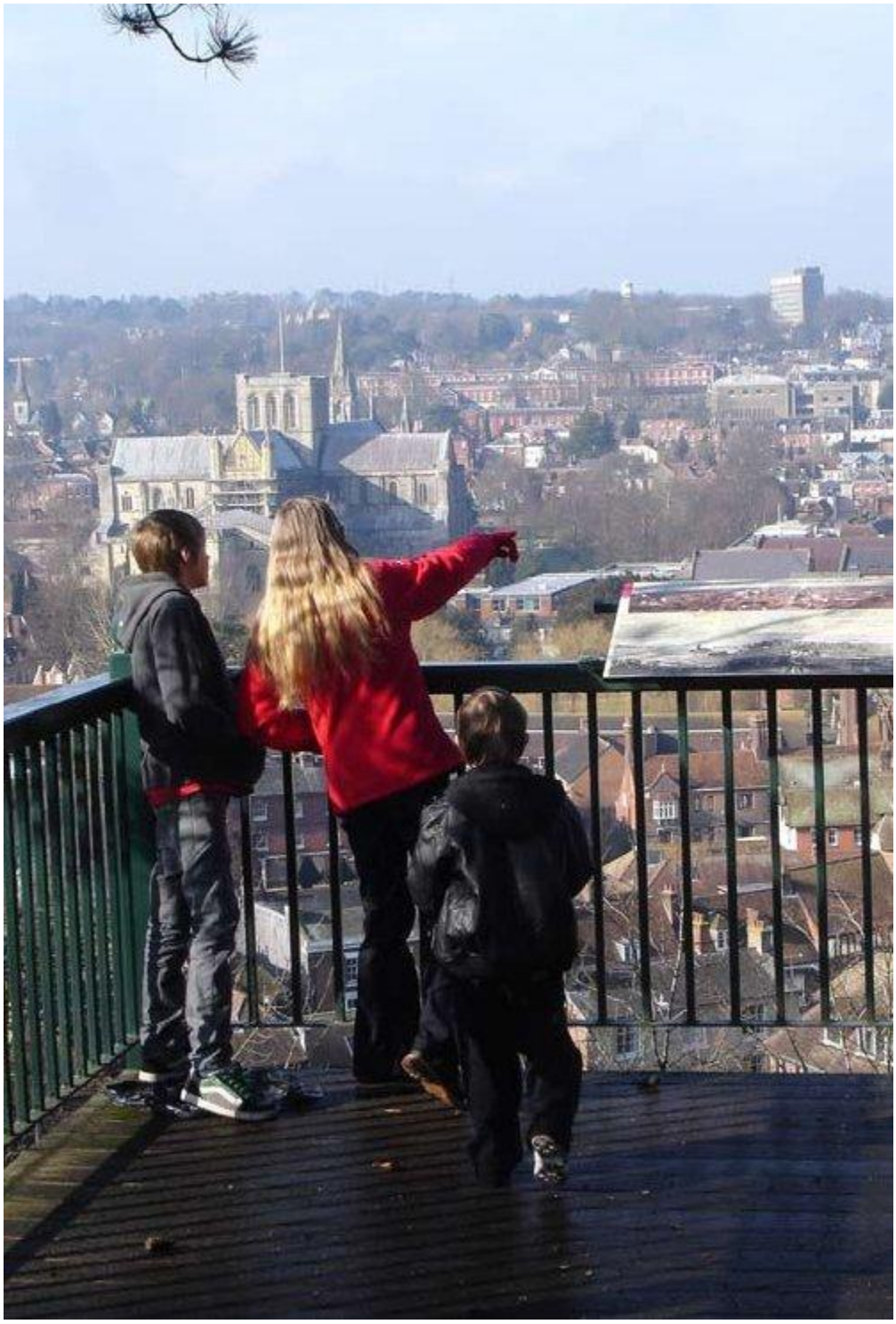
Title Picture - TrustNews June 10



The view of Winchester from St Giles Hill

Chairman's Miscellany - TrustNews Jun 10

Since our last issue, the death of Sir Peter Ramsbotham has cast a shadow over the Council members who knew him well and also those, like myself, who knew him only

a little. Members will have seen the full obituaries published in the national and local press so we decided to publish some reminiscences of former Chairmen. You will see these elsewhere.

The very recent changes in both national government and the City Council will bring fresh challenges for the Trust. Will the changes in planning procedures and delegation, promised by the Conservative party, now come about? Will the change of control at Winchester lead to fresh views on Bushfield Down? We must hope that the sterile vision of a “knowledge park” has been extinguished but the future of that significant site remains in the balance.

