

MARK FLETCHER MP NEWSLETTER



Late November Newsletter



Dear {{ contact.FIRSTNAME }},

It has been an action packed few weeks since my last update, which has included a number of school visits, remembrance events, a major Government announcement on HS2 and local rail projects, a visit to a major employer in South Normanton, and meeting a key social enterprise group based in Bolsover.

The constituency also benefited from over £200,000 worth of funding from the Cultural Recovery Fund with money going to Creswell Craggs and Opus Music CIC to support them during these challenging times.

Earlier this month, I had the honour of laying a cross in Westminster's Constituency Garden of Remembrance in memory of all those from the Bolsover constituency who laid down their lives for our country. Back home, I attended an Armistice Day event in Palterton and the Remembrance Day Parade in Bolsover.

It is community events such as these why I take immense pride in representing this wonderful constituency.

For those who missed the HS2 and Local Railways (Special Edition) e-newsletter in response to the publication of the Government's Integrated Rail Plan (IRP), the Bolsover constituency will benefit from four major announcements, including the cancellation of HS2 through the constituency, the electrification of the Midland Mainline, and two local rail projects being named in the IRP.

Last Friday, I visited the Co-op distribution centre, in South Normanton, to hear about the work they are doing to look after their night shift workers' health and well-being. I learnt how 1 in 8 employees across the country work nights and Co-op, along with other large employers, are engaging with the 'Night Club' initiative which brings together leading sleep researchers and employers to explore ways of increasing levels of engagement and job satisfaction amongst nightshift workers.

In the afternoon, I had the pleasure of visiting the Bolsover Woodlands Enterprise, which manages and protects woodlands across Derbyshire. All their team members are adults who have a learning disability, who are given opportunity to develop new skills, confidence and make a real difference in their communities. They turn the wood collected through their work into some great products; benches, doorstops, wine glass holders. They also run occasional pop-up shops in Bolsover Marketplace - with the next one being held on Friday 10th December - do try and visit to support them.

I hope you find this edition interesting and I look forward to updating you again in my final e-newsletter of the year just before Christmas!

Best wishes,

Mark.



Bolsover Woodlands Enterprise, Bolsover.



Lest we forget

I had the great honour of joining the children of Palterton Primary School for their Armistice Day parade. They all participated in the service in which they had chosen to remember animals that lost their lives at war. We were joined by former and current members of the Armed Forces, as well as many members of the local community. The children were extremely well behaved and are an absolute credit to the village - I look forward to visiting the school again early next year.

For Remembrance Sunday, I had the privilege to take part in the Remembrance Day Parade in Bolsover, and to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph to remember all those who gave so much. It was lovely to see so many from our community come to pay their respects, on this 100th year of the Royal British Legion and the unveiling of Bolsover's memorial.

A wreath was also laid on my behalf at the Remembrance Day service at St Michaels and All Angels Church in South Normanton.



Constituency Garden of Remembrance



Supporting local schools

Over the past few weeks, I have been out and about visiting local schools and it was great to see the hard work, kindness, and positive attitude on display from children across the constituency. I would like to thank Mrs Rodgers from Brockley Primary School, Mrs Needham from Shirland Primary School, and Mr Watson from Glebe Junior School, for welcoming me to their schools.

I recognise how incredibly challenging the past 18 months have been for schools, so it was great to have the opportunity to thank the staff on behalf of the local community for their fantastic work.

One of my main priorities as your Member of Parliament is ensuring every child in the Bolsover constituency can reach their full potential and I will continue to work with our local schools and headteachers to improve standards and deliver more educational choice locally.



Shirland Primary School



Glebe Junior School, South Normanton



HS2 and local railways

A few weeks ago, the Government published the Integrated Rail Plan (IRP), which outlined major rail projects throughout the Midlands and the North.

The main announcement was that HS2 Phase 2b (Eastern Leg) will no longer go as far north as the Bolsover constituency and will instead terminate at East Midlands Parkway. I know this news would be welcomed by thousands of residents across the constituency, in particular for those living in villages along the route, whose communities would have been devastated by HS2.

The Government also committed to the full electrification of the Midland Mainline, which runs from London to Nottingham and Sheffield. This will help reduce journey times for residents in the constituency catching services from Chesterfield and Alfreton - without the extortionate cost to the taxpayer and destruction of the countryside associated with HS2.

Two local rail projects which I have been campaigning on since being elected, the Robin Hood Line extension from Shirebrook to Ollerton via Warsop and Edwinstowe, and the reopening of the Maid Marian Line, were also named as schemes within the Integrated Rail Plan and I look forward to working with colleagues and Local Authorities to get these plans over the line.

These announcements are great news for our constituency - bringing enormous socio-economic benefits to thousands of residents. I will continue to campaign extremely hard on other infrastructure projects throughout the constituency, such as Darfoulds Bridge, Treble Bob Roundabout, an M1/Shirebrook Link Road, and improvements to junctions 28 & 29 of the M1, but this is a very welcome first step in levelling-up the constituency and the wider East Midlands region.



Harper's Law

Thank you to Lissie Harper for her absolute determination to get the law changed to mandatory life sentences for the manslaughter of an emergency

worker - it is incredibly important that those killed whilst serving the public get the justice they deserve. Since the appalling killing of PC Andrew Harper in the line of duty his family have been unwavering in their campaign to increase the protections for emergency workers against violent criminals, making sure that those who seek to harm our police officers, firefighters and paramedics feel the full force of the law. It was a privilege to meet Lissie and thank her for all of her hard work.



Creswell Heritage and Wellbeing Centre

I am very pleased to hear that the Creswell Heritage and Wellbeing Centre has been given the green light meaning construction can begin next year, with the hope of opening by Christmas 2022.

Earlier this year I wrote to the Secretary of State in support of this project which will have great social, physical and mental health benefits for residents of Creswell.

A massive thank you to Cllr Duncan McGregor who has led on the project and for his vision and leadership for Creswell.

You can hear more about the project on this week's Bolsover TV episode here: <https://www.bolsover.tv/index.php>

Need my help?

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email at mark.fletcher.mp@parliament.uk, by post at 1 Market Place, Bolsover, S44 6PN, or telephone 01246 932048 to discuss your issue with my caseworker, or to arrange a telephone/video appointment.

Need my help with something? Click the button below to see my full list of contact details.

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