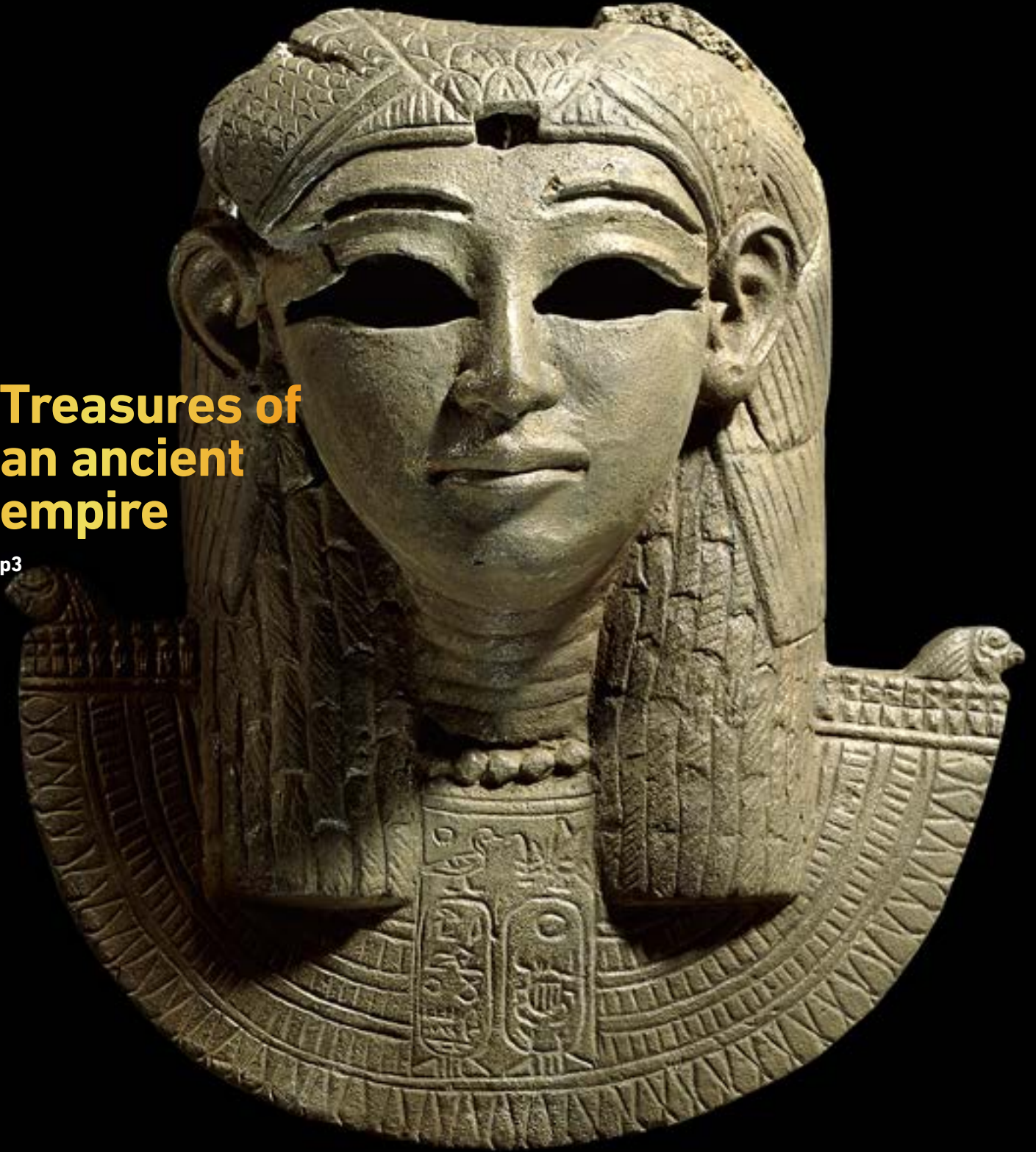


flagship

Spring 2025

Treasures of an ancient empire

p3



4-6

What's on

Guide to events
in the city

11

Mental health

Being there for
your family

12-13

Working with us

Council jobs and
volunteer posts

Inside this issue:



7

Change ahead

Devolution and reorganisation



8

Leisure plan

Update on Bransbury Park



9

Lido

A big year ahead



10

Children

Helping with language



14

Abuse

Take our relationship test

Flagship is produced by Portsmouth City Council, Civic Offices, Guildhall Square, Portsmouth PO1 2AL

✉ flagship@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

🔍 search for **Flagship** at www.portsmouth.gov.uk

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City helpdesk: **023 9283 4092** or cityhelpdesk@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or www.portsmouth.gov.uk/contactonline

Adult social care: **023 9268 0810** or ASCoppdAdmin@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Children's social care and safeguarding: **023 9283 9111** or **023 9268 8793** or mash@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Council tax: **023 9268 8588** or search **Council tax** at www.portsmouth.gov.uk

Parking: **023 9268 8310** or parking@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Recycling and rubbish: **023 9284 1105** or search **recycling and rubbish** at www.portsmouth.gov.uk

Search **contact us** at www.portsmouth.gov.uk for our A-Z contacts directory.