I am very pleased to welcome a new Publicity Officer. Sharon Watson, who is experienced in the field and lives locally, has volunteered her services and I look forward to our profile being enhanced.

You will read elsewhere of our plans for the Annual General Meeting and also of the very full list of walks which John Beveridge has organised. This is never an easy task and only possible with the generous help of those who lead the walks.

Also enclosed are details of the 12 gardens which will be open to members on 20th June. Warm thanks to those who make their gardens available and work hard to prepare them.

Finally, it is sad to recall the death of Alan Weeks, lately Chairman of the Residents’ Association. In past years, he was a most active member of the Trust and remained a friend.

Iain Patton

Planning Appraisal Group - TrustNews Jun 10

As many members will probably have read in the local press, CALA Homes have gone to appeal because Winchester City Council has failed to decide whether or not to permit their application for a development at **Barton Farm, Andover Road**. This is a major development for 2000 dwellings, with a shopping centre, schools, leisure and community facilities, food and drink outlets, to say nothing of recreational areas, parking, landscaping, forming new public rights of way, closing the present Andover Road and re-directing its traffic through the new development, etc, etc ... It will clearly have a considerable impact on the local infrastructure, and it does seem unreasonable for a developer to expect the local authorities to reach a decision on such a complicated proposal in less than six months. In fact, a longer period than this would seem appropriate because of its importance to the future of Winchester. The Public Inquiry, due to last eight days, begins on 7 September, and the Trust will be arguing against the appeal.

From the details available on the website it seems that a similar appeal may not be necessary for the application to build 200 dwellings and provide 200 Park & Ride spaces on land **adjacent to Pitt Manor Farm, Romsey Road**. Not only are the

responses from the City's Landscape and Urban Design teams very unfavourable, but the South East Region of Sport England has also objected, and Hampshire County Council's Highways Department has recommended refusal because amongst other things it was felt that the access junction could cause problems on Romsey Road, which was in any case unsuitable for the amount of additional traffic that would be generated. The final decision is awaited with interest.

Decisions are also awaited for the proposals to build two blocks of student accommodation at the **junction of Sparkford Close and Sparkford Road**, which is causing much local indignation; and to build two dwellings in the rear garden of **Chestnut Mead, Kingsgate Road**, while at the same time converting this unhappy looking house into three 2-bed flats and a 4-bed dwelling. We hope that permission is given before its run-down state makes its conversion impossible.

The proposal to build 14 dwellings at **St John's Croft, Blue Ball Hill**, has been refused, with the Planning Committee overturning the officers' recommendation for approval because it was felt the development would still have an overbearing and adverse impact on nearby residents. Another developer has now taken over and we understand that the local action group are having discussions with the applicants and their architect about the form the development should take.

We have also seen two interesting proposals for residential schemes. The first was to build ten dwellings in place of **110 and 112 Cromwell Road and on the allotment site behind**. Though we had no problem with the contemporary design of the houses on the allotment site, we were concerned that the blank face they would present could prevent their residents integrating socially with those living in the established houses. We did, however, object to the asymmetrical and aggressively idiosyncratic design of the houses that would be replacing Nos 110 and 112, feeling that more respect should be paid to the original design and character of this award-winning estate.

The second was for a replacement building instead of the **Snooker Centre, Radley House, 8 St Cross Road**, which we liked, and for six dwellings facing onto **Edgar Road** on the land behind. The articulated elevations and contemporary design of the houses were considered successful, but three panels saw this scheme because there was a divergence of opinion, primarily because the houses would have large windows going almost down to the floor and would be built right at the back of the pavement, which happens to be narrow at that point. This is something that those living in period houses may have to put up with, but it did seem unkind to expect the residents of a newly-designed house to suffer this lack of privacy, and we objected, feeling that the windows on the front elevation should be smaller and the terrace should be set further back to allow space for some planting, which would provide a greater feeling of privacy as well as reflecting the character of the small front gardens on the opposite side of the road; we also felt that to have only three parking spaces for the six units was inadequate in an area that already has parking problems.

A scheme for converting **28 Chilbolton Avenue** for use as 11 letting rooms has been resubmitted with little change, and we have again objected. Even though the alterations probably comply with current legislation, it seems very undesirable in a

city like Winchester to provide accommodation where four units on the ground floor have to share one bathroom without separate wc, and the communal area is minimal to say the least.

