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Tim Loughton MP's Parliamentary E-Newsletter

Dear Constituents,

It's time for the Keep Worthing And Southlands Hospitals campaign to rally the troops again!

With the consultation document from the Primary Care Trust on the future of our hospitals now likely to be published in late June we are planning a show of strength and an update on the campaign on:



**Saturday May 26th - From 10.30am
At Splash Point, Worthing**

From 10.30am – stalls and presentations on the prom

11am – Arrival of the KWASH bed at Splash Point, pushed from Southlands Hospital by KWASH chairman Tom Wye and others.

Noon – Nurse Sunshine look-alike contest to be judged by Des Lynam. Come appropriately dressed

Calling all babies and mums born at Worthing & Southlands:

We are particularly keen to see as people who were born at either of the hospitals or who gave birth there. There will be the opportunity to register and place your details on a long line in chronological order with a prize for the earliest baby born. This is also a great opportunity to come and meet up with long lost contemporaries from the maternity wards.

If you have any ideas or can offer your help to make this another successful KWASH event please let us know at kwashcampaign@googlemail.com

Best wishes,

Tim Loughton MP

Worthing Borough Council Elections 2007

These are the results from the 4 wards in East Worthing which had elections on May 3rd. There were no elections in Adur. After the elections the balance of seats at Worthing Town Hall is Conservative 24, Lib Dem 12, and Independent 1.

Broadwater Ward

Gary Riding (Liberal Democrat) 941 (44.00%)

Kevin John Skepper (Conservative) 1062 (49.60%) ELECTED

John Michael Turley (Labour) 136 (06.40%)

Gaisford Ward

Tori Finney (Labour) 168 (07.30%)

Marie Hullcoat (Green) 193 (08.40%)

Andrew Muggerridge (Liberal Democrat) 844 (36.90%)

Bryan William Turner (Conservation) 1085 (47.40%) ELECTED

Offington Ward**Graham Lloyd Fabes (Conservative) 1845 (77.20%) ELECTED**

Norah Irene Fisher (Liberal Democrat) 425 (17.80%)

Hazel Rennie (Labour) 121 (05.00%)

Selden Ward

James Edward Doyle (Liberal Democrat) 950 (44.60%)

Roger John Oakley (Conservative) 962 (45.20%) ELECTED

Ann Saunders (Labour) 216 (10.20%)

Tim snaps a winner!

Each year MPs and members of the House of Lords are invited to submit entries to a photographic exhibition held in the House of Commons and sponsored by Jessops. This year Tim had a record 6 of his photos selected and the one below was selected for a 'Judges' Choice Award'. The winning photographs are now on tour being exhibited in Jessops branches around the country.



You can vote for Tim's photograph (or one of the other finalists if you prefer!) by logging on to: www.jessops.com/parliament You can also buy a book or calendar of the winning entries with all proceeds going to CLIC Sargent.

Tim kicks off

Congratulations to Paul Dollner and all at PW Colts YFC from Lancing who secured a Lottery grant and organised a 2 day football tournament for young players from throughout Sussex at Worthing Leisure Centre over the weekend May 12th/13th. Up to 300 children took part with hundreds more parents and family present to make it a fun family day out.

Scores of volunteers gave up their time to referee matches, help with the catering and raise funds.

PW Colts are a Lancing based club running teams for 7-11 year olds and can be contacted on: pwcolts@aol.com

**Youth at the Lighthouse**

A lot has been happening in Fishersgate in recent months but still there are concerns that young people there are not being given enough to do. Tim went to visit the Lighthouse Christian Centre Youth Club in order to chat to some of the young people who use the facility which is regularly open on Friday evenings, and see what sort of things they are interested in. He went 'mob-handed' with ward councillor Jim Funnell, community well-being officer from Adur Council Natalie Brahma-Pearle, West Sussex Youth Service boss Dave Chilton and local community bobby Clive Mitchell-Harris.

