

POLITICAL LIFE **ISSUE 37**

Our Magazine is published every other month and is freely available to our members

**Oct—Nov
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Stay 'In Touch' with the
Corby & E Northants Conservative Association

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A COUNTRY THAT WORKS FOR EVERYONE



**Prime Minister
Theresa May**

I will deliver the strong and proven leadership the country needs to steer us through what will be difficult and uncertain economic and political times.

We need to negotiate the best deal for Britain in leaving the EU and to forge a new role for ourselves in the world.

Brexit means Brexit and we're going to make a success of it.

Second, we need to unite our country.

And third, we need a strong, new, and positive vision for the future of our country. A vision of a country that works not for the privileged few but works for every one of us.

Because we're going to give people more control over their lives.

That's how together we will build a better Britain.

READ MORE THOUGHTS ON BREXIT INSIDE

Conservative Association Chairman's Report to Members

Cllr Helen Harrison (Association Chairman)

14 Sep 2016

So we have made it to September, 3 months on from the referendum that was supposed to fatally divide the Conservative party and leave the country in turmoil. Happily that fate has not befallen us and it feels to me as if our party is strongly united behind our new Prime Minister, Teresa May



As I write this report, the latest employment figures show another increase in employment levels, with another 174,000 people in jobs over the last 3 months taking us to a 74.5% employment rate, the highest since comparable records began. Wages have risen by 2.3% and unemployment remains at an 11 year low of 4.9%. As a result, there are now fewer children growing up in workless households. This is a great reminder of what a Conservative government does and why we work so hard to get Conservatives elected.

Yesterday David Cameron resigned as an MP. His decision is understandable and completely honourable. If he had remained a back bencher but not spoken in the chamber he would have been accused of being an absentee MP like Gordon Brown. If, however he had spoken up, he would have been in danger of being seen as divisive and a back seat driver.

I would like to pay tribute to David Cameron who ably led the country since 2010 and restored us to power with a Conservative majority in 2015. He took over when our economy was in a complete mess and turned it around, the employment figures above are a testament to the work done by David Cameron and George Osborne since 2010. This was all achieved at the same time as serious social reform. Our children are benefitting from the expansion of Academies and the introduction of Free schools which are raising standards all over the country. Thousands more children are now educated in Good and Outstanding schools as a result. The work on Universal Credit is getting more people into work and freeing them from a life trapped on benefits.

When historians look back at David Cameron's time in Number 10, I believe they will credit him with being a great reforming Prime Minister, who rescued our economy and had the courage to give the people of the UK the right to determine their own future with the EU. I wish him all the best in his new life outside Parliament.

The other big announcement this week was the preliminary proposals from the Boundary Commission on the new parliamentary boundaries for 2020. Corby and East Northants is a very large constituency, too big to be left untouched by the Commission and so we will have to lose some of our constituency. Tom Pursglove MP has been in meetings this week and I will be attending a meeting next week to discuss the proposals. It is our desire that the changes should create the least disruption possible, make sense geographically and to make sure the seat is still winnable for us. I am confident that this can be achieved.

I would like to finish with some local news. Most of you will by now have heard that we won the Raunds Town Council by-election with a huge majority. We won 77.2% of the vote. I was pleased to see so many people coming to help from outside Raunds. Thank you to everyone who played their part. We have already started to campaign for the County Council elections with leaflets and raffle ticket letters to be delivered over the next 2 months. Our candidates for Oundle, Thrapston, Raunds, Irthlingborough, Corby Rural and Oakley (Corby) will be asking for help with these deliveries in their Divisions. Please help out where you can. We have raffle ticket letters to deliver in the other 3 Corby divisions, Kingswood, Lloyds and Corby West, these will be in the Corby office so if anyone can help with those please pop in and take a few.

I'm off to the party Conference at the beginning of October so I should have many more interesting things to cover in my next Chairman's report!

Helen



I want Britain to be the world's great meritocracy – a country where everyone has a fair chance to go as far as their talent and their hard work will allow.

PRIME MINISTER THERESA MAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2016

Britain, the great meritocracy

When I stood in Downing Street as Prime Minister for the first time, I set out my mission to build a country that works for everyone. And this morning I began to lay out my vision for a truly meritocratic Britain that puts the interests of ordinary, working class people first.