Two new schemes, both for 14 dwellings (the magic number for developments because the need to provide affordable housing begins at 15) are also being considered in **Chilbolton Avenue**. The first is to replace **Lang House, No 27** with two apartment blocks, and the scheme is a great improvement on the previous monolithic block of flats that was dismissed on appeal. The profile of each block is broken up by having three pavilions, and a view of the golf course beyond can be seen through the gap between the blocks. The second is a proposal to demolish **Nos 45 and 47 and build on land at the rear of No 49a**. Although the design is ingenious, and advantage is taken of the sloping topography to have some underground parking, 2-storey structures would be built very close to the boundary with gardens in Stockers Avenue, from where they could appear overbearing to those in the gardens below. At present there is a screening Cypress hedge, but this could die and it is therefore important that new buildings should be acceptable whether or not they are screened. We felt too much was being asked of the site and objected to the application as being overdevelopment, suggesting that the three units closest to the boundary should be omitted.

Shione Carden

Apologies to Mohammed Bakhaty. In the last TrustNews we credited council officials for removal of the sign in Southgate Street whereas it was Mr Bakhaty who persuaded his tenant to take it down.

The City of Winchester Trust Awards - TrustNews Jun 10

The Trust has invited submissions for the 2010 Trust Awards. This year the categories include Landscaping, Public Art, Sustainability/Reduction of Carbon footprint as well as New Buildings, Refurbishment/Alterations and Landscaping.

The closing date for submissions has been extended until mid July to allow time to encourage as many entries as possible. A good number of entries have already been received but members may still suggest schemes that they would like to commend; there may be more hidden gems out there. In the first instance please contact the Secretary by email or telephone.

Shortlisting will take place by the selection panel in late July. Members will be given the opportunity to see all shortlisted schemes at the AGM and will have the opportunity to vote for their Members Award.

---

24 Hours to Save Winchester - TrustNews Jun 10

The Solent Centre's Director, Paul Grover, challenged three teams of volunteer professionals (architects, engineers and planners) to look at how an attractive and sustainable city might be achieved by 2020. The event was held at the School of Art in March when, after a series of short talks by planning and environmental experts, the teams worked through the night and presented their schemes the following day.

It is impossible to convey the quality and excitement of the presentations, all of them amazingly well illustrated, given the time scale. All had clearly enjoyed and learned from the process and produced ideas of great ingenuity and promise – some perhaps more practicable than others but all stimulating and worth considering as leads to the way ahead. It was calculated that at a reasonable rate for the expert time involved, the cost would have been about £75,000.

What impressed us was the degree of realistic thinking; there was a broad consensus on the approach and the outcome was to all intents and purposes the basis of our 'Conceptual Framework' proposals. In the past we have been struggling to find a way of promoting such a concept for guiding the change and development of Winchester, because we know that neither the City nor the Trust can afford to commission consultants to do the exercise. Now there is a good chance that building on this process could achieve it.

All those present were eager that this initiative should not be a nine-day-wonder but lead on to something that would influence the development of Winchester by finding a framework for change, which addresses the pressures of growth and the urgent need for comprehensive sustainability.

The Trust and WinACC have joined with the leading team members to promote the concept and to relate it to the Local Authorities' strategic planning. WinACC held an open meeting on 1st May when members of the public responded enthusiastically to the ideas. On June 2nd it is planned to introduce the subject to the Winchester District Strategic Partnership conference, and later in the year to hold an interactive exhibition in a public building, followed by special presentations to councillors and officers of the City and County Councils.

Meanwhile the Trust will refer to this initiative when we host Southern Comfort* on July 10th, with Kim Wilkie (internationally famous landscape architect whose work includes master planning) as guest speaker.

*Southern Comfort is an informal gathering of societies in the south that has taken place every 3 or 4 years since it was started by an invitation from Chichester in 1983, when we found it 'comforting' to discuss our mutual problems.

Michael Carden.

The Hon Sir Peter Ramsbotham GCMG GCVO DL - TrustNews Jun 10



The Trust owes a great debt of gratitude to Sir Peter, who died aged 90 on 9th April. Apart from his unfailing interest in our activities over 20 years, we remember especially his repeated help to the several chairmen and other officers of the Trust during that period. It was always a pleasure to meet him with his mixture of wisdom, challenge and humour.

Although he spoke for the Trust at important events, Sir Peter was much more than a figurehead, often attending the regular meetings of the Trustees when he would provide new ideas or ways of dealing with current issues. His wide experience of the ways of the world enabled him to put his finger on the nub of a problem and to propose a simple and workable solution. This was always done in a way designed not to ruffle feathers and to avoid upsetting those with different views.

