

WINCHESTER POST



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



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GREEN WESTMINSTER
Steve's report from the House including Brexit, new environment pledges and a BrineMinister re-cap.



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NOUVELLES LOCALES
Le marché français frappe Alresford et détails de la tournée estivale de Steve.



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PRIORITY NHS
MP opens new Emergency Department and welcome for police numbers boost; plus Bump & Boo returns to Guildhall.

SCHOOLS IN WINCHESTER

12x12



Local MP Steve Brine is leading a successful push for a historic new long-term funding settlement for schools across England..

The experienced MP, who sits on the back-benches after resigning from the Government earlier this year, recently led a special debate in Parliament titled Schools in Winchester and now the Government has responded with a new £14bn package.

That debate covered a wide range of issues affecting teachers and schools across our area including funding, capital projects, teachers' pensions, the work of PTAs and majored on high needs provision.

He says; "Many local schools are seeing a marked increase in the needs of children, especially with regards to social, emotional and mental health. Hampshire has received an additional £6m over two years in High Needs block funding but it clearly cannot keep up with demand.

"In 2014 there were 5,500 pupils with a Statement across Hampshire; in 2019 there are 8,300 with one of the new Education, Health and Care plans. This has led to a £10 million

in year deficit at HCC.

"If you add to this how stretched CAMHs and the Supporting Families Programme are we have the perfect storm which says clearly we need so much more support in our schools to stand with vulnerable children and their families."

Steve closed the debate with a plea that Ministers produce a long-term funded plan for schools as has recently happened for the NHS where he was until recently a Minister.

The MP added; "Supporting schools in Winchester is a key focus for me so I am delighted I could use my strength, credibility and experience to help land the recently announced massive new funding package which delivers on our promise to level up primary and secondary school funding as well as the new £30,000 starting salary for all teachers."

Steve Brine has two young children so views the local state school system as a parent and MP.

More: www.stevebrine.com/schools



Above: Professor Joy Carter of the University of Winchester and Steve break ground for the new primary school at Kings Barton where he is a Trustee and, inset, our MP on his feet in the House of Commons.



Westminster Report

This Autumn promises a lively parliamentary session dominated by the Brexit endgame and (however long Parliament sits!) I will be using every ounce of my experience from a near-decade in Parliament to question and challenge the Government. I realise my opponents have the luxury of taking a position from either end of the debate but, as an elected MP, I have to be more responsible than that and try to represent ALL of my constituents. The necessary step for every MP is to support a safe exit from the EU and stop playing games in the name of principle and virtue behind which lies only naked party politics and self-interest. To move on, everyone is going to have to accept that compromise is still not a dirty word. I hope you enjoy this Westminster Report and will follow the links for more.

YOU CAN SEE MORE OF STEVE'S WORK VIA WWW.STEVEBRINE.COM/WESTMINSTER

Visit my constantly updated **BREXIT** pages here



www.stevebrine.com/brexit

SPEAKING OUT IN THE HOUSE



Steve Brine continues to be one of the most effective MPs in Parliament. After nearly three years as a Minister, our MP now speaks from the back-benches and he's wasted no time in raising issues pertinent to Winchester. As well as speaking on Brexit related matters, here's a snapshot:

NHS Pensions – after being contacted by a large number of constituents working in the local NHS, Steve has spoken several times about urgently needed changes to annual and lifetime allowances. The Government has since announced a wholesale review.

Citizens' Rights – the lives of EU citizens living in Winchester are not a game, our MP told Ministers in June during an urgent question on the subject.

Business Rates – Steve used the example of Alresford while calling for a fundamental review of business rates. It's a system, he said, that was no longer fit for purpose (or fair) in the digital age.

Amazon rainforest – the issue that got Steve involved in politics as a schoolboy, he challenged the Prime Minister to recognise that climate change and biodiversity loss are two sides of the same coin. The Government announced last month some £10m to help protect and restore the forest in Brazil.

You can watch clips from all these stories – and see more of Steve's work in the House – at www.stevebrine.com/westminster

GREEN WESTMINSTER

Our local MP took part in a historic debate in the Commons recently as the government announced it was introducing new legislation to reduce the UK's greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050. Steve Brine said it was a 'great day' as the UK becomes the first leading economy to enshrine net zero into law and he challenged Ministers to work with Winchester City Council to get there.



Addressing MPs, he said; "We should see net zero as gaining something for the UK economy not giving it away. The opportunities, I recently called for a new Green Deal around retrofitting of existing housing, are huge and we need to grab them with both hands."

