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Anna Soubry MP

working hard for Broxtowe

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E-newsletter | June 15 2014

Hello again,

I have some very important news about an Inquest due to begin tomorrow into the death of Stapleford man, John McGrath. I have written a long piece which I hope you will read. There is quite a mixed bag of news, diary events and a fond farewell in the "and finally....". As ever,
Anna

Bluebell meeting

The Bluebell pub in Attenborough is considering whether it could offer parking to commuters using the railway station and who are clogging up the village as there is no station car park.

I met with the Deputy and Area managers on Friday.

Understandably their concern is the potential impact on pub customers. Until we have the results of the Network Rail survey we will not know the numbers; I also suspect the tram works are causing people to use Attenborough rather than Beeston, which is also due to increase car parking space. I will keep you updated on developments.



Kimberley flood - lessons for Trowell and Newthorpe)

I visited Kimberley resident Lori Berry and her family after their home was flooded again after severe rain caused drains to burst in parts of Swingate. The problem appears to be a lack of communication between Severn Trent and Notts County Council which meant the problem was not fixed last July when water and sewerage flooding caused £40,000 of damage to Lori's house.

Bringing together all the various agencies to tackle long standing flooding problems is one of the reasons why I am meeting the Environment Agency next week; Boundary Brook, Trowell and Thorn Avenue, Newthorpe are high on the agenda!



Chilwell's Royal Engineers pave the way to Southwell Minster.

I attended today's service at Southwell Minster to mark the Queen's Birthday. Well done Chilwell's 7/3 Engineer Regiment Reserves and 299 (Para) Squadron Royal Engineers who have relaid the long west path. It looked splendid! I need to make amends to a number of readers of this email newsletter who admonished me for not paying tribute to the Duke of Edinburgh who continues to work remarkably hard at the age of 93.

Garden Open Days success

My thanks to everyone who opened up their gardens in Cossall, Beeston and Chilwell last weekend. I enjoyed a great few hours in Cossall, acquired some lovely new plants and met up with local Councillor Lydia Ball for tea and a few buns! Congratulations to the various organisers.



I am asking NET/City Council to offer concessionary and free tickets once the tram line opens not just to bring shoppers to Beeston but also for residents who are suffering during the works.

Beeston consultation

Way behind schedule, this is the view from the constituency office window as the tram works progress in Beeston. Meanwhile with six months before the tram line opens, Broxtowe Borough Council has announced a survey of residents so folk can have their say on the future of the town. When you see the ideas on offer you may take the view it is too little way too late. I have had various meetings with the Borough Council with ideas for the future of the town but sadly to no avail. My fear is that the golden opportunity the tram promised to regenerate Beeston as a vibrant town fit for purpose in the 21st century has been lost. I very much hope we get some new dynamic Borough Councillors for Beeston next year with vision and experience. let me know if you fancy standing!

[Click here to take part in the Borough Council Beeston survey...](#)

Inquest into the death of John McGrath

Tomorrow sees the beginning of the two week inquest into the death of Stapleford's John McGrath. It is almost five years since John was killed by his grandson William, who was profoundly ill at the time; Mabel, William's grand mother was seriously injured in the knife attack at their home in the town.

If you are a long time subscriber to my email newsletter you may remember that in July 2010, not long after I was elected and had had the great honour of meeting the family of John, Mabel and William, I held a debate in Parliament about events leading up to John's death.

At that time we strongly suspected William, who was seriously ill with paranoid schizophrenia had been very seriously let down by those responsible for his care within the Stapleford community, and his family all but excluded and their concerns ignored.

A report in early 2011, in part confirmed our suspicions. What we didn't know was the extent of the role of the police in events leading to John's death.

Two and a half years later and at last the inquest will begin. The Deputy Coroner will hear that William was known to the police in the months leading up to John's death. Indeed, I discovered that William was suspected of an attempted robbery involving a knife in Bramcote; Notts Police failed to arrest William despite knowing his address, his regular movements, his deteriorating mental illness and the seriousness of the allegation.

