



News In Brief

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 PEOPLE living in Hampshire have been warned to kiss goodbye to every blade of grass after calls were...

Three held after missing man believed murdered
 THREE men have been arrested on suspicion of murdering a man who went missing in Petersfield.

Game on for pupils!
 THE 23 Portsmouth schoolchildren who were duped into buying fake tickets for a World Cup game will g...

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 A report into standards at Kingston prison in Portsmouth has been published today....

Royal Mail brings Queen's mail two days late
 Irene Hills might have been smiling as she celebrated her 100th birthday with her family, but one sp...

Clamp king has to stump up himself
 A NOTORIOUS wheel-clamper has been given a taste of his own medicine....

Still more homes needed, report claims
 MPs are warning the government that plans for thousands of new homes may not be

News

Lost tickets ruin kids' World Cup dream

A group of heartbroken children were returning home from Germany today after failing to see a World Cup match because they never got their tickets.

A party of 23 boys from Mayville High School, Southsea, paid about £400 each for the trip and were promised seats for the game between the Czech Republic and Ghana last Saturday.

But the pupils and their teachers and some parents were left high and dry after two separate agencies failed to supply the tickets.

The group were among nearly 400 from all over Britain who were left devastated by the vanishing tickets. Beverley Dodgson, of Beach Road, Hayling Island, said her 13-year-old son Jack was 'hugely disappointed' and some of the group had been in tears when it became clear they would never see the match. 'He'd been looking forward to it for months. He'd talked about little else for ages.

'I first heard something had gone wrong last night. It's bad enough for adults when something like this happens, but when it involves kids it's doubly worse.'

The Mayville group travelled to Germany by coach to play in a seven-a-side football tournament in Cologne against schools from Italy, Germany and Spain.

They had special Flamenco dancing lessons at school to improve their balance and fitness as part of their Spanish lessons after the boys learned many of Spain's footballers went through similar lessons.

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The soccer-mad Mayville youngsters before their trip

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