

Portsmouth Society News

The Newsletter of the Portsmouth Society - Winter 2009

Save Our Trees!



A giant Plane tree in Clarendon gardens. Nearby trees have been felled recently.

People living in Allens Road are very angry that mature trees in their street are being cut down or brutally lopped - without any meaningful consultation of the residents beforehand. Whilst the letter residents had all received from Colas did not go into any details as to how they could justify removing them, one of them's understanding was that the contractor was finding it 'difficult' to address repairing the pavements due to their roots. This road has paved pavements but with those reddish, smaller blocks laid over the roots areas which do indeed rise above the surrounding paving between trees. However, no problems with the pavement surface are actually apparent.

A mature tree in Clarendon Gardens on the corner of Villiers Road was also felled without any warning, and a large section of bark was torn off the adjoining one. The tree officer said it was diseased, but I could see no sign of decay in the stump. A real giant, a plane tree which must be at least a hundred years old, stands nearby at the corner of Malvern Road and Villiers Road. It is the oldest living thing in the whole area. Suppose the council - or rather its contractor - takes it into his head to take that one down too? New trees have now appeared all over the park, which used to be used for casual ball games, instead of round the edges. Private owners of trees with Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) on them have to apply to the Planning Department for permission to fell or lop their trees, but the council can take down its own trees without recourse to anyone.

According to John Pike, city Conservation Officer, "Generally trees on highways or council owned land are not covered by TPOs. The Council has a tree officer, Stuart Campbell, who looks after council trees and decides if work is necessary to trees, including felling. If, however, a council tree is within a conservation area, then prior notice to the Planning Service must be given if felling, lopping or topping is proposed. Dead, dying or dangerous trees may be felled within prior notice. Where Colas are responsible for trees on the highway they are able to fell them unless they are within a conservation area, in which case prior notification must be given to the Planning Service. It is my understanding that where Colas propose to fell trees they do notify adjacent residents, for example Allens Road. We have spoken to Colas on this subject and suggested a more detailed letter should be sent explaining why trees are being felled. In the Allens Road situation the reason is that some are diseased and others are causing safety problems on the footway. All felled trees would be replaced with suitable species. Colas have a qualified tree advisor."

As Executive Committee member Robin Kay says, this does not appear to address the fact that residents were given such very short notice. It does not address the conflict of interests in the only "qualified tree advisor". Is this person a qualified Arborist in the employ of the contractor? It does not address the quite understandable need for residents to be not only consulted in adequate time but also actively involved, if they so wish, in the contractor's plans for any work in their road. The contractor is working for the council which, in turn, is working for the residents - surely? Residents in Allens Road have their own very constructive suggestions to make which would address any problems regarding disease of any trees and any examples of trees apparently causing



Easily maintained & permeable sand and gravel surround a tree in Camden, London.

safety problems on the footway. These should certainly be heard and considered before any felling ever takes place. Letting people know still doesn't reassure us when we don't believe that a tree really is diseased or too big - which requires dialogue.

This requirement needs to be a supplementary to Colas's contract. The council/Colas should put up notices asking for comment by a certain date - as they do for planning applications. The stark contrast between what we as citizens have to do and the council/Colas's unannounced actions needs addressing. Private owners have to apply to fell or lop their trees, and the council should have a similar procedure and a chance for people to debate whether the work is really necessary.

Celia Clark and Robin Kay

The editor adds: In London (Camden) the other day I noted that, rather than block pave around the edges of the tree trunk, the local authority have laid a sand and gravel mix which is tamped to form a solid surface. As and when the roots disturb the gravel, they merely re-tamp the area, indeed the feet of passing pedestrians makes for a constant tamping. It's a cheap solution too.