Steve is also working as part of the Conservative Environment Network which recently published a comprehensive new manifesto covering planning reform (to deliver new sustainable homes), investment in regional transport networks, a data-smart replacement for fuel duty when we shift to electric vehicles, sustainable land and fisheries management and a world leading Environment Act. The MP recently met a large group of constituents in Westminster as part of the Time is Now lobby which included representatives from Winchester Action on Climate Change and Christian Aid. www.greenwinchester.com



BE MY GUEST

Did you know, our MP welcomes schools, colleges, and various constituency groups to Westminster throughout each year?

It's all part of his Visiting Westminster programme which involves tours of the Palace of Westminster, PMQ tickets (see below) and Q&A sessions with Steve Brine himself.

So far this year, visitors have included; Kings' School, Sparsholt College (pictured), All Saints Primary School, the Friends of Winchester Cathedral, Princes Mead School, Itchen Abbas Primary School and Harestock Primary School.

You can find out more about all of these opportunities at www.stevebrine.com/visitingwestminster



@BRINEMINISTER



As widely reported, Steve Brine resigned from his role as a Health Minister in the Spring over the Government's handling of Brexit but he leaves behind a significant body of work.

Cancer – Steve was the Cancer Minister, overseeing the new cancer plan backed by significant new NHS funding and a new target which aims to see 75% of all cancers diagnosed at an early stage.

Childhood obesity – Steve wrote Chapter 2 of the world-leading Childhood Obesity Plan with its ambition to halve rates by 2030. It contains proposals to introduce a 9pm watershed for TV advertising and a ban on the sale of energy drinks to children as well as the sugar tax.

International – Steve held the international brief which saw him represent the UK at major health summits including the G7 and G20. He is pictured addressing the G20 in Argentina. www.stevebrine.com/BrineMinister

NEWS IN BRIEF

BOOK YOUR SEAT AT PMQs

Local MP Steve Brine invites constituents who would like to watch Prime Minister's Question Time to enter his regular ballot for tickets.

Wednesday lunchtime has become a firm fixture of Westminster life and there is renewed interest since the arrival of Boris Johnson as PM to face Jeremy Corbyn each week. Constituents wishing to enter should visit www.stevebrine.com/PMQs (where the latest dates are posted as soon as they become available) or call 01962 791110.

ENDING HIV TRANSMISSION

A new independent commission which aims to end HIV transmissions in England within the next 10 years has been launched and our MP Steve Brine will be among its members as a former Public Health Minister.



The HIV Commission has been created by the UK's leading HIV charities, Terrence Higgins Trust and the National AIDS Trust.

The year-long independent commission is backed by the UK Government and will host a series of community events, a public online consultation, and a national call for evidence from those directly impacted by HIV. The Commission will publish its recommendations next spring. www.hivcommission.org.uk

SIXTH FORM COLLEGES

Steve Brine MP took part in a debate on further education funding in Parliament recently hot on the heels of a visit to Peter Symonds College in Winchester.

The MP said the debate sent a clear message to the Government that it must do more to help colleges in a major review of departmental spending and referenced the #RaiseTheRate campaign which has been conducted through the Sixth Form Colleges Association and supported locally. He was one of a number of MPs, having met up with new Peter Symonds Principal Sara Russell earlier this year, to write to the new Chancellor to make the value for money case for colleges and he responded with a £400m boost for colleges so 16-18 funding is finally raised!

FREE NAZANIN

Steve Brine took his morning run to the Iranian Embassy this Summer to show his support for Richard Ratcliffe.

Mr Ratcliffe was camped outside the embassy, on hunger-strike, in support for his wife, Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, who is still in an Iranian jail following her arrest in April 2016 while visiting family in the country. Steve said: "I wanted to meet Richard Ratcliffe and offer him support, and prayers, on behalf of myself and many Winchester constituents who got in touch. Turns out Richard and Nazanin were married in Winchester so we had a good chat during our time together."



EXTRA CARE AT CHESIL



Chesil Lodge is home to more than 50 residents, aged 55 or over, and was designed as an innovative extra-care facility, meaning residents can retain independent living but with access to on-site care.

Steve says; "There are choices in national government and there are choices in local government, and I think people should judge those in government on the choices they make. I am so proud of what we have done

here in Winchester and we are so grateful for the magnificent Harris family bequest that made this happen."

Watch a short-film at: www.stevebrine.com/chesil-lodge

Steve Brine's Summer Tour is underway again this year during Parliament's August (and September) recess and, once again, the team have been visiting communities right across the constituency. Here's a few...



This year it was back to Sainsbury's Badger Farm for our supermarket surgery where we spent an extremely busy morning chatting with shoppers.



