



## Spitfires fly into battle to help keep Fareham's council tax low

### SPITFIRES have come to our rescue yet again.

Five of the iconic WW2 fighters fly from Solent Airport and fuel sales for pleasure flights are reaping thousands of pounds in revenue for the benefit of Fareham council taxpayers.

And wise business investment by the **Conservatives** is sparing Fareham households massive annual council tax rises.

Out of an annual Borough Council spend of £47m, less than £7m comes from council tax.

Council Leader Seán Woodward stressed: "So 85% of what we spend includes our trading activities, among them a portfolio of mainly local commercial property that brings in millions of pounds in rental.

"For example, most units at Southampton Road, Park Gate (B&Q, Dunelm, Halfords, PC World, etc) belong to the Council. Without this income our council tax, currently almost the lowest in the country, would need to be far higher."

Despite losing all its Government revenue support grant, Fareham will raise its share of council tax for 2019-20 by only £5 a year, representing just a penny a day increase for the average band C property. Band D properties will pay £160 per year or just 44p per day for all Borough Council services.

In his budget summary, Councillor Woodward was upbeat about lucrative ventures at Solent Airport@Daedalus, where around £30m has been spent so far on infrastructure and new commer-



Photos: Richard Davies Photography

cial buildings such as newly-extended Fareham Innovation Centre, which is already 70% full.

Airport operations provide a financial return to the Council, flight movements increased to 30,000 annually and

hundreds of new jobs were created at what is the Solent Enterprise Zone.

The target over the 25-year life of the Enterprise Zone for new jobs is 3,500, 1,100 of those being on the Fareham part of the site, of which half the total has already been reached.

Land was transferred to Fareham College to build a Civil Engineering Training Centre (CETC) to teach young people skills they need to undertake civil engineering works in this area where there is a huge skills shortage. A £39m capital

programme for future improvements includes:

- Ferneham Hall refurbishment £10m
- Spec build business units at Solent Airport@Daedalus £5m
- New council housing in Fareham, Portchester, Stubbington and Sarisbury £17.6m
- Phasing out single-use plastics by the Council
- Play area improvements £500,000
- Bus shelter replacement £300,000
- Holly Hill Cemetery extension £275,000

He added: "Setting a balanced budget without reducing services is more challenging every year. We have plans for another £1m of annual savings via efficiencies rather than service reductions."

## All-party agreement failure may add £2.5m a month to J10 upgrade cost

### WELBORNE was adopted into the Fareham Borough Plan 6 years ago, yet not a brick has been laid.

And it could be another 2 years before the concrete mixers start turning to prepare the first foundations.

Meantime, developers Buckland's application not being received in 2015 has contributed to cost inflation.

Fareham has raised £39m of public funding towards the J10 cost, but if it fails to tie in with the smart motorway work, it could add an extra £2.5m a month to the £65m bill.

Councillor Keith Evans said: "Families should, by now, be living in some of the new houses and the new motorway Junction 10 should be under way – the start of delivering 6,000 houses, 6,000 jobs, 3 primary schools, a secondary school and small shopping centre.

"The project was initially held up by significant land ownership/availability issues that needed High Court actions to resolve.

"The main landowners/developers finally submitted a planning application early in 2017, but this was inadequate and was refreshed (almost a re-submission) in

December.

"Hopefully, this will result in a planning consideration in April, leading, if successful, to houses on the ground starting in 2021."

He said bringing all the funding streams together was a major task, but more critical was ensuring the J10 plans were agreed to slot into Highways England timetables for the M27 smart motorway.

Fareham Council is working hard to get all parties – Buckland Development, the County Council, Highways England, Local Enterprise Partnership and Government – to agree funding and move towards detailed planning consideration.



# NEWS ROUND

### Eyes and ears wanted

Keith Barton started a neighbourhood watch scheme for South Ward.

Now he needs volunteers to provide eyes and ears for what's going on around the ward.

This links in with the work of building up communities like the FareSAMS group already mentioned elsewhere in this edition.

To sign up, just go to [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk), then type in your postcode to join the Fareham South group.

### Safer play area

We have made Crossfell Walk play area safer for kids by getting it fenced in. More suitable play equipment is needed here, and we will be pushing for it to be provided.

Meanwhile, there has been a delay over the new play area that is being paid for by Bloor Homes in Bishopsfield Road.

The Council has the funds but there are still issues with the land that need to be addressed before we take ownership, so we will be also be pushing for this to happen as fast as possible.

### Parliament visit

Fareham MP Suella Braverman arranged for Councillor Geoff Fazackarley and his wife Tina to visit Parliament on December 12 – the day of the Brexit vote of no confidence.

