



Pauline Latham OBE MP for Mid Derbyshire

Welcome

Remembrance Day is always one of the key dates in November's calendar and it was no exception this year as we paid testament to British soldiers' sacrifices in two world wars and many other conflicts. I attended West Hallam's Remembrance Service on 13 November and it was incredibly moving.

As some of you may know, Derby has a particularly close link to Remembrance Day. From his studio in Pride Park, local Derby artist Paul Cummins made the ceramic poppies which were displayed at the Tower of London in 2014 to mark the centenary of the beginning of WWI. After a huge effort preparing the bid, including lobbying many relevant figures and hosting a visit by the 14-18 NOW Executive Committee, I have this month secured Derby as one of the host cities for a tour of the 'Weeping Window'. The poppies will be displayed on the Silk Mill Museum in Derby City Centre from June - July 2017. It will prove a really interesting event to go to – as well as an important opportunity to pay tribute to the sacrifices of our armed forces past and present.



Parliament News



Working to Help Diabetes Sufferers

I am Chairman of the Diabetes Think Tank, a group which brings together policy makers, patient representatives, and clinical specialists to help address the challenges faced by the diabetes community. On 8 November we held a major event where we welcomed Professor Matthew Cripps, National Director for NHS Right Care, and discussed how sustainability plans for the NHS would affect work on diabetes.

Fighting to Close the Autism Employment Gap

There are shockingly low levels of employment amongst autistic people, and this month I backed a charity campaign which aims to make sure autistic people can get bespoke support to help them secure, and stay in, work. Hopefully this will move to close the autism employment gap once and for all.

Promoting Royal Crown Derby British Bulldogs

Royal Crown Derby produce fantastic fine bone china British bulldogs, and as part of my ongoing efforts to support local businesses I presented Boris Johnson, the Foreign Secretary, with a Royal Crown Derby bulldog. To further help the business, and the 200 skilled craftspeople they employ, I am also encouraging the Foreign Secretary to have one figure sent to each embassy in the world – and gave a bulldog to Boris in the hope that he will support the initiative.



Queens Head Pub Opening in Ockbrook

I was delighted to re-open the Queen's Head pub in Ockbrook this November after it underwent a £500,000 refurbishment so that it could be brightened up and modernised. The pub now provides tasty foods and a range of craft beers for the locals as well as providing 25 new jobs, which is fantastic news for the local economy.

Ensuring that there are thriving local businesses in the area is absolutely crucial, and means more money in people's pockets and higher tax revenues—which help fund public services like the NHS and schools.



Meet Your MP Events

I have hosted a number of 'Meet Your MP' events throughout the area this month. They provide a great opportunity for me to explain a bit more about my role in Parliament and the constituency, as well as a chance to speak to many residents I might not have met before. The events also give me a good chance to discuss a range of issues with constituents – with the topics this month ranging widely from Brexit to the NHS – and have an open conversation to help me further understand your views. It is pleasing to know that the sessions so far have been really well received and, as such, I plan to hold further events in the future.



Forthcoming Jobs Fair

On Friday 17th March, I plan to hold a Jobs Fair at the Strutts Community Centre in Belper from 10:00 - 15:00 as these have proved very popular in the past, as the photo opposite hopefully proves! There will be local businesses and companies who have vacancies and training opportunities on offer for a variety of jobs. Further details regarding the Jobs Fair will be advertised over the forthcoming months. In the meantime, however, if you are a local business and would like to exhibit, please get in touch with my Constituency Office on 01332 676 679 or email howitta@parliament.uk.

Best wishes

Pauline



GET IN TOUCH

If you are a constituent, and you have not been able to resolve an issue yourself, please do not hesitate to contact me to see if I can assist you as your local MP. I'm also always happy to arrange tours of the Houses of Parliament for my constituents. If you are interested please contact my Westminster office.

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