

# the Miller's Tale



## TRIPLE HANDOUT AT THE FARMHOUSE



which she said that this was the largest donation from a public house this year. The Mayors Appeal raises money for Marie Curie Cancer Care, Eastleigh and District Mencap Society

Millers Dale Community Association. Malcolm Stainthorpe, the NMD Associations chairman, was on hand to collect the cheque from Lynne along with several members of the committee.

The evening was rounded off with a selection of sausage rolls, cheese straws and many other delicious nibbles.

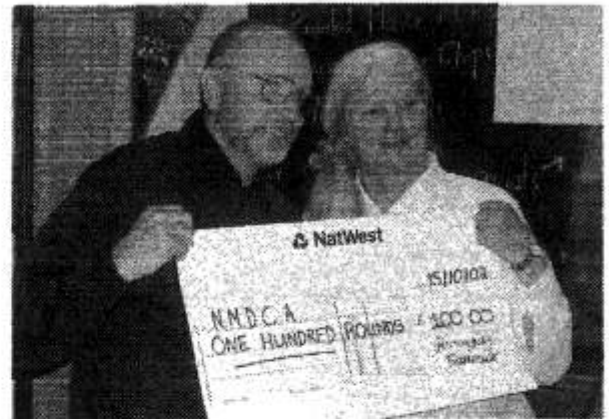
Mayor Gillian Connell accepts the Mayors Appeal donation

**On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October** Lynne Sinker of the Hiltonbury Farmhouse hosted the presentation of three cheques to three separate charities. Thanks to the generosity of Farmhouse customers a huge £277.20 had been collected in the giant Scotch bottle that lived on the bar. This was presented to Community Fundraiser, Sally Stemp of the Hampshire Autistic Society. (See page 7 for more details)

The Mayors Appeal charity benefited from a cheque for £450, which was the proceeds of various raffles held throughout the year. The Lady Mayor of Eastleigh, Gillian Connell, gave a short speech of thanks in

Sitting Service and Extras For Schools.

Many of you may remember the Golden Jubilee Bar-B-Q that took place on the green outside the Farmhouse. As this was well supported by local residents Lynne generously donated a cheque for £100 to our own North



Lynne gives Malcolm Stainthorpe a cheque for £100 for NMDCA



Big Bells bottle on bar brings bonus for Hampshire Autistic Society

**Inside this Issue**

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Farmhouse Cheques 1</b> |   |
| Information Board          | 2 |
| Local Focus                | 2 |
| Ground Force               | 3 |
| Seamier Side               | 3 |
| Steaming Interests         | 4 |
| Hampshire Wildlife         | 4 |
| Valentines Message         | 4 |
| Kids Corner                | 5 |
| A Bridge Too Far?          | 6 |
| Coach Club                 | 6 |
| Autism Society             | 7 |
| Area Report                | 8 |

*the Information board*



**what's on at the community hall?**

- Mon:** *Yellow Dot* 8.10am-5.30pm  
*Rainbows* 4.30pm-5.30pm  
*Aerobics* 8.00pm-9.00pm
- Tue:** *Yellow Dot* 8.10am-5.30pm
- Wed:** *Yellow Dot* 8.10am-5.30pm  
*Brownies* 6.00pm-7.30pm
- Thu:** *Yellow Dot* 8.10am-5.30pm  
*Yoga* 7.00pm-8.30pm
- Fri:** *Yellow Dot* 8.10am-5.30pm

**HALL BOOKINGS:**

Contact: **Mrs Linda Mandley**  
**C/o Eastleigh Baptist Church**  
 Wells Place, Eastleigh, SO5 5LJ  
 ☎ 023 80 613210  
*between 9.30am-4.30pm week-days,*  
*answer-phone at all other times.*

**Community Hall Keyholder**  
**Doreen Lewry**  
 ☎ 023 80 268562

**Newsletter team**

**Phil Heller**  
**Charles Lewry:** editors

**Debbie Smith:** advertising

**Contacts:**

**Advertising:** 023 80 263705

**Articles:** 023 80 265407

E-mail 'charles@lewry.u-net.com'  
 or 'PHIL.HELLER@nice.com'

**Or drop articles into:**

**8 Weavers Place or**  
**10 Ashbridge Rise**  
**North Millers Dale**



*Happy New Year*

Last year was another busy one for the North Millers Dale Community Association. We ran a number of successful events and have plans for several new events. We are hoping to launch a bridge evening, the coach club intends to organise a trip in the spring and our old favourites the Wine Tasting and Burns Night are still in the itinerary.

