

# CHANDLER'S FORD POST

Another 100% positive publication produced at no cost to local taxpayers by Conservative MP Steve Brine and the team. It is delivered by volunteers across Chandlers Ford, Hiltingbury and Millers Dale.



\*Legal Highs'
Bill; read Steve's parliamentary report



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### MP WELCOMES ACTION AND SPENDING ON MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES



# Local MP Steve Brine has praised a major investment in children's mental health services.

The funding is part of a £1.25bn package which will be allocated to children and adolescents' mental health services with a specific focus tackling eating disorders. Steve Brine recently received a special report (pictured above) on the subject at the House of Commons from Winchester based FIXERS.

The details include a guarantee that by 2020, 95% of patients will be seen within four weeks of being referred, with the most urgent cases seen within a week.

In addition, a new report called 'Future in Mind' has been published by The Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Taskforce, designed to improve the way that youth

mental health services are organised, commissioned and provided.

Key themes of the report include promoting resilience, prevention and early intervention. Steve Brine told The Chandler's Ford Post: "This is a very important piece of work and something I have championed in Parliament. Mental health has been the Cinderella service of the NHS for too long and this Conservative Government is determined to end that.

"One of the key recommendations from 'Future in Mind' will see the NHS linking up with schools to help young people who hit problems. I know headteachers locally are increasingly concerned at the presentation of anxiety related problems among young people and the pressure that is putting on their core work which is, at the end of the day, to provide children with an education."

More: www.stevebrine.com/mentalhealth



#### **2% DEFENCE SPEND VICTORY**

Steve Brine warmly welcomed the announcement in the Summer Budget that the government has committed to allocating 2% of GDP on our defence.

The MP has consistently lobbied the Chancellor on the NATO promise and remains clear that if we need to spend more on national security, the funds should be made available.

### **ARMY DEATHS** RAISED AT PMQS

Steve Brine raised the death of **Lance Corporal Edward Maher, from** Winchester, with the Prime Minister at PMQs recently.



Lance Corporal Maher died in July 2013 alongside two colleagues while taking part in an SAS selection exercise on the Brecon Beacons. A subsequent inquest identified serious MOD failings. Mr Brine called for the government to do whatever it takes to prevent future tragedies and will shortly facilitate a meeting between families and the Minister responsible.

#### **SUMMER BORN CAMPAIGN WIN**

Parents of school-age (and soon to be) Summer-born children will be interested in a late-night Commons debate Steve Brine spoke in this September.

Steve says; "I have been a consistent supporter of a change in the Department for Education guidelines on when the state insists children start primary school and it seems we are getting somewhere. The Government plans to consult later this year on a change which is very welcome."

More: www.stevebrine.com/ summerborn

#### PROMOTION FOR MP

Local MP, Steve Brine, has spoken of a 'fantastic opportunity' having been promoted to the role of Parliamentary **Private Secretary (PPS) to the Secretary** of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt.

Steve Brine said; "Sadly, it means that I will not be able to chair the All Party Group for Breast Cancer any more, but what does excite me is that I will be able to take part in those meetings with my government hat on, and therefore should be able to have even more influence in that area."



As the evenings draw in, May's General Election seems like a long time ago but it's worth remembering it was only five months since the Government was elected and we're certainly not hanging around.

Our approach has been rather old-fashioned; to set about delivering the manifesto upon which we were elected, line-by-line! That includes further raising the income tax limit, publishing a Bill to deliver 30-hours of free childcare a week for working parents, funding our NHS by an extra £8bn, legislating for that EU referendum and

introducing for the first time a National Living Wage.

October's party conference was workmanlike and rightly so. I was there and thought the Prime Minister delivered his strongest speech in many years, putting compassionate conservatism at the heart of this Government and anchoring us firmly in the moderate centre-ground of British politics. It's the only place for me!

More: www.stevebrine.com/westminster

### **'LEGAL HIGHS' LEGISLATION AT LAST**

The government is poised to introduce legislation to tackle so-called 'legal highs' following confirmation in the Queen's Speech



of a 'Psychoactive Substances Bill'.