Portsmouth Harbour, the Isle of Wight and Spithead as a World Heritage site

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport research papers and proposals on future UK nominations were issued on 3 December. Three options are proposed: to continue to nominate annual from the existing Tentative List - which has included Chatham since 1999, to suspend nominations and focus on making the most of the sites we already have; and to draw up a shorter and more focused Tentative List, streamlining the application process and spacing out nominations so that they are not proposing a site each year. We and the City Council favour Option 3, which would put us on a level playing field with Chatham. English Heritage regional head, Andy Brown, would like us to join our bid with Chatham's as one proposal, which would help with the problem that Western Europe is heavily over-represented on the list compared with the Third World. For this reason, Hadrian's Wall which has been a World Heritage site since 1987 has been extended to include the Upper German-Raetian Lines to form Frontiers of the Roman Empire. The team responsible for the Chatham bid are considering whether to make a joint bid with us. Ours is much more ambitious - five local authorities and two areas of water, while theirs is the historic dockyard, Fort Amherst Lines and the Royal Engineers Brompton Barracks. We are also being encouraged to seek international partners: the Jurassic Coast supports the government of St. Lucia in the management of the Pitons sea area WHS. We are contacting Bermuda, Antigua, Simonstown and Mauritius.

We met Kathy Wadsworth, Portsmouth City Council Strategic Director and Councillors Terry Hall and Cheryl Buggy on 12 January to discuss responses to the DCMS proposals and our bid, launched a year ago on 28 January in Boathouse 6. The councillors are keen, but Kathy feels there are still doubters, so we offered to arrange a workshop which examines the pros and cons in detail, to be run by consultant Sue Millar. She has researched the implications for World Heritage inscription for Greenwich and Medway, Chatham's local authority. Kathy Wadsworth offered to discuss the bid - and maybe funding the workshop - with PUSH (the south Hampshire local authorities, and SEEDA (South East Development Agency). We hope that the workshop takes place soon, because the DCMS have set us quite a short timetable. We have to respond to their paper by 25 February; the national policy is to be announced in May, with an invitation to make Stage 1 applications (in outline); workshops for stakeholders will be held to raise awareness of the requirements and responsibilities of World Heritage status are to take place in June; the deadline for receipt of Stage 1 applications is July with decisions by December and April 2010 for receipt of Stage 2 applications. So there is a lot of work to do, but we fervently hope that the City Council will commit itself to the bid soon and work together with the other councils on what they hope to get out of the process, which should lead to greater co-ordination anyway, regardless of the outcome. In the meantime, we have been working on the Nomination Document, the detailed justification for the bid, but there is still a huge task to convert it into the required UNESCO format - which requires information on the condition of each property. We have also sounded out major property owners and potential supporters and sponsors. The next in the series of public talks about the bid is at the George Street Centre, Ryde on 20 February.

On the educational front 10 and 11 year old girls at Portsmouth High School have done a great deal of work on the proposal; they have designed a logo for us, and will be visiting the key sites this term. Portsmouth Grammar School's 13/14 year olds studying history are to spend two weeks on the project in the summer, preparing short statements, visiting sites and presenting their findings. A university student is also researching the justifications and benefits of World Heritage status. Portsmouth and Southampton are considering a joint bid for City of Culture. Portsmouth City Council has a draft Tall Buildings Policy, which is a requirement for World Heritage site applicants. Liverpool, also a World Heritage site, is said to have gained £800m in tourism from its just ended year of culture ...but equally, non-monetary benefits are likely, including increased pride in this great city of ours!

Response to the Public Art Strategy

The Portsmouth Society welcomes the draft Public Art Strategy. From 1983 the Society has judged annual Design Awards, including Best Landscaping. Our chair is currently a judge on the national panel for the Civic Trust Awards which include schemes in the public realm from all over the UK and Eire.

Public art is not defined in the strategy, but we take it to mean not just isolated free standing structures but paving, lighting, street furniture (or its absence), planting, seating, sound, performance - in the public realm... Reference should be made to recommendations in the Creative Thinker report.