Payments

You can drop in at the Civic Offices to make a payment: 9am–4pm, Mon–Fri.

Cashiers are open 9am–1pm, self-serve payment machines 1pm–4pm.

In-person appointments

The services below can arrange for you to speak to someone in person at the Civic Offices. You need to make an appointment, unless the issue is urgent, for example an emergency homelessness application or other crisis. Before making an appointment, we will try to save you a journey by resolving your enquiry on the phone first. To make an appointment call:

- › housing benefit and Council tax support: **023 9283 4556**
- › Council tax and business rates: **023 9268 8588**
- › housing needs: **023 9283 4989**
- › school admissions and family information: **023 9268 8008**
- › children's social care: **023 9283 9111**

All our services are available online and on the phone.

Council meetings

To find out what's coming up search **Council meetings** at www.portsmouth.gov.uk Watch meetings at www.youtube.com/@PCC-DemocraticServices

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- x** www.twitter.com/portsmouthtoday
- @** www.instagram.com/portsmouthcityCouncil



023 9283 4092

Glories of ancient Africa



Sandstone offering table



Pottery wine jug



Handmade Nile clay bowl



Clay jar decorated with crocodiles

Beautiful objects from thousands of years ago are on show at a free Portsmouth Museum and Art Gallery exhibition.

Ancient Sudan: Enduring Heritage explores the Kingdom of Kush, one of the largest empires in the ancient world. Ours is the first venue to host this British Museum touring exhibition, which runs until 11 May.

At a crossroads between central Africa and the Mediterranean, ancient Sudan was a hub for cultures and ideas. The exhibition examines its people's skilled craftsmanship and distinct religious beliefs, and the importance they placed on the role of women. One of the most stunning objects is a bronze figurehead of a goddess from the third century BC (see above and our cover).

The exhibition also highlights the efforts of modern Sudanese people to protect their rich heritage, amid a civil war which has displaced millions. To do this, the museum is working with two local groups – Sudanese Community In and Around Portsmouth and the Rural Refugee Network.



More beach for dogs

Dog walkers can use more of the beach this summer season (30 April to 30 September).

The dog-ban zone along Eastney beach has been reduced, after support from residents for the move. The zone now stretches from Southsea Castle to Eastney Coffee Cup (instead of the Yomper statue).

But there's still lots of seafront space that's pooch-free. And Hotwalls Beach remains clear of dogs during the summer.

Outside of the season, from 1 October to 29 April, dogs are allowed on all beach areas.

out&about

★ MARCH – MAY ★

All the **highlighted** events are free

Lots more going on...

There isn't room here for all the things to do and places to visit in Portsmouth. You can find out more at **visitportsmouth.co.uk** – the definitive listing for events and activities, for residents and visitors. If you have an event to promote, or want more information about something listed on the website, call us on **023 9282 6722** or email **vis@portsmouthccc.gov.uk**

To keep in touch with things to do around the city, sign up to our monthly Visit Portsmouth e-newsletter. Go to **bit.ly/2bz13Sn**



The Quietness of Feeling, until August

ONGOING

Until 11 May Ancient Sudan: Enduring Heritage

Museum and Art Gallery, Tue–Sun, 10am–4.30pm. Treasures from ancient Africa. See p3.

Until August The Quietness of Feeling

Museum and Art Gallery. Hours as above. Work by Benjamin Haughton and The Arborealists.

First Monday Portsmouth Pensioners' Assoc

Monthly meetings. Guildhall, 1.30pm.

Second Monday Blokes Sing

Trinity Methodist Church, 7.30pm–8.45pm, £7. Singing workshop.

Second Tuesday Community Hub

Lily & Lime Café, Central Library, 10am–12.30pm. Learn, connect, enjoy treats.

Tuesdays

Tea and Tech Support

Bradbury Centre Cafe, 1pm–3pm, £5 per hour. Digital sessions for all abilities and devices. Book on 023 9286 2121.

