

Portsmouth TALK



*Stop crime
wrecking lives*

*Championing
Portsmouth*

ALSO

*Mike Hancock
tells us the
action he wants
taken to boost
the economy*

Mike Hancock MP — Reports Back

Have YOUR say to YOUR MP — See Page 6

Mike in the news

Commuters are urged to voice their views on planned rail cuts

RAIL commuters have protested against plans to reduce ticket office opening hours .. Portsmouth MP Mike Hancock, who attended the protest, said: "This morning is a classic example. We have two machines in the station but one isn't working and one is for credit cards only." Portsmouth News 30/7/08

NELSON'S SHIP MAY BE SOLD

THERE was uproar yesterday when it was revealed that Lord Nelson's legendary flagship could be given away to a private owner. Mike Hancock said it would mean an uncertain future for HMS Victory - "It would be a constant battle for funding."

The Mirror 13/9/08

Insurance MPs demand Equitable debate

MPs have entered early day motions calling for a debate on compensation for Equitable Life policy holders. MPs from four parties have signed up to the motion. They include... Lib Dem Mike Hancock.

Daily Telegraph 13/9/08

Look after your lungs and stay healthy, says MP

Mike Hancock got on his bike to highlight the link between exercise and good lung health at the Commons. British Lung Foundation chief executive Dame Helena Shovelton said: 'We are pleased that Mike is supporting our campaign. Lung disease is the UK's second biggest killer'

Portsmouth News 2/6/08

OUR LOCAL ...OUR LOCAL CHAMPION!

Helping local people, groups and businesses as well as supporting our NHS, and armed forces have all been on the agenda recently for hard-working and committed MP for Portsmouth South, Mike Hancock...

"It is a great privilege being an MP for the city where I was born and brought up," said Mike Hancock as Portsmouth Talk caught up with him in his busy schedule. "I am very lucky to be in a position to help many people with their problems and sort out a number of issues - large and small for the city and its people"

As we detail below, that "sorting out" has included working for a better deal for our NHS and backing our armed forces as a member of the Defence Select Committee.

Talk also found that Mike and his office also deal with over 10,000 enquiries and problems a year from local constituents. Issues raised include tax credit problems, housing, health and residents' parking.

It is easy for local people to get in touch with Mike as he holds two advice centres a week where his constituents can raise any issue they want with him. And his office is in the heart of the constituency in Albert Road so people can pop in during the week to leave him a letter or note or ask for advice from his staff.

Mike has also recently been leading the campaign in Parliament to try and ensure that HMS Victory stays in the Royal Navy. And he wants more help for pensioners as they face dramatically higher fuel bills this winter. So Mike has been pressing their case in Parliament.

Mike's attention has also turned to our coastline as he backed calls for a stronger Maritime Bill, (which is currently at the draft stage) to safeguard our seas and coast. The MP is one of the leading campaigners in Parliament on animal welfare issues and as part of this recently pressed the Government to promote alternatives to experiments on animals.

Mike has also been out and about in the city meeting as many local people, groups, schools and businesses as possible. He backed "Proud of Pubs" campaign week. And at the end of August, he opened St Wilfrid's Neighbourhood Watch fete which raised money for a local medical charity. He has also visited a local computer games developer and the Portsmouth branch of the Federation of Newsagents and has been pressing for Government help in the challenges they both face.



FIGHTING

One of the top priorities for Mike Hancock as a local MP is fighting for a better deal for our local NHS.

Mike is particularly concerned at the knock-on effects for Portsmouth if the emergency unit at Chichester's Saint Richard's hospital goes or is downgraded. So

**MP...
AL**



● Clockwise from top right: Mike at Portsmouth's Historic Dockyard Backing "Proud of pubs week. Discussing issues with local pensioners at a lobby of Parliament. And opening St Wilfrids Neighbourhood Watch Fete. (Front page: Fairtrade Fortnight).

Mike's record in Parliament includes:

Voting for:

- ✓ Action to stop climate change
- ✓ A better deal for our pensioners
- ✓ Scrapping university tuition fees

Voting against:

- ✗ The war in Iraq
- ✗ The closure of post offices
- ✗ NHS cuts

BACKING OUR TROOPS!

As a member of the influential House of Commons' Defence Select Committee, Mike Hancock, has been putting defence chiefs and ministers on the spot to try and get a better deal for our armed forces.

The Committee has recently launched inquiries into the Government's procurement of defence equipment and the Ministry of Defence's performance against its targets.

It also recently completed an inquiry into

the recruitment and retention of service personnel.

This found on a cross-party basis that the Government was not responding with "sufficient flexibility and imagination" to the staffing problems the forces faced.

Mike commented: "Our troops put their lives on the line for our country.

"So, it is pleasing to work with MPs of all parties to try and get the best possible support for them from the Government."



FOR A BETTER NHS!

he has taken the fight to save Saint Richard's to Parliament and the Health Minister.

And he has backed calls in Parliament for trials of a treatment for Prostate cancer, Abiraterone to be speeded up.

He has also supported a parliamentary motion for more prevent-

ative dental care and access to an NHS dentist for everyone.