Chandler's Ford MP Steve Brine has consistently campaigned for action and the Bill, which has already been through the Lords, will make its way to the Commons this autumn.

Steve says; "I have spoken publicly, as well as inside Government during my time at the Home Office, of the urgent need for new legislation in this area. Groups such as Angelus, the Amy Winehouse Foundation and Winchester's own Baseline Training deserve great credit for getting us to this point.

"These substances are an increasing problem in society, and we've seen huge concern this year in Winchester city centre, but they are also now a serious threat inside our prisons where substances such as 'Spice' are literally wasting lives. There is a need to look at wider drugs policy as well, which is just not working in my opinion, but this is welcome start."

More: www.stevebrine.com/legalhighs

### TACKLING TERRORISM

Winchester and Chandler's Ford MP Steve Brine spoke in the Commons recently on the subject of so-called 'Islamic State' following the Tunisian terror attacks and the refugee crisis across Europe.

The MP challenged the Prime Minister over Tunisian domestic security arrangements for British tourists and welcomed the 'sensible and measured' advice given by the Foreign Office.

He also took part in a discussion on BBC Radio 4 and made the argument for a 'whole community response', where all faiths and parts of society take active responsibility for tackling extremism, particularly at its root.

As the migrant crisis took hold this Summer, and Britain pledged to take 20,000 Syrian refugees, Mr Brine also spoke of the 'generous' response he expected from constituents and started a debate around the 'moral obligation' our country now has to join the military coalition operating across the area.

### **VISITING** PARLIAMENT... AND PMQs



**Weeke Primary School in Winchester visited Parliament** this Summer continuing Steve Brine's long tradition of welcoming local groups to Westminster.

The children took a tour of the Palace of Westminster before holding a Q&A session with the MP who said; "This was my first school tour since the election and I really enjoyed having them. Everyone asked a question and they had clearly worked hard to be ready for me.

"Hosting schools in Parliament is one of the best parts of the job and I would encourage any who've not made the trip yet to get in touch. We can promise a unique day out.

Steve has also once again thrown open his allocation of PMQs tickets to constituents and is inviting entries now for Wednesday 6th January 2016. He can also arrange for you or your group to enjoy a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament.

More: www.stevebrine.com/visitingwestminster

Representatives from Winchester impressive new Chair Tony **Action on Climate Change** (WinACC) lobbied Parliament recently ahead of key climate talks in Paris this December.

Key topics for the group when they met MP Steve Brine included how the government can make the most of the Paris talks and deliver a legally binding global climate deal limiting global temperature rises to below 2 degrees.

Steve said; "It is always a pleasure to meet WinACC and now their

Stoller because they are, on the whole, pragmatic and focused campaigners. The UK already takes a leading role on the world stage and is working towards a binding global deal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and manage climate change. I have subsequently met with the Secretary of State to discuss her approach to Paris and to argue for deforestation to be high on the British Government's agenda at the talks."

More: www.stevebrine.com/greenwinchester





### ROTARIANS WELCOME LOCAL MP

The Rotary Club of Chandler's Ford & Itchen Valley gathered at the Potters Heron Hotel in Ampfield in August to meet newly re-elected Chandler's Ford MP Steve Brine.

Around 60 guests heard Mr Brine speak about his experiences in the previous Parliament, and his thoughts as the new Conservative government gets to work following the General Election.

Steve said: "It is almost five years to the day since I first came here as a new boy in Parliament to talk about my election and what the opening weeks of the coalition looked like from the inside, and it was fantastic to be able to return as a now-experienced Member of Parliament.

Bill Hunsley from the group said: "Steve Brine gave a very informative overview of his day to day activities as a constituency MP and his active role in the Department of Health. He also responded with great sincerity to a series of challenging questions from the audience."

### SUN SHINES ON HILTINGBURY EXTRAVAGANZA

Steve Brine and his family dropped into a sunny Hiltingbury Extravaganza last month (September).

