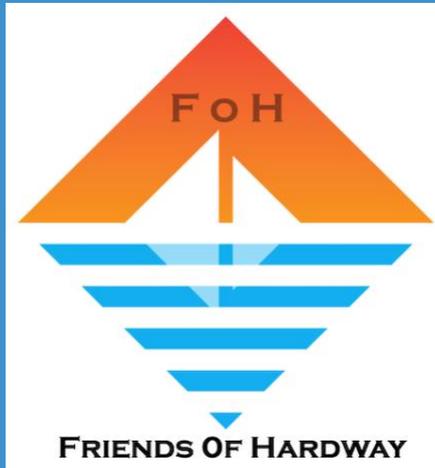


Hardway Newsletter

This Newsletter is to provide an update on the activities of the Friends of Hardway Committee since September 2019



Website & Social Media

We have created a dedicated website for Friends of Hardway – www.friendsofhardway.com and you can subscribe to our blogs and event notifications on the site. It is a useful place to stay up to date in between published newsletters.

A new facebook group has been set up to provide instant updates/communication with members you can join this closed group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofhardway>

or if you don't want to join the private group you can visit the public page

<https://www.facebook.com/FOHGosport/>

Anti-Social Behavior – All Agencies Meeting October 2019

In October 2019 members of the FoH and RAG Committees met with our MP (Caroline Dineage), local councillors, senior officers from Gosport and Fareham police, young people support workers and members of Motiv8 with the aim of planning activities in Spring and Summer 2020. We also discussed some longer-term deterrence measures e.g. a permanent video surveillance camera overlooking the Hardway Memorial Garden. The meeting placed on record our communities' concerns with Anti-Social Behavior (ASB) and the action FoH and RAG wanted taken to prevent future such occurrences.

Community Conservation Scheme – Grove Road and Sealark Road

The FoH would like to develop, through a Community Conservation Scheme, the unkempt area of land at the junction of Grove and Sealark Road.

We have written to the agents who represent the landowners and are we are awaiting permission to begin. The PTA from St John's Primary School have expressed a desire to join us and involve the children from the school. On your behalf we will continue to press the land owners for permission to begin this scheme.

SAVE THE DATE

Hardway Community FETE

8th May 2020



A sub-committee from the FoH, working in conjunction with the RAG are planning a fete to be held on the Hardway Commemorative Green; this day also commemorates the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day.

The plan is to have various fun stalls run by members of the Hardway community, perhaps local organisations and businesses, refreshments and a raffle.

More information will be published shortly and the FoH fete group will be seeking volunteers to help organise and support different stalls.

Get in touch if you want to run a stall

media@friendsofhardway.com

Hardway Defibrillator

The FoH have submitted a funding request in order to purchase, refurbish and then install a community defibrillator in the out of use telephone box on St Thomas's Road. However we have today heard from BT that the Telephone Box is now to continue in service and has been taken off the adoption list. **We will continue to look for suitable location for a community defibrillator.**



Memories of Hardway Project

Submit your memories and help us document Hardway's History



Our objective is to capture stories of those who have lived or worked in the Hardway area and preserve them for future generations. We have already published some stories on our website. We welcome contributions from resident's past and present and you can submit articles or memories via our website, facebook group or via Email to Media@friendsofhardway.com

Community Litter Picks

On Sun 12 January 2020, 19 members of the local community met at the Co-Op precinct, Bolton Drive, for a litter pick. After 2 hours picking, 20 bags of rubbish were taken away by Street Scene.

Unfortunately the February litter pick was cancelled due to Storm Dennis - the next litter pick will take place on

Sunday, March 15 at 10 AM meeting at Co-Op precinct, Bolton Drive, Gosport



Do you love where you live?
Join us at the next Litterpick,
This is your opportunity to meet other residents and contribute to making Hardway better for all!
All Welcome including children and dogs
Equipment provided
Stay for as long as you want - no requirement to stay for 2 hours.



Community Litter Pickers



Streetscene Neighbourhood Surgery - 7 January 2020

Meeting Report from Chair of Friends of Hardway

The meeting with the Gosport East Police and PCSO team at the Hardway Sailing Club was attended by about 30-35 members of the local community and some people from outside the Hardway area. 6 members of the FoH and RAG were also present.

The policing team gave a very good update on their priorities, local policing assets (6 officers to cover Gosport East) and how members of the community could aid them in controlling/ disrupting ASB and other criminal activity.

The team also updated us on the follow-on actions from the ASB events last summer; they advised that a number of the miscreants had been formally interviewed and Association Orders had been placed upon them i.e. if they were seen in the company of named others, they could be re-interviewed and a further case of offending behaviour placed on their record. All of which could be taken in to account should their case be referred to the courts as a result of further offending.

The team advised they were already devising a patrol plan for the Easter school holidays which would take account of tide times and local weather - their aim is to be proactive rather than reactive, and thus provide a more credible deterrence.

