steve, the Southern Daily Echo and a cross-party group of MPs to make the new facility a reality.

Steve Brine told *The Winchester Post*; "We were delighted to receive the money in the Budget and now our focus moves to local fundraising."

In other news, Southampton has been confirmed as a regional centre of excellence for paediatric cardiac surgery after the **congenital heart disease review** finally concluded this Summer. Steve adds; "This has been a long and slow process but it had to be right and, above all, it had to be clinically sound. I know there has been a rigorous assessment by clinicians taking a national overview to deliver world class outcomes for children and their families and that is as it should be."

www.stevebrine.com/childrenshospital

NEW FLOOD DEFENCES FOR CITY



Fiona Mather briefs Steve Brine on the plans in Water Lane

Winchester County Councillor Fiona Mather (who represents the East side of the city) has welcomed news that flood defences will be strengthened thanks to a £895,000 project led by Conservative run Hampshire County Council.

Fiona told *The Winchester Post*; "A low wall with deployable flood barriers at openings will be built around North Walls and the Park Avenue area including St Bede School, The Art College, and homes and businesses. In addition, wider work across Hampshire will also take place in partnership with the Environment Agency."

Steve Brine MP added; "This is really good news, and Fiona Mather, who represents the area on the county council has been central in landing this deal. We're pleased the scheme received positive feedback during the public consultation last year and is set to be completed by Christmas."

More: www.stevebrine.com/flooding

PITT VALE BID THROWN OUT

A proposal by Linden Homes to build 350 houses at Pitt Vale has been rejected by the city council.

The plans, which were submitted when the neighbouring Winchester Village site at Pitt Manor was still being built, had been highly controversial, with Steve Brine and Cllr Jan Warwick hearing from a large number of local residents who had been against the scheme.

Steve Brine said: "This was the right decision. We have spoken to so many constituents over the past two years so know just how relieved they will be."

Cllr Jan Warwick added; "Moving forward, speculative developers should be very aware that Winchester has a signed-off Local Plan and will defend it robustly. We fully expect Linden to appeal so I am already working with fellow councillors and residents to ensure we're ready."

Jan with Steve at the site just south of the Badger Farm roundabout



More: www.stevebrine.com/pittvale

NEWS IN BRIEF

SIGNIFICANT FIND FOR HYDE 900

Hyde 900 have revealed that oak timber in the attic of Old Hyde House could date back to the late 13th century and come from inside the original Hyde Abbey structure.

This is another fascinating discovery from the excellent Hyde900; a visit to their website to read the full story is highly recommended.

More: www.hyde900.org.uk

HUGE DONATION TO TRINITY AND NIGHTSHELTER

Two Winchester charities which support homeless people are to share a £1 million donation as revealed at a special event in the city attended by MP Steve Brine.

The money has been given to Winchester Churches Nightshelter and Trinity Winchester, following the closure of a military charity. The money will enable both charities to expand their work with local homeless and vulnerable people at a time when demand for their services is increasing.



COMMUNITY PLAN FOR HIGHCLIFFE

Local issues in Highcliffe are set to take centre-stage after residents came together to form their own community plan.

Well-known local councillor Fiona Mather said: "The Highcliffe Community Plan is the culmination of three years' work by local residents. There are 22 action points, with the highest priorities being to keep children safe, tackle irresponsible parking, address local environmental issues and examine the provision of a local shop."

More: www.stevebrine.com/highcliffe

CONSERVATIVE LOCAL ELECTION WIN

Winchester Conservatives comfortably retained control of the City Council in May after all-out elections were held.

Every seat on the council was up for grabs after boundary changes reduced the total number of councillors from 57 to 45, and with all votes counted, the Conservatives have a clear majority with 25 seats.

Steve Brine said: "I look forward to working with all councillors - of all parties - in their wards for the benefit of constituents. I was sorry to see Labour disappear from the council altogether; they will be back I am sure."

Even more
NEWS
IN BRIEF



Steve Brine with Ian Paxton and the Anchor apprentices at their Otterbourne HQ

SAINTS LEGEND OPENS NEW PAVILION

South Wonston has a brand new Pavilion - officially opened in September by Lawrie McMenemy.

MP Steve Brine attended the event, alongside Cllr Stephen Godfrey who lives in the village, the Mayor of Winchester and local residents.

Cutting the ribbon, the Saints legend spoke of his support for the new half-a-million pound facility situated at the Recreation Ground. It has been managed by South Wonston Parish Council with financial support from The Football Foundation and the Ministry of Defence.

TEN YEAR-OLD BABIES

Winchester Breastfeeding support group, **BABIES**, celebrated ten years with a party for young families in October.

The service was set up in 2006 by Jane Moffett and Jennie Gavin with the help of a National Lottery grant and has helped thousands of new mums since. Sessions run every Wednesday morning (apart from in the week between Christmas and New Year) from 9.30am to 12pm at Lanterns on Bereweke Road, Winchester.

More: www.nct.org.uk/branches/winchester

CITY PROTECTS OFFICE SPACE

Winchester City Council has decided to invoke special powers to protect vital office space from automatic residential development.

The 'Article 4' direction follows representations from Steve Brine, the Chamber of Commerce, Winchester Business Improvement District and local businesses.

Steve says; "This is a smart decision which recognises there has to be a balance in the city centre."

More: www.stevebrine.com/article4

AWARD WINNING BUSINESS LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

Steve Brine recently visited an award-winning local business as the latest employment figures for Winchester show our area continues to be among the very best in the country. Just 0.7% of the economically active population aged 16 to 64 are currently looking for work.

Anchor Pipework, who are based in Otterbourne, scooped the main Business of the Year Award at the 2016 Winchester Business Excellence Awards. They provide heating and energy systems for clients across the UK as well as working locally with companies such as Holiday Inn, Winchester Science Centre and the Cathedral.

Steve met with Managing Director Ian Paxton, who shared his experience of the challenges and prospects of leading a

small business in the current economic environment, and chatted to the wider team on a range of issues including the implications of Brexit, support offered to businesses and how the company has grown since its formation in 1983.

The MP also heard about Anchor's commitment to training and its successful apprenticeship scheme through which youngsters receive either an NVQ2 or 3 and continue to work and train with Anchor as qualified engineers.

He says; "We have a clear manifesto commitment to create three million new apprenticeships in this Parliament and Anchor is clearly a hard working local business deserving of the recognition it received at this year's business awards. The commitment that Ian and the team

show to the development of young people through the Anchor apprenticeship scheme is impressive and speaks for itself. I wish the lads I met all the best with their futures."

More: www.anchormaintenance.co.uk

SUMMER 2016
The Summer months saw Steve once again hold a series of events during Parliament's annual recess.

Chandler's Ford Fryern surgery

Alresford street surgery

Sainsbury's supermarket surgery with Cllr Jan Warwick

Stanmore Party in the Park

Easton Fete pulling pints

Weeke with Paul Twelftree and Cllr Ian Tait

More: www.stevebrine.com/summertour

Spare change for REAL change

The relaunched 'Spare Change for Real Change' scheme has been very successful, with donations to local businesses on the increase. Steve with Cllr Caroline Horrill of WCC and others.

More: www.stevebrine.com/sparechange Photo courtesy of WCC

Sam's 40th celebration!

Winchester Samaritans celebrated 40 years of service to the local area this July and Steve Brine was delighted to thank them personally during their celebration at Wolvesey. Steve with Mayor Cllr Jane Rutter and the Sams team.

More: www.samaritans.org

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