



Steve Brine's SOUTH WINCHESTER POST

Another 100% positive publication produced at no cost to the taxpayer by your energetic local Conservative MP and the team. It is delivered by volunteers across Brambridge, Colden Common, Twyford, Compton, Otterbourne, Shawford, Hursley, Ladwell, Standon & Oliver's Battery.

BACK PAGE

YOU MIGHT THINK THAT...

STEVE IN CONVERSATION WITH 'HOUSE OF CARDS', MICHAEL DOBBS.



STEVE SECURES MAJOR INVESTMENT FOR OUR AREA



Winchester MP Steve Brine has delivered major investment in TWO local road schemes worth hundreds of millions of pounds in the past month.

Junction 9 of the M3 at Winnall will see a comprehensive package of improvements worth upwards of £200m which, as reported in the Winter edition of this newspaper, needs major work to secure what is a crucial freight link via the A34 from the Midlands to the Ports on the south coast.

Steve says; "The work done there last year as part of the Government's pinch-point scheme was always for me part one of something much bigger so I am really pleased with this new deal. As I said at PMQs last month, it is essential to clear for the country and to clear the congestion which affects large parts of the city every time things back-up on the motorway.

"It will take time to deliver but I look forward to examining it, including how

National Cycle Route 23 will be included, as detailed plans are worked up."

Meanwhile a new **quieter surface** will be laid on the M3 throughout much of Steve's Winchester & Chandler's Ford constituency.

Steve adds; "Back in the Summer, our long-running campaign to get the M3 motorway resurfaced came good as the Highways Agency brought forward plans to lay a quieter surface between junction 9-14. Now however, I am able to announce that work will be accelerated further, into this financial year with completion due by April 2015.

"It's fantastic news for my constituents but especially for the children at Shepherds Down School who were so instrumental in getting this on my agenda and that of the Minister."

More: www.stevebrine.com/junction9

More: www.stevebrine.com/M3noise



PITT VALE – ENOUGH ALREADY!

Regular readers of this newspaper will be aware that local Conservatives are fighting proposals from Linden Homes to build around 500 houses on Pitt Vale.

MP Steve Brine has spoken in the local media to voice his anger at what he sees as a 'cheeky and speculative' application, especially coming after the decision to build on Pitt Manor with all the added congestion that development will bring to the area.

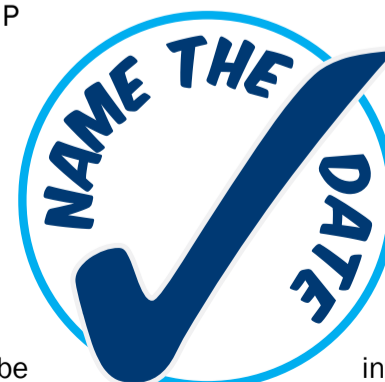
More: www.stevebrine.com/pittvale

Steve said: "I continue to work cross-party with local councillors, including City Cabinet member Cllr Jan Warwick who represents Pitt Village, to fight these plans, but I do need your help. In order to demonstrate the strength of feeling, please email or write to me with your thoughts, as the bigger file I have the better."

STEVE SAYS – NAME THE DATE NOW!

Steve Brine says name the date for the IN/OUT EU referendum he is supporting

The Winchester MP went against a three-line whip in the House of Commons back in November 2011 to call for a national poll, and although it is now party policy, he is calling for a proposed date to be published now.



He says; "If the Conservatives are re-elected in May the referendum WILL happen in 2017 after the PM's much trailed renegotiation. However, to underline this even further I want that date fixed now so we can all ink it into our diaries!"

More: www.stevebrine.com/wewantoursay

A Green Winchester publication, printed on paper from sustainable forests

Westminster Reflections

from Steve Brine MP

Since my election in 2010, I have focused on establishing myself as first and foremost a constituency MP. I promised to be the most accessible we've had and I hope I've achieved that.

But I am also a member of the House of Commons and have made the most of my time as first a backbencher and then a member of the Government.