With Lady Ramsbotham, Sir Peter entertained members on occasions in his beautiful garden, always conversing with his guests. Due to ill health, he retired as President in 2007 but continued as Patron. His keen interest in the Trust's activities remained undiminished until shortly before his death.

Vice Chairman, Michael Carden, recalls: Sir Peter became our President following Barbara Carpenter-Turner's retirement in 1990. He told us that this was on the instructions of our long-serving Vice President, Lady Charlotte Bonham Carter, who gave him no option in the matter! Similarly, Lady Charlotte had told us, before we had even started to think for ourselves, that she had decided Sir Peter was the right person for the job, and how right she was! In his first year we asked him to speak at the AGM so that members would get to know him. He did not hesitate, but said he only had two talks: birds and embassies. We chose embassies and some of you will remember what an excellent talk it was. I particularly recall his account of how, when he had a junior post at the Paris Embassy, the then ambassador if feeling sleepy after lunch, would sometimes sneak into one of the old state bedrooms for a quick nap, removing his jacket and trousers for comfort. On one occasion, having forgotten that it was a guided-tour day, he was awakened by the guide's sonorous voice saying "this is the original 18th century bed..."; realising he could not escape attention, the ambassador sat up in dignified fashion and continued the sentence, "...and this is her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador to the Republic of France!".

On 17th April three Trust members attended the launch of Civic Voice in London, and came away impressed by the vision and the energy of those who had brought it about and by those who have been voted in as its new leaders. Civic Voice is the new umbrella organization for civic societies, formed after the demise of the Civic Trust.

Griff Rhys Jones, the President, needs no introduction although, bald and mustachioed for a new acting role, he was unrecognisable to start with; however his enthusiasm and dedication to the cause of local civic societies was unmistakable. Now more than ever, he said, is the time for the 1000 or so societies representing at least 250,000 members, to act together to make local views influence central government planning policy.

Tony Burton, the Director, has, with Ian Harvey made the 'Initiative' grow into the 'Voice' as a national pressure group, so it is good news that they are to continue as our leading officers. Tony was the Director of Strategy and External Affairs at the National Trust until he transferred with their support to help create Civic Voice; he also has twenty years of experience in voluntary conservation. Ian, young and incredibly hard-working, was a member of the Civic Trust staff and is well suited to become the society's coordinator.

Paula Ridley CBE, has been elected as chairman of the Trustees forming the first executive committee. She is immediate past chairman of the V&A and, has thirty years experience of the movement having been Secretary and then President of the Merseyside Civic Society.

Sir Terry Farrell, an architect of international repute with a very people-orientated approach to planning and architectural problems, initiated much discussion. He has strong views about the fundamental faults in the planning system, which the Trust's Policy Group shares but has despaired of ever seeing changed. Who knows, with his guidance, local societies, via Civic Voice, may yet achieve some improvements.

We are very optimistic about the future role of Civic Voice, not only in coordinating local views and lobbying government (a waste of time for individual societies), but also in advising local societies, networking between us, raising the profile of the movement and mounting campaigns two of which are already in progress. **Love Local** is a campaign which asks individuals and societies to say what it is they most value about their neighbourhood; if you wish to contribute you may do so directly via www.civicvoice.org.uk/campaigns/lovelocal). And **Street Pride** is concerned with the removal of clutter by making street audits and presenting proposals to the authorities.

Civic Voice is holding area workshops funded by English Heritage in a number of towns including Winchester (with our assistance). Civic Voice is also showing interest in taking up our long held wish to see the few remaining historic towns with country settings given 'Heritage Town Status', so that growth may receive the extra special care needed if their character is to be preserved.

