

Alan Campbell MP

Community News

October 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_uybFykBHP9Ze74JbIWM5zGUiDhFgl8FizrUZK7Zmr1vijlCM68TFI_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

Israel and Gaza

I want to update you on the changing situation in the Middle East.

Israel was the victim of terrorism on an unimaginable scale at the hands of Hamas.

Israel has the absolute right to defend itself and a duty to bring their hostages home. However, any state must conduct military operations in line with international law. Innocent lives must be protected and there must be humanitarian corridors and humanitarian access for those who need and deliver aid.

These tragic events must not be allowed to divide our communities and we need to see a robust response to all incidents of hate. You can find my latest column which discusses this further at:

[Alarming rise in hate crime - Alan Campbell MP for Tynemouth](#)

There is no place in Britain for Antisemitism or Islamophobia.

Cullercoats Watch House



It was good to join Cllr Willie Samuel and Cllr Andrew Spowart and the amazing volunteers at Cullercoats Watch House recently.

The Watch House was opened in 1879 to watch for boats in distress. It was reopened last year as a community hub by inspirational volunteers who are currently raising funds to fully renovate and safeguard the building for the future. You can find out more at:

<https://cullercoatswatchhouse.com/#faq>

Plastic Warriors at Jam Jar



I was pleased to be invited to a screening of 'Plastic Warriors'™ at the Jam Jar Cinema. The film investigates the harmful effects of plastic pollution on our health and the environment and was followed by some interesting talks. My thanks to Dan Turner for coordinating the event.

Cobalt Hospital Visit



I visited Cobalt Hospital to see how the hospital is delivering high quality healthcare for local patients.

I met with members of the team, including student nurses and Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon Andy Gray and learnt more about the services on offer, which includes treatment for skin cancer, varicose veins, orthopaedics, and other minor surgery. With NHS waiting lists at

record levels Cobalt is doing an important job working with the local Trust to provide additional NHS capacity.

Whitley Bay Holiday Park



Parkdean Resorts, the UK's leading holiday park operator, recently invited me for a tour of Whitley Bay Holiday Park where I met the team and discussed how Parkdean Resorts is committed to caring for its Parks, People, and Planet to create a positive environmental impact on nature and resources.

The Park also employs 95 local people in peak season and welcomed more than 30,000 visitors last year so is also important for the local economy.

Souter Park Tennis



I went along to the refurbished tennis courts at Souter Park to meet representatives from North Tyneside Council and the Lawn Tennis Association.

The LTA Tennis Foundation and UK Government have invested £175,054.89 to transform park tennis courts across North Tyneside.

The investment is designed to open up tennis to people of all backgrounds, to level up sports provision across the nation, and provide greater opportunities for children and adults to be active. Park tennis courts are particularly important in providing affordable, engaging and

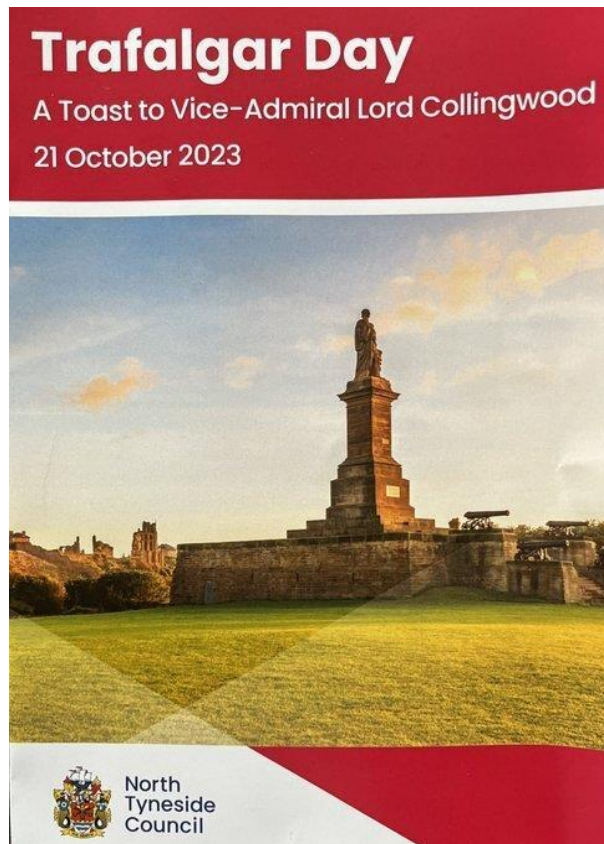
accessible opportunities for more female players and those from lower socioeconomic backgrounds.

Port of Tyne Catch Up



I had my regular catch-up meeting with the Chief Executive of Port of Tyne Matthew Beeton and got updates on a number of issues facing the Port including issues with vandalism at the North and South piers.

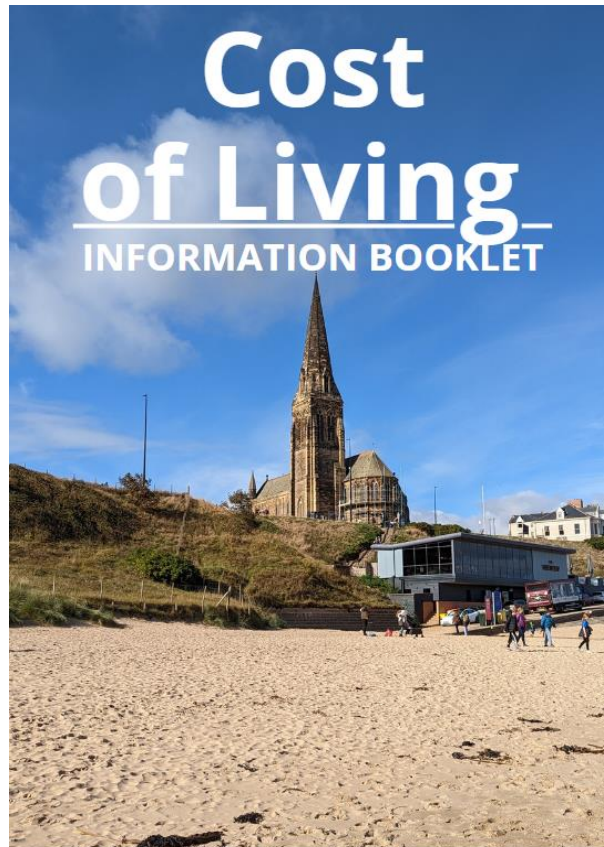
Trafalgar Day



I was proud to celebrate Trafalgar Day remembering local hero Vice Admiral Lord Collingwood.

