



DUE SOUTH

The Southern Area Magazine

Spring 2010

Fareham Plus BBQ

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Fareham Plus and much of Southern Area enjoyed Fareham's BBQ and games in May.

Held in Hampshire's picturesque Queen Elizabeth Country Park, we were blessed with warm and sunny weather for the event.

After Fareham members arrived early to set up the BBQ, the other guests arrived from 3pm onwards.

After a pause whilst the BBQ got up to temperature and the food was prepared, the guests tucked into their spread, being outside giving an edge to people's appetite.

After the meal, some people played rounders and Frisbee on the field, whilst others were happy to sit and chat in the sun. Once the sun went down drinks were nursed and the conversation went on.

Eventually it was time to leave, some brave Plussers braved the chill to camp over in the field, whilst others departed at around 10pm.

Adrian Partington

Fareham Plus

Southern Area Committee

The Southern Area Committee Meeting was held at Totton Community Centre on the 7th of February 2010. The Southern Area Committee was elected as followings:

Chair - Janet Rintoul (Reading group)

Admin - Bexi Cooke (Reading)

Treasurer / Membership - Leo Glover (Thatcham)

Publicity - Shelly Silsbury (Soton)

Area Diary - Simon Good (Abingdon)

Development - Iain Parkes (Fareham)

Magazine - Adrian Partington (Fareham)

Internet Publicity - Paula Oakley (Soton)

General - Kath Good (Abingdon), Sue Glover (Thatcham) & Becky Horne (Andover)

Fareham Plus Ghost Walk

Several members of Fareham Plus gathered on a chilly October evening for their ghost walk around Old Portsmouth.

After fortifying themselves with a pint (or three!) at the Spice Island Inn, we gathered by the Square Tower, where our guide (in costume & character) for the evening started the walk.

With a large group of 30 odd people, we trooped round the various sites of Old Portsmouth, learning interesting facts about this most historic (and haunted) of places.

Our guide was aided and abetted by various colleagues, also in costume and character, who re-enacted scenes from the area's chequered past.

After approximately 90 minutes, it was time to troop back to the pub for a warming night cap before wending our way home.

Adrian Partington

Fareham Plus



Fareham Plus Xmas Dinner



For the second year running, Fareham Plus held their 2009 Xmas dinner at the Agora Greek/Turkish restaurant in Southsea.

Turnout was good, with approximately 20 people attending. After our starter and hefty main course, there was a pause whilst the restaurant's resident belly dancer performed for the diners (and the people in the flat across the road!), with some opting to have a dance themselves!

This done, it was left to round off the meal with desert followed by coffee, and then to make our way home, fully replete!

Adrian Partington

Fareham Plus

Now Get Out Of That

Most Southern Area groups were represented at 2009's NGOOT, which was held just outside Oxford.

Basically at weekend long quiz and competition, things kicked off on Friday afternoon, when the various contestants started arriving. Once everyone had unpacked and settled in, some opted to go to a local pub for dinner, whilst others chose to dine in the campsite instead.

The following morning after breakfast, the contestants were mustered into teams for their Oxford city centre quiz. After being dropped off in the

centre, the various teams had to locate various items and take pictures of different areas to score points. It did rain at one point, but luckily Fareham's team managed to shelter in a cinema entrance and then a pub for the duration!

The following day was a shortish walk around a nearby lake, luckily the sun came out for this and the teams had a pleasant time wandering in the countryside and answering their quiz questions and navigating their route.

Once this was over, the teams met at a local pub where the results of the various quizzes and competitions were totted up



and the winning team announced. The team results were as follows:

1. Oxford
2. Reading/Dunstable
3. Coventry
4. Fareham
5. Solihull



Southern Area Hedgehop 2010

There was a good turnout for this, with 31 souls arriving from far and wide on damp and chilly night in February. One team even came from Sutton Coldfield, over 100 miles away, and there was a spectator from King's Lynn!

Meeting at a new venue this year, the Coronation Arms pub in St. Marybourne in Hampshire, the 6 teams got warm in the pub prior to starting the 4 mile course. The teams were then driven to the drop off point and given a route sheet with clues and questions that needed to be answered en route back to the pub in order to win points.