We support the commitment to securing 'funding for public art through a flexible and robust S.106 process for major development schemes' and would add that the process of reaching these agreements should be transparent and subject to public comment before they are made. The commissioning of public art should be an integral part of the design process from the beginning - in the planning application, not a later add on or afterthought. To ensure this, the city should adopt a Percentage for Art policy, seeking not only a financial commitment but also a commitment to raise the quality of design. This would give the City Council a supervisory role to filter out poor designs as part of the planning process.

Advice should be sought from other cities who operate a Percentage for Art policy, such as Southampton which had/has a Public Art officer. The absence of an Urban Design officer in Portsmouth needs to be remedied as soon as possible, because the public realm in Portsmouth clearly needs to be improved. The city's Design Champion, Councillor Cheryl Buggy, must be closely involved. Has she been consulted on this draft? Her role in relation to the Planning Department and Development Control Committee needs to be clarified and set out.

A Public Art Strategy Panel is clearly needed. At present we believe decisions are taken by one or two city officers, a consultant and developers. This is clearly not enough to ensure quality. The absence of a public supervisory role in is demonstrated in the poor quality of the 'statues' at Gunwharf and Broad Street. Public involvement does not necessarily result in 'good' art - as shown in the landscaping for the former Paulsgrove Community Centre - for example a 'dry moat', the ugly 'tree' etc., and the 'pedestrian' Palmerston Road precinct (a quote from one of our judges). The different public consultations on this site, some of which produced much better quality proposals, did not seem to be coordinated, or related to the final outcome. Educational processes which help local people to develop confidence in design should be integral at school and adult level. While the John Pounds centre has distinctive and enjoyable public art both inside and out, the ugly and deteriorating seating at Point still lacks a central point. The interesting Arundel Street landscaping is let down by poor quality surface materials. The costs of maintenance must be part of the original budget - to maintain, for example the Omega shaped garden at the Omega Centre. We are particularly concerned at the paucity of the landscaping agreed for the Northern Quarter, especially in contrast to the excellence of the public realm in Princes Hey in Exeter - by the same developer and main architects. Why should Portsmouth be given third best? When a further application for the Northern Quarter is submitted, perhaps for a reduced scheme, the opportunity should be taken to require a much enhanced landscaping design. The Seafront Strategy clearly needs a commitment to improving the design of buildings and landscaping along the seafront.

The membership of the Public Art Strategy Panel should include members of the Hampshire Sculpture Trust (two committee members live in Portsmouth), The South Coast Design Forum, Solent Centre for Architecture and Design, Arts Council South East, the relevant University departments, artists from Art Space, the Aspex Gallery, and perhaps the Society - to represent lay people.

We note the reference to national and international artists - but although we have several artists with such reputations living in Portsmouth, such as John Thompson and the Caravan Gallery and others, they have little or no work in the city. Adrian Fisher, the internationally famous maze maker left the city after several attempts to install his designs. Design competitions for specific sites or linear artworks, open to all artists living in the city including arts students, might stimulate more activity.

The City Council's own departments need to be subject to the decisions of the Public Art Strategy Panel, including city engineers and the health and safety police. A sad example of the malign effect they can have is the Whale's Tail in Gunwharf, where the edgy traditional tattoos which would have been so appropriate to Portsmouth were replaced by 'tasteful' etchings, and the ripple paving was not installed... The long saga of John Thompson's Thomas Ellis Owen sculpture - still not installed - should be instructive in informing the process of commissioning, siting and installation. It is an example of 'How Not to do it'! So often, proposals from the community meet with indifference, even hostility from city officers - yet the Community Strategy claims that the council works 'in partnership' with local people. Paper policies need to be implemented in the real world - or they just remain as paper....This may involve changes in

attitude as well as in working methods for our local public servants.... In an era of financial stringency, the value of local initiative and energy should be welcomed and encouraged by city officers rather than the opposite, which is too often the case. There have been several inspiring events for artists and creative people run by the city, which raised real hopes that there would be a sea change in public involvement and creativity, but they were isolated and did not result in policy change. Portsmouth really is a creative city, but the poor quality of what is built lets it down. We hope we are not just "whistling in the wind...." this time too!