It was a fun-packed afternoon on Hiltingbury Rec, and there was a wide range of attractions and activities, including a ferris wheel, clowns, ferret racing, pony rides and a climbing wall, all accompanied by live music.

As well as being interviewed in the arena and chatting with dozens of constituents, Steve met up with local councillors Judith Grajewski and Margaret Atkinson.

Speaking afterwards, he said: "Once more this was a great occasion and I met so many faces old and new. It was great to see Judith and Margaret there as well. Next year is already in the diary!"



### **SUMMER 2015**

It's been a busy Summer for Steve Brine, who as well as carrying out his casework and day-to-day work, has supported some fantastic local events.



Pulling pints at the Micheldever Fete.

A suitcase full of cash for Dragon's Den with National Citizen Service class in Winchester.

### PITT VALE DECISION IMMINENT



A decision is due on a planning application from Linden Homes for building at Pitt Vale, amid huge opposition from local representatives and residents.

MP Steve Brine and Cllr Jan Warwick have led the fight against what has been described as a 'cheeky and speculative' application from the developers. "Not only because of the impact the scheme would have on local infrastructure", says Jan, "but also because Winchester already has a signed-off local plan and this site is not part of that. As well as working with

Steve, I have been working hard with my colleague Gavin Dick to oppose this."

Steve adds; "I am very clear that Winchester is doing its bit to address housing need, not least with Barton Farm and Pitt Manor already agreed. Local Plan Part Two is the right process and that is ongoing at this time. This new development would significantly reduce the quality of life for local people in an already congested part of the city."

A decision from planners is expected in October 2015.

More: www.stevebrine.com/pittvale

## NEWS IN BRIEF



#### THANK YOU!

Steve Brine has thanked his constituents after he was returned to Parliament this May with a majority of nearly 17,000.

Once again, the turnout from Winchester & Chandler's Ford was among the highest in the UK, coming in at 74.6%, and Steve put his victory down to his 100% positive local campaign alongside hard work over the past five years.

He said: "It was a huge privilege to represent this constituency once but to be allowed to do it again is incredible. I will continue to work my socks off for the area."

Watch: www.stevebrine.com/GE2015

### WELCOME FOR ENHANCED BLUESTAR BUS SERVICE

Steve Brine and local councillors have welcomed news that Bluestar has announced a revised timetable and new buses for its services across the area.

The operator has introduced new vehicles and increased the frequency on the Bluestar 1 Southampton-Chandler's Ford-Winchester route from every 20 minutes to every 15 which will help commuters and students at Peter Symonds.

Steve said: "Having met with the Managing-Director, I feel this company is in a really good place right now and passengers in Chandler's Ford are able to reap the benefits of that."

#### **ASSISTED DYING BILL**

MP Steve Brine received representations from hundreds of constituents on both sides of the recent Assisted Dying vote in the House of Commons, held in September.

Steve, who voted against the Bill having a Second Reading, said the debate showed the Commons "at its best", and told the House he felt the current DPP guidelines on whether to prosecute under the Suicide Act 1961 were still fit for purpose and ensuring the current law operates as intended.

MPs voted by 330 votes to 118 votes against progressing the Bill.

Read/watch: www.stevebrine.com/assisteddying

### CHANDLER'S FORD SURGERY PLEDGE



Following his re-election in May, Steve Brine has renewed his commitment to holding regular surgeries in Chandler's Ford for local residents.

He said: "I know how much local people valued my surgery coming to the area once a month, particularly older people who find it difficult to travel into Winchester, so I'm delighted to be able to continue to do this."

More: www.stevebrine.com/surgery

# EVEN MOVE IN BRIE



#### NEW CLIMBING **PROJECT**

St Cross resident Marty Orton has unveiled a new community climbing wall project in Winchester.

Marty told The Chandler's Ford Post; "Winchester really deserves and needs a climbing centre, one that welcomes children. families and young people. It's not just about climbing, we want to see a space that really encourages children to play wild, is built sustainably and, importantly, run by the community it serves.