He met Jacob Rees-Mogg and discussed the Brexit issues, then bumped into former disgraced MP and best-selling novelist Lord Jeffrey Archer.



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The Conservative Council has allocated £500,000 in a 5-year programme to improve 20 play areas across the Borough.

## Watch groups set up to reclaim our streets

**LACK** of police resources is blamed for a rise in crime and anti-social behaviour in Fareham.

Statistics show Fareham has Hampshire's second lowest crime rate, but a steady rise during the past 3 years is worrying residents and businesses.

Fed-up people of South Ward decided it was time to fight back and formed a group to take on the yobs and criminals.

A strong message has been sent to households urging residents to join Fareham Security and Mutual Support Groups (FareSAMS).

It's basically a neighbourhood network to improve security and strengthen communities.

It states: "With fewer police resources available to respond, it's even more important that people most



affected pull together and become more self-reliant and mutually supportive.

"We can and are making a difference. We have been running with great success in one of the Broadlaw Court communities and are now reaching out to neighbouring communities."

The movement is open to local residents, traders and organisations and aims to help reclaim the streets by tipping the scales in favour of law-abiding citizens.

Residents should ask themselves whether it's acceptable that parts of the Borough are virtual no-go areas.

- Can we stand by while our senior citizens fear for their safety?
- Should we accept theft and damage to property of

hard-working people?

- Is it right for children are targeted by violent gangs?
- Should a few blight the lives of the majority?
- Do we continue to allow out of control kids to behave anti-socially with impunity?

By mobilising and coming together, strength of numbers will tell and there is no fear of reprisals as information and incidents are reported anonymously.

People are urged to sign up to WhatsApp by emailing [faresams@hotmail.com](mailto:faresams@hotmail.com) and to FareSAMS Facebook Group at [www.facebook.com/groups/288504791794473/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/288504791794473/).

Hampshire Police Crime Commissioner Michael Lane has responded to residents' demands. 200 new officers will be recruited, plus 65 staff police investigators and training for new PCSOs. But it will cost an extra £24 a year on Band D council tax bills

## There's a lot going on at Broadlaw

**COUNCILLORS'** surgeries are still going strong in the Broadlaw Community Centre.

Geoff Fazackarley and Keith Barton (pictured) hold them on Mondays (not bank holidays) from 4pm – 6pm and Wednesdays 10am – 12 noon.

The skills café opens from 1.15pm–6.15pm on Mondays and 9am–1pm on Wednesdays. It's where we help people look for work, write an up-to-date CV, assess interview skills and use the computers.

Provided we have at least 8 people, there are

also free courses in various subjects like food safety, First Aid and ICT.

Citizens Advice come in on Wednesdays as part of their outreach programme for anyone who needs help.

The popular parent & toddler group run by local mothers takes place on Tuesdays 9.30am – 11.30am.



## Smart way of learning

**EZY Education** is a clever concept, says Geoff Fazackarley who visited the firm's Fort Fareham base.

It helps children nationwide with its app system which students can access to give full tuition on their smart phones.

"It's another Fareham business doing well," said Geoff, who's pictured with Paul Jordan (left) and Jacob Poulton.



## Brenda's lifetime of memories and still going strong at 103

**ON THE DAY** Brenda Vickery was born, Monday, December 20, 1915, World War I had been raging for 16 months.

The *Daily Telegraph* pictured Lord Kitchener at The Dardanelles where withdrawal from the disastrous Gallipoli campaign was in full swing.



The Roll of Honour ran to two harrowing columns recording 71 officers and 807 NCOs killed or wounded.

At home, Christmas week saw Sainsbury's offering a pound of butter for 1/8 (8p), half a dozen sausages for 1/- (5p) and streaky bacon at 1/4 a lb (6.5p).

Brenda, who puts her longevity down to hard work and eating correctly, celebrated her 103rd birthday at Gracewell care home with visits from Fareham Mayor Susan Bayford and MP Suella Braverman.

Ward Councillor Geoff Fazackarley said: "I've been privileged to know many wonderful people and Brenda is certainly one of them."

"I was Deputy Mayor when she was 101 and promised her a birthday party as long as she lives."

Brenda's turn to serve her country came in World War 2 when she joined the WRNS and was a pool driver, ferrying many admirals and senior officers around the dockyard.

After the war, she stayed behind the wheel as a Parliament driver and has a wealth of memories about who used to sit in the back seat, Prime Minister Clement Attlee and the shamed War Minister John Profumo to name just two.

She has a close family of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



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**WE SERVE YOU ALL**

Whether you voted for us or not, your Conservative councillors promise the highest standards of service to everyone in the community. Contact us any time and we'll respond personally within 48 hours.



## Why I voted against original Brexit deal

Despite Brexit turbulence, unemployment remains at a record low, wages are rising faster than prices and the economy is growing faster than forecast.