We look forward to adoption of the policy - including the creation of the Public Art Strategy Panel.

Celia Clark

The Pyramids, Southsea



Following the collapse of the scheme to convert the Pyramids on Southsea seafront into an ice-rink (which recent surveys show was not popular), the council are now resuming negotiations with another of the shortlisted bids that offers to retain the swimming facilities.

Southsea Leisure have submitted a proposal to Portsmouth City Council with a view to re-energising and investing in the Pyramids Site. They intend to keep the site primarily as it is today but investing, improving and adding in key areas including: The long term security of the swimming facilities for the general public with the only disabled swimming in the Southsea area; a new Gym and Health Club and Spa facility for the benefit of the community; utilisation of the complex to establish itself as a cultural and community based centre for events; facilities for community organisations and charities to use, available space for meetings; improved utilisation of function rooms and suites to increase entertainment offerings to the general public, including, live music, cabarets, banquets, exhibitions, product launches and conferences; generating greater awareness for Southsea & Portsmouth, improving the facilities that it has to offer local and visiting members of the public and generating off-shoot income for other businesses including Hotels and leisure based services.

The long term strategy is to offer a complete family entertainment area, with facilities to include swimming, concerts, restaurants, coffee shops and cafe's. Ultimately the site has to be commercially viable and with the addition of some new leisure offerings this will keep the site available for the community in the long term. Visit their Web site at www.southsealeisure.net.

The Portsmouth Society welcomes these proposals but, as ever, the devil will be in the detail – the City Council needs to consider it in depth and to complete due diligence

Bob Adderley / John Holland

Go permeable - it's planning free

Reproduced from Garden magazine, November 2008

The choice of permeable hard-landscaping products available for home owners has improved significantly, following changes to planning laws designed to encourage their use in England and Wales.

A new Government rule now requires anyone wanting to cover more than 5sq m of front garden with a non-permeable surface to obtain planning permission - a potentially costly and lengthy process. If a permeable product is chosen then permission is not necessary. Research by the RHS reveals that almost a quarter of front gardens in northeast England have been paved over. This has a negative effect on wildlife due to the loss of living plants, and can cause problems with flooding and pollution from uncontrolled runoff of rainwater. Gravel, permeable blocks, grass reinforcements or porous asphalt are good compromises, providing hard standing while allowing water to percolate through.

The Royal Horticultural Society has contributed to Government advice: download free from www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/pavingfrontgardens. Suppliers are listed in the RHS Gardening Matters booklet. Front Gardens: www.rhs.org.uk.

Seafront Shelter

The concrete shelter on Eastney Esplanade is looking sadder by the day. Barricaded last summer and festooned with more recently installed scaffolding, the structure has had much of its concrete chipped away.

Readers will remember that a planning application to demolish the shelter was refused by the Development Control Committee last year. The Society objected but we said that if it had to go then a replacement shelter should be provided.



The 1950s concrete shelter on Eastney Esplanade.



*Piece of Edwardian (?) shelter lying in store.
Do you recognise it?*

At a recent meeting with Terry Hall, Executive Member for Culture and Leisure and David Evans from the City Museum, we discussed the three options which are available

- Retain and refurbish the existing structure. Not a favoured option by City Council officers who believe it to be beyond economic repair.
- Replace with an Edwardian or Victorian shelter that is lying in a city council store. We viewed the shelter which is in many pieces (they are not sure if it is complete) but looks quite solid. The prospect of taking it from the store and reconstructing it caused a deal of sucking of teeth by some people (“the cost!” – “...there are greater priorities on the seafont ...”).
- Replace with a brand new shelter, possibly designed by architecture students.

Should demolition be suggested once more, we must be certain that any proposal is supported by a plan to replace it with ring-fenced funding – it could be all too easily demolished with a vague intent to replace “at some future time”.