And that starts with education.

Whilst we can be proud of the steps that we have taken to improve our education system, a good school remains out of reach for too many children.

We need a good school place for every child, one that caters to their individual needs and abilities. That's why:

- We will require universities that want to charge higher fees to establish a new school or sponsor an existing underperforming school.
- We will remove the obstacles that stop more good faith schools, especially new Catholic schools, from opening, particularly those with a proven record of success.

- We will ensure that our independent schools play a greater role by creating more good school places in the state sector for children from ordinary working class families and ensuring that they succeed.

And I also want us to be unashamed in our desire to expand and facilitate the creation of more selective schools. There is nothing meritocratic about standing in the way of giving our most academically gifted children the specialist and tailored support that can enable them to fulfil their potential. We know that grammar schools are hugely popular with parents. We know they are good for the pupils that attend them. And we know that they want to expand.

That's why we will ensure that grammar schools contribute meaningfully to raising outcomes for all pupils in every part of the system. That could mean taking a proportion of pupils from lower income households, so that selective education is not reserved for those with the means to move into a catchment area or pay for tuition to pass the test.

Continued

Or, as a condition of opening a new selective school, they could be asked to establish a good, new non-selective school. Others may establish a primary feeder school in an area with a high density of lower income households to widen access. They might even partner with an existing non-selective school within a multi-academy trust or sponsor a currently underperforming non-selective academy.

And to those who say that this will lead to the return of a binary system, there will be no return to secondary moderns.

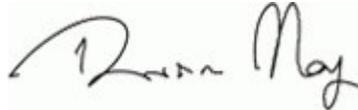
From free schools sponsored by universities and independent schools, to faith schools and selective schools, the diversity of high quality school provision means we will be able to

cater properly for the different needs of all pupils and give parents real control over the kind of school they want for their children.

And over the coming months and years, that is the better Britain that we are determined to build: Britain, the Great Meritocracy.

Thank you for your support.

Thank you,



Theresa May

Prime Minister

[facebook.com/TheresaMayOfficial](https://www.facebook.com/TheresaMayOfficial)

Read my full speech setting out my vision for a meritocratic Britain on Facebook

BOUNDARY REVIEW 2016

To try and help reduce the cost of politics, and to make constituencies more even in size, the Government is committed to reducing the size of the House of Commons by fifty seats, to come into effect at the next scheduled General Election. This will bring the number of seats to 301. The East Midlands will lose 2 seats. The initial proposals by the Boundary Commission are that the Corby Constituency loses Irthlingborough to Wellingborough, and Kettering gains Finedon but our local MPs are formulating a co-ordinated approach to suggest some slight amendments which they believe are better bearing in mind historical and local links. A briefing meeting, to which all members were invited, was held on Sat. 17th September to explain the proposed changes and discuss alternative options. Members will be notified of the final agreed suggestions in due course. It is important that members feed any of their own suggestions through the Chairman or their local MP rather than submit individual ideas.



Photo: Morguefile

The Commission are now holding a 12 week public consultation period on their proposals and invite the public's views. This period will end on 5th December 2016.

There will also be a series of public meetings at which presentations can be made. The most local meeting for our area will be at The Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton, NN1 1DE on Monday 31st October from 10am to 8pm and Tuesday 1st November 2016 from 9am to 5pm. It has been suggested the petitions from groups of people will carry no more weight than individual proposals.

The Boundary Commission website is at www.bce2018.org.uk.



COMMUNITY JUSTICE SECURITY

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER STEPHEN MOLD



10 Sep 2016

When I became the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire back in May 2016. I was very clear that I wanted to make Northamptonshire safer. The wide and far reaching remit of PCCs provides me with a unique position in which to help deliver my agenda.

Key to this will be the publication of my new Police and Crime Plan. As you may know, setting the strategic direction of the force is a key responsibility for Police and Crime Commissioners and I have been very clear that I want the Force to play a central role in both the development and delivery of the new Police and Crime Plan for Northamptonshire. For the first time, a joint OPCC/Police workshop was held to develop ideas for the new plan and how they can best be delivered. A wide range of officers from across the Force worked with OPCC colleagues to share ideas and experiences which has provided us with a well-informed foundation on which to refine and finalise the plan.