I spent a year with Iain Duncan Smith at the DWP as a PPS (Parliamentary Private Secretary) working on our landmark welfare reforms but in the Summer of 2014 was promoted to be a PPS working across the Home Office and Ministry of Justice. I have also served on many standing committees examining key parts of our legislative programme; including the Green Deal, NHS reform, Offender Rehabilitation and Prisoner Voting.

FINAL PMQS BALLOT

I receive three pairs of tickets for PMQs each year. Many MPs give their allocation to friends or family, but I have always held a free and fair ballot for my constituents who are interested in going.

I have one allocation left this Parliament, on Wednesday 4th March, so if you are interested in entering the draw, visit

www.stevebrine.com/PMQs

SPEAKING ON THE ECONOMY

I recently spoke in a key House of Commons debate on the economy. Read/watch what I had to say

www.stevebrine.com/2014economicspeech



Questioning the Lord Chancellor at Justice Committee

JUSTICE SELECT COMMITTEE

I have spent over three years as a member of the influential Justice Select Committee, chaired by my friend Sir Alan Beith MP. It allowed me speak freely on subjects close to my heart such as reducing the prison population and reducing re-offending.

More: www.stevebrine.com/JSC

FAMILY MATTERS

RAISING THE PERSONAL TAX THRESHOLD

We've raised the personal tax allowance to £10,000 and will lift it to £12,500 if we remain in Government. This will take a million people out of paying income tax, and mean no one working 30 hours a week on the minimum wage would pay any income tax.

RAISING THE HIGHER RATE THRESHOLD

The Conservatives will raise the higher rate threshold at which people pay the 40p tax rate to £50,000. It is currently £41,900. This will be a huge benefit for my constituency.

FUEL DUTY

We've frozen fuel duty since coming into office saving some £570 on petrol costs each year if you fill up your car once a week.

AIR PASSENGER DUTY

From May, APD for under 12s will be abolished and from 2016 it will be abolished for under 16s. This has been a long-running campaign I've supported.

HELP TO BUY

Has already helped thousands purchase a home since its launch in March 2012. Locally 65 families have already been helped.

More: www.help2obuy.co.uk



With my 2 children; Emily (7) and William (4)

HEALTH

My strong constituency interest in health followed me to Westminster where I scrutinized some key parts of coalition health policy and worked closely with successive Health Secretaries.

Breast cancer

I have been co-chair of the All-Party Breast Cancer Group since 2010 producing a number of key reports and regularly briefing the Prime Minister.

Full story at: www.stevebrine.com/breastcancer

Children's Heart Surgery

I have worked a great deal on the major Congenital Heart Disease Review known as 'Safe and Sustainable'.

More: www.stevebrine.com/childrenshearturgery

I am also closely involved with All-Party work on Parkinson's, Ovarian Cancer, Autism, Maternity, Muscular Dystrophy and Speech Therapy.



With my breast cancer group co-chairs, Labour's Sharon Hodgson and Lib Dem Annette Brooke and (left) chairing our major inquiry into older people with the disease in 2013.

BUSINESS

Small businesses are the lifeline of the local economy.

Doubling the Small Business Rate Relief has been important and we will continue to cap the inflation-linked increase in business rates at 2%. The £1,000 discount for shops and cafes on the high street will increase to £1,500 and there will be a full review of the structure of business rates to report before Budget 2016.

We will increase the R&D tax credit for SME firms to 230%, the maximum allowed and extend the Funding for Lending scheme by another year – focusing it entirely on small businesses.



See more of my work in Westminster: www.stevebrine.com/westminster

CALLS FOR CHANGE AT DICEY JUNCTION



Local residents across the area were shocked back in the Autumn after a bad accident at the junction of Oliver's Battery Road with Badger Farm Road left a female driver fighting for her life after a collision with a bus.

The accident, which left Oliver's Battery Road South and the A3090 between Meadow Way and Pitt roundabout both closed throughout the afternoon, further raised fears about safety at the junction, which local MP Steve Brine knows well.

Steve said: "This was a very bad accident indeed, and I recall that the firemen attending needed to cut off the door and roof of the car so that the lady could be treated by paramedics before being airlifted to Southampton General.