The North Millers Dales Community Association exists to provide you with good quality events on your doorstep and endeavours to foster a good spirit of community. If you would like to join the Committee, you would like to help on an occasional basis or you have a good idea for an event, we will be pleased to hear from you.

Some of you may have visited our web site or e-mailed letters to the editor. Unfortunately swinternet who have been hosting our site have decided for financial reasons to cease offering these facilities, so consequently we will have to move to a new service provider. This means it may be some time before we are able to rebuild the site. Since we have charitable status we are hoping to make our new site an 'org.uk' address which should then remain the same even if further moves have to be made.

In the meantime should you wish to submit any material or write to the Millers Tale, please use our personal e-mail addresses, either: 'charles@lewry.u-net.com' or 'PHIL.HELLER@nice.com'.

We appreciate feedback on the newsletter whether negative or positive and would like to see more of you contributing to our columns. This month on page 4 two of our residents have put finger to keyboard to produce interesting articles. We are hoping to feature many more in future issues. So please let us know about your hobbies, interests, visits, careers or any other subject that you think may interest our readers.

Like most years, the news both locally and around the world provides us with some stories, which become sadder and sadder as they become more and more brutal. In amongst the normal messages, and jokes, I received one the other day which embodies a more positive and charitable thought the future. It has nothing directly to do with Millers Dale, but is a way of conveying a Christian message at this time of year

Look through the window ..... and a very happy New Year to you all .

**THE WINDOW**

*Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room.*

*One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room's only window.*

*The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back.*

*The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on vacation.*

*Every afternoon when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window. The man in the other bed began to live for those one-hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and colour of the world outside. The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every colour and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance.*

*As the man by the window described all this in exquisite detail, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine the picturesque scene. One warm afternoon the man by the window described a parade passing by. Although the other man couldn't hear the band he could see it. In his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words.*

*Weeks passed. One morning, the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep. She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away.*

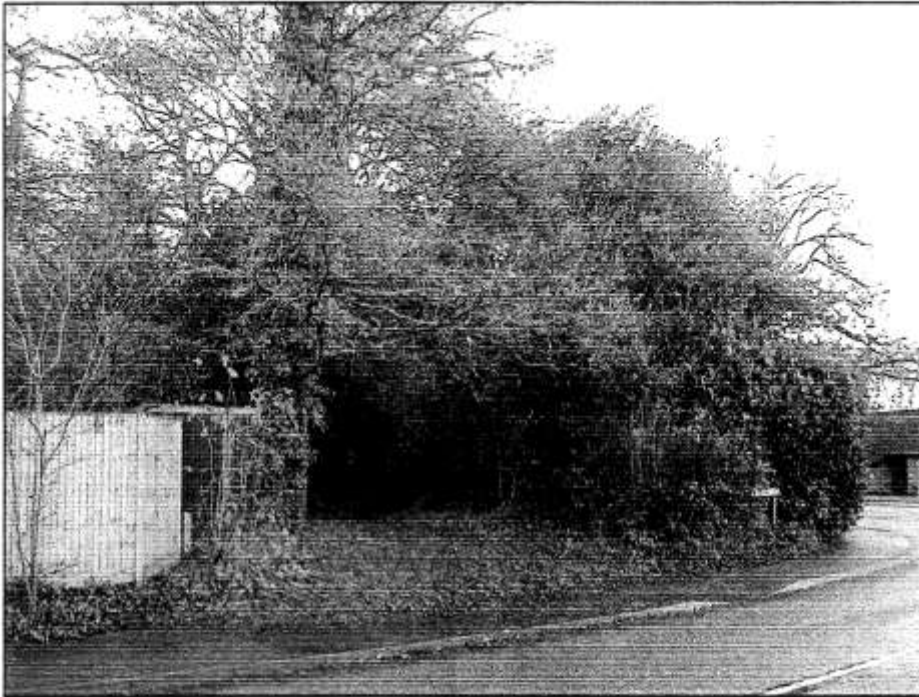
*As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone. Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the real world outside. He strained to slowly turn to look out the window beside the bed. It faced a blank wall.*