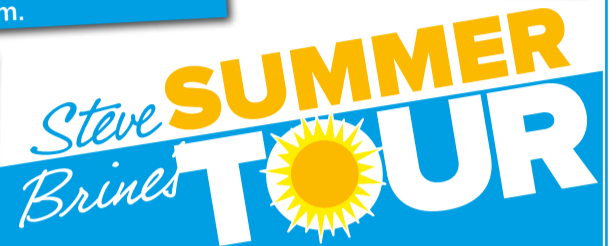
It was a scorcher by the time we reached Garbett Road in Winnall with Steve's street surgery and there was a lot of casework to follow up on for the team.



We went to Kings Worthy again this year, holding a village surgery outside the Fraser Road shops for local residents.



A first for Summer Tour; the team held a pop-up kerbside surgery at Winchester Village just off the Romsey Road.



Also this year, complete Steve's Summer Tour Survey - www.stevebrine.com/summertour2019

BIG TEST FOR CITY COUNCIL

Winchester City Council's new administration faces a major test of its green credentials this Autumn when Eastleigh's Local Plan is scrutinised in public.



thousands of new houses built on the border with Winchester. Concerns range from the impact on the environment and biodiversity to air quality and the extra traffic such large-scale development would have on the area. "The public examination of

Steve says; "The Liberal run council next door has been without a Local Plan for the best part of ten years and the whole process is widely seen as having been a total debacle. Now though, after warnings from the Secretary of State to get on with it, EBC has consulted on a proposed new Plan which has caused a great deal of anxiety and anger across the border in my constituency."

County Councillor Jan Warwick (pictured chatting with Steve Brine) adds; "Communities including Colden Common, Brambridge, Hursley, Twyford, Otterbourne and Compton are worried about options in the plan which could see



Eastleigh's plan will take place over a period of six weeks from 21st November and it's a major test for Winchester's new Lib Dem administration as to whether they back our communities or side with their party colleagues over the border. We will all be watching."

www.add-eastleigh.org

ALRESFORD FRENCH MARKET

A traditional French market brought more than sunshine to the ancient streets of Alresford.

The French market saw around a dozen varied stalls selling traditional French products including cheeses, fresh bread and records. This annual event was organised by the Town Trust as part of its Open day programme for 2019.

Local MP Steve Brine dropped in to meet many of the traders and sample some of the goods on offer. He then officially opened the new museum located in the Engine room at the Old Fire Station.



WESSEX CANCER

Wessex Cancer Trust, a charity dedicated to providing free and local emotional and practical support for anyone living with cancer throughout the region, hosted a visit from Steve Brine recently.

The MP for Winchester, who was until recently the Cancer Minister, wanted to see the way the charity is developing its services to directly meet changing local need.

Steve visited the charity's Chandler's Ford based Support Centre where he talked to clients (pictured) who had taken part in a Tai Chi class and toured the counselling and therapy facilities. He then met CEO Cait Allen who briefed him on the major research Wessex Cancer Trust is carrying out to find out what local people living with any type of cancer need most.

www.wessexcancer.org.uk



CYCLE WINCHESTER

Steve Brine and his daughter Emily took part in Cycle Winchester's big ride for 2019 earlier this year.

The Winchester MP backed the event once again which campaigns to make Winchester better by bike by promoting cycling as a convenient, healthy and inexpensive way to get around the city, as well as campaigning for improved provision for cyclists.

Steve, who is a former Chair of the All-Party Cycling Group, also praised its work in Parliament during a debate on future cycling and walking strategies. www.cyclewinchester.org.uk



The Cycle Winchester group at Abbey Gardens and, inset, speaking in the cycling debate in the House of Commons.

SUMMER FETES

A key part of being an effective and hard-working local MP is supporting the community at events and the Summer fete season sees Steve Brine and his family all over the constituency.

Pictured here with, among others, Cllr Stephen Godfrey (next to Steve) at the Sparsholt Fete in June, our MP has attended Summer events in Easton Stratton, Old Alresford, Micheldever, St Cross, Kings Worthy, Easton and Bighton among others.

www.stevebrine.com/whereyoulive



BUSINESS AWARDS

Steve Brine met up with members of the local business community as he took part in the Winchester Business Excellence Awards.

The awards recognise the achievements of local businesses and reward them for their commitment to excellence. It is organised by partners Winchester Business Improvement District, Hampshire Chamber of Commerce and The Hampshire Chronicle.

The Winchester MP, at his 10th ceremony, was on hand to present the Business of the Year award, which was won this year by The Winchester Bed Company.

www.stevebrine.com/bizawards2019

NEW LEISURE CENTRE

Our MP was given a tour of the new sport and leisure centre this Summer.

Steve Brine was shown around the Bar End site by new Winchester City Council Leader, Cllr Thompson, and colleagues as well as builders Willmott Dixon.