William and John's family found out that the mental health team intended to section William on July 24th 2009 having finally convinced themselves that he was so ill he posed a risk to himself. We now know they also knew William was suspected of the Bramcote attempted robbery. As a result of letters I wrote on behalf of the family, we also discovered that the police finally decided they would arrest William also on July 24th 2009.

Had either the mental team or the police done their job that day then William would have undoubtedly been detained, and given July 24th 2009 was the day he attacked John and Mabel, the terrible incident would never have happened. John would be alive and William would have been properly treated and cared for - he is currently detained in Rampton, he is much better but now living with the knowledge of what he did that dreadful day.

The inquest will dwell on some of the failings of the police and there has been a very lengthy IPCC report into those very serious failings. My own view is that having realised they had failed in their duty to arrest William they covered up the matter - this is a serious allegation which I do not make lightly. There was a secret report; they failed to follow one its recommendations and disclose the report to the people conducting the enquiry into the failings of the mental health team. Had they done so we would have known of their involvement years ago.

I said at the beginning it has been an honour to know the family of John, Mabel and William, and as reports emerge of the Inquest I believe you will understand why I believe we should be immensely proud of this Stapleford family. Throughout everything they have endured (and as you will discover they have put up with a great deal) they have never sought anything other than to make sure no other family suffers as they have, losing a wonderful father, husband and grandfather in an incident that undoubtedly could and should have been prevented. Their aim is to make sure John did not die in vain.

Nuthall Memory Group moves to Rumbletums, Kimberley

The Nuthall Memory Group has now moved to Rumbletums and has become the Nuthall and Kimberley Memory Group. This is a support group for people with dementia and their carers. The group offers games, activities, support, advice and occasional outings. It will meet fortnightly at Rumbletums from 10.30 to 12.30. New members are welcome. The contact for more information is Kate on 9278326.

What's on in Broxtowe and surgery details

Tuesday 17 June

2nd Attenborough Scout Group - Open Evening

6pm

Attenborough Village Hall

Come along to meet the Scout Group, take part in a treasure hunt and enjoy a BBQ. For more information about the evening please click [here](#).

Wednesday 18 June

Re-launch of Kimberley's branch of WEA

7:30pm

Rumbletums Café, 2A Victoria Street, Kimberley

WEA have been working with Rumbletums to put on a taster course in arts and crafts. For full details please click [here](#).

Beeston Central CAT meeting

7pm till 8:30pm

Queens Road Methodist Church, Beeston

Thursday 19 June

Stapleford South West CAT meeting

7pm till 8:30pm

The Meeting Place, Stapleford

Saturday 21 June

Drop-in Surgery

11am till 1pm

Nursery Man Pub, Beeston

Your opportunity to meet with me to discuss any issues you may have.

Stapleford gets into the summer spirit

11am till 5pm

Walter Parker V.C Square

A great day out for all the family.

Wadsworth Fields Primary School Summer Fair

2pm till 4:30pm

Summer stalls, BBQ, tombola, raffle, fun activities and much more. All proceeds to the school.

And finally

I am sad to report that Rebecca Maher who joined my constituency team fresh from Uni as a case worker and four years on runs pretty much everything, is leaving at the end of the month. I am however delighted she is going to an amazing job working for the Bank of England. I know many of you will miss her and I want to thank her publicly for her incredibly hard work, notably dealing with the huge number of emails we receive about the tram works! Good luck Rebecca in the new job and we will miss you.

"a decent Conservative" *Kevin McGuire, Daily Mirror*

"If only all ministers answered questions like Anna Soubry does." *David Aaronovitch, The*

Times

"she has a record of unusually free speech" *Simon Carr, The Independent*

"part of the beating heart of the parliamentary Tory party" *Quentin Letts, The Daily Mail*

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