First Wednesday Veterans Drop-in

Veterans Outreach Support. 2pm–5pm, Royal Maritime Hotel, Queen Street.

Second Wednesday Sisters in Song

Milton Village Hall, 7.15pm–8.45pm, £6. Singing workshop.

Third Wednesday Messy Church

Empower Centre, Kingston Road, 4pm–5.30pm. Craft, food and creative worship for families.

Fourth Wednesday Village Uke

Milton Village Hall Cafe, 7.30pm–8.45pm, £5. Ukulele group for adults. Beginners welcome.

First and third Thursday Folk Band for Adults

Milton Village Hall, 1.30pm–3pm, £5. Bring your instrument. Beginners welcome.

Fourth Thursday Feral Sing

Near Southsea Rose Garden, 11am–12pm, £5. Outdoor singing for adults.



Mo Gilligan, 29 March

Second and last Friday Veterans' Breakfast Club

Bradbury Centre Cafe, 10am–11.30am, £5–£6. Includes tea or coffee top-ups.

Sat and Sun from 24 May Live at the Bandstand

1pm–4pm. Locations vary, see www.visitportsmouth.co.uk

Sundays, 21 April–1 June Portsmouth and Southsea Car Boot

See www.visitportsmouth.co.uk

First Sunday Folk Dance for Fun and Fitness

Havelock Community Centre, 2pm–4pm. £7, inc hot drink and cake.

Second and last Sunday Car Meet

Port Solent, 10am–12pm.

Sundays & Bank Hol Mondays Train Rides

Bransbury Park, 30 March to 19 October, 2pm–5pm. Weather permitting. £1.

MARCH

- 23 Scott Doonican**
Square Tower, 7.15pm, £18.50.
www.squarerootspromotions.co.uk
- 23 Kate Mosse**
New Theatre Royal, 7.30pm, £29.50.
- 25 The Darkness**
Guildhall, 7pm, £46.
- 26–28 DNA The Play**
Groundlings Theatre, 7.30pm, £10.
- 27 Carers & Cake**
SEND Butterflies – Community Kettle, Cosham High Street, 10.30am–12.30pm.
- 27 Moving Forward**
SEND opportunities fair. Fratton Park, 9.30am to 3pm. See p14.
- 27 Joel Dommett**
New Theatre Royal, 7.30pm, £29.
- 27 UK Pink Floyd Experience**
Kings Theatre, 7.30pm, from £25.
- 29 Mo Gilligan**
Guildhall, 7pm, £32.10–£34.40.
- 29 Passion Music by Will Todd**
St Mary's Church, 7.30pm, adults £18.50, children/students £2.50. Portsmouth Choral Union and Jazz Septet. pcuchoir.org
- 29 Jon Culshaw**
Kings Theatre, 7.30pm, from £31.



Danny & The Champions of the World, 30 March

29-30 Farm Boy

New Theatre Royal, times vary.
From £12.

30 Open Day

Eastney Engine Houses, 10am-3pm.

30 Danny & The Champions of the World

Wedgewood Rooms, 7.30pm, £18.

APRIL

1-5 Six The Musical

Kings Theatre, times vary, from £24.

3 Parent Carer Support Group

SEND Butterflies – Landport Community Centre, 5.45pm-8.30pm.

3 Religion and the Spanish Armada

Fratton Community Centre, 7pm. Non-members £3.
spanishportsmouth.org.uk

4 Parent Carer Support Group

SEND Butterflies South Coast – Carers Centre, Orchard Road, 10am-12pm.

4 Coffee and Company

Bradbury Centre Cafe, 1.30pm-3pm, £2.50. Inc tea or coffee and cake.

4-5 Takedown Festival

Guildhall, Friday 5.30pm, Saturday 1pm, £20-£40.

4, 18 and 25

Portsmouth's Drag Race

Hampshire Boulevard, 8pm, £5.

5 Beach Clean

Meet by Eastney Coffee Cup, 10am. Southsea Beachwatch.

5 Menopause the Musical 2

New Theatre Royal, 4pm and 7.30pm, £34.

5-6 Spring Kilo Sale

Rowans Hospice Farlington Warehouse, 10am-4pm. £2 entry, £5 per kilo.

5-12 Labours of Love Exhibition

Treadgolds Warehouse, 10am-4pm. Queer connections to love and work.

5-21 Baby Animals Trail

Cumberland House Natural History Museum, 10.30am-3.30pm, £1.

8 Carers & Cake

SEND Butterflies South Coast – Carers Centre, Orchard Road, 12pm-2pm.

8 Family Fun Day

Victory Primary School, Paulsgrove, 11.30am-1.30pm.

