



April 2016 Newsletter

Dear Constituent,

I hope you had a pleasant Easter Holiday and found time to enjoy one of the many options of things to do in Mid-Derbyshire over the bank holiday weekend. I put together a list of the top ten things to do in Mid-Derbyshire for under ten pounds on my website and encourage you to take a look. Most of them work all year round and are great for individuals and families.

Since my re-election last May, I have taken up a number of campaigns I hadn't anticipated being involved in and March proved no different

To begin with there is the campaign I am supporting to save Britain's hedgehogs. The cute prickly creatures have been a friendly visitor to British gardens for as long as most of us can probably remember. Unfortunately, in the previous decade their numbers have decreased by a third. I visited Hogs Haven in Mickleover, a sanctuary for hedgehogs run by husband and wife duo Stuart and Hilary, to find out what people can do to make their gardens more hedgehog friendly.

Last month I wrote to everyone who has contacted me about animal welfare to ask them to sign the petition to give hedgehogs a 'protected' legal status and the response was remarkable. I have received many emails and facebook messages of support for the campaign and I encourage everyone to visit www.hedgehogstreet.org to find out how you can make your garden more hedgehog friendly.

Another big campaign I am supporting is the 'Dying to Work' Campaign. My constituent Jacqui Woodcock deserves much credit for her efforts to start this campaign, which focuses on increasing legal protections for terminally ill employees so they cannot be made redundant because of their condition. I have supported Jacqui in her efforts for a number of years and was pleased to be able to raise her case directly with the Prime Minister at Prime Minister's Questions on March 17th.

The campaign picked up traction almost immediately with my inbox and office phone receiving calls and emails from people who have been through a similar experience, or know friends and relatives that have. The thought that someone who has been told they have a terminal illness could be forced out by an employer instead of showing them compassion is unbelievable, but it happens. This campaign directly addresses that to ensure those who want to continue enjoying the normality of work can be protected without being forced out.

In Parliament this month I raised questions on an education programme focusing on the quality and not quantity of programmes offered in prisons to help prisoners rehabilitate and become productive members of society when they are released.

I also joined in a debate on deporting foreign criminals from the UK. I am happy that the Government has focused on this with legislation meaning a judge has to consider deportation as the first option when considering a foreign criminals sentence. Too often bogus human rights claims have taken precedent over the safety of British citizens. The Government has recognised this and is taking action.

As always, if there is ever an issue you want to contact me about or an event you think I can help with please do not hesitate to contact me on Pauline.latham.mp@parliament.uk or 0207 219 7110.

Yours Sincerely,

Pauline Latham



Visit to Ashbrook School

One of the highlights of the month was my visit to Ashbrook Junior School to look at their fantastic exhibits on all things Harry Potter. I joined parents and grandparents in seeing the projects the children were working on including a song about the water cycle, Roman games and a Who Wants to be a Millionaire quiz based on Harry Potter. Unfortunately, I did not make it to the millionaire's board. Many thanks to all the pupils and Headteacher Miss Mel Julian for the warm welcome I received and I look forward to visiting another school soon.



Graduate and Apprentice Fair

It was National Apprentice Week in March and there were events all over Derby promoting apprenticeships, which are beneficial for both apprentices and employers.

I want to do my bit to help us reach 3 million new apprentices by 2020. To do this I am hosting a Graduate and Apprenticeship Fair.

The details are:

Friday May 13th,

Time: 10.00am – 3pm

Location: The Atrium, University of Derby's Kedleston Road Campus.

If you are a business with a vacancy or apprenticeship, get in touch about exhibiting. It's free and you'll be mentioned in every press release that goes out on the Fair.

Contact my constituency office, howitta@parliament.uk or call 01332 676679

Community Champions Awards

Each week I write to constituents who go the extra mile raising money for a charity or giving their time to help others. This year I am once again supporting the Derby Telegraph's Community Champions Awards. Already I know a number of constituents have been nominated but if you know someone who deserves recognition for what they do in Mid-Derbyshire nominate them here:

<http://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/communitychampions>

Welcoming Mid-Derbyshire to Parliament

Last month I welcomed another school to Parliament, Asterdale Primary School. The students were visiting as part of the Parliament Education Service programme to get school groups to learn more about how Parliament works. It was a great visit and the group had lots of questions for me including how when I first entered into politics (back in 1986!). Parliament is free and my office can help with your visit. Feel free to contact Sam.Millicheap@parliament.uk in my Westminster office if you are interested.

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