Following this workshop, a number of key themes and priorities were identified along with the key people in both the Force and the OPCC who would be responsible for delivering them. The four key priorities for my Police and Crime Plan are:

- Keeping the Young Safe
- Community Policing
- Protecting People From Harm
- Putting Victims at the Heart of Justice

A large scale consultation exercise will be launched at the end of September and will see the OPCC consult with a large range of strategic partners, local community groups, schools, youth groups and local residents. I would welcome your views on the new Police and Crime Plan, and once our consultation is launched, I will circulate details on how you can take part.

Delivering this new agenda will be a refreshed and new OPCC team who bring an unrivalled amount of knowledge and experience to help support and advise me. At the head of this team will be my new Chief Executive, Martin Scoble. Martin brings a huge amount of experience and understanding to the role of Chief Executive of the OPCC. He has a distinguished record of successfully planning, leading and implementing projects and programmes throughout his career as both an Officer in the British Army and more recently as the Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside. As a British Army Officer for 18 years, Martin held a wide variety of roles in many different countries and with large array of responsibilities. He planned and led deployments to Afghanistan, led highly sensitive programmes as an exchange officer in USA, planned and implemented a large number of projects and programmes as the Army Officer within the Global Contingency Planning department at the RAF Headquarters.

Continued>>>>

Stephen Mold— continued>>>

These roles required him to plan, execute and lead highly skilled teams in difficult circumstances with clear requirements in terms of quality and quantity along with rigid time restrictions. As the Chief Executive of the Humberside OPCC, Martin has a strong record of delivering excellence and innovation across the wide remit held by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

As the PCC for Northamptonshire, I want our county to be at the forefront of innovation within the criminal justice system. Martin's skills and abilities will clearly play a vital role in delivering this ambition and will help me and the Force makes Northamptonshire safer.

It is also essential that my new team continues to work with the Force to build on the improvements we have made. For example, the decision by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary to place Northamptonshire Police under routine monitoring following an improvement in the Force's tackling of violent crime is a very welcome development.

Under the leadership of Chief Constable Simon Edens, Northamptonshire Police has moved from stage three of the HMIC monitoring process – a level of scrutiny the Force had been under since January 2013, where operations are overseen by the Crime & Policing Monitoring Group – to stage one routine monitoring that applies to all police forces. This improvement follows the meeting of criteria set by HMIC for the



county Force to reach “a plateau in levels of violence against the person, with no adverse crime trends elsewhere.” The result comes almost a year to the day that Simon Edens took to the helm of Northamptonshire Police.

I have congratulated Simon Edens and all of his officers on achieving this important milestone and we continue to share a desire to deliver an outstanding police service for the people of Northamptonshire. I am delighted that Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary can see that the Force is making real progress as we are determined that this is the start of a continued improvement as we aim to make Northamptonshire safer.

Stephen Mold

Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire

If you have any suggestions for the future of policing in our county, or want to bring anything to my attention, I can be contacted at: commissioner@northantspcc.pnn.police.uk

Irthlingborough Branch invites you and your friends to

AN EVENING WITH TOM PURSGLOVE

11th November 2016. More details to follow

ANDREW I LEWER, MBE MEP for the East Midlands

Sep 2016

"A somewhat calmer atmosphere has been discernable - at least for now - in Brussels after the recess. The reality of, rather than reaction to, Brexit seems to be taking hold. However, the EU Commission and EU Parliament appointing federalists with a less than friendly attitude towards the UK as their chief Brexit representatives will, I believe, only further strengthen the leading role of the EU Council - that is the Heads of Government - in the negotiation process. Pragmatic and practical attitudes are more prevalent there.

The 'state aid' case against Apple and the Republic of Ireland, growing calls for an EU army, a wheeze of not including education spending in deficit levels and the resurgence of plans to impose a 'social pillar' across the EU all show that for too many in Brussels the 'lesson' of Brexit appears to be... you guessed it... 'More Europe'. These wrong-headed plans and the reality of the next crisis for Greece, a potential Italian banking collapse and growing problems from the huge numbers of migrants from the Middle East, Africa and Asia will, I fear, be coming into headlong collision before long with results that cannot be predicted save to say they will be disagreeable.