*The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said, "Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you."*

*Epilogue: There is tremendous happiness in making others happy, despite our own situations. Shared grief is half the sorrow, but happiness when shared, is doubled. If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy.*

*Today is a gift, that's why it is called "the present."*

## Ground Force Task – Cricket Copse



You will recall the article in our April issue, which described the tidying up operation undertaken by Eastleigh Borough Councils Countryside Project, where the woodland areas around Cranborne Gardens were given a makeover.

The entrance to North Millers Dale from the Hursley Road entrance was considerably improved with coppicing and hedge planting by Nick Webb's team on the weekend of 17<sup>th</sup> March. The project team promised us that improvements would not end there, and as promised the team returned to take on an

improvement at Cricket Copse.

Improvements included hedge planting, laying path gravel, and erecting small entrance signs and path trimming

For those of you who did not notice, or do not know where Cricket Copse is, it is the area of Millers Dale which runs along Hursley Road, from the entrance in Hursley Road to the traffic lights.

The work and the ongoing project is a bit like Ground Force without all the hype. After having to report instances where some mindless morons are doing their

**Graham Parrick**  
CARPET FITTER

Free Quotations

Telephone:

C/Ford (02380) 254030

Twyford (01962) 714110

Mobile (07831) 858615



best to spoil the environment in which we live, it is heartening to see that the Council and some local residents are prepared to work together to improve what we do have

Well done to Nick Webb, the Countryside projects Officer and his team and to those who helped on the day. We were promised various projects and improvements when time and budget allowed. By the time we go to press there will have been another volunteer day on Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> which hopefully some of you may have been involved in.

### The Seamlie Side of North Millers Dale

The Millers Tale does its best to give you positive information about North Millers Dale, and provide a focal point for community issues and community functions.

Unfortunately, that sometimes extends to reporting instances that happen on our doorstep which are unfortunate and distasteful for the residents concerned, but can act as a word of warning for everyone else.

#### **Lock your doors and take extra care! Thieves at large!**

It has been reported to the Millers Tale that one family in Ashbridge Rise has had two instances where their property has been compromised during November. In the first instance, a socket set and a screwdriver set were found to be missing from the garage.

Our local policeman PC Boyd attended very quickly after it was reported, gave advice on security and generally restored the families confidence. Following the incident, the family also received a letter from Victim Support in Eastleigh which was a welcome boost and made them feel they were not alone, the larger community was looking out for them.

Unfortunately about a week later, the family was

revisited by the thieves, and came home to find their back door had been forced open and the lock broken. Surprisingly, having gone to the trouble of forcing the door, nothing appeared to have been stolen from the house.

It was clear the thieves scaled a wall and a garden hedge to gain entry into an enclosed back garden and then proceeded to force the back door. A locked garage, and a locked side gate were clearly no deterrent. Does it sound as though this could happen to you? I am sure that for most of us on Millers Dale this could be true.

Please take this as a warning, especially at Christmas, when we all have lots to do and will have more valuables in our houses. If there are thieves about, then do not make it easy for them. Lock your doors, windows and garages and protect your belongings and be safe. This family was lucky that nothing of great value was stolen, but it could have been very different.

#### **Vandalism**

Much more visible and just as distressing for those who are victims, is vandalism on the estate

Again, recent instances of vandalism in the area of Rosemoor Grove and The Tanyards have been brought to our attention. One property has had eggs thrown, and the garden fence vandalised on three occasions in the past month. The last incident was the worst, causing over £1000 of damage

The police have been involved and a police incident number allocated to it. The police were very supportive, and are encouraging everyone on the estate to report any such incidents to them.

The vandalism incidents have also been reported to Eastleigh Borough Council (Councillors Davidovitz and Wellfare). Following this contact, Councillor Davidovitz suggested that a meeting take place in the Millers Dale Centre to discuss these issues, and anyone who has a concern about security, vandalism or any other police matter should attend.

No date has been decided for this meeting yet, but please look out for information leaflets or notes through your door from the NMDCA, for details of the proposed date of the meeting. It may be that by working together we can identify trends of vandalism, or recognise who was out at those times the incidents take place.