In addition to the 50m pool, the centre (unchanged from previously agreed plans) will include a training pool, multi-use sports hall, fitness suite, squash courts and hydrotherapy suite. www.stevebrine.com/leisurecentre



NEW HOME FOR CAB

Winchester Citizens Advice Bureau has smart new offices on Colebrook Street in the heart of the city.

The Winchester MP dropped in recently to meet with the Chief Executive and new Chair of the charity to discuss their current work and future plans, alongside their emerging work around Universal Support Help to Claim, the new service to help people access Universal Credit.

www.stevebrine.com/CAB

NEWS IN BRIEF

CHRONICLE COLUMN

“Obviously I can see we live in an age of social media driven populism where dog-whistle clarion calls - such as ‘Leave now’ or ‘Stop Brexit’ - cut through but I think our country, and dare I say Winchester, deserves better.”

Do you read Steve Brine’s regular ‘Letter from Westminster’ in the Hampshire Chronicle? If not you can catch up, including his hard-hitting and candid August column, online at www.stevebrine.com/chroniclecolumn

RURAL HOUSING

Steve Brine dropped into Sutton Scotney this Summer as he visited constituents in the new Harding Close development from rural housing specialists HARA.



The Hampshire Alliance for Rural Affordable Housing works to provide affordable homes in Hampshire villages and as a result house people with close local connections. Steve also addressed a group of local councillors and residents (pictured) at Victoria Hall and spoke passionately about providing new homes with the consent of local communities.

ASK SWR

Customer service, smart ticketing, industrial disruption and operating performance were all on the agenda as Steve Brine held his latest ASKSWR meeting in Winchester earlier this year.

The Winchester MP brought Andy Mellors, Chief Executive of South Western Railway, and Andy Thomas, who runs the local Network Rail Wessex Route, to the city to address a number of issues which have arisen since SWR took over the franchise from SWT in August 2017.



Steve is a long-standing campaigner on rail issues and recently criticised SWR for further price rises in ticket prices and car parking charges at Winchester Station.

M3 JUNCTION 9

Highways England have published the formal statutory consultation on plans to transform Junction 9 of the M3 at Winchester and will now consider responses.



Local MP Steve Brine has campaigned for years to bring the scheme forward and unlock one of the worst bottlenecks and congestion points in the south of England. He is regularly briefed on the plans by the HE team.

He says; “This has been one of the longest-running issues over the past decade, and I have fought for years for improvements to Junction 9 which is a key part of the local, regional and national road infrastructure. We need to get this done and not be distracted.”

www.stevebrine.com/J9

NEW A&E AT RHCH

Local MP opens transformed Emergency Department at Winchester’s Royal Hampshire County Hospital after securing £4m from Government.

Major work has been carried out at the Romsey Road site over the past few months, and the result is a fantastic new emergency department which is now fully operational.

Our Trust was on the receiving end of a critical CQC report last Summer and needed to make a number of changes; in particular around the way it handles children in the ED. The improvements include new Rapid Assessment and Treatment bays, and a dedicated children’s area.

Steve says; “This investment shows great belief in our hospital and the people who work there. I have seen



Steve Brine, alongside Trust Chief Executive Alex Whitfield, speaking at the opening of the new Emergency Department.

for myself the fantastic impact it has already had on staff morale. It has really energised the staff. This is the record NHS investment we talk

about in Westminster translated into tangible reality on the ground here in Winchester for my constituents.”

www.stevebrine.com/prioritynhs

BUMP & BOO!

This Summer saw dynamic Winchester duo Sarah Hannibal-White and Catherine Defty host their successful parenthood event Bump & Boo at Winchester Guildhall.

The event, opened by Steve Brine MP (pictured), has quickly grown into a one-stop-shop family day that seeks to support parents in the Winchester area from early pregnancy to Pre School.

Steve said; “Bump and Boo is a

brilliant idea. It’s clear how much it’s growing and how new stall-holders are being added each time. Anyone locally who is expecting or with a pre-schooler will find so much of interest and practical use at these events.”

www.fb.com/bumpandboo



POLICE BOOST

Operation Uplift is a very welcome boost to police numbers and Hampshire Constabulary will be benefitting after the Prime Minister said 20,000 new officers would be recruited.

Winchester MP Steve Brine said; “People I represent

want to see more officers in their area, protecting the public and cutting crime. This unprecedented drive to deliver more frontline officers will start in September with the launch of a national campaign, recruiting the officers over the next three years.”

In addition, as part of ongoing work to tackle serious violence, the Government will urgently review a pilot which makes it simpler for officers to use stop and search powers, with a view to rolling this out across all forces, including Hampshire.



Steve Brine being briefed by Winchester’s Chief Inspector recently.

Ways to contact Steve Brine, your local MP

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