For me and other Conservative MEPs the twin roles of assisting in efforts to get the best deal for the UK on the one hand and working with colleagues in the wider European Conservatives and Reformists Group on the other begin to become more distinct, though both retain significance. Meetings with Secretaries of State, Ministers and MPs will now take on an added significance as we offer our expertise about what rules and regulations and which spending and / or investment programmes may usefully be retained, modified or dispensed with. I know that I and other Conservative MEPs were quite disappointed by the lack of interest or even response in some ministerial quarters when we were building up to the so-called renegotiation. Some opportunities for a fuller and wider reform of the EU were not then pursued. We should now try to ensure that the simple and default - but gravely mistaken - response to Brexit of

transposing almost every regulation and continuing to participate in every programme is avoided.

Brexit is an opportunity for revitalisation and reform. It removes an excuse for inability to act that was often cited over the years: 'We cannot change X or Y because of EU regulations'. The fact that the extrication process will take a number of years can also be seen as an opportunity. It allows for careful deliberation and for a national debate about what we want important parts of our public sector and regulatory framework to look like. In particular I hope for a revitalisation of and new responsibilities for local government to emerge from this process.

In the time remaining to me as an MEP I will seek to contribute to this national debate and to elicit contributions towards it as well. It will, furthermore, continue to be worthwhile to ensure that we have proper access to and information about EU funds while we stay members.

Both of these objectives are served by a new publication that I shall be producing shortly entitled: 'A Changing Landscape: Farming and Rural Business Funding Opportunities'. The subtitle is: 'An EU funding guide and a Brexit options assessment'.

It is my hope that, in addition to providing useful information in a clear and concise format, this booklet will stimulate debate about what has worked and what has not with regard to EU regulations and funding so that by 2020 we have ambitious and well thought out plans in place. If you would like a copy, please do let me know via: office@andrewlewermp.co.uk.

Regards,

Andrew Lewer MBE MP for the East Midlands



Emma McClarkin MEP for the East Midlands

Sep 2016

Dear fellow Conservatives,

Following our vote to leave the European Union, the United Kingdom can now forge a new path, free from European bureaucracy and red tape, and move away from protectionist practices to take advantage of the opportunities and growth now available to us in making new trade deals.

As we now look to set the foundations for securing our own trade deals with countries around the world, it is imperative that Small and Medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Northamptonshire and across the East Midlands have their voices heard and are given the tools to enable them to take advantage of the countless opportunities we can now pursue.

For too long, our SMEs have been held back by unnecessary red tape, unable to compete on the world stage. Now with the United Kingdom working on a unilateral basis, we will be able to make our country a global one that works in the interests of its own market, exporters and businesses who are eager to be on the international market.

In the first half of 2016 the East Midlands exported £1.7million in exports to China, Australia, the USA and New Zealand – none of which the EU has a trade agreement with.



Last year this figure was £3.9 million, just from our region. If this is what we are able to do without a free trade agreement and with high barriers, just think of the potential once the UK achieves tariff-free agreements. The UK now stands ready to seize upon these opportunities and deliver with the pro-free trade agenda for these companies, which has been so hard to achieve in the EU.

Already we hear that working groups have been set up to look at trade deals with our partners from India and Australia, whilst other countries from around the world such as Mexico and Singapore have expressed their interest in pursuing trade deals with our nation. It is clear to the world that we are strong, outward-looking, ambitious and ready to capitalise on our new freedom. Now we all need is to become global free trade champions.

***Emma McClarkin MEP
for the East Midlands***

CORBY CONSERVATIVE CLUB
www.corbyconservativeclub.net



POST BREXIT



Ray Jackson

12 Sep 2016

I am still quite emotional about Brexit and find it hard to be objective. But as good Tories that is what we must do. After all we are problem solvers!