8 Quiz Night

Groundlings Theatre, 7pm, £2.
www.groundlings.co.uk

8-9 Easter Bunny Hunt

Groundlings Theatre, times vary, £3-£8. www.groundlings.co.uk

8-9 Pirates Love Underpants

New Theatre Royal, times vary, from £16.

8-11 and 15-18

Family Activities and Trails

D-Day Story, 11am-3pm. Included in admission.

9 Easter Rabbit Puppets

Cumberland House Natural History Museum, 10.30am-12.30pm, £1. Make a rabbit to take home.

9 Family Hub Open Day

Somerstown Family Hub, Omega Street, 2pm-6pm. See p10.

9-12 Vanity Fair

Groundlings Theatre, 7.30pm, £12-£14.

10 Make a Guermonprez Sketch Book

Cumberland House Natural History Museum, 10.30am-12.30pm, £1. Make a book for nature drawings.

10 Port Solent Kids Club

Port Solent, 11am-4pm. See www.portsolent.com

10 Jason Manford

Guildhall, 7pm, £25.70-£48.90.

11 Art in the Park

Cumberland House Natural History Museum garden, 10.30am-12.30pm. Sketch your favourite trees.

11 Nikita Kuzmin

Guildhall, 7pm, £36.75-£59.95.

12 Litter Pick

Baffins Pond Assoc, 10am-12pm.



Vanity Fair, 9-12 April

12 Step Back in Time

Tour of Groundlings Theatre, 2.30pm, £7.50-£10.

12 The Big Country Music Show

New Theatre Royal, 7.30pm, £27.50.

12-20 Annie The Musical

Kings Theatre, times vary, from £10.

13 Waterside Market

Port Solent, 10am-4pm. See www.portsolent.com

14 Solent Meccano Club

Museum and Art Gallery, 11am-3pm.

15-16 Robin Hood

Easter panto, New Theatre Royal, 2.30pm and 5.30pm. From £17.50.

16 Anastacia

Guildhall, 7pm, £43.10-£86.60.

16 Family Hub Open Day

Northern Parade Family Hub, Doyle Avenue, 2pm-6pm. See p10.

17 Watercolour Kingfishers

Cumberland House Natural History Museum, 10.30am-12pm, £5. Painting for kids 7-10.

17 Kids Club

Port Solent, 11am-4pm. See www.portsolent.com

17 DiElle: Atlas Album Launch

Square Tower, 6.30pm, £15.

17 Matt Goss

Guildhall, 7.30pm, £43.35-£89.75.

18 Easter Fun Day

Empower Centre, Kingston Road, 11am-1pm or 2pm-4pm. Games, crafts and food. Booking essential: mail@family.church

19 QTOPIA Market

Staggeringly Good Brewery, 11am-4pm. LGBTQ+ makers market.

19 Easter Egg Hunt

Baffins Pond Assoc, 12pm, £2.50 per child.



Anastacia, 16 April



Phil Beer Trio, 20 April

- 19 The Wizard of Oz**
Easter pantomime. Guildhall, 1pm, £23.40.
- 20 VW Camper Meet**
Port Solent, 10am–12pm.
See www.portsolent.com
- 20 Phil Beer Trio**
Wedgewood Rooms, 7.30pm, £24.
- 24 Carers & Cake**
SEND Butterflies South Coast – Community Kettle, Cosham High Street, 10.30am–12.30pm.
- 24 Track Dogs**
Wedgewood Rooms, 7.30pm, £19.
- 24–25 Showbait**
Groundlings Theatre, 7.30pm, £15.
Local short plays.
- 25 Sexbomb**
Kings Theatre, 7.30pm, from £27.
- 26 Ceme-Trees Art Club**
From Portsmouth Museums.
Highland Road Cemetery, 11am–1pm.
- 26 Trees in British Art History**
Museum and Art Gallery, 2pm–4pm.
Talk by Tim Craven.
- 29 Southsea Skiffle Orchestra**
Guildhall, 12pm.
- 30 Local Offer Live**
Showcase for SEND services.
Cosham Community Centre, 10.30am to 2.30pm. See p14.

MAY

- 1 Parent Carer Support Group**
SEND Butterflies South Coast – Landport Community Centre, 5.45pm–8.30pm.
- 1 Mexican Archaeology**
Fratton Community Centre, 7pm, non-members £3.
spanishportsmouth.org.uk
- 2 Parent Carer Support Group**
SEND Butterflies South Coast – Carers Centre, Orchard Road, 10am–12pm.

