

**ANNA SOUBRY MP**  
Member of Parliament for Broxtowe

**NEWSLETTER**



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"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*

please click [here](http://www.annasoubry.org.uk) to visit my new web site [www.annasoubry.org.uk](http://www.annasoubry.org.uk)

June 19 2011

Hello again,

I have been busy both in the constituency and in Parliament since my last newsletter.

Thank you to everyone I have met on a number of visits, please scroll down for details. Getting out and about throughout the constituency is something I particularly enjoy. A special congratulations to all the organisers of great events like the Hemlock Happening, Chilwell Carnival and the somewhat quieter Friends of Toton Fields Cream Tea !

I have a new web site [www.annasoubry.org.uk](http://www.annasoubry.org.uk). It is still under construction but please visit it. I especially keen on the diary which I hope you will find useful, so please let me know if you would like to advertise an event. The web site also gives details of my surgeries, which I have also included at the end of this newsletter.

Thank you to everyone I have seen in surgery in the last few weeks at Beeston and Stapleford Libraries. Please call the constituency office if you would like to make an appointment on 0115 9436507.

### **Constituency matters and issues of concern**

#### **Broxtowe CAB**

I am delighted that Broxtowe CAB has secured over £85,000 from the Government's Transition Fund and congratulations to Sue Maslowska and everyone at the Beeston office for their determination in securing funding for this outstanding and important charitable service. As you will recall from past newsletters I have been an outspoken supporter of the CAB both locally and in Parliament. I don't know whether it made any

difference but it was a pleasure to arrange and attend a meeting between Broxtowe CAB and the Minister Nick Hurd, earlier this year. I now hope that Sue's Lottery bid is equally as successful. Read more at [www.annasoubry.org.uk](http://www.annasoubry.org.uk)

### **Awsworth/Babbington Re-cycling Planning Application**

Like most MP's I try to keep away from planning matters unless they have a significant and important bearing on Broxtowe. I was contacted by Lydia Ball, the Borough Councillor for Awsworth, and a considerable number of constituents about the proposed development for onsite composting at Westby Lane, Babbington.

(The details of this planning application can be found by clicking [here](#)) Residents are concerned about the effects that onsite composting may have on their health and that high-tonnage lorries will travel down the extremely narrow Westby Road. There are also concerns that this may be the "thin end of the wedge". I do not know of a single resident of Awsworth or Babbington in favour of the application and given the implications of a successful application I have written representing residents views to Nottinghamshire County Council. I am told a decision will be taken later in the year and I will of course keep you updated.

### **Police meeting**

I met with six constituents who are all serving "front line" police officers. We discussed many topics for almost two hours and it was good to hear their views. They are understandably concerned about changes to their pensions, their pay and working conditions. They also expressed their concerns that experienced officers are being made redundant in Nottinghamshire (something I have voiced my concerns about in Parliament and to the Chief Constable) and their belief that crime has not been falling as the statistics would have us believe. I have written to the Home Secretary on their behalf and expressed my concerns on the future of police pensions and the redundancy programme in the county.

### **Autism**

I have met with a number of constituents regarding their concerns about the future of disability allowance for people with Autism and have represented those concerns to the Minister with responsibility for DLA, Maria Miller. I recently supported Robert Buckland MP and his 10 minute bill to ensure people with autism receive the right support and high quality services. The "10 minute rule Bill" is really a device to secure a long speech on a particular subject and though a division wasn't called it was a pleasure to sit next to Robert and support him as he gave an excellent speech which is well worth reading so please [click here](#)

### **Southern Cross and the Silverwood Care Home, Beeston**

You may well be familiar with the financial difficulties facing Southern Cross who manage a large number of residential care homes. Silverwood on Imperial Road in Beeston is the only one they manage in Broxtowe and

I'm grateful for Beeston Councillor Janet Patrick for alerting me to the very genuine concerns of residents, their families and the staff about the future of Silverwood.

Both Nottinghamshire County and Nottingham City Council made clear some weeks ago their commitment to secure the future of all residents. But there has been some scaremongering in the national press so I thought it important to write to the County Councillor with responsibility for the care of the elderly in Notts. I have asked Cllr. Kevin Rostance for specific reassurance for everyone concerned with Silverwood. I will let you know of his reply and most importantly keep residents, their families and the staff informed.

### **Toton Connect bus**

I have had an update from Councillor Richard Jackson who assures me Notts County Council are continuing to secure another operator of the service that will stop towards the end of July. He tells me they are still optimistic that a replacement will be found.

### **Severn Trent "we need more rain"!**

As all keen gardeners will know, although we have had quite a lot of rain in the last week or so, there hasn't been enough to make good the shortfall after an exceptionally dry spring. Severn Trent water are still warning that we need more rain to be sure of avoiding drought orders. Their advice is to use water sparingly and make sure to report leaks either on their website [www.stwater.co.uk](http://www.stwater.co.uk) or on 0800 783 4444.

### **Constituency visits and events**

#### **Foxwood Foundation School and Technology College, Bramcote**

I had a thoroughly enjoyable morning visiting Foxwood, meeting pupils and staff and then having the honour to open their new venture "Sweet Treats" in Beeston Square. (There is a full report on [www.annasoubry.org.uk](http://www.annasoubry.org.uk))

Please visit Sweet Treats it's a great idea introducing Foxwood pupils to the world of work. I know the school is exploring some exciting schemes to improve the employment prospects of their pupils and I have given them my full support. If these plans come to fruition I will let you know. With Foxwood very much still in mind I asked a question in a Parliamentary debate on Academies. Foxwood is keen to be one of the first special needs school to obtain Academy status. You can read the full extract from Hansard by [clicking here](#). I was a little surprised, but none the less delighted when the Schools Minister invited the head of Foxwood, Chris Humphreys and I to a meeting to discuss the application. I have accepted the invitation and arrangements are underway.