If you are concerned by recent events, have information, or just wish to hear what is going on to give us extra protection, please come along to the meeting

We have said before, HELP US TO HELP YOU. Next time it could be you whose back door is forced open or your fence vandalised. Let's try to make Millers Dale a pleasant and safe place to live.

## Steaming interests from Barry Eagles



Barry Eagles has a lifetime's interest in railways and shipping. He started by collecting information and has progressed to documenting his extensive knowledge in books, stories, videos and cuttings.

Southampton is famous for its ships and Barry is very familiar with the Shield Hall that is moored in Southampton docks. This ship is kept afloat through the work of its Preservation Society, of which he is proud to be Chairman. Recently it won a lottery grant of £260 k. It is the largest working steam powered vessel preserved in the UK and has to comply with the same legislation as any other boat. For example the master has to be certificated.

Messrs Lobnitz built the Shield Hall in 1915 in Glasgow. The design is twin screws that are driven from a triple expansion tank steam engine that is fired by oil. Earlier ships using this type of engine had been fired by coal but by the 1920's such ships were being converted to oil fired.

The ship was built as a sludge carrier for the "Glasgow Conservancy", or as I think of it the Glasgow sewage works. It was later bought by Southern Water to do the same job for Southampton and then sold to the Solent Steam Packet Company.

It was one of the last traditional steam ships built. Only a few ships were built from a similar technology after Shield Hall and they were either ferries for Istanbul or ships for the Central Electricity Board.

If you haven't seen it perhaps now you will.

## Hampshire Wildlife Trust Local Programme of Talks

*of talks of interest to you  
can be seen on page 4 of the  
newsletter*

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January  
Brian Fletcher  
**'Woodland Butterflies'**  
7.30pm at the Bishopstoke Centre

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February  
Lorraine Martin  
**'Uzbekistan'**  
7.30pm at the Community Centre,  
Hursley Road

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March  
Commander Tony Norris  
**'The Natural History of the  
Meon Valley'**  
7.30pm at the Community Centre,  
Hursley Road

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April  
Annual Meeting followed by  
Phil Budd  
**'Magdalen Down'**  
7.30pm at the Community Centre,  
Hursley Road

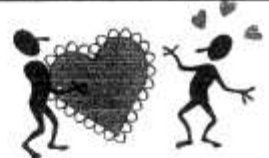
*All Welcome*  
Admission £1.50  
including refreshments



### Will your mail get to your loved one on time?

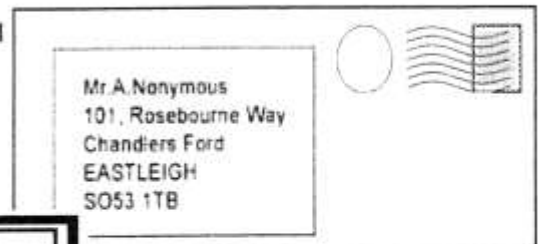
*By Mary Peterson*

On Valentine's Day morning the postmaster is greeted by a sea of red envelopes when he arrives at work, all of which need to be sorted by hand.



Most post is sorted by machine nowadays but the contrast of blue pen on red envelope is often not enough for the machine to detect! I had never thought of this until I went on a guided tour of the Sorting Office at Eastleigh recently. Now, to make sure my letter gets through on time, I stick a white label on dark coloured envelopes and write the address on that!

The other thing that is crucial for speedy sorting is to have the postcode on a separate line as the last line of the address.



The post office recommends that one writes:

1. Name
2. House number and street name
3. Locality name (if there is one)
4. POSTTOWN (in capital letters)
5. POSTCODE (in capital letters)

Don't put commas or full stops at the end of lines. An envelope addressed like the one pictured above should do the job and ensure your mail gets through on time!