- 2 Coffee and Company**
Bradbury Centre Cafe, 1.30pm–3pm, £2.50. Inc tea or coffee and cake.
- 2 The Ultimate Classic Rock Show**
Kings Theatre, 7.30pm, from £31.
- 2–5 UK Pride Community Art Exhibition**
Corner Collective, Albert Road, hours vary.
- 3 Beach Clean**
Southsea Beachwatch. Meet by Eastney Coffee Cup, 10am.
- 3 Car Boot Sale**
Tangier Road Field. Sellers from 11am, buyers from 12pm. Car £8, van £12. Baffins Pond Assoc.
- 3–4 Portsmouth Comic Con**
Guildhall, from 10am, £2–£35.
- 4 Cherry's Ultimate Strip Night**
Hampshire Boulevard, 8pm, £10–£15. UK Pride fundraiser.
- 8 The Essence of Brahms**
BSO. Guildhall, 7pm, £19–£31.
Wagner, Britten, Brahms.
- 8 Mothers of the Brides**
New Theatre Royal, 7.30pm, £34.
- 10 BollyQueer**
New Theatre Royal, 1.30pm–3.30pm.
Bollywood dance for LGBTQ+ people.
- 10 Step Back in Time**
Tour of Groundlings Theatre, 2.30pm, £7.50–£10.
- 10 Robert Jon & The Wreck**
Guildhall, 7pm, £29.90.
- 11 Waterside Market**
Port Solent, 10am–4pm.
- 13 Mayor Making Ceremony**
Guildhall. Details:
civicevents@portsmouthcc.gov.uk



Robert Jon & The Wreck, 10 May

- 13 Quiz Night**
Groundlings Theatre, 7pm, £2.
www.groundlings.co.uk
- 14 Harry Redknapp & Paul Merson**
Kings Theatre, 7.30pm, from £36.50.
- 14–15 Matilda**
Priory School. Groundlings Theatre, times and prices TBC.
- 16 Coffee and Company**
Bradbury Centre Cafe, 1.30pm–3pm, £2.50. Inc tea or coffee and cake.
- 17 Litter Pick**
Baffins Pond Assoc, 10am–12pm.
- 17 Ceme-Trees Art Club**
From Portsmouth Museums.
Kingston Cemetery, 11am–1pm.
- 17 Spring Concert**
Portsmouth Light Orchestra.
Church of the Resurrection, Drayton, 7.30pm. £7 (under-16s free).
- 18 VW Camper Meet**
Port Solent, 10am–12pm.
See www.portsolent.com
- 18 Lost In Music**
Kings Theatre, 7.30pm, from £36.
- 23 Roy Orbison Story**
Kings Theatre, 7.30pm, from £33.
- 23 XL Comedy Club**
New Theatre Royal, 7.30pm, £29.
- 24 Spring Fayre**
Port Solent, 10am–4pm.
See www.portsolent.com
- 27 Wildlife Corridors**
Cumberland House Natural History Museum, 10am–12pm. Helping garden wildlife.
- 28 Marine Wildlife**
Cumberland House Natural History Museum, 10.30am–12pm and 2pm–3.30pm. Hands-on science sessions. Book on 023 9281 5276.
- 28 Holly Johnson**
Guildhall, 7pm, £43.10–£77.90.
- 29 Carers & Cake**
SEND Butterflies South Coast – Community Kettle, Cosham High Street, 10.30am–12.30pm.
- 29 Kids Club**
Port Solent, 11am–4pm.
See www.portsolent.com
- 29 Craig Revel Horwood**
New Theatre Royal, 7.30pm, from £37.
- 29 Phil 'The Power' Taylor**
Kings Theatre, 7.30pm, from £30.

Devolution and reorganisation: your interests come first

The Government has accepted a devolution application for Hampshire and The Solent to be given new powers managed through a new Strategic Authority and an Elected Mayor for the region. This will bring significant investment into the area.

The Government is also planning Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), which will split our region into new Council areas covering a population of at least 500,000; with all existing Councils being replaced.

Portsmouth's population is around 210,000 so it is likely we will be asked to join with neighbouring Councils to reach the required size. Government requires initial outline proposals by 21 March.

Councils have been told if we don't participate and submit proposals, the Government will impose new arrangements on us. Therefore we are in discussions with neighbouring authorities on what a new unitary Council for this area could look like. Our priority will be to get the best possible outcome for people and communities in our city.

The Government is running a consultation on devolution plans, closing on 13 April. Currently no elections have been cancelled in Portsmouth.

We will put all the latest information on our website: **www.portsmouth.gov.uk/devolution**



Priority housing for our veterans

Current and former servicemen and women can get housing and other support if they need it in Portsmouth.