#### **Bramcote Hills Primary School Golden Jubilee**

I was one of many guests invited to join in the celebrations as BHPS celebrated its 50th Birthday. What another great school we have in

Broxtowe and again congratulations to a first class head teacher and team of staff. The pupils were a complete credit to their school and their families and everyone had a wonderful time. The full story and photo can be viewed on Bramcote Today's web site [Bramcote Today](#)

### **Cedar House, Beeston**

Young homeless women find shelter and support at this 10 bedroom home in Beeston which is run by a charitable organisation. Cllrs Radulovic and Watts joined me for a tour and chat with residents and staff. Please read more on my web site [www.annasoubry.org.uk](http://www.annasoubry.org.uk)

### **Hemlock Happening**

Sincere thanks to Cllr Stan Hepinstall for inviting the Mayors of Stapleford and Broxtowe, the Borough's Youth Mayor and me to open the Hemlock Happening. It was another successful Happening and in no small part thanks to Stan and his team. Thank you to everyone who joined in the fun.

### **Friends of Toton Fields Cream Tea**

There was a good turn out last Sunday afternoon despite the weather. I would urge everyone who can, to get involved with the Friends (and not just because their cream teas and plant stall are very good!). They are a busy and lively group so please check out their web site and hopefully you will be persuaded to join them and help to protect this much loved and valued part of the constituency. Click on [Friends of Toton Fields](#) and get straight through to their web site.

### **Nottinghamshire Football Association Awards**

It was a pleasure to attend the awards ceremony at the Village Hotel in Chilwell and special congratulations to Priory Celtic based in Kimberley on their success.

### **Clayfields Secure Unit - award winners**

I want to say a very special congratulations to everyone at Clayfields Secure Unit in Stapleford which I visited some time ago and then had the great honour of welcoming to Parliament. Clayfields has won a prestigious award for two large murals which residents created with a lot of help from an exciting enterprise based in Leicester ([Click here to visit The Mighty Creatives web site](#)).

Most of the young people at Clayfields have committed serious offences given their age (some of their residents are as young as 11). Almost everyone comes from a very troubled and often a highly abusive background. Clayfields combines both key elements of a good sentencing policy namely punishment and rehabilitation, though quite properly at Clayfields the emphasis is on the latter.

### **Parliamentary work**

Since my last newsletter I have spoken in the debate on sentencing and the role of magistrates (see below) and have raised various issues, including fuel prices. [They work for you](#) is a web site that records the work of all MP's and is a good way to keep up with my work in Parliament.

### **Health Reforms**

I make no apologies for supporting the fundamental principles of the Health and Social Care Bill and equally the listening exercise initiated by the Prime Minister. However much our critics might want to mislead and scare monger, the NHS is highly valued by the PM, the Coalition Government and Conservatives like me; we believe it should remain funded by general taxation, free at the point of delivery and based on need not the ability to pay.

I have no doubt reforms are needed to improve the quality of treatments to patients by making sure we can continue to fund them in the face of an ageing population and spiralling health costs.

Whilst we can argue as to why our plans to modernise have failed to attract the sort of support from people who work in the NHS they need to become effective, you can't make those changes in the NHS without their support.

What we must now ensure is that vested interests, like NHS managers, don't stop GP's, nurses and other health clinicians from working with us patients to commission the services we need and want, and to make sure we have a choice and a say in the treatments we receive.

### **Marking 650 years of the Magistracy**

Regular readers will know of Kimberley resident, Roy Plum's campaign to stop Magistrates from being forced to retire at 70. The judicial office of Magistrate was created 650 years ago and since then many thousands of ordinary men and women have been stalwarts of the criminal and family justice system. To be appointed a Magistrate is a great honour and their voluntary work is essential in both the criminal and family justice systems. I thought the centuries of service should be marked in Parliament along with Roy's campaign and my speech can be read by clicking [here](#) in Hansard

### **Surgeries / Forthcoming events / media appearances**

I am listing constituency events in my diary on my web site so please click through to [www.annasoubry.org.uk](http://www.annasoubry.org.uk) please send through details of any events so I can update the calendar.

Just a quick plug for this Friday's (24th June) Stapleford Mayor's Coffee Morning (from 10 -12) at the Carnegie Centre on Warren Avenue, Stapleford in aid of the Mayor of Broxtowe's chosen charities - Link Youth Cafe and Rainbows Hospice.

### **Surgery dates**

The next confirmed surgery is on July 2<sup>nd</sup> at Greasley at the Community Centre on Dovecote Lane. I am also hoping Tesco's will give us the go ahead for a drop in surgery next Friday afternoon or next Saturday morning at their store in Toton. Following on from the success of the Kimberley Sainsbury surgery a "drop in" is just that – no appointments necessary but if you do live in Toton and want to see me privately please call the office on 0115 9436507

### **Media appearances**

I was a guest on Radio 4's The Westminster Hour to discuss the NHS reforms and on Radio 5 Live debating sentencing with the Shadow Justice Minister, Sadiq Khan. I am a regular on ITV Centrals "The Lobby" along with Labour MP, Jack Dromey and Lorely Burt MP from the Lib Dems.

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