The Fareham 1 team got off to a brisk start, jogging along the road to try and get some distance under our belts before the spotters could turn their attention to looking out for us. Eventually, after a couple of false alarms, we covered much of the route walking through the fields adjacent to the road, even if we did get covered in mud! Unfortunately we did get spotted 3 times, once when Leo deployed the old 'sitting in his car with the engine and lights turned off' gambit. Looks like we need to take a thermal imaging camera with us next time!

Luckily, being one of the first teams to pass through the area, we avoided the contretemps some of the later teams had with a farmer outside his house! After few more incidents of lying motionless in fields, diving head first through holes in hedges, and hiding in hedges and amid the branches of a large pine tree, we made it back to the venue, tired and covered in mud, just under 2 hours later.

The pub then did us proud with a slap up buffet consisting of soup, chili con carne, bread & butter, sandwiches, chicken wings, samosas, chips and salad. As we were eating this, washed down with a few drinks, the results were read out as follows:

1st Oxford
2nd Sutton Boys
3rd Reading
4th South Buck and Fareham 2
5th Fareham 1
6th Sutton Girls

Thanks to the organisers for spotting and planning the route and booking the venue, and to the pub for their delicious spread. Here's to next year's Hedgehop!

Adrian Partington, Fareham Plus



Find your Local Plus Group

Abingdon Meets most Mondays at The Brewery Tap, 40-42 Ock Street, Abingdon OX14 5BZ from 8:00pm.

Andover & Newbury Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month at ??? from 8:30pm and also the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at The Blue Ball, Greenham Road, Newbury RG14 7HY from 8:15pm.

Didcot Meets every Thursday at The Fleur-De-Lys, 30 Main Road, East Hagbourne, Didcot OX11 9LN from 7:00pm.

Fareham & Gosport Meets every Tuesday at The Fareham, 54 Trinity Street, Fareham PO16 7SA from 8:30pm.

Oxford Meets every Tuesday at Fairview Inn, 16 Glebelands, Headington, Oxford OX3 7EN from 8:00pm.

Reading Meets every Friday except 1st of month at Sawdy's Sports Bar, Caversham, Reading from 8.00pm.

Southampton Friends Meets every Wednesday except last of month at The Chambers, 74-76 London Road, Southampton SO15 2AJ from 8.30pm.

Berkshire South Bucks Quest Please contact southbucksplus@mail.com for meeting details

Southern Area Badminton 2010

A big thanks to everyone who attended this successful event at the Magnet Leisure Centre in Maidenhead, the results were as follows:

Mens Singles:

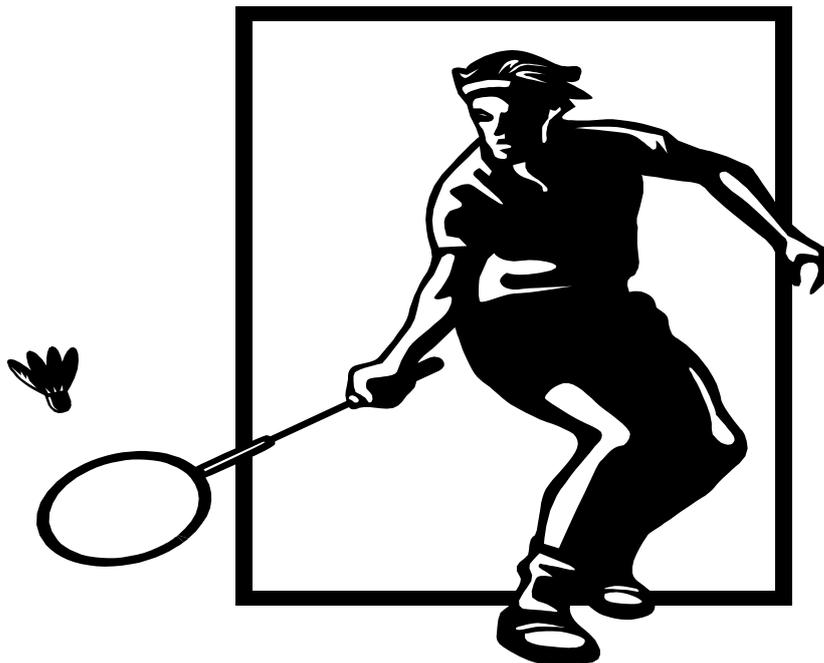
- 1st Rob Buffman
- 2nd Steve Sykes
- 3rd Jeff Rhea
- 4th Mike Shapcott

