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## Anna Soubry MP working hard for Broxtowe

[www.annasoubry.org.uk](http://www.annasoubry.org.uk)

E-newsletter | September 12 2014

Hello again,

It has been a particularly busy week mainly thanks to the Invictus Games which finishes on Sunday. As the Minister for Veterans, I have a special interest in the event which has seen teams of wounded former service men and women from all round the world, in competition.

There is a lot of constituency news - notably about next week's important vote on the future of our Green Belt land.

There are some great events this weekend so please scroll on down to the Diary section; a special plug for the Forever Stars Ball on October 3rd. This is a Broxtowe based charity to raise money for facilities at the QMC for parents who have suffered a still birth. Get your tickets now please! And don't forget the "and finally ..."!

As ever,  
Anna

### **Save Our Green Belt - vital Council meeting on Wednesday.**

Broxtowe Borough Council meets on Wednesday to decide whether to give the go ahead to their controversial "Core Strategy", which would allow thousands of houses on our Green Belt land. Today, I met the Planning and Housing Minister, Brandon Lewis and his officials and as a result have written to Eric Pickles asking him to intervene. It would be a first, but I believe Broxtowe's plans, which I accept have been approved by the Planning Inspector, are so at odds with Government policy that Green Belt land should not be built on save for exceptional circumstances, they require scrutiny at the highest level. I know there will be legal action based on similar grounds.



In my letter to Eric I also rely on Broxtowe's bad plans for Toton and express my view, which is shared by many others, that if HS2 is to provide the many benefits it promises, we need world class economic development at Toton Sidings, not over 500 houses.

The Council meet on Wednesday at 7pm. Save Broxtowe's Greenbelt is planning a demonstration at the Town Hall in Beeston.

[Click here for Save Broxtowe's Green Belt facebook page...](#)

One of the reasons so many people are opposed to Broxtowe's plan is that it puts housing development on Green Belt land before building homes on our brown field sites. Developers have applied to build 675 homes on the Boots site and a further 280 in Beeston Rylands - both brown field sites that should be developed long before we give away our precious Green Belt land.

### **White Hills Park Federation plans**

I have written to the Education Secretary, Nicky Morgan about the Federation's plans for £20 million of new school buildings and other improvements. Schools Minister, David Laws has assured me that any plan to sell land can only be done with the consent of the Sec. of State who will want to be satisfied the Federation has consulted with the local community and Borough Council. Alderman White has applied for "priority school funding" and I will add my support to their application which I hope will help considerably with this important project.

### **Stapleford Carnival's Iron Ladies!**



It was really good to see so many friendly and familiar faces at last week's Stapleford Carnival. Mind you it was my first encounter with the Man of Iron's Ladies darts team. This great bunch of women raise serious money for various charities and are worthy of all support.

### **Kimberley Town Council update**

There continues to be considerable concern about the running of Kimberley Town Council. I have spoken to the auditors, Grant Thornton, who say they hope to present the accounts by the end of the month, but are investigating the various complaints raised by former Councillors and myself about the lack of transparency and other matters concerning the Council's finances.

I have written to Eric Pickles, Secretary of State for Communities and Local government following representations from five former Councillors. The Council is not being properly run and we are further concerned that complaints to Broxtowe Borough Council were not acted upon. There is a real need to ensure proper recourse for people facing a rogue town or parish council and I understand the Government is looking at how we can improve the system. 10 out of 15 Councillors has now resigned including 2 Green, 1 Labour and 1 Conservative.



Meanwhile, former Town Councillor and Green Party member, Kat Boettge has accepted a fresh apology from Kimberley Town and Borough Councillor, Andy Cooper, who used highly offensive and racist language against Kat in an email to all Councillors and the Town Clerk. However, Kat has repeated her call for Cooper to resign, which he continues to refuse to do. Andy failed to see the person when he chose to insult Kat and instead saw her nationality. In law race and nationality are the same. Former Town Councillor, Labour's Janet Pearce, who is the tenth Councillor to resign, was the first to describe Coopers comments as racist and offensive. However, local Labour supporters rushed to Coopers defence launching a rather vicious attack on any of us daring to call for his resignation. This has been a shameful episode. If Andy had apologised immediately, understanding why his comment was so offensive, it would have been the end of the matter.

In all of this it has been forgotten that a few years ago, Labour didn't hesitate to call for a Lib Dem Councillor to resign when he used the utterly vile "n word" in a Council meeting. Councillor Cooper meanwhile is to be sent on a "diversity course"; I hope he is paying for it.