As a proud member of the Armed Forces Covenant, we're committed to supporting our entire armed forces community. Current forces personnel and veterans who are at risk of homelessness or struggling with other issues are encouraged to ask for help by visiting the Civic Offices or calling **023 9283 4989**.

Those who are eligible to join the social housing register may get additional priority as a result of their forces connection.

A range of other support is available for those who need help with their mental or physical health, money worries or substance abuse. We also work with partners such as Veterans Outreach Support. Pop in at their monthly drop-in (see Ongoing, p4), call **023 9273 1767** or email **admin@vosuk.org**

Bransbury Park hub gets go-ahead

Planning permission has now been granted for a new hub in Bransbury Park, bringing together sports, swimming and healthcare.

The plans include a new leisure centre with a swimming pool, learner pool and GP surgery, along with a relocated play area with new equipment. The miniature railway will be kept, and the old changing pavilion will be replaced with a modern facility. There will also be a new astro-turf pitch and multi-use games area.

The project will begin with the construction of the new playground in the south-west of the park this summer, followed by the main building later in the year.

This ecologically-sound project will also include planting 50 new trees. It's all part of our commitment to investment in sport across the city, totalling nearly £20m since 2017.

See www.portsmouth.gov.uk/bransburypark



Impression of the new centre

New life at Bridge Centre

Community groups are making the most of the revitalised Bridge Centre. After buying the centre, we've been refurbishing the shop units.

New tenants include the Parenting Network. Alongside their Baby Bank and community hub, they've expanded to create Dadzclub, which supports fathers.

The Fratton Together Pantry have also opened, offering a community space and grocery store that reduces food bills. Plus, the team from the Electric Dreamz interactive technology exhibition centre have been busy fitting out the space to provide educational opportunities for young people.

New modern office spaces have also been created. These spaces are managed by our enterprise centre team, who provide low-cost facilities and support for start-ups, small companies and community initiatives.



Volunteer Vanessa Busfield at Fratton Together Pantry



Impression of finished section

Coastal schemes: latest update

The Southsea Coastal Scheme will continue to place rocks to form new sea defences in the area between the Blue Reef Aquarium and the Beach Club this summer.

We expect most of the rocks to have been laid by the time this Flagship is published, during the first stage of installation. The second stage, from May until August, will involve placing the final rocks in the gap between the new promenade and the existing rock. Because of the tides, there will be some out-of-hours work.

Work on the final phase of the North Portsea Coastal Scheme has progressed, with more than 25% of rock work complete and earth embankment work starting soon. Read more and sign up to our newsletter at northportseacoastalscheme.org.uk



Impression of new-look lido

Lido prepares for big events

This is a big year for Hilsea Lido. It will celebrate its 90th anniversary and reopen after a major refurbishment.

The main pool is being reinforced and relined, and the shallower lagoon pools have been reopened. Brand new filtration equipment will be installed, and new changing rooms and showers brought in.

Soon we'll be announcing the tenants who will run and develop the site further.

This complex project has been enabled by funding from the UK Government.

Find out more and subscribe to our fortnightly email newsletter at www.portsmouth.gov.uk/hilsealido

Celebrating our high streets

We're working with creative arts company Downtown Pompey to celebrate Portsmouth's high streets as vital places for communities and the local economy.

Downtown Pompey have turned a pop-up space in Cascades into the Hey Babe Café. They're hosting community meetings and workshops, and working with local businesses and residents to create a community film.

Get involved at portsmouthcitycentre.co.uk/downtown-pompey



The Downtown Pompey team outside the Hey Babe Café.
Left to right: Krystle Issitt, Ella Maddison-Johnson, Josh Breach and Courtnee Mitchell



Chat, play and read

If you have children or grandchildren, there are lots of ways to help them develop the language skills they need for life.

Here, Vic Leonard from our early language team shares her top tips:

- › **Chat** – smile, make different expressions and noises. Sing a nursery rhyme, talk about the day ahead or play word games.
- › **Play** – the more fun you have, the more they'll learn. Play peek-a-boo or have fun at bath time. Let them lead the way.
- › **Read** – find time each day to share a book. This can be useful at bedtime to wind down, but it can be at any time. Talk about the pictures and words, and stop when your child gets bored.

Plus: make the most of our libraries, community centres and family hubs.

For more information go to:

www.hiowhealthcare.nhs.uk/familyassist and search **chat play read**. Click on the **Little Moments Together** link.



Try a family hub at an open day event

Just had a baby, or expecting one soon? Then our family hubs can offer a lot of support.