John Holland

Days out with the Portsmouth Society

It is proposed to run two outings this year by preserved double-decker ‘bus. The first will be on Thursday 9th April 2009 and will take us to Bursledon Brickworks for a comprehensive tour at a cost of £12 per person.

Tour 2 is proposed for Thursday 18 June where the preserved double-decker will take us to Emsworth for a Chichester Harbour Cruise on the solar powered boat. The cost for this excursion will be £15 per person.

Both tours leave Portsmouth Guildhall at 1pm and will return there at approximately 5pm. For more information, please see the pink booking form which you’ll find at the back of this newsletter. A further excursion, the (near) annual Architectural Tour, is planned for August. More details in the next newsletter.

Planning update

The society’s planning sub-committee continues to meet every three weeks to scrutinise the huge lists of planning applications received by the city council.

Dormer extensions are an increasingly popular and a useful way of gaining space without moving home, however, they can be very bulky and intrusive on the street scene. We comment if the proposed dormer is large, if the windows do not align with existing windows, if the window frames don’t match the existing ones, if the materials don’t match those used on the rest of the building and if it is the first such extension in the vicinity.

Roller shutters are another bugbear – we understand the need for shopfront security but, when closed, they can make the streetscape very barren indeed. The city’s policies prohibit solid steel shutters but allow perforated ones which should let light through. In practice, the perforated variety still gives the appearance akin to a war zone and we’d like them banned where they face onto the street. Instead, we would like to see the adoption of “tube and link” design which afford protection and allow the shop front to be seen.

We have been waiting for the revised Northern Quarter application which was expected in December last year but we now understand that the wait could be a little longer! This provides a very welcome opportunity for a better designed - and more sustainable - scheme, with the promised housing and cultural facilities.

Meanwhile, at North Harbour there is an outline scheme for offices, an hotel, a car showroom and acres of car parking next to the former IBM building at 1000 Lakeside. We have commented that the car parking should be better concealed and we're not happy with the proposed road layout. We'd like to see some through pedestrian and cycle routes – especially the path to the south of the lake.

We have lost count of the number of applications for 12 St Helens Parade, opposite Canoe Lake, Slowly but surely the plans are beginning to look more in-keeping but we do question the need to demolish the existing building. If only refurbishments were exempt from VAT (as is the case for new build) then the financial case for refurbishment would be stronger.

We were pleased to see the proposed refurbishment of the Queens Hotel (the uPVC window frames would be replaced by wood), however the proposed block of flats next to it did not impress. The Osborne Road façade was acceptable but the southern aspect overlooking Southsea Common was not at all in keeping with the hotel. The application has been deferred pending negotiations with the City Council over its ability to withstand flooding.

There have been some strange conversions proposed for existing properties – most of them rather ugly and over-bearing. The latest is at 117 Elm Grove where an odd-looking extension is proposed to accommodate a total of 7 flats. The building will look nothing like any other in the area!

The Development Control Committee had little sympathy with our request to retain the tower at the former Odeon Cinema in North End. We believe that it is unique – possibly the only surviving example of its type in the country. (In London, the cinema frontage of the former Picture House in Streatham High Road was retained and the rest of the site redeveloped with an adjoining very large block of flats - all of which have been sold). We also asked that any new shops should have rear servicing so that delivery vehicles would not have to park on the bus lane but that request was also ignored. The application was, however, refused but on the grounds of car parking and not design.

We have also commented on the proposed conversion of the Zurich Building to an hotel with further development on the car park next door. The transport assessment suggested that the effects of the additional traffic generated should be managed by travel plans and it didn't acknowledge city's intention to close Commercial Road (south) to traffic with all vehicles being diverted on Stanhope Road, right in front of the Zurich building. There should, at least, be money from the developers to provide bus and cycle lanes.

John Holland

Correction: The quote "Nash of Bath Crescent fame" should have read "Nash of Regent's Street fame" in the report on the Alverstoke walk which we published in the autumn newsletter.