"I have since received a lot of correspondence on this from local people, and have been in touch formally with the parish council to offer my help wherever it is needed."

Do you have a view/can you help?

Get in touch steve.brine.mp@parliament.uk

NEWS IN BRIEF

TWYFORD TRAFFIC SUCCESS

Work is finally being carried out on a new safety crossing in Twyford, just in time for the summer holidays.

The planned Main Road crossing near Bourne Lane was heavily backed by residents, and local MP Steve Brine who has long campaigned on traffic issues in the village. Back in 2011 Steve convened a top-level Twyford traffic 'summit' made up of council leaders from all levels, local representatives and the police.

More: www.stevebrine.com/twyford

MAIN ROAD IN GOLDEN COMMON



Local MP Steve Brine continues to work on various traffic issues surrounding the Main Road in Golden Common, and has now taken residents' concerns about the travellers' site to the Chief Executive of Winchester City Council.

Steve says; "Many people felt this came up all too quickly and that the consultation period was far too short. This is of course very disappointing, and I have raised the matter directly to the top of WCC on behalf of local residents. I will report back to residents shortly."

TRAFFIC AND SPEED IN HURSLEY

Speeding cars impact on the walk to John Keble Primary school in Hursley. Although initiatives such as Speed Watch slow the traffic a permanent solution is needed.

Local MP Steve Brine, HCC's Cabinet Member Sean Woodward and local councillors met in Hursley last year to discuss speeding. Removing the central white line at each end of the village and the informal crossing point will help.

"Village enhancement and appropriate enforcement calm traffic speeds. We will work with Hampshire County Council and the Police to keep speed on the agenda," said Cllr Jan Warwick.

SUPERHERO CAPES

Twyford resident Claudia Beard, who won the Prime Minister's "Points of Light" award last year, continues in her work to make 600 superhero capes for the Red Cross Children's Hospital in Cape Town as part of a toy drive organised in South Africa.

She held a special Sewathon back in November and you can find out more – as well as support this excellent local charity – via www.iamsupercapes.co.uk



CLLRS JAN WARWICK AND MIKE SOUTHGATE REPORT BACK...

We are fortunate in the Compton, Otterbourne, Shawford and Hursley area to still have very good public transport connections including an evening bus service despite recent subsidy cuts.

Compton and Otterbourne have the Blue Star 1 and Hursley are very pleased with the enhanced 66 bus service between Winchester and Romsey. Not only do buses now run twice an hour but they start earlier, finish later and operate a Sunday service as well. The service has been funded for a period of two years by a Romsey development before it will be reassessed so please use the service as much as you can so we keep it. In addition Shawford has its hourly train service up until midnight with additional trains run at peak times.

The start of the year saw some challenging growing conditions for the Landscape Group who deal with grass cutting, leaf clearance and road sweeping across the District under

contract to the City Council. This year we have expanded the priority road leafing schedule and have revised the grass cutting frequencies for 2015 to include an earlier Spring cut. We are also looking at introducing a leaf 'hit' squad who can rapidly respond to areas requiring clearance.

We hope the improved contract with the Landscape Group will continue to complement the work of the excellent parish lengthsman scheme and enhance the appearance of our villages.

Finally, we were honoured to attend a poignant service of prayers and remembrance run by the children of Otterbourne Primary School in the Autumn. The service commemorated the stories of Otterbourne lads in the Great War. The new Bishop of Basingstoke



Strong local team; Mike and Jan with Steve Brine

led prayers and Mrs Chamberlayne-McDonald showed everyone the wooden cross used to mark the place where (Thomas) Onslow Chamberlayne fell in 1916 at the Battle of the Somme.

FLOODING, DITCHES AND SEWERS!



Cllr Jan Warwick and Steve Brine with Cllr Mike Southgate and Southern Water officials in Hursley.

More on both: www.stevebrine.com/flooding

Winchester MP Steve Brine is leading a debate within Parliament about the urgent need for reform in the way we respond to groundwater flooding.

He used a 90-minute debate in the Commons to explain the wider impact groundwater flooding can have on places such as Hursley and Twyford.

Steve says; "The floods we saw locally last year were awful for those affected but the point is they affected a relatively small number of properties. That means we will always lose out under the current national funding formula.