All types of  
fencing supplied  
and erected

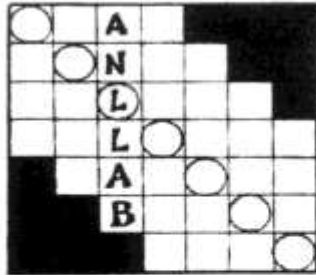
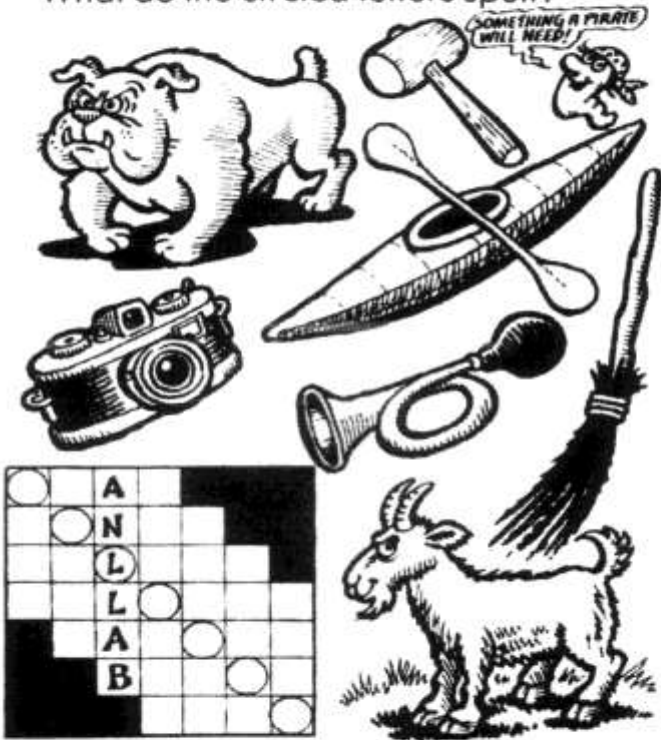
All types of  
flooring supplied  
and laid

# FLOORING & FENCING LTD

Common Road, Chandlers Ford, Hants  
Telephone: (02380) 253524/253184  
Fax: (02380) 270359

# Kids Corner

Fit the name of each picture in the grid.  
What do the circled letters spell?



Both of these two anagrams spell out something that comes through the door  
all helmets tire alert hell times



|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | B | A | N | G | E | R | E | L | P | P | A |
| C | O | S | Y | G | M | A | T | C | H | A | P |
| S | S | E | B | U | N | P | G | V | C | R | L |
| R | K | K | O | N | Y | U | L | T | O | L | P |
| A | R | W | N | P | A | N | O | A | A | I | N |
| T | O | A | F | O | L | C | V | H | T | A | O |
| S | W | F | I | W | P | H | E | Y | E | M | V |
| X | E | Y | R | D | S | Y | S | N | K | E | E |
| G | R | U | E | E | I | K | U | N | C | N | M |
| N | I | G | G | R | D | S | F | E | O | T | B |
| I | F | B | A | R | R | E | L | P | R | U | E |
| K | S | P | A | R | K | L | E | R | S | N | R |

## FIREWORK NIGHT WORDSEARCH

- APPLE
- BONFIRE
- DISPLAY
- GLOVES
- KING
- NOVEMBER
- PENNY
- ROCKET
- STARS
- BANGER
- COAT
- FUSE
- HAT
- MATCH
- NUT
- PLOT
- SKY
- BARREL
- COSY
- FIREWORKS
- GUNPOWDER
- GUYFAWKES
- PARLIAMENT
- PUNCH
- SPARKLERS



# WINSTALLATIONS

14 WESTON ROAD, EASTLEIGH, HANTS. SO50 9AT

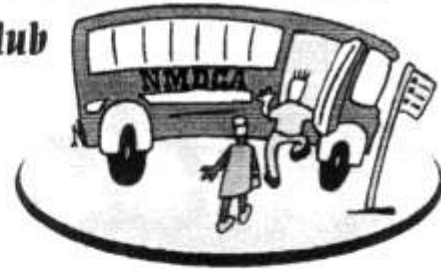


*PVCU - Aluminium  
Windows, Doors & Conservatories,  
Fascias & Soffits*

*Local properties completed recently*

**Telephone Kevin on 07799 113115 for free estimate**

## NMDCA Coach Club



Many thanks to those families who supported the idea detailed in our last issue. First of all we should apologise to the seven families who did reply to the questionnaire in the last issue. Your return slips have been kept, and we have not forgotten you. In some cases the reply came back with thanks and words of encouragement for the idea, so we are determined not to let you down. Time conspired against us, and unfortunately seven families were not quite enough to make it a viable excursion in terms of cost.