The big issue during the Referendum was the public's need to stem immigration; a pure numbers game with no opportunity to fudge the figures. Sometimes the motivation is xenophobia such as the situation in our small fenland towns overwhelmed by foreign workers speaking their own language, setting up and using their own shops selling foods we think we would not like, not complying occasionally with our laws but more frequently with our customs. These foreigners are said to be prepared to work for wages lower than the normal rates and create high unemployment among our local workers. And sadly these and possibly other less clearly defined and articulated factors lead to resentment and fighting. As an Englishman working in Wales in the '60s or in Malaysia in the '70s I experienced local resentment and was sometimes tempted to accept the invitation to, I paraphrase, 'to go back up England because this country will never be any good while you English are here'. I stuck out the first year and after four was treated as an honorary Welshman, with a life much richer for appreciating the Welsh culture. The problem was solved.

We have to admit we really need many of these foreign workers. The Health Service's doctors and nurses, seasonal agricultural workers, overseas employees of British companies needing to come to Britain for further training, students prepared to pay well for degree courses and the opportunity to learn English and tourists who like our country and

want to spend some time here. If we try to put numbers against each group, it would in total probably exceed any number the anti-immigration people want. And these are wanted mainly to help our economy. We also have a compassionate streak, like Angela Merkel, which prompts to try to help at least some displaced people, especially children.

Another risk we face by reducing immigration is that the EU might do the same to us. We have over two million living abroad, many probably elderly who have decided to see their days out in Spain or France. Supposing they were treated a unwanted immigrants by their host countries and were repatriated to us in retaliation. We have to box very carefully.

Possible solutions to the problem:

- Let us have a blitz on those unscrupulous employers who are sacking Brits for lower paid foreigners. Every local person knows who they are. The Job Centres get the vibes; the trades unions should have lists. The information is available; the law is clear. Action should be easy.
- Let us get the voluntary sector to build bridges between the communities: language classes for the eager; cultural exchanges for people like me.
- Let us invest heavily in the Philippines, Malaysia, India, Singapore and Thailand to build organisations capable of recruiting and training doctors, nurses and other health professionals for work after graduation in Britain. We then would have a good supply and involve ourselves in a good technology transfer.

With a positive Conservative attitude and a bit of joint brain wracking, I am sure we could begin to solve the problem of immigration.

Ray Jackson

Just a thought: Speaking on 19th Sep 2016 about Labour's leadership election Lord (Neil) Kinnock said: "Not just in my lifetime but stretching back to the 1930s, by any examination this is the greatest crisis that the Labour Party has faced,"

EAST NORTHANTS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Sep 2016

In the last period East Northants Council has been keeping a careful eye on the outcome from the Referendum, and the change to the PM and top ministerial team. One of which is a new SoS for DCLG Sajid Javid.

From a financial point of view we are quite confident as our limited reserves are tied into fixed term accounts and the current uncertainty in the market is not affecting us at this point in time. EU procurement will of course change over time, but this will depend a lot on our exit timing. Additionally, a lot of EU directives are tied up within our own legislation and will require fresh Acts of Parliament to unravel them. Waste is a good example, where there may be EU recycling targets but these are tied in our own legislation, so we cannot suddenly change our position. The upcoming waste contract, which is the council's biggest, is a watching brief and we are receiving updates. Although this contract is still some way off, the new Leisure contract is close to tender stage and should not be affected.

Whether the new PM and cabinet changes policy in relation to local government is yet unknown. There is a commitment of course to the manifesto but things such as Unitary councils and elected Mayors are yet unknown. I do find the Labour candidate for Manchester interesting, and if this trait continues (especially in the North) I do wonder how much longer we will be pushed unwillingly down this route.

What is clear is the Government funding to local Government is not going to improve greatly. The rate support grant which funds most of the council services is still going to reduce, and disappear. There is still a question mark over the future of New Homes Bonus as well.

We may get 100% of business rates in three years' time but the understanding is that the formula is going to be changed so there is greater equalisation across the country, and it does depend on how many of the larger businesses there are in your area.

The revised Core Spatial Strategy was adopted just under a month ago. This is North Northamptonshire's part 1 plan and in my view much better than the last one. There are many improved policies including much more manageable housing delivery timescale, a minimum build size, a more flexible approach to economic development, and more importance placed on green infrastructure. The most important element for ENC is the recognition of Rushden as a growth town, the inclusion of the SUE, and the opportunity to deliver 2,500 new homes, that will include employment and the infrastructure. Additionally, there is inclusion of the new garden village at Deenethorpe. This will be an exciting opportunity to deliver a new village on a Brownfield site, which the Government is pushing hard.