## Tram works update



View from the office today.

### Fencing - result!

Let me be the first to congratulate Broxtowe Borough Councillors who voted unanimously last night for 3.4 metre fencing along the tram route in Chilwell.

Milan Radulovic proposed the change seconded by Chilwell Councillor Richard Jackson. I really do hope this is the end of the matter, for the sake of long suffering residents.

### Hotel accommodation for residents

One of the best kept secrets was out this week, as you may have heard and seen on BBC East Midlands Today. Residents on Lower Road have been put up in hotels during all night working. We all agreed not to publicise the arrangements because of security fears. I have called (again) for residents who have suffered so much for almost two years to receive compensation.

### Cycling danger

I have had more complaints from cyclists who have suffered really nasty injuries when their bikes became caught in tram tracks. I continue to raise this with NET and will report back.

## Bramcote Hills Golf Course - tidy up promised

Following my email to Broxtowe Borough Council, the owners have been contacted and have agreed to tidy up the site off Thoresby Road within the next three weeks.

## Rumbletums wins award

Congratulations to Kimberley's Rumbletums cafe who have been named "Cafe of the Year" by the Kimberley and Eastwood Advertiser.

## Nuthall bus plug

I have received reports that fines issued by Nottinghamshire County Council to motorists using the Nuthall 'Bus Plug' on Bank Holidays have been overturned on appeal because of poor signage. Understandably, this has angered constituents who have already paid fines. I am supporting County Councillor Cllr Philip Owen who wants fairness for all. Best of all we want a better system that doesn't penalise local drivers!



## Working for you in Parliament

There have been a number of good debates in Parliament in the last week. As the responsible Minister I responded for the Government in yesterday's debate about Gurkha pensions.

I had a large number of emails about the debate about puppy and kitten farming, slightly fewer about the Affordable Homes Bill (which seeks to change the spare room subsidy) and a very small number about the situation in Iraq and Syria. Does that mean we are more concerned about domestic issues than the very real and serious threat to world peace from ISIL? I welcome your views.

[Click here to read the debate on puppy and kitten farming...](#)

[Click here to read the debate on the Affordable Homes Bill ...](#)

[Click here to read the debate on Gurkha pensions ...](#)

## ***What's on in Broxtowe and surgery details***

**Today - Sunday 14 September**

### **Heritage Open Days**

Where: Attenborough, Beeston, Bramcote, Chilwell, Stapleford, Toton and Wollaton.

What's on: This year's Heritage open days are set to be jam packed. For the full line up please click [here](#).

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**Saturday 13 September**

### **Rylands Community Fair**

12 noon till 3pm

Where: Trent Vale Infant School.

What's on: There is plenty for everyone to enjoy including sports, bouncy castle, food, drinks, prizes and much more. Entry is Free.

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### **Grand Ceilidh**

7pm

Where: The Boat and Horses, Trent Road, Beeston, NG91LP.

What's on: Special guest appearance of the Black Pig Border Morris Dancers, tickets cost £10 please call 0115 922 9831 for tickets. All proceeds raised for the Canalside Heritage Centre.

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### **Craft Fair**

10am till 3pm

Where: St Mary's Church Hall

What's on: Craft fair with a selection of tables, refreshments will be available too.

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### **Sunday 14 September**

#### **Exhibition of Toton's past and current archaeology**

Where: Sports Pavilion, Toton Manor Farm Recreation Ground.

What's on: This is part of Beeston and District Civic Society Heritage open day events.

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### **Monday 15 September**

#### **Tea for Two**

10am and 1pm

Where: VAB - Oban House, 8 Chilwell Road, Beeston.

What's on: National campaign aimed at breaking down the stigma associated with mental health issues. Time to change sessions are running every Monday from now until the end of October. Everyone is welcome but places must be pre-booked, please email

[kateb@vabroxtowe.org.uk](mailto:kateb@vabroxtowe.org.uk).

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### **Beeston Wildlife Group, new talk - Dolphins**

7:30pm till 9:30pm

Where: Trent Vale Infants School.

What's on: A slide illustrated talk by Robert Alan-Haven. For more details please click [here](#).

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### **Wednesday 17 September**

#### **Signposting Course**

7pm

Where: Holy Trinity Church, Eastwood Road, Kimberley.