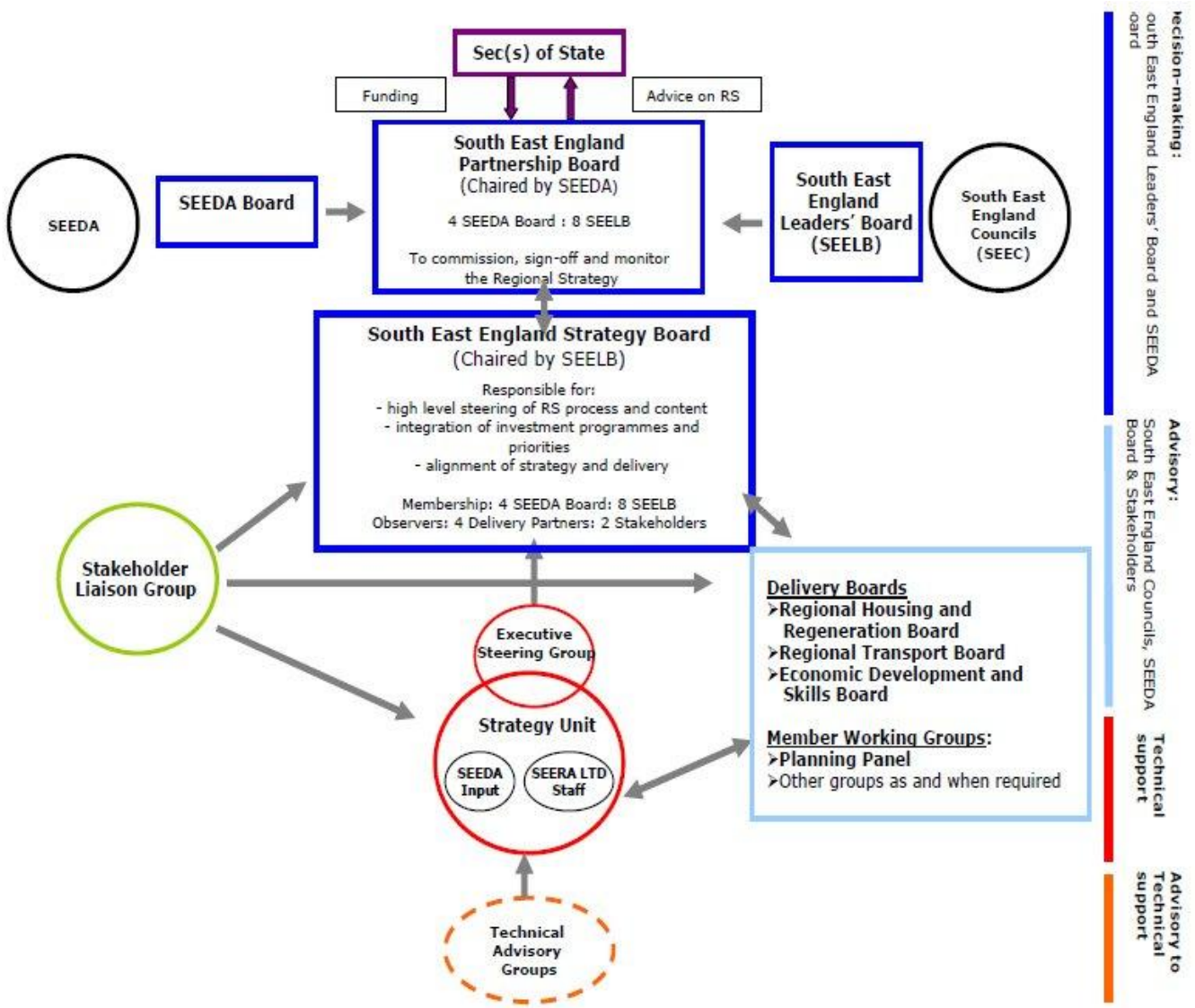
Civic Voice Insurance Offer

As a benefit of membership Bluefin Insurance has agreed special terms covering societies and individuals. The range includes premises, public indemnity, homes, cars, travel, and other risks. If you would like to know more, you are invited to contact david.box@bluefingroup.co.uk or use the direct line 020 8776 3327.

Planning Bureaucracy - TrustNews Jun 10

Scotland, Wales and N Ireland have devolved government but somehow England has lost out. Instead we have a myriad of unelected regional boards, agencies, groups and units. In Hampshire we also have three tiers of elected Local Authorities – and two National Park Authorities as well – all involved in 'Planning'.

Members of the Trust's Policy Committee strive to get to grips with who does what and to understand who is influencing our planning and housing policies. This diagram is meant to help us. Surely government should be simpler than this! Maybe under the new government it will be?



Summer Walks 10 - TrustNews June 10

Thursdays. **Unless** specific instructions are shown in the programme below: Meet at 6.20pm;

Walks start at 6.30pm; starting point is the Heritage Centre Upper Brook Street.