"That is why I am working with Hampshire County Council and Ministers on their 'pathfinder' proposal which considers the

wider socio-economic impact groundwater flooding can have on an area."

Meanwhile, in Hursley four weeks of thorough work by Hampshire County Council has cleared out and widened the ditches of Poles Lane. Southern Water have also written to all Hursley residents outlining their plans to manage the groundwater infiltration including jetting large fat blockages, inspecting the drains and replacing pumps.

In Twyford, Southern Water have written to all residents to inform them of an extensive survey of the sewer system serving the village which investigates its performance and identifies where improvements can be made.

Even more
NEWS
IN BRIEF

NUISANCE CALLS UPDATE

Steve has had a huge response from local people following his work on nuisance calls which continue to pester – and worry – people across Winchester. He continues to work on a cross-party basis in Parliament and has welcomed Which? magazine joining the campaign, as well as tough new fines which can be imposed on companies who break existing rules.

CAPACITY ON THE TRAINS

Steve Brine has worked tirelessly during the course of this Parliament to improve services for the thousands of commuters he represents. He spoke recently in a Commons debate about the 'Wessex Route Plan' which is the best opportunity in a generation to address the big issues around capacity on routes into Waterloo.

More: www.stevebrine.com/trains

MUM'S IN THE KNOW

Fulford resident Lindsey Holland met Steve recently (pictured) to discuss Mums In The Know, a group created to help local parents keep in touch with local events and activities.

Lindsey explained how they are keen to become the first point of contact for parents looking for daily inspiration for entertainment for their children, and they enable busy parents to receive regular updates as to what's on and where, as well as lots of fun advice and hot topic discussions. Steve said: "Lindsey and the audience she caters for is very much the same age and stage as Susie and I so we had much to discuss. The site is growing fast and is really useful so check it out."

www.mumsintheknow.co.uk/winchester



WAYS TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL MP

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WRITE Steve Brine MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
WEBSITE www.stevebrine.com
TWITTER twitter.com/sbrine
FACEBOOK facebook.com/SteveBrineMP

STILL PRIORITY NHS

Steve Brine continues to work responsibly – and calmly – to keep constituents informed as proposals for a new critical care hospital locally are discussed. Last year he carried out a constituency-wide Health Check Survey and chaired two open meetings in Winchester – one focused solely on maternity services and obstetric care.

Steve says; "We are some way yet from the commissioners of local health services even agreeing to put these ideas out to public consultation but, as a responsible Member of Parliament, I want us to have the fullest possible understanding of what's being proposed and to give my constituents every chance to question it.

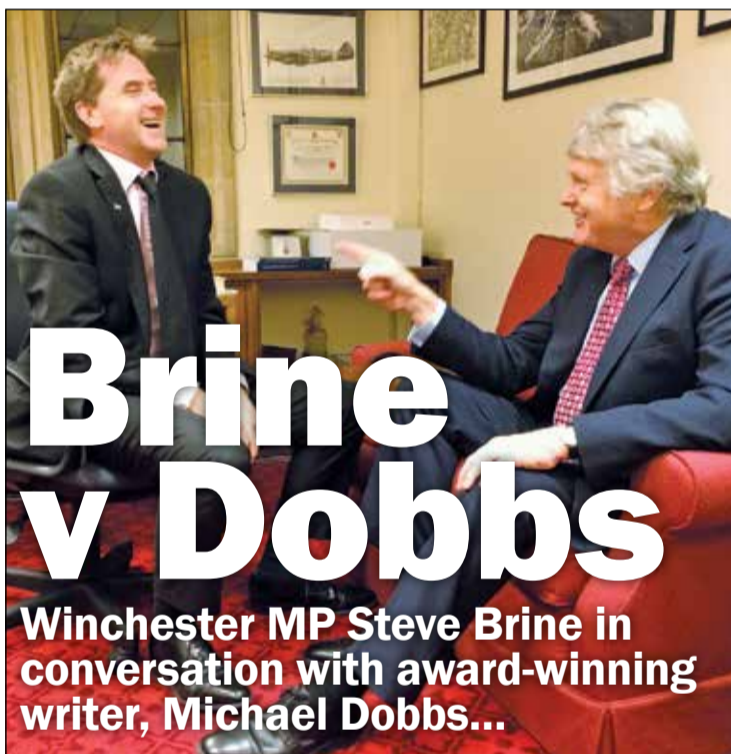
"I remain committed to keeping the best services in Winchester but to do so in a way that is sustainable and above all, safe. Some of the things being put about locally are the height of irresponsibility but I will continue to focus on the facts. After almost five years as the MP here, and someone