What's on: Rumbletums, in partnership with St Patrick's Holy Trinity Church and the Transforming Notts Together Project will be running the course which is aimed at helping staff and volunteers who come across vulnerable people, to sign post them to external support services. If you would like to attend please call Jeff on 0115 945 9421.

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### **Thursday 18 September**

#### **Chilwell's Creative Corner**

5pm till 9pm

Where: 178 High Road, Chilwell, NG9 5DW.

What's on: Open invitation to come to the first official event showcasing; Attik, Created By Hand, Fusion Café, Mish Mash Gallery and Tranquillity. There will be arts and crafts demonstrations, music and special offers. Please click [here](#) to visit the website.

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### **Friday 19 September - Sunday 21 September**

#### **Beeston Food and Drink Weekend**

What's on: A weekend celebrating all of Beeston's food and drink establishments, street food market, farmers market, street entertainment and much more. Please click [here](#) for more details.

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### **Vintage Tea Parlour**

10am till 4pm

Where: Oban House, 8 Chilwell Road, Beeston.

What's on: Homemade cakes, afternoon tea, toasties and much more.

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### **Saturday 20 September**

## **Surgery**

10am -12pm

Beeston Library

Please call the office for an appointment

## **Readers Network Event**

1:30 till 3:30pm

Where: Beeston Library.

What's on: For anyone who likes reading and talking about books; fiction, nonfiction and poetry. There will be a poetry theme this time, so please bring a poem about a tree - this is optional, there is also the opportunity to swap a poetry book. The Vintage Pop Up Cafe will also feature. Any question please contact [beestonreaders@gmail.com](mailto:beestonreaders@gmail.com).

## **Wednesday 24 September**

### **Cabaret Show - Paul Tayler's Swing Thing**

8pm

Where: Boat & Horses, Trent Road, Beeston.

What's on: Music from the 60's, 70's and 80's; providing a social evening for people to meet and enjoy the shows. Cost is £5 on the door.

## **Friday 26 September**

### **Country Market**

7:30am till 11:45am

Where: Wollaton Road Methodist Church, Wollaton Road, Beeston.

What's on: The market takes place every Friday morning, everything is home grown, home baked and hand crafted.

## **Friday 3 October**

### **Forever Stars Gala Dinner**

7pm

Where: East Midlands Conference Centre.

What's on: Event in aid of Forever Stars Charity. Tickets are £45pp, for more information please email [richard.daniels@mac.com](mailto:richard.daniels@mac.com).

## **Sunday 5 October**

### **Kimberley and District Striders 10 Goose Fair Gallop**

10am

Where: Race starts at Kimberley leisure Centre.

What's on: The event involves a 10 Kilometre run along roads, bridle ways and path ways. For full details please click [here](#).

## **Wednesday 8 October**

### **Dig In - Stapleford**

10am till 12 noon

Where: Albany Allotments site, Pasture Road, Stapleford NG9 8HZ

What's on: Dig In is Stapleford's community allotment, where people from different ages and backgrounds come together to share skills, knowledge and experience of food growing.

## **Friday 10 October**

### **World Sight Day - Notts - Derby Hemlockstone Lions Club**

10am till 4pm

Where: Stapleford Care Centre, Church Street.

What's on: Celebrating Lions Sight Awareness Week, in trying to prevent sight loss and helping those people with sight loss and impaired vision. They are hoping to attract companies, charities and people involved with sight problems along to the event as well as the general public.

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**Saturday 11 October**

**Autumn Fair - Attenborough and Chilwell Women's Club**

10am till 12 noon

Where: Attenborough Village Hall.

What's on: Autumn Fair where proceeds go to local charities, there will be stalls, refreshments, raffle, tombola and much more.

And finally .....

Bramcote Care Group provides a neighbourly service to residents of Bramcote and Bramcote Hills. The volunteers help with shopping, collecting prescriptions, transport to hospital or doctors, visiting/ befriending services and also emergency practical help.

Co-ordinator Elaine Morris tells me they are receiving few calls; please contact Elaine on 0115 939 2566 or Julie on 0115 925 1029 to enquire about assistance or volunteering.

"a decent Conservative" *Kevin McGuire, Daily Mirror*

"If only all ministers answered questions like Anna Soubry does." *David Aaronovitch, The Times*

"she has a record of unusually free speech" *Simon Carr, The Independent*

"part of the beating heart of the parliamentary Tory party" *Quentin Letts, The Daily Mail*

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