Find out more, meet our friendly team and join a workshop at one of our free open days. Children are welcome, with activities included.

The events, run by Home-Start Portsmouth, are on:

- › Wednesday 9 April, 2pm–6pm at Somerstown Family Hub, Omega Street
- › Wednesday 16 April, 2pm–6pm at Northern Parade Family Hub, Doyle Avenue

See www.hsportsmouth.org.uk for details.



Your family's wellbeing

If you're a parent or carer, you want to look after your family's wellbeing through the changes and challenges of life.

You can take small steps to take care of your mental health, so you can support your family.

Try going back to basics:

- › Notice – be aware of how you're feeling. Talk about it or write things down.
- › Give – spend time with family and friends or help others in your community.
- › Be active – go for a daily walk or find out what groups are nearby.
- › Keep learning – try something new.
- › Connect – limit screen time, eat with your family, or invite a friend over.

For advice for the whole family, see [mentalhealthinportsmouth.co.uk/self-help](https://www.mentalhealthinportsmouth.co.uk/self-help)

Anyone 16 or over who needs mental health support can contact the Portsmouth Mental Health Hub on **0300 123 6621**, Monday to Friday, 8am–6pm. Or chat online at [mentalhealthinportsmouth.co.uk](https://www.mentalhealthinportsmouth.co.uk), Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm.



Aimee Houghton, of Portsmouth Southcoast Primary Care Network, helps a resident at Southsea Library

NHS App support sessions

Our libraries are hosting drop-in sessions, along with GP practices, to help people start using the NHS App.

With the app you can access services on your smartphone or tablet, such as appointments and your health record. Portsea resident Mary says: "I use the app to order my prescription, I find it quicker than phoning up. I've been really impressed."

Volunteers will be at the events to help.

For more event details call **023 9268 8057** or follow the Portsmouth City Council Facebook page.



Hop along to HAF



Make the Easter holidays eggs-tra special for your 5–16-year-olds with our exciting HAF events for kids. From sports and performing arts to crafts and games, there's something for everyone. And a tasty meal is included each day.

Children receiving benefits-related free school meals can join for free, and pay-as-you-go options are also available.

Don't miss out on HAF (that's Holiday Activities and Food) — book now at www.pycportsmouth.co.uk

Make a difference: work with us

Work with the Council, and help us make your community a safer, healthier and happier place.

We have more than 1,000 different paid roles, from accountants and lawyers to social workers, teachers and nursery workers. There are so many jobs that might suit you, and they come with great benefits and flexible working.

To search hundreds of interesting and rewarding employee roles available right now, go to our new careers portal at **careers.portsmouth.gov.uk**

Be a real local hero

Many of our jobs involve getting out and about in the community.

For instance, you could join one of our school support teams. If you'd enjoy talking to people and helping children stay safe when crossing roads, you could apply to be a school crossing patroller (lollipop person). You'd be working part-time, term-time only.

We're also looking for caring, responsible people to accompany pupils with special educational needs, as relief passenger assistants.

To apply for a school support role, go to **careers.portsmouth.gov.uk** and search under **Portsmouth City Council jobs**.



School crossing patroller June Lee on duty at Heidelberg Road, Southsea



Sharing and caring

Could you be a Shared Lives carer?

Shared Lives carers share their homes with adults who may need a bit of extra support to stay independent. Carers can offer long-term arrangements, short breaks or day support, and they receive £250–£400 a week.

If you have a spare room and some spare time, and could welcome a vulnerable adult to live as part of your household, then you could become a Shared Lives carer.

It doesn't matter whether you're single, an older couple or have children.

Search **shared lives** at **www.portsmouth.gov.uk**

FosterPortsmouth

"It can be so rewarding. Make that call... it'll change your life!"

Foster carers
Alex and Tom.

Inspire the next generation

We're urgently looking for people with experience in childcare, or in caring for people living with trauma or additional needs.

We need more foster carers in and around Portsmouth with the enthusiasm, patience, availability and commitment to provide older children with the care and opportunities they deserve. This includes children aged between seven and 12, and some with additional needs.

The children in our care are diverse, including in their ages. But they're never too old for you to make a difference to their lives.

The benefits of fostering far outweigh the challenges. With the help of local training, 24/7 support, and additional fees on top of allowances, you can help vulnerable older children from our city reach their potential.

Find out more:

☎ 0300 1312797

🌐 foster.portsmouth.gov.uk/7to12s

✉ info@lafosteringse.org.uk

📘 fosterportsmouth



Be a community champion



Our volunteer community champions share information about health and wellbeing with people in their communities, such as neighbours, friends, family or colleagues.