Mike said: "The NHS is a great institution.

"So, I am doing all I can as an MP to back the hard work of our doctors and nurses so that local people have the best possible healthcare."

MP's fight for action on global warming



Mike Hancock (pictured above supporting the work of the Energy Saving Trust) wants strong and decisive action to cut carbon emissions to help combat global warming.

Mike said: "Some people say that the current economic problems mean that we should forget about global warming. I don't subscribe to that view.

"Many of the steps that we can take to reduce carbon emissions will help people and make our economy more competitive.

"Action to improve insulation - saves people money as well as saving the Environment.

"A lot of energy is wasted in distributing - so guaranteeing a price at which people can feed into the National Grid any

electricity that they generate from small scale solar panels or turbines is also a win-win situation."

The MP is also backing a plan for all our energy to come from renewable sources by 2050.

And he has been battling for the Climate Change Bill to be beefed up - with a target of an 80% cut in carbon emissions.

Mike added: "To be competitive in the world economy of the future - we will need to create so called "green collar" jobs.

"And we will need to demonstrate to our international customers that Britain takes the environment seriously if we are to sell our goods and services abroad."

"We must continue to take global warming seriously"

We must do our ECONOMIC

Local MP, Mike Hancock tells Portsmouth steps he wants taken to boost our economy help rescue Britain from the current financial crisis

Official figures show that energy bills have risen by 35% and food prices by 10%.

So local MP, Mike Hancock is urging the Government to introduce a tax cut of over £1000 for an average family which will help them meet these bills.

Mike said: "I have been warning the Government of looming economic problems for some time now.

"There have been unsustainable levels of

personal debt, mostly secured against the illusory "wealth" of rising vastly inflated property prices.

"An economy based so heavily on debt was unfortunately never going to be in a fit state to deal with global shocks like the credit crunch."

"What the country needs now is practical action to help

people. Put money back in their pockets, cut their

Tax cut of £1000 a year to help people pay their bills

Mike Hancock's 5 steps to a prosperous Britain

- **Stop unnecessary repossessions and provide more social housing.** Introduce a Code of Practice for mortgage lenders to ensure that repossession is only ever the last resort.
- **A tax cut for over £1000 for an average two-earner household.** Paid for by closing tax loopholes for the rich.
- **Action to deliver future economic stability.** Including independent monitoring of the Government's fiscal rules.
- **Cut energy bills and fight fuel poverty.** With better insulation, smart meters that show consumption costs and cheaper pre-pay tariffs.
- **Help people with debt problems.** Including establishing a network of free independent financial advice centres.

Act to boost ECONOMY

With Talk the economy and financial crisis

energy bills and help them keep their homes. This is what I'm proposing and will be fighting for."

Mike also wants the Government to look at what it spends.

The MP said: "Just as households have to look at what they spend so should the Government.

"The Iraq war has cost £7 billion. ID cards and the national NHS computer system are due to cost £50 billion. Cutting back on these

could save up to £2000 per taxpayer. But frontline services in the NHS and schools should be protected."

Mike has also vowed to campaign to try and get and keep jobs for Portsmouth. He is asking the Government for more

support for the computer software industry - an important employer in South Hampshire.

And he is doing his best to keep the proposed Commercial Road and Northern Quarter shopping redevelopment on track.

And local people facing financial difficulties can find a list of organisations that can help on his website.

Mike added: "If you have financial problems and you feel I can help as an MP, please don't hesitate to contact me."



● **Flashback:** Mike celebrates the Tricorn coming down with local people. Better shopping facilities will boost the local economy.

Fear of crime wrecks the lives of too many in our community

There's no doubt that crime is a big concern for most people. But for many it goes well beyond that.

"I believe we need to do more to tackle crime," says Portsmouth South MP, Mike Hancock

"We need to have a zero tolerance approach to the anti-social behaviour that makes residents lives a misery. I am backing the city council's initiatives on things like city-wide wardens, more

CCTV and night buses to take people home.

"Our police officers work hard but we need more police on patrol especially at night.

"So I am fighting for them to be given the resources the need from Government.

"We must crackdown on the anti-social behaviour

that makes people's lives a misery."

Mike says that a top priority for him as the area's MP will be to continue to push for action to tackle crime.

He added: "People must be able to feel safe at home and on our streets again - day or night."



● **Mike is working with local police to try to reduce crime.**



Mike Hancock's Resident's Survey

It helps me to represent you if I know what local people think about various issues. Please take a few minutes to fill in this survey and return to me - using the Freepost address below (no stamp needed).

Thanks for your help and time!

YOUR CONCERNS

Which of the following issues are most important to you in Portsmouth? (Please tick a maximum of 3)

- The Economy
- Environment
- Pensions
- Education
- Crime
- Transport
- Housing
- Health
- Other (please specify)

CRIME AND POLICING

Do you support the introduction of identity cards or would you prefer to see the money used to put more police on local streets?

- ID Cards
- Local Police Officers

THE NHS

Have you experienced trouble trying to register with a local NHS dentist?

