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ANNA SOUBRY MP

Member of Parliament for Broxtowe

NEWSLETTER



February 8th 2011

www.annasoubry.org.uk

"she has a record of unusually free speech" Simon Carr, The Independent
"the beating heart of the parliamentary Tory party" Quentin Letts, The Daily Mail

Hello again,

I have spent a lot of time in the last few weeks trying to improve the poor communication between the City Council and people in Beeston and Chilwell affected by the tramworks. My thanks to all the residents and business people I have met and communicated with. I had a positive meeting with the City Council and reported back to various groups and Councillors the next day. I am attending another residents' meeting on Thursday evening and between us I do believe the lack of information is improving (please scroll down for more details).

The House of Commons is going through a bit of a lull at the moment as important and controversial legislation is being considered by the House of Lords (notably, the reform of the NHS and changes to sentencing policy). The result is that we have enjoyed some very good non-partisan debates on a variety of topics which I have enjoyed contributing to – scroll down for more details.

At the time of writing, the cold snap continues triggering the cold weather payment which contrary to some of the scare stories remains at £25 a week.

Finally, I spoke earlier today with the senior police officer for the south of the constituency, Inspector Craig Berry about a number of serious incidents in Bramcote Park; again, please scroll down for more details.

As ever,
Anna

Bramcote Park warning

The Police have issued a warning to everyone who uses Bramcote Park, especially in the wooded area around the Leisure Centre. There have been four incidents of sexual assault and indecency in recent weeks. The police are appealing for anyone who has seen anything suspicious to contact them by dialling 101. My advice is not to use the area unaccompanied, especially at dusk or at night.

Dates for your diary and surgery details

National Apprenticeship Week:
Please click [here](#) for more details

Thursday 9th February:

"Meet the Minister" Small and medium sized businesses throughout Broxtowe are invited to meet and question Mark Prisk MP who is responsible for Enterprise. 1.15 - 2.30 Mayfield House, 1 Nottingham Road.

Tram

In an effort to provide information and to encourage everyone to communicate, I have created a "tramworks info" page on my web site at www.annasoubry.org.

The City Council also have a web site with information which can be found by clicking [here](#).

Please email me with any enquiries about the tram works on

anna.soubry.mp@parliament.uk



Long Eaton.

Thursday 9th February:

Residents' meeting Queens Road, Lower Road and Fletcher Road residents meeting at the Fire Station on Hassocks Lane at 7pm

Sunday 12th February:

Stapleford Town Council Civic

Service Everyone welcome at St. Helen's Church for the service at 10.00

Saturday 18th February:

Surgery Greasley Please call the office on 0115 9436507 or send me an email to make an appointment. I am in the process of finalising the dates and locations of my surgeries in March.

The death of John McGrath

I wrote to the Coroner asking for a full Inquest into the events leading up to the killing of Stapleford man, John McGrath.

The family and I are pleased to know that the Coroner has agreed to an Inquest.

This is a very important case and I very much hope the family will finally get the answers to the many questions they and I continue to ask.

GREEN BELT UPDATE

Somewhat bizarrely, Broxtowe Borough Council, in the face of widespread opposition, increased the housing target meaning even more houses on our green belt. The controlling Labour and Lib Dem group then had a change of heart and it seems the plans are now on hold.

As it happens there are two by elections for the County and Borough ward of Toton. I refuse to be cynical and suggest there may be some connection.

As regular readers know I have campaigned to persuade the ruling group that they should not accept the last Government's housing target and should not hand over our green belt to the developers. I have held a debate in Parliament, spoken to a number of Government Ministers and have held or attended five public meetings, but unfortunately the Labour and Lib Dem group continue not to listen. I would like to think that perhaps they are now paying attention to the people they are meant to represent.

Beauvale School

This historic school, where D.H Lawrence was a pupil, has been sold to a private developer. The D.H Lawrence Society are concerned about the future of the building which has been empty since pupils moved into the new school across the road. The building is listed thanks to the efforts of the late Martin Wright who was a Greasley Borough Councillor for many years. I will write to the County Council for an assurance that the building will retain its character and historic importance in accordance with its listed status.

Kimberley School

Following a lengthy consultation Kimberley School Governors have voted unanimously not to apply for Academy status. However, the Head of School Chris Teal assures me they will continue to review their status.