Information can include tips for keeping healthy, ideas for social activities and details of services that can help people to live happier and healthier lives.

Community champions know their communities best and decide what information they share and how to share it.

Could you be a champion? Email champions@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or search **community champion volunteer** at www.portsmouth.gov.uk



Top photo: Community champions with programme manager Jo Atkinson. Front row: Jo and Daiane. Middle row: Dawn, Amara and Marina. Back row: Victoria and Shajna

Bottom photo: Community champions with programme manager Jo Atkinson. Left to right: Maryam, Dawn, Yakub, Jo and Angela

Unlock your potential

If you're struggling to get a job or keep one, the new Connect to Work programme could help.

It's for people with health conditions, disabilities or other difficulties that might be holding them back.

We're working with the government's Department for Work and Pensions on this new scheme.

Find out more: email us at skills.matching@portsmouthcc.gov.uk or call us on **023 9281 5005**.



Is your relationship healthy?

The signs of domestic abuse may not be as clear as you'd think.

Abuse can be about controlling and playing with someone's mind and emotions, as much as hurting their body. Men and women can be victims.

Here are some tell-tale clues that domestic abuse is happening:

- › bullying, threatening or controlling behaviour
- › control of your money
- › cutting you off from family and friends
- › physical abuse
- › sexual abuse

Try asking yourself: Is this love? Or is it domestic abuse?

Search **Is This Love? - Safer Portsmouth** online and take our quiz for more guidance.

If you think your relationship might be unhealthy, reach out for help.

Finding support

The Safer Together Hub can support people experiencing violence, and their friends and family. It can also help people who think they're at risk of abusing their partner or becoming violent.

Find the hub at safertogetherhants.co.uk



SEND events for families and teams

If you have a child with SEND (special educational needs and/or disabilities) or you're a professional in the field, we have two free events not to be missed.

The first is our Moving Forward opportunities fair for young people aged 14 and over. It's at the Victory Suite at Fratton Park on Thursday 27 March from 9.30am to 3pm.

It's a drop-in event (no ticket needed) featuring the latest education and employment options after school. Community and health-related services will be represented too.

The second event is Local Offer Live – a showcase for services that can help if you have a child aged up to 25 with SEND, or if you work with children with SEND. It's at Cosham Community Centre on Wednesday 30 April from 10.30am to 2.30pm.

You can see presentations on trending topics in SEND and meet exhibitors. Go to portsmouthlocaloffer.org/live to get your ticket for this event.

Working for a green and healthy city

Extreme weather events in the UK and abroad are reminders of the worldwide climate emergency.

Here in Portsmouth we all have a role in making the city more resilient to climate change, and that includes the Council.

Through our huge sea defence programme we're increasing flood protection. We're working with others by investing in the public transport network – which now has 62 electric buses – and installing more than 300 on-street electric vehicle chargepoints.

We recently planted more than 2,000 trees with volunteers, creating greener spaces that help with cooling and drainage.

At Portsmouth International Port, work continues on our new shore power system, which will enable ships to reduce their emissions to zero while in the harbour.

This year we'll be asking you to help us set our green ambitions. See www.portsmouth.gov.uk/climateaction to find out more about our Planet Portsmouth project.



Electric bus



Cut your energy bills

Measures like solar panels, heat pumps and insulation can help reduce your bills and make your home cosier. With the Warm Homes: Local Grant, you might be eligible to get them for free.

Register at www.warmerhomes.org.uk/apply or call **0800 038 5737**.

Nancy, above, had loft insulation and solar panels installed for free. "It's cut my bills by half," she says.

For more information and other schemes, ask Switched On Portsmouth. Call **0800 260 5907** or go to www.switchedonportsmouth.co.uk

Why recycle food waste?

Because it's better for you and for your city...

- › Putting food waste in your caddy means more space in your rubbish bin.
- › It reduces bad smells as the caddies are easy to clean, especially with compostable bags or newspaper lining.
- › It helps keep pests away as caddies can be locked securely.
- › It's a handy way to boost Portsmouth's recycling rate.
- › Food waste is recycled into fuel and fertilisers for crops.





Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

Leaf it out

Have you joined Leaf it Out,
Portsmouth City Council's
garden waste collection scheme?

Put the Spring back in your garden this year with
no more messy trips to the tip and let us take care
of your grass cuttings, leaves, branches and more.

To sign up or renew your current subscription call
023 9284 1105 and select **option 4** or visit
www.portsmouth.gov.uk/leafitout
for more information and online sign-up.