Alan Campbell MP Community News

July 2023



Welcome to the latest edition of my Community News.

In this edition of my Community News, you will find details of recent events I have attended as well as details of the work of local and national organisations I am supportive of.

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_uybFykBHP9Ze74JblWM5zGUiDhFgl8FizrUZK7Zmr1vijlCM68TFI_cGhOnsm_TvNnVuiYMhiLm

I continue to write my fortnightly column for the News Guardian, you can access these on my website at News Guardian Articles - Alan Campbell MP for Tynemouth

Best wishes

Alan Campbell MP

Tynemouth Royal Naval Tyne Branch



Congratulations to Royal Naval Association Tyne Branch who celebrated their 75th birthday last weekend.

The Celebration Service also incorporated the dedication of their new Memorial Bell for the Branch to remember shipmates who have passed on.

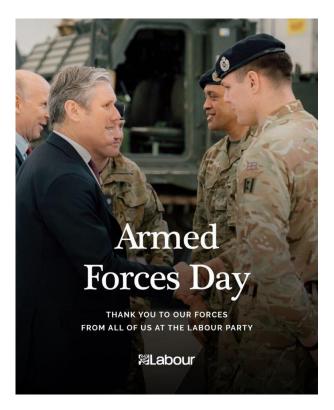
Thank you for all you do for the seafaring community on Tyneside.

Whitley Bay Sea Cadets



I was honoured to join the Whitley Bay Sea Cadets on parade for the Whitley Bay Unit Dedication of Colours and 80th Year celebrations recently.

Armed Forces Day



24th June was Armed Forces Day.

I thank our Armed Forces for all they do to keep Britain safe. Theirs is the ultimate public service.

Operation Coastwatch



Operation Coastwatch has gone from strength to strength over the years with Northumbria Police working alongside North Tyneside Council and Nexus to tackle pockets of disorder along the award-winning coastline and it returns again this summer.

The annual activity has led to a significant decrease in anti-social behaviour in the coastal area, with a 31% drop compared to rates from the same period in 2022, and the lowest rates of ASB since recording began nearly a decade ago.

The activity will include targeted patrols, proactive work within transport hubs to disrupt and stop any anti-social behaviour before it reaches the coastline, as well as community engagement tools such as the touring CCTV van.

The impact of anti-social behaviour can have a huge effect on residents and businesses and I am pleased that action continues to be taken to support and protect communities.



Visit to Heliguy

I had an interesting visit to Heliguy which is one of the key supply chain companies involved in the construction of HS2, Britain's new high-speed railway.

Based in North Shields, Heliguy is an industry-leading UK drone company and a true onestop drone shop, supplying and supporting unmanned aircraft system programmes around the world. You can find out more at @heliguydotcom

Visit to EE



I recently visited EE to see their refurbished offices.

EE as part of BT Group is a major employer in our area and it was good to see the multimillion-pound investment they have made at the site at Cobalt Business Park.

We also met employees who have been doing outreach work in our community including in care homes. This started in the North East and has now been rolled out across the UK.

Whitley Bay High

Challenge Week



Every year WBHS gives students the opportunity to work on a 'challenge' of their choice to build the resilience of students, their teamwork and communication skills as well as encourage them to understand real-world issues.

I was pleased to join students this year as they ran a Model United Nations challenge which involved researching the socio-economic and political backgrounds of a country, then a final 'United Nations' debate to solve one of the UN's current sustainable development goals.

Shiremoor Treat



I had a good time at the Shiremoor Treat recently. A proud local tradition. My thanks to Michael Green and all of the Shiremoor Treat organising committee for their dedication to keeping the Treat alive.

St Mary's Grounds Opening



I attended the official opening of the newly refurbished grounds at St Mary the Virgin in Monkseaton.



The Bishop, Helen-Ann presided at the 10am Eucharist and a blessing was said in all four corners of the grounds. All those involved in the development were thanked.

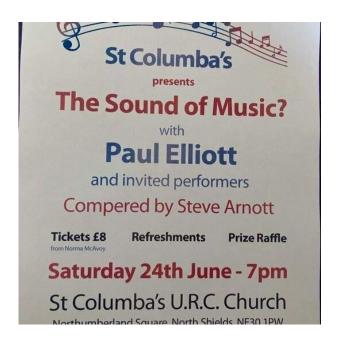
Alderwoman Muriel Green



I attended a civic reception at North Tyneside Council to award the title of Honorary Alderwoman to former Councillor, Muriel Anne Green BEM.