Ladies Singles:

- 1st Rachael Grant
- 2nd Nichole Hedger
- 3rd Alison Lincoln
- 4th Janet Rintoul

Doubles:

- 1st Rob Buffman & Steve Sykes
- 2nd Jeff Rhea & Mike Shapcott
- 3rd Nick Grant & Rachael Grant
- 4th Chris Meyers & Alison Lincoln



Southern Area Unihoc 2010



Much fun was had at this event, held in Didcot on the 4th of April.

After tooling up with hockey sticks and a suitably fast puck, the teams from Fareham, Reading, Oxford and Didcot started their 5 a side matches. The speed of the puck took some time to get used to - it was barely visible in motion, and I found it expedient to jump over it if I saw it streaking towards me at an estimated 40mph. The spectators had reason to be grateful for the barrier between them and the pitch, as players occasionally crashed into it during tackles, etc.

After the match, the players retired to the nearby Hungry Horse pub for a well earned meal and drink. A couple of hours after that, we all retired the Adrian's & Tina's place to watch a DVD and dine on a selection of snacks.

Adrian P

Fareham Plus

Brean 2010

Having taken the whole Friday off leisurely set off after a lay in was in order, most passengers in the PLUS bus came to me saving a morning's pick up round. Somehow we managed six up with luggage, even when the last case proved to be an unyielding Samsonite style case, soft bags next yr guys please. Placements were messed about with at the last moment, but then our bookings list had messed about until the last minute too, so as fate would have it we fitted in perfectly.

We arrived and booked in, discovered our usual Friday night haunt prior to the entertainments was a building site, so being a holiday I had pizza instead. The entertainment that evening was 'Lady Gaga' and 'Pink' though we strongly suspect that it was an impersonator as it was pointed out that the former was wearing way too many clothes! Having met up with many other members throughout the evening after the entertainments I waited up for the party goers returns,... and gave up around 5:00am.

Saturday saw a trip to Clarkes Village, a shopping centre of small shops and factory outlets of many unique names,... with same colour logos as some chains, and selling the same stuff, and same sort of internal layout,... I think they've been infiltrated. None the less many bargains were to be had and I spent 49p on a book and £2 on an ice cream! Last of the big spenders here! The journey home saw Michael Schumacher in his other job as scaffold van driver overtaking all on blind bends and losing an iron drain grating from the van at speed while cars swerved to avoid it. Still being on holiday I had pizza again! The Saturday night turn-

out was a little more reluctant to leave at the end and the party crowd never returned at all that Sunday morning. The band drew enough power to fuse the supply.

The markets were on over the weekend being later than previous years so this provided a meander after a late start, I beat the previous days piety spending a mere pound for



some snacks, Jaffa cakes and Bounty for Brunch anyone? Took in a movie 'T4', the caravans didn't have DVD's, which is why I brought my own. Must still be on holiday, another pizza! The evenings entertainment was probably the best 'Angel up Front' it's a shame that a Sunday night gathering lacks the 'work Monday crew'. Door duty saw the turning away of a fair number of 'country and western' crew – easily identified by the get up, whom evidently decided they'd signed up for the wrong event and we sounded so much better.

I didn't get to go flying this year, or caving but partook in a whole load of other activities I'd not done at Brean before, given there was a far greater choice this year. The last event of the weekend was lantern launching from the beach around midnight thirty 'til three in the morning,... or indeed in my personal experience of it, rolling around in the dunes stomping out the couple that didn't clear the dunes, it was a great view to look down at the launching site, have them, mostly, fly over my head and then watch them disappear into the haze further along the coast a couple of minutes later. The return run saw me finally home from my drop off run around 6:00pm, I reckon I could have made group that night and impersonated some sort of zombie, but evidently the rest had been up to far more than me and hadn't even risen! I think of all the Brean holidays this was the best one I've been to, so well done Adam, a well deserved bottle of pop.