Stay updated on the facts: www.stevebrine.com/prioritynhs

who has actually had two children born at the RHCH, I hope my constituents know my commitment to the local NHS. "As I said to the BBC recently, I and many others welcome a £125 million investment in a new critical treatment hospital in the area providing the 24/7

world class consultant-led cover we don't have right now. There are of course questions that need to be answered if this were to move to a consultation including access by public transport to the new facility and the impact on services at Basingstoke and Winchester hospitals."



Brine v Dobbs
Winchester MP Steve Brine in conversation with award-winning writer, Michael Dobbs...

Brine – You are the writer and co-producer on the global hit series House of Cards, and thousands of my constituents have been watching Frank Underwood take up the mantle left by Francis Urquhart all those years ago in Westminster. Did you really think back in the 90s when you conceived the idea that it would get this big?
Dobbs – I had no idea I was going to finish the book, let alone get it published. The suggestion that it would change my life so completely would have seemed ridiculous. I'm not sure what I have done to deserve the role of FU being taken by two such outstanding actors as Ian Richardson and Kevin Spacey, but I have embraced every moment.
Brine – It's a great show, and Kevin Spacey is superb in the lead role, but honestly, how close (or not) is his character to reality?
Dobbs – It's fiction! Drama, not documentary. Although a huge

amount of the plot is lifted from real life, it doesn't pretend to be a balanced view of politics. The Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi was recently photographed in a Rome bookshop buying a copy of House of Cards. I wrote to remind him it was a work of entertainment, not instruction.

Dobbs – After five years in the House of Commons what do you know now that you wish you knew then?
Brine – I thought it would be hard work but nothing prepares you for the 24/7 nature of the job so I wish I'd got some sleep before arriving in Westminster! The truth is, whatever the media may say about Parliament and MPs, I don't see scallywags taking the public for a ride here. I see a group of people dedicated to improving our country and serving their constituents – and that's true of every party and none.
Dobbs – So you're standing again in May?
Brine – Yes, most definitely! It's been an incredible experience to join the House of Commons and to work within Government but it's the steepest learning curve I've ever experienced. Truth is, I'm a much better MP at the end of my first term than I was at the start and I want to take that valuable experience, for the benefit of my constituents, into a second-term.

Brine – You are a member of the House of Lords now, what's your focus there?
Dobbs – Well, the early part of this year was taken up with trying to push through the EU Referendum Bill, which was eventually destroyed by the Lib Dem and Labour parties. There's only one party that's going to give voters their say on Europe – us! The role in the Lords is also very helpful in raising money for charities. I have a 150-mile sponsored walk coming up in March which I treat as training for the general election!
Dobbs – I think it's well accepted that you work hard in your role as an MP. Do you ever get to relax and if so, how?
Brine – Music and my kids. I've got tickets to see Fleetwood Mac (with Christine McVie) this Summer at the O2 and can't wait. I dare say Glastonbury will beckon again come June. Having two young children has its moments as readers will know but they have a way of relaxing me and I just live for our family holidays on the beach (with Popcorn of course) in Devon each August.

JOIN OUR #TeamWinchester
Would you like to join Steve Brine's winning team for Winchester as we head into one of the most exciting General Election's in years?

To get involved please return this form as below or email team2015@stevebrine.com

I can deliver a few leaflets I will put up a poster
 I would like to join the canvass team
 I would like to donate to the fighting fund (Cheques payable to Winchester Conservative Association)

Name: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO:
Steve Brine MP, WCA, Manor Farm, Itchen Stoke, S024 0QT

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