Muriel was a councillor from 1981 and it was fitting to acknowledge her eminent service to North Tyneside in this way. Congratulations Muriel.

Fundraising at St Columba's



I visited St Columbas URC in North Shields at their fundraising concert of 'The Sound of Music'. The concert was well attended and a very enjoyable show.

Healthwatch in Northumberland





It was good to chat to the Healthwatch team at their stall in Northumberland Square recently.

They were there as part of YMCA's Picnic in the Park Founder's Day celebrations.

Healthwatch do important work as your local health and social care champion. Their remit is to make sure NHS leaders and other decision makers hear your voice and use your feedback to improve care.

Find out more at https://healthwatchnorthtyneside.co.uk/ourwork/

Operation Payback Round 5 open



Set up by our Police and Crime Commissioner Kim McGuinness in 2020, the goal of Operation Payback is to return cash from crime back to the community. To date, the funding opportunity has handed over a £1 million to good causes that are determined to improve lives across the region.

The fund allows for communities, social enterprises, community groups, charities and schools to bid for a micro grant of up to £1,000 or a larger grant up to £5,000.

They are on the look out for projects that

- Repair the harm caused by ASB and keep people safe.
 - Prevent/reduce youth or adult ASB.
- Provide diversionary activities throughout the year including school holidays.

The 5th round of funding is now live and will close on 11th August 2023. Decisions are expected by the end of September. Find out more at https://northumbria-pcc.gov.uk/your-priorities/police-crime-plan/improving-lives/improving-lives-with-operation-payback/

Retail Crime on the agenda

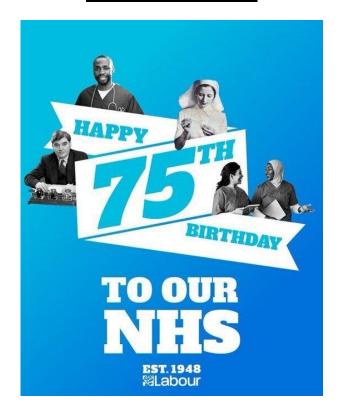


The Association of Convenience Stores came to Parliament recently to highlight the issue of shop theft and violence against staff. Retail crime costs stores around £125 million a year which invariably means the cost being passed on to shoppers.

The ACS is offering a plan to tackle this increasing problem including a Most Wanted list which would mean prolific offenders being barred from retail areas.

I will be meeting our hard-pressed cops soon to see what more can be done to address this.

75 Years of the NHS



75 years ago, a Labour government created our NHS.

I want to say thank you to all those hardworking staff in our local community who work so hard on our behalf. Thank you for your dedication and the sacrifices we know you make.

Age UK Summer Reception



It was lovely to speak with older campaigners and local Age UKs at their Summer Reception earlier this week.

I heard about their new report on the 'State of Health and Care for older people in 2023' and talked about the experiences of older people in Tynemouth.

Global MND

Awareness Day



I recently attended a parliamentary event to mark Global Motor Neurone Disease Awareness Day.

It was an important opportunity to speak with people living with, and affected by MND first hand, about the issues which matter to them, from access to new medicines, housing adaptations, support for MND carers, the cost of having MND, and social security benefits.

Guide Dogs Open Doors Event



I was shocked to discover recently that 73% of guide dog owners have been refused access to businesses and services in the past 12 months, because they have their dog with them.

The charity Guide Dogs is working with guide dog owners, businesses and services to help prevent access refusals from happening.

I recently attended a lobby in Parliament to show my support for this important campaign.





I supported an important Opposition Day Debate on the Government's decision to abandon the Animal Welfare (Kept Animals) Bill.

In a joint statement, 18 animal protection organisations, including the RSPCA, Humane Society International/UK and Dogs Trust, urged MPs to reintroduce the bill

Labour's motion in the Commons aimed to force the bill back into Parliament, in defiance of the government's plans. However, following a debate, MPs voted by 256 votes to 183 to reject Labour's motion.

FA Resources for Schools



Ahead of this summer's women's World Cup, the FA has developed a series of educational resources for schools to use the inspiration and excitement of the tournament and our fantastic Lionesses to achieve equal access both in and out of the curriculum.

Currently, only 67% of schools in England offer football equally to girls and boys, and this number drops to 41% in secondary schools. The FA has an ambition for 90% of schools to offer equal access by 2024.

You can find the resources at https://girlsfootballinschools.org/

Summer Holiday Help



With the Summer holidays fast approaching, many businesses are once again offering help for parents with their kids eat free deals.