

NEWS

Inside...



Paedophile jailed

'Pillar of the community' is put behind bars

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Potholes peril

'When you're cycling, you've got to watch out for potholes.'

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WEATHER



Tonight
Cloudy with outbreaks of rain. Breezy.
Min temp 6C (43F)



Tomorrow
Cloudy with rain gradually clearing.
Max temp 9C (48F)

FOUR-DAY OUTLOOK

SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
7C (45F) 3C (37F)	6C (43F) 2C (36F)	6C (43F) 1C (34F)	6C (43F) -1C (30F)

SUN & MOON

Sunrise 7.55am Sunset 4.40pm
Moonrise 9.46am Moonset 11.40pm
Lighting up times: 4.40pm to 7.54am

SAILING FORECAST

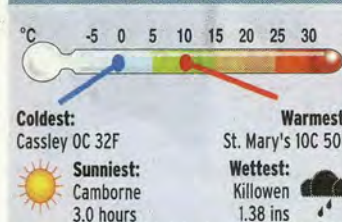
Tomorrow A moderate southerly wind, force 4. Light rain. Moderate seas. Moderate visibility.

Saturday Gentle north-easterly winds, force 3. Overcast. A slight sea. Moderate visibility.

HIGH & LOW TIDES

Tomorrow
Portsmouth 3:06 4.3m 15:15 4.1m 8:24 1.4m 20:41 1.4m
Chichester 3:22 4.3m 15:35 4.1m 8:38 1.6m 20:57 1.6m
Warsash 3:02 4.2m 15:16 4.0m 8:15 1.5m 20:26 1.5m

YESTERDAY'S EXTREMES



WORLD WEATHER

Yesterday	C	F
Algarve	sunny	16 61
Amsterdam	fair	4 39
Bordeaux	cloudy	13 55
Brussels	cloudy	2 36
Corfu	sunny	10 50
Costa del Sol	sunny	13 55
Cyprus	showers	15 59
Edinburgh	rain	3 37
Geneva	mist	0 32
Hong Kong	cloudy	25 77
Jersey	showers	9 48
Los Angeles	rain	12 54
Majorca	sunny	16 61
Miami	cloudy	17 63
New York	cloudy	8 46
Nice	cloudy	9 48
Paris	rain	1 34
Rome	sunny	9 48
Sydney	sunny	28 82
Tenerife	sunny	22 72
Tokyo	sunny	14 57
Venice	mist	1 34

09068 500 403
For a detailed forecast for Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Dorset

09068 500 402
For a detailed forecast for Sussex, Surrey and Kent

All calls charged at 60p per minute

Panel urged to strike off doctor in deaths probe

Calls for medic to face ban after elderly patients died in hospital

by CLARE SEMKE

Crime reporter
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A DOCTOR accused over elderly patient deaths at Gosport War Memorial Hospital should be banned from practising, a panel heard.

Tom Kark, counsel for the General Medical Council, said erasing GP Jane Barton's name from the medical register was the only option to 'protect patients and public confidence in the profession.'

Dr Barton is accused of serious professional misconduct relating to 12 elderly patients who died at the Bury Road site between 1996 and 1999 - a charge she denies.

All of the patients died on Dryad or Daedalus wards between 1996 and 1999, when the GP was clinical assistant.

Dr Barton was found guilty of prescribing potentially hazardous and inappropriate drug doses at the end of a hearing in August. It also found the GP's prescriptions could have led to patients being over-medicated.

The panel has now reconvened to decide whether her actions amounted to serious professional misconduct and to decide what action, if



AWAITING A DECISION Dr Jane Barton

any, she should face.

Mr Kark told a five-strong General Medical Council panel at Regents Place, Euston Road, London: 'The failings demonstrated in this case were so serious that despite the passage of time the only sanction that will protect the public and public confidence in the profession is one of erasure.'

However Timothy Langdale QC, described Dr Barton as an 'experienced,

caring and conscientious GP,' before handing the panel a bundle of 184 testimonials in support of her case.

He said: 'It can surely be said that a clear demonstration of her commitment and dedication to her work has been given by her continuing to provide excellent care to her patients, despite having had allegations of various kinds hanging over her head, as well as the

strain of practising for some 10 years.'

Dr Barton's conduct is being examined in relation to the deaths of Geoffrey Packman, 67 - known as Mick, Elsie Lavender, 83, Eva Page, 87, Alice Wilkie, 81, Robert Wilson, 74, Elsie Devine, 88, Jean Stevens, 73, Enid Spurgeon, 92, Gladys Richards, 91, Ruby Lake, 84, Leslie Pittock, 82, and Arthur Cunningham, 79 - known as Brian.

Ghostbusters wanted for creepy old house

A CHARITY is hunting for fearless souls brave enough to endure a night in Portsmouth's most haunted house.

Wymering Manor - the city's oldest building - has a reputation for producing a ghostly choir of nuns crossing a hallway and a host of unseen hands reaching

out to touch residents. The charity Parity for Disability, which provides services to children and adults with multiple disabilities in Hampshire, wants ghost hunters to spend from 8pm to 3.30am on the night of Saturday, March 13, in the Jacobean house. They will be supported

by mediums and have the chance to use ghost-hunting equipment including digital cameras and video equipment so capture any supernatural goings-on in the manor house in Old Wymering Lane, Wymering.

Parity is asking for a £25 registration fee and each person must raise at least

£100 in sponsorship for the charity.

The funds raised will help maintain Parity's services for children and adults with multiple disabilities in the local community.

More information from parityfordisability.org.uk or helene@parityfordisability.org.uk.

Charity in plea over foster care shortage

CHILDREN's charity Barnardo's is calling for more people to become foster carers.

The charity reports that 850 foster carers are needed in the south-east of England, and that applications for children to be taken into care are on the increase.

Speaking during Barnardo's Fostering and Adoption Week 2010, which ends on Sunday, the charity's director for London, East and South East England, Delroy Pomell, said: 'Persistent, chronic child neglect and maltreatment is not uncommon in the south-east of England and the rise in the number of care applications since the death of baby Peter shows an encouraging change of awareness.'

'We must continue to support social workers to intervene early when they feel a child is at risk. The increase in referrals is resulting in an urgent call on expenditure, and the government must find the funds.'

The charity is also offering advice to prospective foster carers across the south-east, available from its website, at www.barnardos.org.uk/fosteringandadoption or helpline number on 0800 0277 280.

Fire crews free lift users

HAMPSHIRE FIRE and rescue crews were called out to two lift incidents yesterday.

Crew members from Southsea Fire Station were called out at 12.48pm, to Fratton Railway Station.

They released a man and two children who had become stuck when the lift's doors wouldn't open at the top of the bridge between platforms one, two and three.

The crew was called out again at 4.05pm.

This time they attended a woman who had become trapped inside the lift at the five-storey Warrior House, on Wickham Street, at The Hard, Portsmouth.

A Hampshire Fire and Rescue spokesman said: 'Neither incident was serious, but it can be distressing to be trapped in a lift, particularly if the person inside is claustrophobic. Young people can also find it difficult.'

'In these incidents, the problem was simple and we were able to open the doors without difficulty. We spoke to the people inside the lifts and they were calm, which helped us act quickly to free them.'