Following a question concerning photographing misbehavior, of whatever sort it was confirmed that it is not illegal to photograph people in the act of committing an offence including swearing at you or trespassing on private property. However, the police's powers are limited in terms of the action they can take when people swear in public i.e. it was part of the conversation between the group. The police are only empowered to act when an individual uses abusive language when reacting to your intervention e.g. 'This is private property, please leave'. 'Why don't you **** *'. would be seen as foul and abusive language and would be an acceptable reason for the Police to move the miscreants on, but not necessarily arrest them. The team also explained that when youngsters trespass on a private pontoon i.e. they swim from the public jetty across to the Sailing Club pontoon, unless criminal offences is being committed, trespass is a civil matter.

There was also an update on the Banning Order for the Commemorative Green and the complications with enforcing this i.e. there is a significant amount of administration to be put in place, and then reviewed as and when an incident takes place, for the Police to use the Banning Order. The Police find it more efficient to use a Section 35 Order which allows them to move miscreants on and also report the event, and thus build a further case of evidence against each individual involved.

“I think though that the most important point to take away from the meeting was that no matter how frustrating it can be, please report all incidents of ASB to the 101 line, in person to the Gosport Police office front counter located in the Town Hall, or by letter.”

The more evidence we can provide, the more often the limited amount of local resources can be allocated to our area. In the 12 calendar months to Dec 2019, Hardway (Priory Road) was 8th on the list of incidents reported to the local police and the number of reported incidents is down on the previous 12-month period. To provide context, Gosport Town Centre had the highest number of reported incidents and the new retail centre at Brockhurst had also become a target for shoplifting and ASB.

Jamie Hutchison advised those present that the FoH were working with many local agencies e.g. Motiv8 and Oarsome Chance with the view to putting on events in Easter and Summer 2020 in an attempt to reduce the levels of ASB through interaction with the groups most likely to commit ASB. Jamie also advised the members of the local community would be involved in these events and that young people support workers would also be there to provide support.

Bottom line, the Hardway ASB incident in July 2019 and the associated national print and broadcast media articles had proved to be a catalyst for multi-agency interest in our local problem and had generated more support for the issues specific to the Hardway. Both the Hardway RAG and the Friends of Hardway are included within these discussions and we will work with the local agencies e.g. Motiv8, Police and Gosport Borough Council in a concerted effort to reduce ASB in the Hardway area and particularly on the Commemorative Green.

David Marshall, Chair of The Friends of Hardway

The Gosport Police Office front counter opening times are

Tuesday 9am - 4pm (Closed for lunch 12pm to 1pm)

Thursday 9am - 4pm (Closed for lunch 12pm to 1pm)

Saturday 9am - 3.30pm (Closed for lunch 12pm to 1pm)



Police Office front counter is located at Gosport Town Hall, High Street, PO12 1EB

Join 'The Friends of Hardway' Society

You can join from our webpage: <https://www.friendsofhardway.com/become-a-member>

or by contacting Friends of Hardway Secretary by email: secretary@friendsofhardway.com

or by post through the following address:

Secretary Friends of Hardway, 49 Heritage Way, Gosport, PO12 4FG

Joining FoH is simple

Membership to support your local community group is only £5.00 per person per year.

For this you will:

1. Have a vote and say on community projects and events around Hardway.
2. Have community support on any of your ideas and suggestions.
3. Help fund more community events.
4. Fund environmental and conservation projects that are not covered by the local authority.
5. Receive a regular newsletter on your local neighbourhood.
6. Be supporting your local community group.



WHO WE ARE

The Friends of Hardway is a society founded in 2019 to safeguard the environment of Hardway for present and future generations.

FRIENDS OF HARDWAY

Our AIMS are to:-

- Promote Hardway community involvement.
- Maintain the neighbourhood of Hardway.
- Engage with the community through events and projects.
- Protect and improve the environment and appearance of Hardway.
- Engage with similar groups that benefit the community.
- Maintain the identity and history of Hardway.

Join Friends of Hardway



submit articles or memories via our website, facebook group or via Email to Media@friendsofhardway.com

Hardway History The Yew Tree @1973

Memory from Lesley Thomas, Gosport

"The Yew tree, on the right overhanging these D Day trucks, became unstable around 1973.

My friend Neil Johnston, who I believe lived at 82 Priory Road, Hardway, lived next to Mr Hunt the music teacher. Neil's dad asked if he and I would assist him in removing the stump after it was felled. The tree surgeons did their job and a stump of approximately 4 feet in diameter was left to be removed. We spent the best part of a day digging around the stump and severing the huge root system and once we had the stump rocking, a rope was tied between the stump and the back of Ian Johnston's Mazda RX3 and it was duly dragged out.

There in the soil among the roots was a 14th century Edward III groat; I don't know how old the Yew tree was but there was this 600 year old coin nestled in its roots.

The current tree which was replanted is around 45 years old."

December 2019



An Edward III (1312 - 1377) groat like the one that was found in the roots of the felled Yew tree