Maximum numbers for each walk is 25 for the convenience, comfort and safety of all. To avoid disappointment, arrive in good time or apply in advance by emailing or telephoning the Heritage Centre by 9.30am on the Wednesday, the day before each walk. Non members very welcome. Suggested donation £2.00

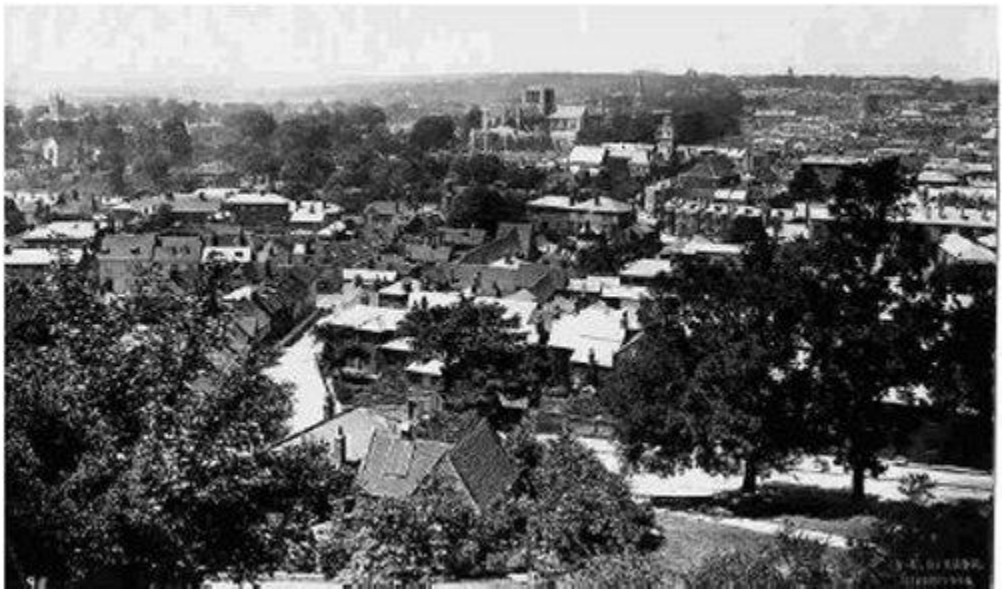
3rd June	**Seen and Unseen: a walk around the Abbey of Hyde** Meet at entrance to River Park Leisure Centre	**Barbara Hall** City Guide
10th June	**The Soke, St John's Church and St Giles' Fair** Meet at King Alfred Statue	**Elizabeth Proudman** City Guide
17th June	**Winchester High Street in the 1930s** Meet at the Westgate	**Phil Yates** Director Author and CWT member
24th June	**Past Trades in Winchester** eet at Heritage Centre	**Richard Baker** Retired Architect and Planner
1st July	**The best of contemporary and traditional design** An urban designer' perspective. Meet at Heritage Centre	**John Hearn** Senior Planning officer Winchester City Council
8th July	**Recent developments at the University of Winchester** Meet at receptoion King Alfred Campus Sparkford Road	**Tommy Geddes** Deputy Vice Chancellor
15th July	**Pilgrim's School** Meet at Pilgim's School Cathedral Close	**Martin Kelly** School bursar
22nd July	**Wolvesey the Two Palaces** Meet at entrance gates of Wolvesey	**Michael Carden MBE** Architect and CWT Vice Chairman
29th July	**Winchester College** Meet at entrance in College Street	**George Saumarez Smith** Director Robert Adam Architects

5th August	**St Michael Church to St Faith's Church Yard** Meet at St Michael's Church St Michael's Road	**Tony Humphrys** City Guide
12th August	**St Cross Park Excavations** Meet at Porter's Lodge St Cross	**WARG Member**
19th August	**Heights Widths and Shapes** Meet at Heritage Centre	**Keith Leaman** Architect
26th August	**St Thomas Street** Meet at Lloyds Bank High Street	**Andrew Rutter** Retired Conservation Officer
2nd September	**Victorian Houses of the Western Vale** Meet 5.50pm entrance gates of West Hill cemetery St James Lane	**Robin Freeman** Archectural Historian
9th September	**Queen Elizabeth II Court Hampshire County Council new offices** Meet 5.50pm at entrance in Sussex Street	**Steve Clow** Assistant Director of Property Services HCC
16th September	**Building Materials through the Ages** Meet 5.50pm Guildhall The Broadway	**Michael White** Conservation Officer Winchester City Council

Please note there have been some changes since the March edition of TrustNews.

Images from the Archives - TrustNews Jun 10

These photographs taken from from St Giles' Hill in about 1900 are held in the Trust's Archives. You might like to compare them with our cover photograph, taken in March this year. You can now browse much of our photographic archive on our website where you will find some previously unpublished gems. Go to www.cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk and follow the links to 'archive' and 'gallery'..