However we have established both from these replies and the enthusiasm of the Committee that in the spring there is every possibility of going to a London show.

A visit to RHS Wisley was also welcomed as a good suggestion. Clearly good weather is needed for that attraction, so look out for another tear off strip in the Millers Tale

Another idea that we will investigate is a trip to a TV studio. This means contacting the TV stations and seeing which show we can get tickets for. The advantage of this idea is that tickets to these events are often free, and it could easily be combined with a shopping trip in the City. More details of that idea is hoped to be included in the next Millers Tale or via individual flyers.

Due to the relatively low number of replies, we would not limit attendees to those living on the estate. If you have friends or family who would be interested in any of these ideas please let us know, and that will make arranging the trip very much easier.

If any of you have some ideas that you wish to put forward, then please feel free to do so. One of the replies to the last questionnaire suggested that any activities for the over-50s would be great. Thanks for the feedback but let us know what you would like to do.

## Three No Trumps Or 4 Spades?



It has come to our notice that there are a number of residents on the estate who really enjoy a game of Contract Bridge. Bridge is one of those card games which you either love or hate, and it is also a game which requires some skill, as well as having some luck with the cards dealt !!

If you are a player who is reasonably proficient and simply want to get in touch with some local residents so that you can enjoy a game, then please contact the NMDCA. If however, you have never played, but would also be interested in having a game to understand the rules or just to have a go, then that it is also possible, maybe with some good advice from the experts.

Initial interest in card games has primarily centred on Bridge, but others amongst you may prefer other games, such as canasta for instance. If you want to register your interest in having a game of bridge and be put in touch with other players, please contact Phil on 023 8026 5407, or e-mail [philashbridge@hotmail.com](mailto:philashbridge@hotmail.com)



## ABOUT THE AUTISM SOCIETY



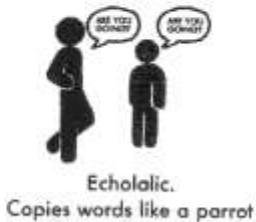
Hiltonbury Farmhouse customers donated over £270 to the Hampshire Autistic Society.

The Society is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all people within the autistic spectrum and offers a wide range of facilities and services to children and adults. Support and advice is available to families, carers and professionals.

**Hampshire Autistic Society**  
Charity Reg No. 288141

The Society has a school, adult residential and day services, a parent support group network, advocacy, respite care, a training seminar programme, runs courses to provide help for parents of pre-school age children and promotes awareness of the disability through a lending library and information centre.

These 'pin people' illustrate some ways in which autism is displayed.



As autism is a disability affecting the development of the brain, there is no known 'cure'. However, specialised education and structured support can help maximise a child's skills and minimise any problems. The right kind of education and care programmes are essential. They make a real difference to the child's life enabling each individual, whatever their level of ability, to achieve as great a degree of independence as possible when they become adults.

If you would like to help or to know more about autism or the Hampshire Autistic Society contact 1634 Parkway, Solent Business Park, Whiteley, Fareham PO15 7AH or Tel: 01489 880881 or email: [Info@has.org.uk](mailto:Info@has.org.uk)



A true community pub  
Sat & Sun 1st & 2nd Feb  
**Celebrate the Pubs Coming of Age!!**  
Yes. It's 18 Years Old!  
**Disco Saturday P.M.**  
Steak Night every Wednesday evening  
£1 off every steak  
~~Every Monday: 9.30pm Nick's Music Quiz~~  
Every Thursday: 9.00pm Bob's mental challenge  
General Knowledge Quiz  
**CASH PRIZES!!!**  
Telephone: 023 8026 9974

**BRIAN AND SUZETTE MATTHEWS**  
Welcome you to

**THE PRECINCT GIFT CENTRE**

Visit Chandlers Ford's "Aladdins Cave" of gifts and cards for all occasions  
**Coffee and Tea Lounge**

**9 THE CENTRAL PRECINCT CHANDLERS FORD**  
023 80 254205

**AREA CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT**

*By Andy Milner*

**Ashdown Road Environmental Improvements**

Following extensive public consultation last year, the long awaited environmental improvements have taken place at Ashdown Road shops. Funded jointly by the owners and from the Council's Community Investment Programme, the workers focused on improving access for disabled persons. With ample parking to the rear of the shops the slight reduction in bays at the front was considered by most to justify the provision of disabled bays outside the post office. Further features were being built in to the scheme to provide more help for the elderly including additional handrails and white lines to highlight the edge of the steps.

