

Alan Campbell MP

Community News April 2022



Good afternoon

Welcome to the latest edition of my Community News. I hope you are keeping well and staying safe.

In this newsletter you will find information on some of the recent meetings and events I have attended online and in person as well as details of the work of local and national organisations I am supportive of.

As ever, I have included some links to various organisations that may be of help to people. Please be assured that all links have been tested and are safe to click through to. I do hope you find it informative and useful.

If you need to get in touch please call 0191 2571927 or email

campbellal@parliament.uk

You can also find useful information on my website at

www.alancampbellmp.co.uk or on Facebook at;

https://www.facebook.com/AlanCampbellForTynemouth/?eid=ARCt_uybFykBHP9Ze74JblWM5zGUiDhFgl8FizrUZK7Zmr1vijiCM68TFI_cGhOnsm_TvNnVuiYMhiLm

I continue to write my fortnightly column for the News Guardian, you can access these [here](#)

Best wishes

Alan Campbell MP

Tynemouth

Safe Homes **for Ukraine** **at the Coast**



A number of constituents who are sponsoring Ukrainians fleeing the invasion have contacted me regarding issues they are experiencing with the Home Office.

I have a dedicated member of my team, Sarah Day, dealing with this issue and she has recently attended events at St Peter's Church in Monkseaton, alongside Cllr Joe Kirwin, and Christ Church in North Shields organised by members of a local

facebook group - Safe Homes for Ukraine at the Coast: Whitley Bay, Cullercoats and Tynemouth.

Sarah talked about how we can support people both getting visa's and permission to travel letters and also with welfare once they arrive.

I am raising urgent cases with the Home Office and am working to address some of the issues with the system. The Government needs to urgently increase its capacity to address the large number of applications more quickly.

The group is also a huge source of advice and support for anyone who is signed up for the sponsorship scheme. Well done to them for their work and I pay tribute to the kindness of our local community.

Good Friday

Procession of

Witness



It was a great pleasure to speak at and take part in the Good Friday Procession of Witness organised by Churches Together in North Shields.

The Good Friday Procession of Witness traditionally saw up to 2,000 children from Sunday schools in North Shields parade through the town.

Due to the ongoing work on Northumberland Square and Howard Street the route was slightly different this year. I look forward to next year when the event will take place in a regenerated Northumberland Square.

10k Easter Road Race



Congratulations to the winners in the North Tyneside 10K Road Race and well done to all the runners. It was good to once again present the medals on a sunny day. There was a big turnout and the lovely route is a brilliant advert for our coast.

Operation Coastwatch



Thank you to Northumbria Police, the Council and Nexus for agreeing to increase resources for Operation Coast Watch and to include all the local Metro Stations.

I have been working alongside our Police and Crime Commissioner Kim McGuinness and local councillors, to ensure that the resources are there to ensure the safety of residents and visitors to the coast as we approach the summer.

People have a right to feel safe in their homes and in our communities and anti-social behaviour will not be tolerated.

Success depends on the various statutory agencies – particularly the police and local authority – working together, though cuts across public services have made that more difficult. That's why Operation Coast Watch over the Easter weekend was important – working together, committing resources to make sure that as crowds came to enjoy our regenerated coast those who came with crime in mind were deterred or dealt with.

Ambition for
North Shields
Howard Street
Update



Pedestrians and cyclists will be directed on to the newly laid footpath on Howard Street to allow the construction team to begin installing the drainage channel on the eastern side of the street, including the creation of tree pits.

During these works - which are expected to last until the end of June - this area will be closed to the public and the temporary crossing points will be removed. Access to businesses and residential properties on the eastern side of the street will be maintained at all times via the new footpath.

I am pleased that work is progressing on the regeneration of North Shields and the Fish Quay, if you want see to see the full plans visit

<https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/page/25910/ambition-north-shields?fbclid=IwAR3mnHMEt1UMGNyR4zVzcb0uLuMf9BTI560c02aai8ivXJXQl6u9TMOHOsA>

Whitley Bay
High School
Visit
Parliament



It was a pleasure to welcome back Whitley Bay High School who resumed the annual visit to Parliament following the pandemic.

For a number of years now, 6th Formers have been visiting Parliament, to tour the Palace of Westminster and it's always great to see how interested the students are in the workings of parliament.

Cost of
living crisis



I know that increasing numbers of local people are finding it difficult to manage with the growing cost of living crisis. My office is doing all we can to help including getting information about what support is available.

We are increasing the number of surgeries to respond not only to the fall out of the cost of living crisis but the many other issues that residents wish to raise. I also employ a member of staff who deals wholly with welfare and benefits. As ever, please get in touch if you have an issue or problem and we will do our best to help.