To end on, during the last few months I have been able to visit, along with the Chairmen and ward councillors the recipients of our third round of New Homes Bonus investment. We have supported Stanwick community garden, Oundle tennis and rowing clubs, Brigstock village hall, a minibus at Kingscliffe and support for a building at Manor school. The photos were on the cover of our recently circulated Council magazine and the next round has just been advertised.

Steven North
Leader East Northants District Council

Report from Cllr Rob McKellar on Corby Borough Council

1 September 2016

- Last month Corby Borough Council unanimously passed a cross-party motion calling for solidarity against xenophobia and racism in the aftermath of the EU Referendum.
- Council officers have reported that the devolution agenda continues to be expected despite the change of Prime Minister and Secretary of State. It is the cross-party view that whilst greater co-operation and sharing of services between authorities is likely to be beneficial, an outright merger of authorities would not be in the best interests of Corby. Both parties are however mindful of the power of the Secretary of State to impose arrangements on non-cooperative authorities and we are therefore keen to work closely with our neighbours to reach the best deal for all.
- A new Head of Housing has been appointed. Terms are currently being discussed.
- Since the last report, confirmation has been received that the number 67 bus will now continue to run. This is a huge relief to residents in the Corby Rural areas.
- The Kier contract for "Street Scene" services has been extended by 2 years in accordance with the contract option. This was not the preferred approach by the Conservative Group,

however delay by council officers in bringing the report to committee left members with no other viable options. The Conservative Opposition insisted as a result in a members' working group being set up to oversee the Street Scene review over the coming 2 years and APSE consultants have been engaged to appraise options. Conservative Councillor Kevin Watt now sits on this working group.

- In respect of future Street Scene provision, the ruling Labour Group have expressed a desire to bring these services in-house. The Conservative Group's position is that we will support which ever option offers best value for money for tax payers.

Rob

Cllr Rob McKellar LLB (Hons) Barrister-at-Law FCILEx
Leader of the Opposition
Corby Borough Council

Tel: 07810 176 147



MORE EU MADNESS – A EURO MUSEUM ! THANK GOODNESS IT WON'T BE OUR PROBLEM ANY MORE

Due to open its doors to the public in November, the House of European History in the Parc Léopold comes with a massive €56 million price tag and on-going exhibition costs funded by the EU of €800,000 a year.

During an intense debate at a meeting of the European Culture Education and Sport (CULT) Committee, MEP Andrew Lewer questioned this 'vanity project' calling it 'a disgraceful waste of money'.

Andrew said: 'This controversial, multi-million euro museum is simply not acceptable, It is another classic example of the EU's total disregard for taxpayer's money.

'It is not needed, there is no demand for it and Europe will be no better for it. This white elephant is aimed at delivering EU propaganda and rewriting history - all aimed at creating an ever closer European union.'

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Friday 2nd December

12 noon for 12.30pm

Guest Speaker

Rt Hon OWEN PATERSON

Member of Parliament for North Shropshire

Also in attendance:

TOM PURSGLOVE

Member of Parliament for Corby & E Northants

Ticket price: £16.95 pp (same as last year)

Venue: Corby Conservative Club

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW



Christmas Lunch
2nd December 2016

Chef's Homemade Pea & Ham Soup
Served with bread roll and butter
Or
Garlic Mushrooms
* * * *

Traditional Roast Turkey Crown
Served with Christmas Trimmings
Or
Roast Pork
Served with all the Trimmings
Served with Carrots and Brussels Sprouts
* * * *

Christmas Pudding served with Brandy Sauce
Or
Apple & Winterberry Crumble
Served with Custard
* * * *

Mini minced pies and tea/ coffee to finish

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CHOOSE YOUR PREFERRED DISHES**

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SNACKS FOR UNDER
SIX POUNDS



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WEDNESDAY TO
SUNDAY.**

WAR CRIMINAL EXPOSÉ *Almost 1 million victims*

A new documentary on the most odious Prime Minister in history is available.