New Street Lighting for Winchester - TrustNews Jun 10



The County Council is embarking on a programme of replacing most of its street lighting throughout the county. It has promised to consult with the Trust before deciding on types of lights to use in the Winchester Conservation Area. There is a complete mixture of lights within the area at present, ranging from modified Victorian gas lights, replica antique lights and lights from most periods of the 20th century. Many are said to be very inefficient by modern standards, cause upward light pollution and are in poor condition.

The Trust would welcome your views on these replacements. You might say “Why try and replicate Victorian lights in a medieval city?”; “Let’s have the very best of modern design”; “Let’s keep the best of what we’ve got”. Please tell us what you like and dislike and we will try to reflect your views. [Comments to the secretary please].

Work in Winchester is programmed for 2012. The County Council has produced a comprehensive policy document and specification for this project. In the context of conservation areas they say:

If “period style” lanterns are used, care should be taken to match historical periods, for which consultation with the Local Planning Authority is essential. However, it is also necessary to maintain a harmony of style, as far as possible, as different lantern types may produce a cluttered and unplanned effect.

Where a modern style of fitting is proposed this, together with its control gear, must be recessive in design and colour and be sited so as to be “invisible” as far as possible during the daytime. This is of particular importance in areas where buildings are of diverse historical and architectural character. Such fittings should be simple and of appropriate shape, colour and scale to the architectural setting.

There is a general presumption towards using, as far as possible, lanterns that minimise light pollution of the night sky. Much more information can be found at http://www3.hants.gov.uk/roads/street-lighting.htm.

Rubbish Bins - TrustNews Jun 10



A lively discussion took place at the last winter talk about rubbish bins, following up on the subject of “Eyesores and Delights” which were featured in the last edition of TrustNews. There was complete agreement and dismay about the growing number of rubbish bins cluttering our streets and the apparent lack of control and ownership. As a result the Chairman had a constructive meeting with the manager of the Business Improvement District partnership (BID), Keith Wilson. Keith was already investigating different types of refuse collection contracts and in the meantime is asking the Community Support Officers and the police to clamp down on blatant litter and overflowing bins. Efforts will also be made to tidy up bin areas such as the ones in St George’s Street and to get businesses to store their bins inside their premises wherever possible. We will continue to monitor this situation.

Organisation - TrustNews Jun 10

President	His Honour Christopher Clarke QC
Vice President	Lord Ashburton KG KCVO DL
Vice President	Donald Insall CBE FSA RWA FRIBA FRTPI SP dipl (Hons)

Trustees 2010	
Chairman	Iain Patton
Vice Chairman/Policy Group	Michael Carden MBE AAdip RIBA
Vice Chairman	Robin Merton
	John Beveridge
Chair Planning Appraisal Group	Shione Carden BA
Chair Policy Group	Patrick Davies
	Keith Leaman
	Cllr Barry Lipscomb
	Nick McPherson BArch RIBA MA
Newsletter	David Marklew BSc CEng MICE
	Judith Martin MSc
	Antony Proudman MA CEng FBCS
Hon Treasurer	Peter Radcliffe FCA
	Peter Rees MA
	Capt. Antony Skinner RN
	John Stanning BA
	Alex Trimmer OBE

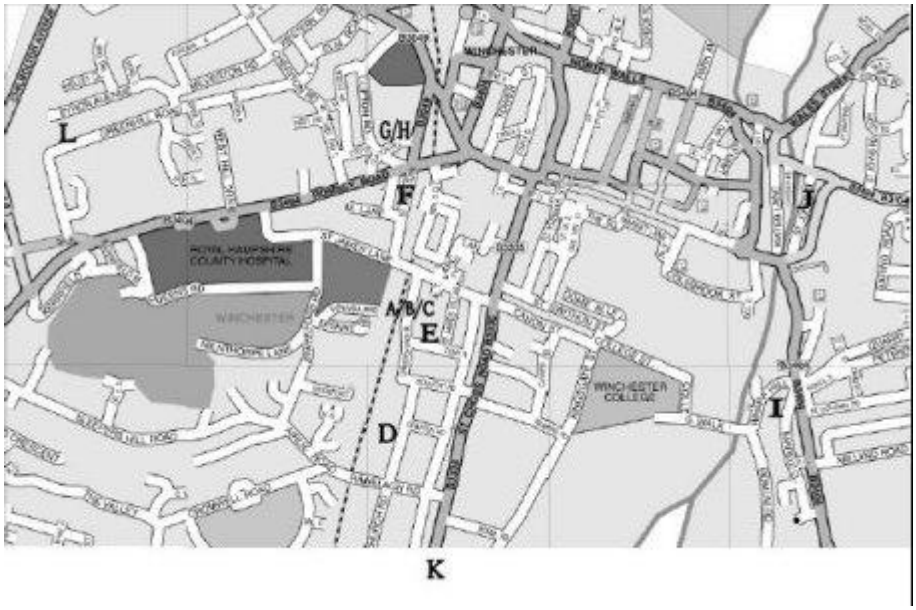
TrustNews Editor	David Marklew/Matthew Huntley
TrustNews Printer	ADH Printing, Kingsworthy