Dr Colin White

Dr Colin White, Director of the Royal Naval Museum, died on 25 December 2008 only two years after he had taken on the post on the retirement of his distinguished predecessor, Campbell MacMurray. He held a number of posts in the Museum from 1975 and had become well known to us in the Society; but most memorable for us was one summer evening when he took us on Nelson's last walk. Colin had worked out for himself the route - rather different from what had hitherto been assumed - Nelson must have taken from the George Inn where he ate his last meal ashore to the beach where he embarked to join Victory at anchor in Spithead. Nelson had gone out of the back of the inn (east side) to avoid the crowds waiting at the front. As Colin walked us along this route and explained it to us, he entertained us as was usual for him with a series of amusing anecdotes.

In 2001 he was seconded to Greenwich as "Director, Trafalgar 200" and in that post he put immense energy into planning the Trafalgar bicentenary which drew such crowds as well as the Queen to Portsmouth in 2005. According to Pieter van der Merwe who wrote a sparkling obituary for him in the Independent "over the next four years White literally became Nelson's national representative and travelled thousands of miles, fulfilling hundreds of speaking engagements, more than 100 in 2005 alone, delighting very varied audiences with his gift for concise, dramatic story-telling". Out of it he got appointment as Honorary Captain RNR with its elegant four-ringed uniform which pleased him very much. Colin had a flair for display as well as for public speaking and it was sad for us and his colleagues that he did not last longer in the Director's job.

Nelson's room at The George was preserved until it was destroyed in an air raid in 1941. On the site is now a small block of flats called The George Close.

R.J.



Your local independent cinema needs you!



The Society is always delighted when a historic building is restored and brought back into use. Never more so than the example of No.6 Boat House in the Dockyard. Multi-use is even more welcome and this has been the case in this instance, where the excellent large screen and auditorium has doubled for 'Action Stations' and MOD use by day and No6 Cinema in the evenings. Built as a Mast House in 1843 in yellow brick, Pevsner was very taken by its "remarkable cast-iron construction, with substantial round columns supporting floor beams of very wide space, reinforced by underslung trusses".

The purpose of this short note is to exhort society members and their friends to give Stephen Metcalfe all the support and publicity they can. Without larger audiences Portsmouth's only independent cinema will be at risk. Stephen also has the Central Library auditorium at his disposal, but for comfort and film projection quality there is no comparison.

Currently No6 Cinema is showing films every Saturday evening. On other evenings the presentations are at No.3 Cinema in the 3rd Floor Arts Centre in the Central Library. Full programme details are on their website at www.no6cinema.co.uk or call 078 156 507 53. Forthcoming films are usually known by the Monday preceding each Saturday showing.

The idea of an "all welcome" one-off architectural Archive Film Evening at No6 Cinema in conjunction with the Wessex Film Archive and the Portsmouth Society is being discussed and I would be pleased to know the level of interest in such an event and also to hear of anyone willing to help organise and run it.

David Baynes 02392 831461

Maintaining the Unique Character of Drayton Lane

We have been alerted to yet another potential violation of the embankment of Drayton Lane which runs north from Havant Road on the slopes of Portsdown Hill. The latest is by the owners of a bungalow which has changed hands and is being redeveloped. A resident discovered that the developers were planning to excavate the bank in order to give better access to the property. As that resident discovered, the new owners were not aware that much of the embankment abutting the carriageway in the northern section of Drayton Lane is part of the adopted public highway.

There have been many violations in the past which have endangered the unique rural character of Drayton lane. In 2007, residents received two letters advising them that the bank should not be tampered with without seeking advice from Portsmouth City Council or from Colas Ltd and reminding them that it was the responsibility of the developer to make necessary enquiries to establish the extent of the public highway. It is important that Drayton Lane is not meddled with as it retains its unique rural charm which could so easily be destroyed.

From the Membership Secretary

I should like to take this opportunity to thank members for their payments, donations and support in the past year. All of the officers and members of the committee give their time freely and at their own expense. We are preparing to launch our gift aid scheme which will enable us to reclaim tax from HM Treasury and we will include registration forms in the next newsletter.

