



Report it, sort it. Mark's campaign to tackle crime

Pooley Green is a hotspot for anti-social behaviour. The police say they do not receive enough reports to prove this and increase their focus on the area. Well, let's increase those reports!

Your Local Conservative team led by Mark Adams and Cllr Alex Balkan, work closely with our MP, Dr Ben Spencer, to tackle issues affecting our community in Egham Hythe and to represent you at the council and parliament.

Mark and Alex have heard from numerous residents who are concerned about anti-social behaviour locally, particularly around Pooley Green. No one wants to feel uncomfortable walking in their community or seeing litter and broken glass at Pooley Green children's playground.

The problem is that Runnymede Borough Council and the police say they do not receive enough reports from residents to justify more action, and so we do not see the police presence and council resources we need.

Mark said: "Anti-social behaviour and litter can have a big impact on

how safe residents feel living in Egham. So I am launching a new Neighbourhood Watch scheme, where we can report incidents and Cllr Alex Balkan and I will follow these up with authorities.

"It will only work with your support so please join us. All it takes is an email to

Join the Neighbourhood Watch: "With community-led action, we can make a big difference."

eghamhythevoice@outlook.com. With community-led action, we can make a big difference for the better."

Mark is a former councillor for Egham Hythe and is standing again in May 2023. You can find out more about his work in our community in this newsletter.



Cllr Alex Balkan and Mark Adams pictured at the Magna Carta Fair this summer where they challenged kids to take part in a climate change drawing competition. Here they are with the brilliant results.



Our MP Dr Ben Spencer recently invited a member of the Ukraine Catholic Church to speak at the Hythe Centre. Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski praised the strong links between the UK and Ukraine and talked about the church's role supporting victims of the Ukraine conflict. Ben spoke in Parliament about the fantastic support for Ukraine here in Runnymede and Weybridge. Watch a clip at <https://youtu.be/fVIKBRqetJY>

Mark and Alex working to reduce level crossing waits

"As the saying goes, the only things certain in life are death and taxes – and we can add to that, long waits at level crossings," says Mark Adams.

The Egham Hythe Conservative candidate met with the Network Rail's level crossings manager recently to discuss the issue of barrier waiting times, which impacts many of our residents.

He also persuaded Runnymede Council leader Tom Gracey to write to rail bosses to request a feasibility study for replacing the crossings with tunnels and bridges.

Network Rail conceded that 'if the railway was built from scratch today then level crossings would not feature,' and has promised signalling changes which should start to ease waiting times from August 2023.



Cllr Alex Balkan and Mark Adams at Thorpe Lane Level crossing during one of the waits

Dr Ben Spencer MP tackles flooding threat

I recently joined a team of River Thames Scheme (RTS) project leaders from Surrey County Council and the Environment Agency to view the local sites that are proposed for the vital flood alleviation project.

RTS is a huge infrastructure project that spans my Runnymede and Weybridge constituency. On my visit we also talked about the potential for environmental wetland and biodiversity sites.

The next public consultation is at St Peter's Church, Windsor Street,

Chertsey, 7th December 1-7pm.

I know the fear and anxiety that living with the threat of flooding can bring and I will continue to push for getting on with and delivering the scheme as soon as possible.

I have also met with residents and flood groups at St Paul's Church in Egham Hythe to discuss how volunteers can help clear up our waterways can enhance protection. If you would like to get involved, or raise a concern about flooding, contact me at ben.spencer.mp@parliament.uk



Dr Ben Spencer MP on a River Thames Scheme visit

Tea Boat project helps make a better riverside

The Tea Boat project has transformed an unkempt section of the riverside between Staines and Egham into an oasis for walkers and cyclists.

It was the dream of the late Ari

Zoides to create a floating café, called a Tea Boat. With help from volunteers who continue his legacy, this has morphed into a cabin at the towpath and benches, which are proving popular.

Mark Adams has been involved since his time as an Egham councillor and is helping to secure funding for electricity and water supplies to the café.

He said: "This area used to be overgrown and not a place you'd come for a walk. Thanks to the project it's been transformed. We're getting lots of compliments from passers-by."



Mark Adams is a volunteer with the Tea Boat project

NEWS IN BRIEF



Lights repaired at New Road footbridge

Mark Adams is pleased to see the light on the railway footbridge at the end of New Road repaired and working. It took Mark some time to track down the agency responsible, but eventually new lights were ordered through Surrey County Council. This should improve safety for local residents.

Council can help with cost of living

Inflation and high energy prices mean financial hardship for many this winter. Support is available through Runnymede Borough Council. For details go to: www.runnymede.gov.uk/cost-living



YOUR CONSERVATIVE TEAM FOR

EGHAM HYTHE, POOLEY GREEN AND THE RBC SIDE OF STAINES

Candidate **Mark Adams**
Cllr **Alex Balkan**
Dr Ben Spencer, MP for Runnymede & Weybridge



Alex and Mark are tackling litter in Egham

Cllr Alex Balkan and Mark Adams have been leading litter picks at local parks and playgrounds - sometimes finding odd items like the stop light in the photo, left.

Alex said: "The litter picking is one of the ways our team is helping to improve the local environment in Egham Hythe.

"I know that residents share our frustration when they see broken glass and litter in our public spaces, so please - if you feel as strongly as we do - get in touch and join in our next litter pick."

Runnymede Council is on track to improve our playgrounds which will hopefully have an impact on care people have for them.

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Get involved with your local Conservatives at volunteer.conservatives.com