The Killing\$ of Tony Blair
is available from iTunes and Amazon for around £10.
George Galloway presents this film.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT



Cllr Heather Smith

1 Sep 2016

The County Council continues to face up to the incredible financial challenges imposed on us and we are steering a steady course towards achieving the 2016/17 budget. We are achieving this by transforming the way we run our services

whilst protecting the most vulnerable. I regret that we do not have enough money to cut the grass verges as often as we would all like to see but a number of parishes are now taking over the responsibility for verge cutting within their villages and this is beginning to work well.

Pressures on our social care, which absorb the majority of our annual budget, continue to face high demand for services and we do all we can to support families who get into difficulties to avoid taking their children into care.

Before the end of the school summer term there was a distressing accident involving a double decker bus transporting school children from Oundle heading towards Kings Cliffe. At the time of writing this report the information I have been given by the Highways Director is that the

junction where this happened was not at fault but I am continuing to work with our Highways Authority to see what else we could do to highlight the dangers to motorists speeding through our lanes that they are approaching a crossroads and should proceed with caution. Unfortunately there are many junctions like this one throughout the County and whatever we do cannot guarantee that drivers will respond as they should. I must pay tribute to the emergency services who attended this accident and I am pleased to report that no children sustained any life changing injuries. The emotional affect on them is being addressed by providing counselling for the children which continued through the school holiday.

We are now moving forward with preparations for the County Council elections next May and I have been involved in other parts of the county that are not so advanced as CENCA. I am anxious that we have all candidates in place by early September as the next election will not be easy. We will all need to pull together to keep the County Conservative.

Heather

*Cllr Heather Smith, Chartered MCIPD
Leader of the Council
Northamptonshire County Council*

CONSERVATIVE POLICY FORUM UPDATE



Now is a time for the CPF to grow and build – we have a big and important job ahead. We have a new Prime Minister leading us towards a “post-EU” political climate and CPF members will have a huge role in shaping this future direction. In the meantime, please can I encourage you all to use this break in the national discussion agenda to continue holding CPF meetings that focus discussion on local issues that you want to influence. This will help to ensure that the CPF continues to grow and is ready to hit the ground running in the autumn – ready to speak out with our strong and loud voice.

Dr John Hayward, Conservative Policy Forum Manager

**YOU CAN TAKE PART
IN THESE
DISCUSSIONS -
PLEASE CONTACT
ANN AT THE OFFICE
FOR DETAILS OF
MEETINGS AND
TOPICS. IF YOU
WOULD LIKE TO
SUGGEST A TOPIC
FOR A MEETING JUST
LET ANN KNOW**

RAUNDS SAXON BY-ELECTION

The results of the by-election in the Saxon Ward of Raunds Town Council were as follows:

	Aug 2016	Nov 2012	Aug 2012
Conservative majority	413	17	46
Percentage of the vote	77.2%	50.7%	53.3%
Turnout	21%	35.5%	20.34%

This was a tremendous result that was achieved due to the huge amount of campaigning and door knocking which had been carried out by our Taskforce team, ably assisted by our very hard-working candidate Bill Tirebuck. He is warmly congratulated on being elected to the Council.

Dear Members

I just wanted to let you all know that Tom Pursglove has been made a PPS (Parliamentary Private Secretary) in the Home Office. He told us at the recent Saturday Task Force meeting that the Home Office was where he most wanted to be!

This is the first rung on the way towards a ministerial career so I'm sure that you will all want to join me in congratulating Tom. He works incredibly hard here in the Constituency and has gained a huge amount of respect from his colleagues for speaking regularly and well in the chamber.

He deserves this recognition and I'm sure this is just the beginning of great things to come.

Congratulations Tom!

Best wishes

Helen Harrison

Chairman, Corby and East Northants Conservative Association.

COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2017

We now have a full set of candidates for the County Council elections.

This includes the 3 seats in Corby Town and we are very grateful to Miranda Harrison, Ollie Lewis and Stuart Davidson for standing in these challenging divisions*.

They are all tried and tested campaigners and they will be carrying out a full campaign in Corby. Any help members can give them with deliveries, etc. will be appreciated.