This year's event was moved inside because of the weather but a big thank you to Tynemouth Volunteer Life Brigade for their hospitality.

Updated Cost of Living Booklet



ALAN CAMPBELL MP

I have recently updated my Cost-of-Living Advice Booklet to reflect changes to support for the winter.

You can find the updated booklet on my website at:

<https://www.alancampbellmp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/107/2023/10/Alan-Campbell-MP-Cost-of-Living-Resource-Magazine-October-2023.pdf>

Art at the Watch House



Well done to all the winners and runners up in Cullercoats Watch House Summer Art competition. I presented the prizes and was struck by the extraordinary imagination and creativity of the children.

Winners and runners up were Jake, Ben, Emma Charlotte, Jonah, Thomas, Mya, Leo, Theo, Fran, Ivy, Emma, Tommy and Idha.

Party Conference Season



I've now returned to Westminster after a busy party conference.

Many people probably don't realise that whilst also being a showcase for political parties to send their message to the public setting out their stall to win the next general election, it's also a valuable opportunity to find out more about important campaigns.

Many local people contacted me leading up to conference asking that I visit stands to find out more about issues that matter to them. You will find a bit more information on some of the stands I visited below.

Guide Dogs



Did you know?

- 1 in 5 people will live with significant sight loss in their lifetime.
- 50% of all people with a vision impairment feel cut off from the people and places around them.
- 80% of parents believe their child's sight loss has a negative effect on their ability to make friends.

I learnt this at Labour Party conference where I met with campaigners from charity Guide Dogs.

To find out more, whether you or a loved one needs support or to find out how you can help visit <https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/>

Alzheimer's Society



I pledged my support to end the devastation caused by dementia and to make the UK's biggest killer a political priority.

It was great to speak with the Alzheimer's Society about how we can provide hope for people living with the condition and their loved ones.

Cancer Research



As campaigners from charity Cancer Research told me at party conference, cancer is political.

I'm supporting people living with cancer in our area by calling on the Government to put in place an emergency package to tackle long waiting times for cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Pledge your support at <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/get-involved/campaign-for-us>

RNIB World Sight Day

RNIB

See differently

October saw the Royal National Institute of Blind People marking World Sight Day.

RNIB is one of the UK's leading sight loss charities and the largest community of blind and partially sighted people.

Even before prices began to rise, one in five blind and partially sighted people said they had some, or great, difficulty in making ends meet. RNIB can help people with sight loss to identify the financial help, tax allowances and concessions that they could be entitled to and give them the information and support they need to apply.

The Sight Loss Advice Service provides information or support on the following:

- Money, benefits and finances
- Equality, rights and employment
 - Eye health
 - Sight loss and wellbeing
 - Families and carers
- Technology and useful products
- Children, young people and education
 - Reading, home and leisure

You can call their Helpline on 0303 123 9999, 8am-8pm on weekdays and 9am-1pm on Saturdays. Or email helpline@rnib.org.uk

British Heart Foundation



I recently met with the British Heart Foundation (BHF) to discuss the urgent need to address the crisis in heart care.

It's deeply concerning that there have been more deaths than expected involving heart disease and stroke, and we must do more to prevent a rising tide of these deadly conditions. I agree with the BHF that Government must take comprehensive action to better prevent heart disease and stroke, prioritise NHS heart care, and to power research to find new treatments and cures.

Shelter



I met with homeless charity Shelter following the publication of their manifesto to rebuild our broken housing system. You can read the summary here: <https://shltr.org.uk/manifesto>

That is why I support calls to restore housebuilding targets and make social housing a priority once again whilst ensuring a better deal for renters.

Falkland Islands



2023 marks the 10th anniversary of the Falkland Islands, internationally observed, sovereignty referendum when 99.8% of voters, on a turnout of 92%, voted to remain an internally self-governing UK Overseas Territory. It was good to meet up at conference with elected members of the Falkland Islands Legislative Assembly.

Marie Curie



I recently spoke with representatives from Marie Curie to discuss inequalities in access to palliative and end of life care services.

There is currently a postcode lottery in access to these services, which leaves many people, especially in deprived communities, struggling to access the care and support they need in the community at the end of life.

I am keen for the next Government to make sure that everyone affected by dying, death and bereavement receives the best possible care and support, both now and in the future.

Diabetes UK



In Tynemouth constituency the prevalence of diabetes is 7.50% which is above the England prevalence of 7.26%.

The number of people with diabetes across the UK is now 5 million, with hundreds of thousands more being diagnosed every year.

The driving force behind this is the rise in type 2 diagnosis in the under 40s – an alarming new trend due to research showing the longer someone lives with diabetes, the higher the chance of encountering complications.

I recently met with Diabetes UK to discuss their manifesto for longer healthier lives, which lays out why transforming diabetes care and prevention will help tackle health inequality, relieve pressure on the NHS and boost economic productivity in both the short and long term.



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