Ilkeston Station

I have written to the Transport Secretary, Justine Greening in support of the campaign to re-open the railway station in Ilkeston, being led by the Erewash MP, Jessica Lee. The station would be an asset for people in the north of the constituency, especially Trowell.

Post Box for residents opposite Bilborough College

Royal Mail have told me they intend to put in the much needed Post Box we requested by March.

Out and About

Job Centre/ Holocaust Memorial Day/ Marie Curie/ Headcase/ Bramcote C of E Primary School/ Richmond Court/ Co-Op Pharmacy Opening

Job Centre Plus in Beeston

I spent a highly informative morning with the team at the Beeston Job Centre Plus. Almost 2,000 people are claiming Job Seekers Allowance in the constituency with the biggest rise amongst the 25 to 49 year old age group. The old rather depressing and grubby "dole offices" are long gone and the team in Beeston are keen to provide proper and full support and advice. Given that it is National Apprenticeship Week it's to be hoped local employers will take advantage of the scheme which in the last academic year saw 457,000 apprenticeship starts representing a 63% increase on the previous year.

The National Apprenticeship Scheme includes real incentives to employers to take people on and give them the skills and work they need.

Holocaust Memorial Day

I joined local dignitaries and a whole host of other good folk in the walled Garden in Bramcote to mark the Holocaust Memorial Day. A tree was planted and our Youth Mayor Tilly Stone gave a moving account of her trip to Auschwitz and the importance of not forgetting the Holocaust.

Marie Curie

Many people coping with the final stages of terminal cancer will have used the services of Marie Curie. Two of their fund raising team came to see me as they are keen to start a fund raising group in the south of the constituency. If you are keen to get involved with us please send me an email.

Headcase

I welcomed Kate from the Beeston based charity, Headcase, to an event in Westminster for charities raising money and campaigning for more research into brain tumours. Headcase are holding their next fund raiser on Saturday March 3rd when they stage their second Annual Ball. Details of this excellent local charity can be found on <http://www.headcase.org.uk/>

Visit to Bramcote Church of England Primary School

It was a true delight to visit Bramcote C of E Primary. My thanks to all the staff

especially the head Sarah Meredith and Vicar Paul from St. Michael's. I received the sort of grilling from the School Council I am coming to expect from our youngsters throughout Broxtowe. My thanks to all of them for their excellent questions and terrier like determination not to let me off the hook!

Richmond Court, Beeston

Residents invited me to discuss a variety of matters of concern notably the poor state of the windows and a lack of parking spaces - all matters I will canvass with their Borough Councillors as this is ultimately the responsibility of Broxtowe Borough Council.

Co-Op Pharmacy Opening in Chilwell

It was a pleasure to open the new Co Op Pharmacy which is off Bramcote Lane and opposite Sandby Court. My thanks Jatin Yadav and his staff for the invitation who do a great job mainly preparing medicines for the elderly in the area.



Parliamentary Work

Benefit Cap / Early Intervention



I spoke in last week's debate on Welfare Reform about the cap on benefits. Labour opposed the Government's policy of placing a limit of £26,000 on the annual amount any household can claim in benefits.

This is the equivalent of a gross household income of £35,000. As I explained in the debate, capping the amount of money a family can receive in benefit is not simply about saving tax payers money. It is about making sure people are better off in work than out of work.

I believe the reforms we are making to the benefit system are not simply about saving money but are about ending generation on generation living on benefit. It's in everyone's interest that people who can work, do work.

Click [here](#) to read the debate in Hansard

Early Intervention

I took part in an excellent but all too short debate on early intervention. The very good work of Labour's Nottingham North MP, Graham Allen, is recognised by us all as just that. The debate last week was secured by Andrea Leadsom MP who has a real command of the subject. I hope you might find the time to read the debate in Hansard by clicking [here](#). Please scroll to the top for the whole debate.

And Finally...

Thank you to everyone who was kind enough to email me after I reviewed the papers on the

Andrew Marr show and after I was a panellist on Radio 4's Any Questions. It is well over thirty years since I first appeared on Any Questions and as it turned out after waiting so many years - I was a sub; Transport Minister Theresa Villiers broke her collar bone in a cycling accident and I was a last minute replacement.

Contact Anna Soubry MP

email: anna.soubry.mp@parliament.uk or [tel:0115](tel:01159436507) 9436507

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