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# ANNA SOUBRY MP

Member of Parliament for Broxtowe

## NEWSLETTER



June 25 2013

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

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

Hello again,

It's a small world; no sooner had I had a conversation with one of the actors, who is married to an old friend of mine, when a constituent contacted me telling me about "Inside Out of Mind", a play about dementia which is getting excellent reviews. The play, which is partly sponsored by the NHS, is showing at Lakeside Arts Centre until Saturday (I have booked my two tickets). Click [here](#) for the review in the Nottingham Post and [here](#) for Prof. Greenaway's (Vice Chancellor of Nottingham University and Bramcote resident) blog which says it all!

Saturday sees a wide variety of great events - please check out the "What's On" section.

Please keep in touch.

As ever,

Anna



### **National Armed Forces Day**

I am "showing my colours" in support of National Armed Forces Day which takes place in Nottingham on Saturday. Chetwynd Barracks has been an integral part of our community for decades and our service men and women continue to do a remarkably brave and professional job. You can find out more about National Armed Forces Day and the events taking place on the Nottingham City Council website [here](#).

## Green Belt update

We are waiting for a decision from the planning Minister, Nick Boles MP, on whether he will support Broxtowe Borough Council's decision to allow 450 houses on Field Farm (Green Belt land to the north of Stapleford).



Somewhat bizarrely, a number of journalists have been trawling through my website, reading every posting. This included some rather old letters detailing my concerns about the future of our Green Belt land.

In the ensuing non-story (that even made the front pages both nationally and locally), most of the facts were ignored. Perhaps even more surprisingly, these letters, which have been referred to in my email newsletters over many months, do not appear to have been read by local Labour and Lib Dem Councillors!



## Leading and working with everyone who cares about their community

As regular readers know, I have been defending our Green Belt land since 2007. In Broxtowe we don't have any green field land. Instead, we have brown field sites that could provide over 3,000 homes. Alongside this, we have a small amount of Green Belt, which primarily serves the function of defining communities and provides green open spaces for everyone to enjoy.

Broxtowe is the most densely populated Borough in the county and our roads- most notably in Nuthall, Toton and Stapleford- simply cannot cope with any more large developments.

## Brown Field First

I haven't met a constituent who opposes thousands of new homes on brown field land but I do represent thousands who are completely opposed to losing yet more of our Green Belt. I agree with them, which is why I have held two debates in Parliament about our Green Belt along with numerous public meetings (the last of which was held in Nuthall on Saturday 15th June).



The census figures show that the population of Broxtowe grew by 1,900 people between 2001 and 2011 . Furthermore, house prices in Broxtowe, and indeed Nottingham, have stagnated (I should know as my home in Nottingham has been for sale for almost two years- despite me dropping the price considerably!). Accordingly, I don't believe there is demand in Broxtowe for the target of 6,150 houses so readily agreed by the Borough Council.

Neither do I accept their plan, which puts Green Belt land before brown field sites. As a result

of Broxtowe's policy decisions, we are faced with planning applications for almost 1,500 houses on our Green Belt whilst brown field sites lie derelict and awaiting development.

### **Poor record**

Broxtowe has an unhappy history of badly planned housing development: too many stand alone developments with little, if any, public transport; few community facilities and no green, open spaces. In one instance (Chilwell Meadows), builders left roads unfinished for years- until I stepped in and banged some heads together!

### **HS2 - golden opportunity for jobs, NOT hundreds of houses**

HS2 brings a great opportunity for jobs and economic development at Toton Sidings.

However, HS2 officials have told me that Broxtowe planners have indicated this site as a place for houses for commuters to Sheffield! As you know, Labour and Lib Dem councillors made the site vulnerable to housing development by originally making it one of their preferred sites.



We now know that developers want to build even more houses on the land around Bardills - again on Green Belt land that prevents urban sprawl and is enjoyed by people in Chilwell, Bramcote, Stapleford and Toton.

The Prime Minister and Eric Pickles, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, have repeatedly said that Green Belt land remains specially protected. But - and it is a very large but- as we in Broxtowe know, when the local Council decides otherwise it leaves the Government in a very difficult position because we also, quite rightly, believe in localism.

This conundrum is not new- it has been identified by me for some time. Recent reports and comments just prove that those who think they are informed are not!

You can be assured I will continue to fight in defence of our Green Belt.

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

### **Friday June 28**

#### ***Paradiso Cinema presents "Lincoln"***

Chilwell Arts Theatre, Chilwell School  
Refreshments at 7 pm film starts 7.30  
£5 concessions £4

### **Saturday June 29**

#### ***National Armed Forces Day***

Celebrations and Commemorations throughout the day in Nottingham  
Please click [here](#) for more details

### **Saturday June 29**

#### ***Surgery***

Barton House, High Road, Chilwell  
10 am til noon

Please contact my constituency office on 0115 9436507 for an appointment

**Saturday June 29**

**100th Anniversary of the Ripley Rattlers**

Kimberley town centre

10 am til 4 pm

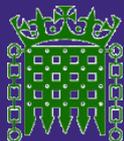
For more details, please contact Jackie Harwood on 0115 9173743 or by email at [jackie.harwood@broxtowe.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.harwood@broxtowe.gov.uk)

**Out and About**



**Meet the Team in Nuthall**

Thank you to everyone who gave us a warm welcome in Nuthall on Saturday. Our "Meet the Team" drop-in event is being held on Saturday July 13th between 11am and 1pm at Mornington Primary School. We hope to see you there!



**From Parliament:**

**Front of pack labelling/ Pancreatic Cancer/ Tobacco Control**

**Front of Pack Labelling**

It was a pleasure to announce last week that all of the supermarkets and some of our biggest food manufacturers have agreed to one simplified system of labelling food. The aim is to provide shoppers with plain and simple information on how many calories, how much salt and how much fat is in a food product, coupled with a traffic light system of colour coding.

The scheme has been welcomed by everyone- now we need to make sure all food manufacturers step up and sign up. I spoke at two events last week specifically on childhood obesity, which is one of my top priorities as the Minister for Public Health.

**Pancreatic Cancer**

Pancreatic Cancer is a horrid disease- difficult to detect and late diagnosis means it rarely has a happy outcome. It's been a pleasure to work with campaigners who are seeking to raise awareness of the disease, improve prevention and develop better diagnosis and treatments. I spoke at last week's All Party Parliamentary Group on pancreatic cancer, explaining the Government's commitment to the fight against cancer by placing it as a priority in our mandate to NHS England (who are ultimately responsible for commissioning cancer services).

I also am delighted to report that the Department of Health are running a second national campaign on lung cancer this summer.

**Tobacco Control**

This brings me to tobacco control and a new EU directive. I went to Luxembourg at the end of last week for a series of tense negotiations which resulted in new restrictions on

internet sales, a ban on tobacco flavouring and an increase in the percentage of health warnings on cigarette packets to 65%.

## **and finally...**

Whatever our faith, I think most people will be saying some sort of prayer to someone, somewhere about Nelson Mandela, whose life appears to be slipping away.

Mandela is an inspiration throughout the world, not only for the quiet dignified way he endured his ordeal in prison, but also for what he went on to achieve on his release. Nelson Mandela continued to fight for justice but also forgave and reconciled with those who had supported the wicked system of apartheid that had, so wrongly and cruelly, incarcerated him for so long. We may never see his like again.

### **Contact Anna Soubry MP**

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

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