

Thursday 11 December 2009

Top stories

[Come to the light Carol Anne](#)

Want to know your fortune? Probably best not to ask Mystic Mog today as she'll tell you a pack of lies, and she's not the only one! There were plenty of scam artists on the prowl in Commercial Road today, right under the nose of our own trading standards officers. Ronnie the rogue trader and Mystic Mog were on hand to demonstrate to show shoppers just how easy it is to part with cash and get nothing in return but a horrible feeling that 'you've been had'.



[Lord Mayor's historic broadcast of Christmas message to city](#)

The Lord Mayor of Portsmouth, Cllr Mrs Terry Hall, has registered a seasonal first in the history of the office - by recording a video of a Christmas message to the people of the city. The video message, featured on Portsmouth City Council's website, is also from the Lord Mayor's consort, husband John. In the message, the couple wish residents and people who work or visit Portsmouth a "happy Christmas and peace in the New Year."



[79 rough sleepers helped through lifeline service](#)

A pilot service for Portsmouth's homeless has helped 79 people with a bed for the night. Of these 79, 35 have been found accommodation, whilst the others (44) have either moved on, are still using the service or have managed to secure other living arrangements. The Emergency Outreach Service is for people who are homeless and/or sleeping on the streets, and has been running since the beginning of October.



Other news

[Doctirin' the house](#)

Portsmouth residents have shared their experiences of healthcare in Portsmouth in a new book, 'I went to see the doctor - A spoken history of healthcare in Portsmouth' edited by Sharon Collins, John Stedman and Vicki Slade. The heavily illustrated 52 page booklet is a history of healthcare in Portsmouth and features some 40 people's experiences of healthcare as patient and as health worker



[Combining forces to combat knife crime](#)

We recently teamed up with the Police to carry out an anti-knife operation in a project focused on reassuring local communities and preventing knife crime. Portsmouth does not have a knife crime problem. Only 0.3% of all crimes were related to knives or "bladed instruments." However the Home Office have been driving the 'Tackling Knives Action Plan', which sees all forces working against this type of crime. This operation is part of the ongoing plan.



[We wanna be together...](#)



An exciting new concept for the design of a landmark community hub that could be built across Winston Churchill Avenue has been unveiled. Artist's impressions show the new ideas for a futuristic structure that could house state-of-the-art community, youth and health facilities. The plans for a modern building to link the two communities on either side of Winston Churchill Ave are part of the first phase of our proposals for major transformation in Somerstown.

Lord mayor to award good neighbours

Everybody needs good neighbours – that's the message from Landport and Buckland. In fact, everybody needs good volunteers, local agency workers, teams and voluntary services, all of whom were recognised at the second annual Neighbourhood Management awards on Wednesday 9 December. Nigel Selley, neighbourhood manager, said: "We're delighted to be able to host this event for the second year running and to recognise all the good work that people are doing to help their local communities."



Events

Event teaches you how best to stash your cash

A hundred lucky people received an early Christmas present by attending a financial advice session this week. The Strapped for Cash event was held today at the Bridge Centre, Fratton and was for anyone who might need a helping hand making sense of their finances. The first 100 people who signed up for an account with Hampshire Credit Union their £3 joining fee paid for by the us as organisers of the event.



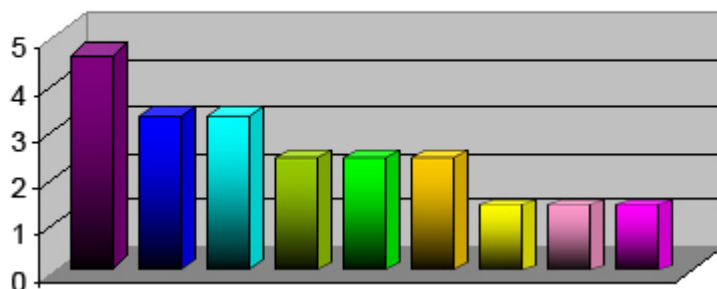
...and a partridge on a big screen!

In the lead up to the festive season why not come along to Guildhall Square and see what treats the 12 Days of Christmas at the Big Screen has to offer. From Tuesday 8 December until Tuesday 22 (excluding weekends), 12pm to 2pm, a range of festive material will be shown on the Big Screen including: images of Portsmouth at Christmas time, films from local schools showing pupils singing carols, highlights from the University of Portsmouth carol concert, Christmas animation - each day the Big Screen will be opening a new door on the advent calendar, come along and have a look to see what is inside.



Communications update

This week's media enquires by area



Key

- Somerstown regeneration
- Culture
- Learning and achievement
- Housing management
- Childrens social care
- Transport and street management
- Regeneration and business
- Asset management
- Environment and public protection

Publications

Flagship



House Talk



Take Care



Term Times



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