As I wrote in the *Daily Telegraph*, no-one can doubt the Prime Minister's indefatigable pursuit of a Brexit deal, so it was with regret that I voted against the original deal in Parliament in January.

That deal was not Brexit. It would have locked the UK indefinitely into the EU's single market and customs union whilst annexing Northern Ireland so that it would be treated as a 3rd country by Great Britain.

I sincerely want to support a Government deal and am hopeful meaningful changes will be secured.

The last year was very busy. Over 2,500 residents came to my local events and I replied to more than 35,000 emails!

In some welcome personal news, I am expecting a baby in July. Rael and I are looking forward to becoming parents!

# Suella

## BRAVERMAN MP for Fareham

Suella was delighted to hold the first ever Solent Festival of Engineering at Fareham Leisure Centre which was attended by over 1,000 local children and students.

The aim of the event was to showcase and bust the myths about engineering, technology and the sciences.

The UK faces an estimated shortfall of 20,000 engineering graduates every year and Suella is passionate about encouraging the next generation of innovators.

She brought together over 50 national and international companies such as Rolls Royce, Google, NATS, Southampton and Portsmouth Universities, and the



Royal Navy and RAF to enable young people to learn more about the opportunities from further study and careers in the field.

From virtual reality, rocket cars, coding challenges, 3D printing, Lego building, drones, model railways, AI, learning about wi-fi, jet engines and gas turbines to life

on Mars and deep sea diving, pet scanners, magic and ship tankers, attendees were not short of interactive engineering experiences.

Suella holds regular events open to the public. If you would like to stay up to date with her events and news, sign up to her monthly e-newsletter by emailing [suella@suellabraverman.co.uk](mailto:suella@suellabraverman.co.uk).



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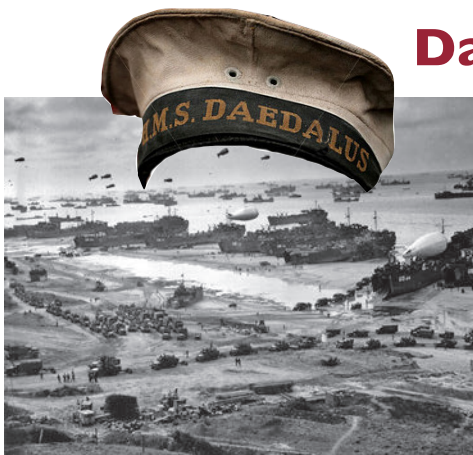
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## Daedalus D-Day Diary Dates



### D-Day 0441 hours, June 6, 1944.

The first aircraft take off from HMS Daedalus to support Operation Overlord – the Normandy Invasion.

It was a pivotal moment in the history of the Fleet Air Arm base where 435 units – the largest to operate from any UK airfield on D-Day – were deployed.

The Fleet Air Arm was joined by RAF squadrons, Royal Canadian Air Force Typhoons and Mustangs and US Navy Spitfires, softening up Hitler's Atlantic Wall and protecting the invasion armada.

That historic day which paved the way to victory over the Nazi regime will be recalled during 75th anniversary events commemorating the landings.

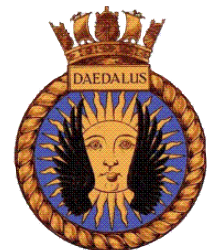
Plans are under way for a two-day spectacular show at what is now Solent

Airport on June 8 and 9, from 10am to 4pm, and Fareham residents are asked to diary the dates.

Vintage aircraft will play a key role and details of those taking part will be released soon.

There will also be children's activities, market stalls and stage performances by local groups.

Fareham South Councillor Geoff Fazackarley said: "Council officers are planning to make it a day to remember, so make sure you don't miss what will be the biggest event of the year."



## Owners warned: Clean up your dog's mess or face tough new penalties

### A NEW law is proposed to tackle dirty dog owners.

The Council is responding to complaints about dogs fouling and being out of control by seeking an updated Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO).

If approved, it would replace the existing PSPO which expires in March and extend the Council's powers for the next 3 years to:

- Tackle dog fouling
- Ensure people have a means to pick up dog litter
- Request dogs be put on leads if causing a public nuisance

- Ensure dogs are put on leads in sensitive places e.g. cemeteries
- Limit the numbers of dogs a person can walk at any one time
- Exclude dogs from certain areas e.g. play areas

It would also enable Council officers to issue on-the-spot fines to irresponsible dog owners. The proposed powers would not apply to people registered blind, or who rely on assistance dogs.

Councillor Keith Barton said: "We want to ensure that irresponsible dog owners don't spoil people's enjoyment of the public spaces in the Borough."

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