Alan Campbell MP Community News

February 2024



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

50th Anniversary of Gaul Tragedy



I laid a wreath at a moving service to mark the 50th anniversary of the Gaul disaster.

The vessel sank on the night of the 8th and morning of the 9th of February 1974 in the Barents Sea.

All thirty-six crew members were lost, among those lost were six men from North Shields.

We remembered all those who lost their lives, and joined with the families, especially of the 6 fishermen from North Shields. They will never be forgotten.

Holocaust Memorial Day

Book of Commitment





I signed the Holocaust Memorial Day Book of Commitment in Westminster and also attended North Tyneside Council's Commemorative event.

Holocaust Memorial Day is an important opportunity to reflect on the darkest times of European history. The theme of this year was the †Fragility of Freedom'.

I have pledged to remember the six million Jewish men, women and children who were murdered in the Holocaust and speak out against all forms of antisemitism.

St Thomas More

Mental Health March



It was an honour to welcome students from St Thomas More recently who marched from their school to North Shields on a very wet morning as part of Children's Mental Health Awareness Week.

They shared powerful stories of why mental health matters and why it is so necessary to have mental health counsellors in every school.

No child or young person should have to face a mental health problem alone.

Thank you to all the students who marched for this important issue of our time.

World Cancer Day and

Catch up with Cancer



I attended an event in Parliament †Catch up with Cancer' in the run up to World Cancer Day. The event was the launch of a Radiotherapy Vision to deliver World-Class Radiotherapy in the UK for cancer patients by 2034.

I was shocked to learn that the latest NHS cancer waiting times showed that in 2023, the length of time cancer patients waited for treatment reached record highs. More and more of us are getting cancer - in fact by 2040 the number of people in the UK with cancer is estimated to increase by one-third. Patient survival rates remain near the bottom of international tables. We urgently need to focus on how to treat cancer patients quicker and better, finding solutions to address current patient needs and prepare successfully for the future.

Cancer support for Fishermen



I recently met with Deborah Johnson the Cancer Community Programme Manager for the fishermen of North Tyneside and Tina Thompson, Macmillan's Partnership Manager to discuss a new joint initiative, the first in this country, with Macmillan Cancer Support.

The project aims to work alongside the fishing community and health providers to improve the fishing community's health experiences. The project will be providing cancer awareness and education, supporting access to healthcare services and will be working towards increasing the cancer screening rates. They are launching the project in March and I will share more details when I have them.

Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue



I recently met with Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service to discuss their Community Risk Management Plan 2024-2027.

I have concerns about the proposals which would take away 24-hour cover at Wallsend Fire Station and have a knock-on impact on our area.

I have responded to the recent consultation to raise my concerns about this.

I do understand that Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service is operating within the constraints of the national financial envelope and have faced big cuts over the last few years and I would like to place on record my thanks to all staff at TWFRS for the excellent job they do to keep us safe in challenging circumstances.

North Shields Policing Update



Myself and Mary Glindon MP met with the police in November to discuss policing in North Shields.

Following that meeting, the Police launched Operation Cracker on November 27 in North Shields town centre amid fears the festive period could lead to a rise in criminal offences in the area.

As part of the enhanced action, officers executed 19 arrests, seized two weapons and visited 76 local businesses. Of the 19 suspects, six have been banned from returning to the area under conditional bail while five have been committed to prison.

Retailers were visited by members of the North Shields Neighbourhood policing team prior to the launch of the operation. High-visibility patrols were deployed daily with a focus around key businesses, and the work resulted in 79 stop checks and six stop searches being carried out.

Information has also been shared in regular meetings between local retailers, police and security as part of the North Shields Retail Crime initiative.

Operation Cracker has been praised by shopkeepers and visitors for swiftly producing a 'significant reduction' in criminal activities in the town centre.

I am glad to see that the concerns that were raised are being taken so seriously. Thanks to Northumbria Police for listening to and acting on the concerns of local residents, businesses and staff.

Sir Jim Mackey



I want to congratulate Sir Jim Mackey on his appointment as Chief Executive of Newcastle Hospitals.

I have worked alongside Sir Jim for many years and I would like to place on record my thanks for all he has done locally. I wish him well for the future.

I would also like to congratulate and welcome Dr Birju Bartoli, the newly appointed Chief Executive of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. I look forward to working with Dr Bartoli.





I attended an event in Parliament organised by the Trussell Trust - Building a future where no one needs a food bank.

It was concerning to hear that The Trussell Trust is expecting this winter to be the busiest ever at food banks across their network. The soaring cost of living is driving record numbers

of people on the lowest incomes to their food banks, and although they are doing everything they can to help, it cannot be right that we are living in a society where people in our community are left with no option but to turn to community groups or charity for essentials like food.

Cervical Cancer Prevention Week



I was pleased to support Cervical Cancer Prevention Week especially since NHS England have committed to eliminating cervical cancer by 2040.

With national cervical screening coverage below 70%, and the HPV vaccination programme still recovering from the pandemic, there is still a lot of work to do to tackle inequalities and make sure everyone has the right information, access, and support to protect themselves from cervical cancer.

For more information and support, visit

www.jostrust.org.uk/ccpw

Royal British Legion –

Count them in



I welcome the Royal British Legion's (RBL) Count Them In campaign which ensured the 2021 Census asked if somebody had served in the Armed Forces, in turn helping us to understand more about our Armed Forces community.

In 2021, there were 4,188 veterans in Tynemouth, 5% of the population and 8,924 local people lived in a household with a veteran (9% of households).

RBL has used this new Census data to develop their latest manifesto, Supporting those who Serve us. – the RBL's 2024 General Election Manifesto. You can find out more at:

Royal British Legion

Final Cost of Living Payment



The final cost of living payment is due to be paid between 6th-22nd February 2024, each eligible household will be paid £299.

If anyone eligible is worried they have not received their payment, my office is happy to help but we ask that you wait until 26th February to get in touch.

Half Term Help



Thanks to Money Saving Central who have produced this handy guide for February halfterm.

Best of luck to Turknaz



Congratulations to Kudret Yilmaz of Turknaz, Whitley Bay who has been shortlisted in the Chef of the Year category of the 12nd British Kebab Awards.

BKA aims to honour and celebrate the excellence, innovation, and rich heritage of World cuisine in the UK and acknowledge the remarkable contributions made by individuals and establishments in shaping and enriching the culinary landscape of our country

Best of luck to Kudret and Turknaz

Boxing Day Run



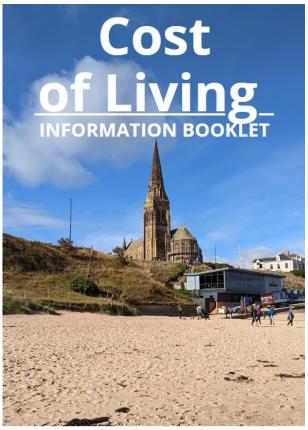


It seems like a long time ago but a big thank you to North Shields Poly for organising the annual Boxing Day Pudding Fun Run to raise funds for Woodlawn School. It was a lovely day on our beautiful coast.

Congratulations to Alex Stewart, first across the finishing line.

It was also good to see Whitley Bay Rotary Club helping to raise money for a new minibus for Woodlawn School. The best of our community doing their best for our community.

Useful numbers and cost of living



ALAN CAMPBELL MP

I have complied a list of useful numbers that may come in handy. You can find these, alongside my Cost of Living advice booklet on my website at:

Cost of Living Resource Magazine - Alan Campbell MP for Tynemouth