Tackling Fraud



Fraud is now the most common crime in the UK. With criminals using increasingly sophisticated tactics, it can have a significant and long-lasting impact on its victims, ranging from emotional distress to serious financial harm, including the fraudulent misusing of taxpayers money.

To mark the second reading of the Online Safety Bill, I attended the launch of TSB's new report and pledge titled "**Let's Tackle Fraud Together**" – calling for more concerted action across government and across sectors - be it banking, telecoms or social media - to better support victims and tackle fraud at its source.

Honouring a

local hero

PC Clements



It was an honour to attend the unveiling of a headstone in memory of Police Constable Mornington Alfred Clements of Tynemouth Borough Police.

Police Constable Clements was killed alongside War Reserve Constable George Cuthbert Murray when a German wartime bomb landed directly on the police box in which they were stationed on the 10th April 1941.

PC Clements was buried in an unmarked grave. To give this officer the recognition he deserves, the Police Roll of Honour Trust, in partnership with the Northumbria Police Federation have undertaken a project to address this today dedicated a headstone to mark his sacrifice and recognise and celebrate PC Clements' service.

Installation of

High Sheriff



I recently went to Holy Saviours in Tynemouth for the Installation Service for the High Sheriff for Tyne & Wear for North Shields man, David Bavaird.

I have known David for many years through his work for the North Shields Chamber of Trade, local charities and latterly his role as Chair of the North Tyneside Business Forum. His commitment to championing North Shields over the years has been remarkable. Congratulations.

Meeting with
North Tyneside
Clinical
Commissioning
Group



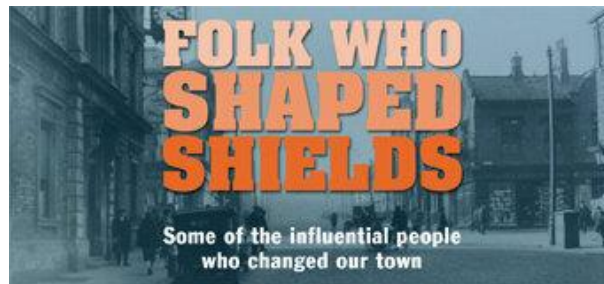
I had a catch up with the Chair of North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group where we discussed how the Health and Care Bill may affect the delivery of local services.

Old Low Light

Exhibition

Folk who

shaped Shields



I am looking forward to visiting the Old Low Light for their new exhibition, 'Folk who Shaped Shields' which focuses on the contributions of four inspirational people whose names remain significant today and whose legacies have far outlived their own lifetimes: John Dobson, John Foster Spence, Richard Irvin and Sir James Knott.

The exhibition has been researched and produced by Old Low Light volunteers and in the coming weeks and months there will also be talks about these four individuals.

It is fitting to highlight the work of some of the great people who left their mark on the town at a time when work is progressing on ambitious plans to revitalise the town centre and fish quay and to restore Northumberland Square and Howard Street to their former glory.

Bus Services

Update



Earlier this year the Government refused to honour its commitment to transport funding in Tyne and Wear meaning that a number of bus services were withdrawn.

I am pleased that following substantial pressure from local MPs and councils across the region the Government has now agreed further money for a Bus Recovery Grant. It has not yet given details of how much or when this will be paid and I have asked Ministers to provide details as a matter of urgency.

Visit to

Enterprise

Holdings



I recently visited the Shiremoor branch of Enterprise Holdings, the UK's largest vehicle rental and mobility provider, to see first-hand the work they are doing to improve transport in our local area. Visiting and supporting local businesses is an important part of my job.

Enterprise are committed to optimising vehicle usage and reducing private car ownership in favour of more sustainable shared mobility options.

As well as car club and daily rental, these innovative solutions include Mobility as a Service schemes and mobility hubs which integrate different modes of transport such as shared mobility, public transport and active travel, improving connectivity and making it easier for people to choose more sustainable options.

Diabetes is
serious campaign



I attended the launch in Parliament of the new Diabetes UK Campaign 'Diabetes is Serious'.

The report looks at how people living with diabetes have been impacted by the pandemic and how care can be improved as we recover.

Win for Gurkha Campaign



From this month Commonwealth personnel and Gurkhas who have served in the UK Armed Forces for six or more years, or who left before this due to injury, will no longer have to pay extortionate fees of £2,389 to continue to live in the UK following service in the UK's Armed Forces.

I am delighted to have supported the Royal British Legion campaign to help convince the Government to waive extortionate visa fees for Commonwealth personnel and Gurkhas who want to continue living in the UK after Service.

Thank you to all who have supported this important campaign.