Adrian Barnard

London Marathon 2010

Just to let everyone know that Amanda (Southampton Friends Treasurer) completed the London Marathon on Sunday!

It was Amanda's first ever marathon and she was taking part to raise money for Asthma UK and as a personal challenge; having been told that her Asthma is severe and that she wouldn't be able to complete a marathon - well that was like a Red Rag to a Bull!

Even during the Marathon on Sunday Amanda had THREE Asthma attacks not helped by her own inhaler malfunctioning. She had to find St John Ambulance who were able to give her a replacement inhaler and be checked by a doctor. This just shows the true grit of the girl and her determination not to give up!!!!

Amanda crossed the 26 mile 385 yards (42.195 km) finishing line with a time of 6:17:01 and her family as well as myself and Philippa were there wave her on at 9 miles and to greet her at the end. The look of achievement on her face is indescribable and we are all so very proud.

START TIME 09:56:33

5K 00:32:48

10K 01:08:23

15K 01:46:50

20K 02:27:26

HALF 02:36:46

25K 03:14:00

30K 04:21:41

35K 05:09:45

40K 06:00:17

Fundraising for Asthma UK is really important and enables research into new treatments to help people like Amanda and to help understand more about the causes of Asthma which 1 in 12 people in the UK have.



Asthma cannot be cured but, with the correct treatments it can be controlled and Amanda hopes with advances in medications she will have control of her Asthma once again. Asthma can be life threatening and Asthma UK is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of the 5.4 million people in the UK with Asthma. For more information please visit www.asthma.org.uk

Amanda has a target of £1500 to raise, we at Southampton Friends have been helping her reach this sum. To date Amanda has raised £1246.81 but if you would like to help her reach her final target please visit her Just Giving site <http://www.justgiving.com/amanda-369> or even come along to our Beach BBQ on Saturday 19th June at Sandbanks, as proceeds from this event will be going to her cause. Tickets and details of the Southern Area Beach BBQ will be available soon.

VERY WELL DONE AMANDA!!!!!! !!!!!!!!! !

Paula Oakley

Soton Friends

Upcoming Events

Sun 9 May 2010 Southern Area Council Meeting Totton Community Centre, Southampton SO40 8WU 12pm till 3pm Free admission including food.

Sat 15 May 2010 [NEC Meeting](#)

Sat 15 May 2010 Abingdon visit to [Warwick Castle](#)

Fri 4 - Mon 7 Jun 2010 Southern Area Sherwood Forest Center Parcs Weekend Cost is £80 for the weekend with a deposit of £20 by the end of June 2009 and the balance by 1 March 2010. Can still book people on after the end of June 2009 but the price goes up to £100 with a deposit of £30. Villas will sleep 6 people, all with on suite rooms, two doubles and one twin room. Please contact with Leo Glover.

Sat 12 Jun 2010 [National 5 a side Football Competition](#)

Sat 19 Jun 2010 Southern Area Barbeque, Sandbanks

Sun 27 Jun 2010 [National Tennis Tournament](#)

Fri 25 - Mon 28 Jun 2010 [SADY](#)

Fri 16 - Sun 18 Jul 2010 [Kings Lynn Mid Summer Weekend](#)

Sat 17 Jul 2010 [National Rounders Tournament](#)

Sat 14 Aug 2010 [NEC Meeting](#)

Sat 14 Aug 2010 Southern Area Barbeque, Fareham

Sat 28 Aug 2010 Southern Area Aunt Sally & BBQ

Sat 4 / Sun 5 Sep 2010 Southern Area Barbeque, Southampton

Fri 10 - Fri 17 Sep 2010 [National Holiday Abroad](#)

Sat 11 - Sat 18 Sep 2010 Southern Area Canal Boating

Fri 24 - Mon 27 Sep 2010 Southern Area Blackpool Weekend

Sat 2 Oct 2010 [National Karting](#)

Fri 5 - Mon 8 Nov 2010 [WASH](#)

Sat 20 Nov 2010 [NEC Meeting](#)

Sat 4 - Sun 5 Dec 2010 SEAT

19 Feb 2011 [National Annual General Meeting Southern Area Hedge Hop](#)