- Yes
- No

THE ENVIRONMENT

Do you think higher polluting vehicles should be taxed more?

- Yes
- No

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

BUSES

Please tell me, what do you think of the bus services locally in the city?

- Good
- OK
- Poor

Do you think local buses offer value for money? Yes No

Do you use buses regularly?

- Yes
- No

TRAINS

Please tell me what do you think of the train services to/from Portsmouth?

- Good
- OK
- Poor

Do think local trains offer value for money?

- Yes
- No

Do you use trains regularly?

- Yes
- No

EDUCATION

Please tell me, what you think of local schools in the city?

- Good
- OK
- Poor

Do you have children at school/college? Yes No

If so - are they at (tick all that apply):

- Pre-school
- Infants
- Junior
- Secondary
- Sixth-form
- University/college

THE ECONOMY

In light of the current economic difficulties, people have suggested various measures. Please tell me which if any of the following things you think the Government should do to help people in Portsmouth (tick all that apply):

- A tax cut for those on average and below average incomes
- More help for those in arrears with their mortgage
- Government investment in building new homes
- More to help people to save energy.
- More shared equity schemes
- Other (please specify).....

ABOUT YOU

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Mobile: _____

The information you supply may be used by Mike Hancock, MP and his office but will not be passed to third parties.

HAVE YOUR SAY:

Use this space to have your say on any grumble/problem/good idea (continue on another piece of paper if needed):

Please return to:
Mike Hancock, MP
FREEPOST (PT1176)
Portsmouth PO5 3BR
(No stamp needed but using one helps us)



Mike Hancock
MP for Portsmouth South
Dear Friend



It is a great privilege and pleasure to be the MP for Portsmouth South and serve you.

This special edition of Portsmouth Talk reports back on some of the recent things that I have been doing and taking up in Parliament and as an MP on your behalf and that of Portsmouth as a whole

As always if I can help in any way or if if you want to let me know your views as your MP on any subject, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes

Mike Hancock
Mike Hancock CBE MP

PS Please help me in my work as your MP by letting me know your views on a range of local and national issues by filling out the survey opposite.

Thank You Mike!

*Just to say
Thank you for
all your help*

Mrs B, Southsea

Thank you - what can I say - SOMEONE WORKING FOR YOU, YES MIKE HANCOCK. I feel that not only have I benefited from an extra clinic to process the results so have many others. This could not have been achieved without your intervention and goes a long way to restoring my faith in British politics.
Mr D, Portsmouth

*Thank you so much
for all your help in
sorting this out*
Miss B, Copnor

*Thank you -
Your assistance
meant a lot to us*

Mr and Mrs D
Portsmouth

Here to help you



Mike Hancock has helped many thousands of local residents with problems since becoming our MP.

In the last 12 months, Mike Hancock and his office dealt

with over 10,000 enquiries and problems. If you have a problem or an issue you would like to raise with Mike, please contact him today using the details below or make an appointment to see him. Mike's first priority as our local MP is to always be there to help when a local resident needs it.

To contact Mike:

Write to: 1A, Albert Road, Portsmouth PO5 2SE

Email: portsmouthldp@cix.co.uk

Phone: 023 92 861 055 **Fax:** 023 92 830 530

Advice Centres

By appointment: at 1A, Albert Road (normally Saturdays - please ring for an appointment)

No appointment needed: Mondays 6pm-7pm at City of Portsmouth Girls School, St Mary's Road, Fratton (except Bank Holidays)

www.mikehancock.co.uk

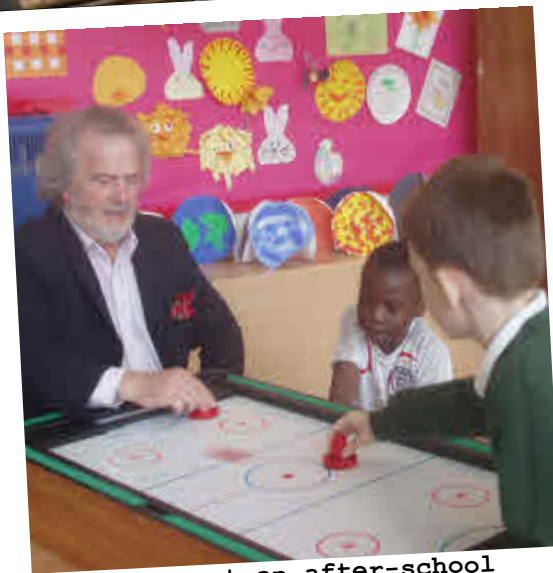
Mike Hancock's SCRAPBOOK



Mike Hancock has been speaking up for Portsmouth in Parliament.



Mike is getting the Welcome to Portsmouth signs changed to include: "Home of Pompey, FA Cup Winners 2008."



Mike (here at an after-school club in Milton) is backing more things for kids to do.



Mike Hancock urging people to support the "Wear it pink" event that raises money for the Breast Cancer Campaign.



Mike is one of the leading Parliamentary campaigners on animal welfare issues - here highlighting the issue of whale hunting.

www.mikehancock.co.uk