More: www.bemountain.co.uk



#### **GENERATION BUY**

The Prime Minister announced a homeowning revolution at October's party conference - from Generation Rent to Generation Buy.

Speaking in Manchester he said; "When a generation of hardworking men and women in their 20s and 30s are waking up each morning in their childhood bedrooms - that should be a wake-up call for us.

"That is why we are announcing a dramatic shift in housing policy. Those old rules which said to developers: you can build on this site, but only if you build affordable homes for rent. We're replacing them with new rules: you can build here, and those affordable homes can be available to buy."

#### **HILTINGBURY LAKES UPDATE**

The Hiltingbury Lakes have not been looking their best of late, so Cllr Margaret Atkinson has been leading a working group to achieve remedial works to be made using funds allocated from the New **Homes Bonus Scheme.** 

Work is due to start very soon to remove excess laurel bushes, repair fence work and improve pathways.

#### **LOCAL SPEEDWATCH**

**Chandler's Ford Parish Council has** invested in the latest equipment to 'arm' their Speedwatch team of volunteers when on patrol.

The Team has had great success in recording speeding offenders on the local roads and has been able to pass this information over to the police for them to take action - usually a warning unless the driver is a repeat offender, when tickets can be issued!

A new community food enterprise has started in Otterbourne empowering us all to work on a healthy and fair food system.

Steve Brine met (pictured right) the driving force behind the 'Food Up Front' project, Seb Mayfield, who told him how he will bring a former market garden back in to use, with the aim of producing fresh food while providing training & volunteering opportunities.

Elderfield consists of approximately seven acres of land and houses eight poly-tunnels of various sizes, numerous large raised beds and a field. The site is owned by the Langley House Trust, a charity that support ex-offenders or people at risk of offending.

Seb Mayfield says; "I visited Elderfield in 2014 when undertaking a piece of work for the Winchester Basics Bank on creating a more just local food system. When I found out that they had land

available which had previously been used for a market garden, the potential was obvious."

Steve Brine adds; "The whole concept of a community food enterprise is really current and Food Up Front is really ahead of its time. I think we're very lucky to have them here and hope to see it develop through the new community led working group as well as become something the residents at Elderfield can access as part of their crucial rehabilitation back into society."

### TIME FOR COOL **HEADS SAYS MP AS** OSPITAL DEBA TAKES NEW TWI

New doubt surrounds the future of acute services at Winchester Hospital after plans for a new critical treatment centre were put on ice.

**GP** commissioners across West Hampshire and Basingstoke said they would not YET consult on plans, drawn up by Hampshire Hospitals Foundation Trust, to create the new facility near Junction 7 of the M3.

Local MP Steve Brine commented; "This is a real worry because the challenges at Winchester's RHCH haven't gone away and patient safety has to remain our priority. We must all now work together with commissioners and providers, as well as councils, to move swiftly to a sustainable settlement for the local health economy.

"A whole system approach that is able to fully combine hospital with social care must be right because it's increasingly

Royal Hampshire **County Hospital** 

Accident & Emergency

Parking for all Depts

Disabled Parking

Drop off

More: www.stevebrine.com/prioritynhs

### clear across the NHS that the success of one is heavily reliant on the other. We need cool heads right now, I don't think grandstanding on this issue is going to help anyone."

## **NEW FACE AT PENGUINS**



Winchester City Penguins Swimming Club has a new face on the scene, with a new recruit from **Saracens Rugby Club.** 

Sam Fulling previously managed the charitable arm of Saracens and is looking to bring this experience to further develop the hugely successful club alongside its existing 'learn to swim' and competitive squad programmes. He started in July and has moved to Winchester with his family from St Albans.

Local MP Steve Brine met up with Sam in June as he handed out prizes at Penguins' annual Primary Schools Swimming Gala. He said; "I've attended every year that I have been our MP, and it's always worth supporting the Penguins. I know Sam's experience will be invaluable to the club."

More: www.wcpsc.org.uk

## Vays to contact your local MP

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