Website Barrie Brinkman

Open Gardens Sunday 20th June 2-6pm - TrustNews Jun 10

The following gardens will be open to members of the City of Winchester Trust and their friends on 20th June 2010 2-6pm

Refreshment will be available at gardens marked *



A. 12 Christchurch Road Winchester. SO23 9SR. Penny Patton *
B. 8 Christchurch Road, Winchester. SO23 9SR. Lady Angela Stansfield Smith
C. 13 Christchurch Road, Winchester. SO23 9SR. Sally Louden
D. 31 Christchurch Road, Winchester. SO23 9SY. Maggie Taylor
E. 10 Compton Road, Winchester. SO23 9SL, Robin and Alison Jowitt
F. 8 St James Terrace, Winchester. SO22 4PP, Chris and Margaret Higgins
G. Fairfield, Clifton Hill, Winchester. SO22 5BL. Howard and Sue Nattrass
H. 7 Clifton Hill, Winchester. SO22 5BL. Clare Kilroy and Louise Kerr
I. Wolvesley Lodge, The Weirs, Winchester. SO23 9NX Joanna Matthews (Parking in College Walk)

J. 21 St John's Street, SO23 0HF Winchester. Julia Grice and Tony Kenyon

K. The Manor House, Place Lane, Compton. SO21 2BA Penny Neyroud. (parking in Compton Street)*

L. 140 Greenhill Road, Winchester. SO22 5DU Garden and model railway. Chris Pile.

All gardens open subject to availability.

Neither the Trust nor any of the garden owners accepts liability for any accidents/incidents or losses that occur in any of these gardens.

For more information please contact:
The Secretary
City of Winchester Trust
32 Upper Brook Street
Winchester
Hampshire, SO23 8DG
01962 851664
Secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk
www.cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk

New Members - TrustNews Jun 2010

A warm welcome to the following members who have recently joined:

Robin & Allison Jowitt

Susan Owers

Pat Woolven

Annual General Meeting - TrustNews Jun 10

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 27th September at 7.00pm in the Stripe, University of Winchester.

The Speaker will be Sue Riddlestone, Executive Director & Co-Founder of BioRegional, Co-Director of One Planet & M.D. of BioRegional MiniMills Ltd.

It is hoped to hold a members debate prior to the AGM, 5.45-6.45pm.

Membership Renewals - TrustNews Jun 10

Subscriptions to the Trust were due on 1st May 2010 for the coming year. Single: £10, Joint £15.00. If you pay be cheque please can you make this payable to “City of Winchester Trust” and get this to the secretary as soon as possible. Thank you to those of you who pay by Standing Order.

Too much paper? Computer literate? - TrustNews Jun 10

Did you know you can get TrustNews by e-mail?

.... or look at it on our website.

Why not – cut down on paper consumption? get our news first? reduce the costs of the Trust.

Every year the Trust sends out over 2,500 newsletters, that’s nearly 7500 sheets of paper and over £500 in postage stamps.

Request a paperless TrustNews. Send us your email address and we’ll keep you better informed about Trust activities and events.

We won’t bombard you with junk mail and we certainly won’t pass your address to third parties.

Just send an email with the heading “Paperless TrustNews” to secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk and we’ll do the rest!

WANTED ! - TrustNews Jun 10

Can you help with any of these activities?

Occasional visits to places of interest
Planning Advisory Group Assistant
Publicity, Membership Coordinator
Occasional displays at the Heritage Centre
Landscape/Arboricultural advice
Arranging lectures/educational projects
Fundraising

If you would like further information, please contact :
Chairman - Iain Patton
Secretary - Dr Vicky Feldwick
32 Middle Brook Street, Winchester SO23 8DG Tel. 01962 851664
secretary@cityofwinchestertrust.co.uk

BOOK SALE - TrustNews Jun 10

A sale of second hand books will be held on 31st July in St Maurice's Covert.

Please come and browse.
All proceeds the Trust..