They were able to talk through some of the plans for the Fishersgate rec, all weather sports area, healthy living centre and Adur's planned purchase of a football cage which will tour the district including Fishersgate. The visitors took away a long list of ideas from the young people at the club and promised to keep them in touch with those developments which are chosen to go ahead.

WADARS

Tim was re-elected as President of Worthing & District Animal rescue Service at their AGM on April 26th and was able to report on another excellent year for the well used local animal charity under the chairmanship of Chris Horton.

Full details of WADARS activities are on www.wadars.co.uk

Tax Errors

It has recently been brought to my attention that constituents may have been short-changed due to a lack of co-ordination between Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs and the Department of Work and Pensions when entitlement to the Basic State Pension year-on-year is estimated for tax purposes. It would seem that in some instances the Revenue and Customs is assuming figures for pensions which do not accord with the actual amounts paid out to pensioners and therefore an incorrect taxable sum is calculated. This is resulting in pensioners paying too much tax and ultimately missing out on money which is rightfully theirs. I have immediately taken the issue up with the Pensions Minister and will of course let you know the outcome of my investigations.

Slowing down in Lancing

After much lobbying by Widewater councillor Chris Turner, Tim and local residents , planning notices of intent to bring in a 30mph speed limit have been posted along Brighton Road in Lancing. This follows a number of fatal accidents last year and would bring the stretch of road in line with the 30mph limit that already operates from Golden Sands westwards.

Surgery dates

Constituency surgeries are scheduled for the following dates:

Friday May 18th (Worthing)

Friday June 1st (Lancing)

Friday June 15th (Shoreham)

To book an appointment ring the Worthing office on 01903 235168

Ropetackle opening for business

The brand d new Ropetackle Arts and Education Centre in Shoreham, which is run by the Ropetackle Centre Trust charity chaired by Tim, will be opening its doors to the public for the first time during the Adur Arts Festival which takes place between June 1st-17th across Adur. A series of events are planned for the Ropetackle Centre kicking off with a showing of Al Gore's Oscar winning film on climate change 'An Inconvenient Truth'. It will be preceded by the first of a series of regular community newsreels made by local schoolchildren and followed by a panel discussion on the film chaired by Tim.

For programme enquiries and ticket sales go to www.ropetacklecentre.co.uk

Worthing High School in Parliament

A group of Year 8 students from Worthing High School spent a day at the House of Commons courtesy of the Commons Education Department. They were given a tour round the Palace and talks on how Parliament works ending up with a question and answer session with Tim. Tim is always keen to welcome school parties and other visitors to Westminster. If you would like to enquire about a trip to Parliament for your school this can easily be arranged by Tim's office by contacting Kathryn Griffith on griffithk@parliament.uk

Don't forget to vote for a new Shoreham footbridge

Following the article in Tim's April newsletter about the Sustrans Lottery bid to include a new Shoreham footbridge complete with cycle lane, we still need local people to vote. So do your bit and go to www.sustransconnect2.org.uk to register your support.

Tim backs British Heart Foundation

Tim has backed a British Heart Foundation (BHF) poster campaign urging people over 50 to be physically active for the sake of their health.

Tim gave the thumbs up to the heart charity's 30 a Day campaign, after hearing the facts laid bare by BHF at a House of Commons event. BHF statistics reveal someone in the UK dies every 15 minutes as a direct result of physical inactivity, so Tim is encouraging adults in his area to be active for 30 minutes every day.



For more information about the BHF campaign please visit www.bhf.org.uk/30aday

The BFH survey also found that 35% of people asked in the South East would do be more physically active if they had more time.

Tim supports Fairtrade

Here's a picture of Tim handing over a basket of Fairtrade produce in the Mayor's parlour at Worthing Town hall to Pamela Rowlatt, one of the winners of the Worthing Fairtrade competition, in collaboration with the Environment Agency, which attracted over 100 correct entries.



