



Representing Amblecote, Cradley, Quarry Bank, Lye, Norton, Oldswinford, Pedmore, Wollaston, Wollescote and Stourbridge Town

Dear All

It has been a very busy month for me once again both in the constituency and in Westminster. I have been really pleased to be able to get out and about in Stourbridge during November, visiting many local community organisations, schools and places of worship. I continue to receive a positive response from all my visits – it is great to meet so many dedicated people from such a wide variety of establishments.

I continue to fight council plans to close Beauty Bank Primary School and to merge Mount Pleasant with Thorns Primary. The Council's recent decision to make Beauty Bank an annexe of Greenfield Primary for the next two academic years shows that they have not taken on board any of the points and concerns raised by the people of Stourbridge and have stuck to their original plans.

It simply is not possible for the Council to have investigated suggestions of federation, use of school premises for Sure Start and community use in the short space of time they allowed for consultation.

Their own numbers show that around two thirds of respondents did not agree with their plans anyway! The Council has chosen to ignore the wishes and aspirations of my constituents and their children. This is unforgivable!

I am supporting residents in Hadcroft Road who are fighting to get the Council to clear up a patch of land at the end of their road; it is used as a dumping area for all sorts of rubbish and has even had a stolen car set on fire. I am asking the Council to clean it up, flatten it and adapt it to a turning circle for cars which have great difficulty in passing along this narrow road.

In addition I am supporting residents in and around Mogul Lane in Cradley. They are experiencing great problems with particle fall-out from a nearby foundry and awful smells from a new factory producing dog food in the area.

I do hope you find this snapshot report informative. Should you wish to receive any further information please do not hesitate to contact one of my offices detailed over the page.

Best Wishes
Lynda Waltho MP

Remembrance Sunday

I attended the Service at Lye first thing on Sunday morning where I laid a wreath in remembrance of local Lye people who lost their lives at war.

Later, I was honoured to be asked to take the salute at the War Memorial in Mary Stevens Park. It was a very proud moment for me. There was an excellent turn out amongst the uniformed organisations, the British Legion and hundreds of local people.

Later I attended a service at St Peter's, Cradley and Bethel Chapel in Wollescote where many moving tributes were made to the thousands of men, women and children who died in two world wars and on countless battlegrounds since.

Lynda supports Road Safety push



Lynda with children from Amblecote primary and donor Stuart Henderson, from law firm Irwin Mitchell

I visited Amblecote Primary School to participate in giving pupils their first experience with a Road Safety set as part of Road Safety Week. This year's campaign raised awareness of children's safety on the roads and encouraged drivers to slow down around schools.

Many of the children who go to this school cross some of the busiest roads in the Borough. I am only too happy to do what I can to equip our children with the right information and experiences to behave safely when they are travelling to and from school.

Presenting Stourbridge College Special Awards



Lynda presenting certificates to pupils from Stourbridge College

It was a great pleasure to attend Stourbridge College's Adult Community Education Presentations. These are awarded to all learners to celebrate their success during the year.

Hot Issues in the Westminster Postbag

The four hot topics for this month have been:

- proposed changes to licensing laws,
 - smoking in public places,
 - the Terrorism Bill
 - and the Education White Paper.
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- Interestingly, the two topics that warranted the most mail and telephone calls were the proposed licensing changes and smoking in public places.
 - Generally, most people seem to accept that the issue of passive smoking and its negative effects on health does need to be dealt with, although a minority of correspondents were concerned at what they felt was a degree of 'nannying' on the part of the Government.
 - Licensing issues also figured high this month, although the majority of letters complained about the lack of flexibility of the Council on the distance within which they would take objections to licence variations and the lack of sufficient time to object to pubs and bars who request variations.
 - The Terrorism Bill and specifically the '90 days' issue concerned many constituents. Interestingly, letters received were three to one in favour of the 90 day detention period for suspected terrorists.

Votes In Parliament

I have voted in favour of the following bills so far this month:

- Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Bill
- Licensing Act 2003
- Violent Crime Reduction Bill
- Terrorism Bill
- Electoral Administration Bill

If you would like to receive any further information on any of the above please do not hesitate to contact me at Westminster.

Details are below.

Advice Surgery Dates

Friday 9th December – 3.30 – 5.30 pm –
Quarry Bank Community Centre, Sheffield
Street, Quarry Bank

Saturday 10th December – 10 am – 12 pm –
Wollescote Community Centre, Wassell Road,
Wollescote

Friday 6th January – 3.00 – 5.00 pm – The
What? Centre, 23 Coventry Street, Stourbridge
Town Centre

Saturday 14th January – 10 am – 12 pm –
Sainsbury's Store, Sandringham Way,
Amblecote (Customer Restaurant)

Friday 3rd February – 3.30 – 5.30 pm – Beauty
Bank Primary School, Forge Road, Wollaston

Saturday 11th February – 10 am – 12 pm – The
Sunshine Club, Hardwicke Way, New Farm
Estate, Stourbridge



How to contact Lynda Waltho MP

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