**Hiltingbury Lakes**

Extensive improvements to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee are now being completed at Hiltingbury Lakes. In addition to repairs to the banking of the upper lake, footpath improvements have been effected on the path leading down to Merdon Avenue. On 17th November, a clearing party prepared the ground for planting of trees, bulbs and wild flowers. It is hoped to recruit local volunteers as 'Friends of the Lakes' to help with the clearing. It is hoped to engage the services of local school children in the planting and others in the sponsorship of other features around the lakes. If you would like to sponsor a seat (£630), plant a tree (£50) or plant a whip of native species (£2.50) then you should also contact Andy Milner.

**Waitrose**

The Waitrose development is seeing a number of highway improvements along Oakmount Road and the Local Area

Committee is committed to investing £200,000 in an environmental improvement scheme to improve the facade along Winchester Road from the Hill Way to Fryern Arcade. Discussions with local traders are well advanced and details of the approved scheme will be made available to the general public as soon as these are available.

A further £100,000 is being made available to provide traffic management measures in the area to address safety concerns associated with the store and to protect the local residential amenity. A consultation group incorporating local traders and residents has been meeting over the summer months.

**Pennine Way**

A consultation exercise on the future of the Pennine Way play area has been undertaken with local residents including a special questionnaire for under 16's who used the play equipment before it was damaged by fire last year. The results of the survey will be reported back to the Local Area Committee and they will make a decision on it's future. Ideas so far include replacement of the damaged equipment, the addition of a footpath from Pennine Way to Stourvale gardens and work to address long-standing drainage problems in the area.

**Bournemouth Road**

Local residents have regularly suffered delays along Bournemouth Road with unloading at local shops and garages. This combined with the general width restriction along the road and various sets of traffic lights has often resulted in considerable congestion and delays. The Local Area Committee has been working closely with local traders in an attempt to overcome the problem and has received considerable

support from the One Stop shop, who have carefully reviewed their own procedures, and Hedy Ford who have employed additional resources to manage the positioning of car transporters off the main road. Recent works to Keble Close have also benefited local residents who used to suffer with traffic heading for the industrial estate erroneously making the wrong turning. We will continue to look at ways of

enforcing better driving practices along this stretch of Bournemouth Road including the enforcement of no right turn into and from Brickfield Lane, which is still abused by smaller vehicles.

**Chandlers Ford Railway Station**

Plans are going ahead to re-open Chandlers Ford railway station in May 2003 and a circular line would operate between Romsey, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, St Denys, Southampton, Millbrook, Redbridge and Totton.

**Valley Park Link**

An idea has been put forward to open a link between Shannon Way into South Millers Dale/ Hursley Road in an effort to reduce traffic using Baddesley Road. If a link road was introduced, it could reduce the traffic problem on the NMD estate, although it may well move the problem elsewhere.

**Neighbourhood Watch**

Do you have a Neighbourhood Watch operating in your area? If not, please think about it. Chandler's Ford and Hiltingbury has suffered from a high proportion of domestic burglaries over the last few years and there is irrefutable evidence that neighbourhood watch programmes act as a real deterrent to crime. If you would like someone to come along and speak to a you and your neighbours to advise how you get a Neighbourhood Watch Committee organised, contact your Area Co-ordinator, **Andy Milner**, on **8068 8438**.



**QUIZ NIGHT with Inquizitor**  
*Phil Heller*

**In the Millers Dale Hall**

**On Sat 8<sup>th</sup> March 2003**

**First Question at 8pm prompt.**

**Prizes and Raffle. Book in your team of 4 adults/teenagers for £10 per team with Doreen ☎80268562**

**Burns Night**  
**Celebration**  
**Sat 25<sup>th</sup> January 2003**



**Contact Doreen**  
**on 80268562**

**Tickets limited to 40,**  
**so first come first served.**