The membership year runs from April to March which means that subscriptions fall due on 1st April. Prompt payment is greatly appreciated and helps enormously to keep the Society afloat! There is a membership form at the back of this newsletter which may also be used for renewals. We will also send reminders with the next newsletter.

Jean Thompson

Grass Roots Online – the Civic Societies Newsletter

Grass Roots Online (GRO) is the Civic Trust fortnightly newsletter that is sent to registered users via email. There are approximately 2000 subscribers who receive GRO, all of who are interested in receiving up-to-date news and events from The Civic Trust and its registered Civic Societies

If you would like to receive Grass Roots Online straight to your email inbox, please register your details by visiting the Web site <http://www.civicsocieties.org.uk/news/electronic-grassroots> and fill in the online form.

Meetings and Events

Meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month (not Jan/Aug/Sep) and are normally at the University's St George's Building in St Thomas's St, Old Portsmouth which has free on-site parking and is served by buses 5, 6, 23 & 700. There is no admission charge - all are welcome. For the latest programme see www.portsmouthsociety.org.uk .	
Wednesday 4th February 7.00pm - St George's Building	Portsmouth Society Design Awards 2008 – Illustrated report and discussion with the judges. <i>Coffee will be served from 6.45pm.</i>
Wednesday 4th March 6.00pm, University of Portsmouth Portland Building	God's Architect: Pugin - Rosemary Hill discusses the architect Pugin. Admission is free, but places are limited so please make a reservation by contacting events@port.ac.uk or 023 9284 3757. *NOTE* THIS IS A CHANGE TO THE PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED PROGRAMME
Wednesday 1st April 7.00pm - St George's Building	April Annual General Meeting and members' talkback. <i>Coffee will be served from 6.45pm.</i>
Thursday 9th April Depart Guildhall Square 1pm	Bus trip to Bursledon Brickworks. Please see the booking form enclosed with this newsletter.
Wednesday 6th May 7.00pm - St George's Building	An evening with Cheryl Buggy. Cheryl will be talking about our local community radio station Express FM and her work as Design Champion on Portsmouth City Council. <i>Coffee will be served from 6.45pm.</i>
Wednesday 3rd June 7.00pm - St George's Building	The Restoration of Block Mills. Malcolm Ives and Graeme Wildridge of Defence Estates will speak on the project which won a Georgian Group 2008 Architectural Award. <i>Coffee will be served from 6.45pm.</i>
Thursday 18th June Depart Guildhall Square 1pm	Bus trip to Emsworth with harbour tour on solar powered catamaran. Please see the booking form enclosed with this newsletter.
Wednesday 1st July 7.00pm - St George's Building	Monthly meeting – Speaker to be confirmed <i>Coffee will be served from 6.45pm.</i>

The Portsmouth Society – Membership Application Form

If you would like to join the society then please complete the form below.

Name:

Address:.....

.....

Post Code Phone Number :..... Email Address:

I enclose cash* / cheque*/Postal order made payable to The Portsmouth Society for £..... (*delete as necessary)

* I wish to pay by Standing Order (we will send you a form to complete).

Type of membership (annual: Full (£7) Joint (£10) Senior (£5) Senior couple (£7) Student (£5)

Please tick if you have any special interests: Historic Buildings Planning Transport Trees & Shrubs

How did you hear of the Society?

Data Protection Act : We will record only the details you supply on this form solely for administrative purposes. We will not pass this information to any third party without your prior, written, consent.

Please send completed forms with remittance to: The Membership Secretary, The Portsmouth Society, 6 Livingstone Road Southsea, Hampshire, PO5 1RT. Visit our Web site at www.portsmouthsociety.org.uk for more information.

The Portsmouth Society, Registered Charity no. 266116

Chair: Celia Clark, 8 Florence Road, Southsea, Hants, PO5 2NE, Tel 023 9273 2912

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We welcome new members. Please come to any of our meetings or contact Jean Thompson for more details.