



June 2016 Newsletter

Volunteering with Belper Street Angels

It was volunteer week last month and I joined Belper Street Angels to help the work they do providing support, a friendly ear and even flip flops if needed, to people out in Belper. The Street Angels work every Friday night and it was great to be able to join the team of volunteers who give up their time to run it. It was one of the wettest evenings you could have, starting with drizzle and ending in pouring rain but that didn't deter these good Samaritans!



Events: European Union Debates in Mid-Derbyshire

This month is the European Union Referendum on Thursday June 23rd. In preparation for the referendum I am hosting two debates scheduled for Friday June 10th and Thursday June 16th.

They will feature guest speakers in both debates presenting the argument for leaving the European Union (Brexit) and remaining in. On Friday June 10th the guest speaker to speak in favour of exiting the EU is former East Midlands MEP, Chris Heaton-Harris MP, who is now the Member of Parliament for Daventry. He will be joined by Toby Perkins MP, a local MP from Chesterfield who will be presenting the argument to remain in the EU.

In the second debate, scheduled for Thursday 16th June, one week before the referendum, the speakers are Jeremy Lefroy, MP for Stafford, who will be arguing to remain, and Andrew Lewer, MEP for the East Midlands who will be taking the side of leaving the EU.

The full details of the events are:

Friday 10th June 2016, 6.30pm – 8.30pm

St Peter's Church, 6 Chesterfield Road, Belper, DE56 1FD.

Speakers: Chris Heaton-Harris MP for Daventry (Leave campaign) and Toby Perkins MP for Chesterfield.

Thursday 16th June 2016, 6.30pm-8.30pm.

The Sixth Form Centre, Ecclesbourne School, Wirksworth Road, Duffield, DE56 4GS

Speakers: Jeremy Lefroy MP for Stafford (Remain campaign) and Andrew Lewer MEP for the East Midlands (Leave campaign).

For tickets please contact howitta@parliament.uk or telephone 01332676679

How to contact me

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Dear Constituent,

Like many of you receiving this newsletter I was shocked by the news that the Courtaulds factory in Belper has gone into administration. Courtaulds is an institution in the area, being associated with Belper for over 200 years. Everyone knows someone who works there now or has worked there, often families who have been loyal to the company for generations. I knew the workers in the factory had reduced their working hours to a four day week last year to save anyone from redundancy but the sudden announcement operations would cease came as just as much as a shock to me as to the employees. It is clear the closure of BHS, one of the main customers at one time has had a devastating effect on it.

The day I heard of the closure I raised the issue in the House of Commons with Business Secretary, Sajid Javid, and met with him to discuss what the Government can do to protect the jobs and skills at Courtaulds. I know he cares deeply about saving Courtaulds. His own father had his first job in a Courtaulds cotton mill.

I have also spoken to Employment Minister Priti Patel about what can be done to support the employees and their families and have been reassured by her response and that of the Job Centre Plus and Derbyshire County Council and Amber Valley Council to provide advice and put on a Recruitment Fair for Courtaulds employees.

A number of businesses have contacted me directly about buying Courtaulds and I have put them in touch with the Business Secretary. I know he is working with both sides, administrators and potential buyers, about new ownership. I hope these efforts work as the loss of Courtaulds is a huge blow to the area. There are few other businesses like it in Mid-Derbyshire. In particular, the number of skilled workers who would be out of jobs they have worked in and trained for years would be an enormous loss.

My primary responsibility as Member of Parliament is to stand up for my constituents. We have had some real positives with unemployment and business creation in Mid-Derbyshire since 2010 but I know how hard the loss of Courtaulds is to the employees and the effect it will have on the local economy. I will continue to press the Business and Employment Ministers to do all they can to save Courtaulds.

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.

Your sincerely,

Pauline Latham

Meet your MP: 1st July

I am holding a number of 'Meet your MP' sessions over the forthcoming months. The purpose of the event is to give my constituents an opportunity to hear more about my role as your local MP. The events will be held in Belper, Spondon, West Hallam, Borrowash, Allestree, Oakwood, Little Eaton and Duffield. The first session will be held in Belper on Friday 1st July from 12.45 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. The exact location will be provided once you have registered. To register, please email howitta@parliament.uk or call 01332 676679



Graduate and Apprenticeship Fair Success

I hosted a successful graduate and apprenticeship fair at the University of Derby to give graduates and young people the opportunity to explore work options when they leave higher education. It was a great day with large numbers of young people attending.

Apprenticeships have been a real success in Mid-Derbyshire with the number of new apprenticeships rising by 4,390 between May 2010 and 2015. All sides agree they benefit both the apprentices and employers

A big thankyou to our sponsors on the day: University of Derby, Delta Rail, Enterprise rent-a-car, Rolls Royce and Severn Trent who helped make the day such a smooth success.