Tim is a patron of the Adur Fairtrade Group and congratulates them on their very successful talk from a Fairtrade Producer who was a Brazil nut grower from Bolivia by the name of Casildo Quispe. Casildo charmed a packed audience of local residents at the Adur Civic Centre with tales of life in the Amazon rainforest. He went on to thank everyone sincerely because Fairtrade had enabled his community to build a clinic and provide health care for the first time. He told the audience that "he would return to his country and tell his people that those he met really do care".

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- **Tim pictured with Youth Mayor James Line supporting the Climate Change information stall in Montague Street.**



Tim signs Real Policing Petition

Tim has signed up to the Real Policing petition at www.realpolicing.co.uk. The campaign calls on the Home Office to ensure that Police Officers are not constrained by repetitive paperwork, excessive bureaucracy and the Home Office driven target/detection culture.

Christian Aid Week Postcards

This month Tim's postbag has been filled with Christian Aid Week postcards on climate change. Tim believes that climate change is a very real global threat and the Conservatives have pushed this issue to the top of the political agenda.

Tim fully supports the intentions behind this Christian Aid campaign and EDM 1003. However, he has not signed EDM 1003 because the call for mandatory disclosure of carbon emissions by companies, while right in principle, would not work in the absence of an accredited international system of measurement. Tim has instead signed EDM 867 which acknowledges the impact of greenhouse gas emissions on climate change and calls for businesses to go further in monitoring and recording their carbon emissions. Not only does this provide companies with a method of judging their efficiency, but also it enables consumers to make informed choices and comparisons with other, perhaps more, energy efficient options. To view these EDMs please visit <http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/Default.aspx>

You might also be interested to know that Tim was guest speaker at Worthing Christian Aid week service at St Michaels' Church Salvington on Friday.

Tim re-opens Lyndhurst Road post office

Tim has re-opened the Lyndhurst Road sub-post office yesterday in Worthing which is under new management after closing to the public at the beginning of 2006. Tim cut the ribbon across the shop and commented:

"This is a first for me. I have never opened post office before as all too often I have been presenting petitions to protest against branches closing. It is a particular pleasure therefore to be here with the new sub-postmistress Sandra Kawick and I am delighted that she has taken on this important lifeline for the local community. I would like to pay tribute to the post office who have stood by their promise to keep the branch



going and kept us updated with developments during the long search to find new tenants.

"I also applaud the patience of local residents who organised the petition and worked with the Post Office and me to keep the pressure up, and their determination has been rewarded. Post offices such as these are vital to local residents and to other local shops and businesses which rely on them. Alternative post offices were simply too far away for many people elderly people especially and several of the remaining branches in the town are suffering from long queues. The re-opening is therefore great news for East Worthing and I would urge everyone to make good use of it."

Planning Refusals

A note to let you know that two significant planning applications have been refused by Worthing Council. The first was for the development of a house on Broadwater Street West and the second was for the redevelopment of 35 sheltered apartments in Charmandean Road.

Crossing Patrol starts work at Broadwater School

Great news from Broadwater School where a crossing patrol started work on Tuesday last week. Local parents, and children who attend the school, are delighted to be able to cross the road safely. The area will also be receiving their School Safety Zone crossing and signage this financial year which will make Rectory Gardens safer still for children.

Private Members' Bill on the Freedom of Information Act

The merits of David Maclean's Private Members Bill on exemptions for MPs from Freedom of Information Act inquiries have been widely debated. Tim was attending constituency events last Friday when the Bill was debated in Parliament but had he been in Westminster he would have voted against any exemptions for MPs. Tim publishes his office expenses in his Annual Report which has just been sent out to every home in East Worthing and Adur.

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This newsletter is published by Tim Loughton MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. To contact Tim you can email him at loughtont@parliament.uk or fax him on 020 7219 0461. If you have a problem you think Tim could help you with and you would like to meet him to discuss it please ring 01903 235 168 to book an appointment at one of his fortnightly surgeries. Please visit www.timloughton.com for more information about Tim.