**At the time of publication we are waiting for confirmation of selection from the Executive.*

Our 'Political Life'

Our magazine is available as a small printed booklet. For some time now issues have also been made available in a format suitable for reading on ipads and this version is emailed to members. Printed circulation is restricted to Conservative Party members. Non-members who would like to receive our magazine regularly will need to join the Association. Please contact Ann at our office by email at office@cenca.co.uk or telephone 01536 200255. Our address is CENCA, Cottingham Road, Corby NN17 1SZ

Your Association contact details:

Tickets for all events can be ordered through the Conservative Association Office (Ann)
Phone: 01536 200255
Email: office@cenca.co.uk
Mail: CENCA, Cottingham Road, Corby, NN17 1SZ
Web: www.cenca.co.uk

Copy for the next issue must be received by 10th November please. Contributions and letters from members are welcome but some editing may be necessary by the editor.

You can email the editor, Ray Boyd at ray.boyd@talktalk.net

CORBY—GREAT PLACE BUT COULD DO BETTER

Firstly may I say I have a great respect for Ray Jackson but in his recent article in the magazine he does seem to be very negative about leaving the E.U. We should be giving Theresa May our full backing and making repairs to our party now, not forecasting doom. There were an awful lot of scare tactics from both sides before the referendum but we the people, chose to leave, that is called democracy. I personally am thrilled that we are leaving the E.U. and time will of course tell but I firmly believe we have done the right thing. From small acorns, great oaks will grow but please let's give it a chance to work and move towards the exit as a united group. I am old enough to remember how Great Britain used to be and have noticed that goods I sell through the internet command a much better price even now if "Made in Great Britain" or "Made in England" is on the said goods. Support is now needed for our new P.M. and the new cabinet (which is the best I have ever seen) so let's help them to do what they believe will help us become great again. As for M.O.G I soundly back his very last paragraph in the last issue.

I have written to our fairly new Police and Crime Commissioner Stephen Mold asking him for his plans on certain aspects of the law which seems to be ignored by so many. You will pick up the things I have asked from my following piece.

Ten years ago my hubby and I returned to live in Corby; time flies by and recently I remembered why we were so pleased to be back in England and in particular in Corby.

Corby has wide grass verges, wide pavements, plenty of green areas and parks and plenty of good people so in general it's a nice place to live. But it is what I see now that actually dismays me.

Grass roadside areas that are churned up by car tyres, especially during winter just so the drivers can park immediately outside their houses.

Litter often seems to be everywhere blowing about and collecting among shrubbery in great piles and rotting as it's been there for so long. Dumping of large items of rubbish is common presumably hoping the local scrap dealer will collect or people just passing may want what they have put out. Shrubby and trees are often left to grow and spread over rights of way and covering road signs.

Our parks and grass verges are mowed less often and sometimes look terrible as the grass is cut so badly. It is said that due to lack of funds there is no longer enough to pay sufficient wages for a decent job to be done. With all the new houses and new incomers to our town (many sadly in multiple occupancy housing) I have to ask where is all this new income into our town and county coffers going?

Our Neighbourhood Wardens do a great job but are thinner on the ground than I can ever remember. Police presence is almost invisible, you may see one in a car racing by on some mission or other but they never seem to have the time to instil confidence in our public by being on the streets.

Our nice wide pavements are now used by great numbers of cyclists as race tracks with never a thought for pedestrians, baby prams / buggies, wheelchairs and mobility scooters.

Parts of our town look like they are in the third world, and I know that much of this is down to the County Council but if enough Corby people complain to their area town councillors about the state of their own areas then C.B.C. may start leaning on County Hall to spend more money in Corby. As it is now they just hope that those of us who do complain will go away if they ignore our complaints long enough. As it is we recently contacted our local Labour Councillor asking if we could meet with him to discuss the state of our area but we have been pointedly ignored and have never even received a reply

Thank goodness it won't be too long until the elections are due. Let's ask ourselves if it is time to change the monotony of Labour's tenure of Corby and all of us give as much help and support as we can to those brave souls who stand as candidates for us in Corby. Let's also encourage everyone we can to put their cross in our box in the County elections and do their bit for a really better Corby.

Dee Sellars [Member]

(This contribution has been slightly edited for space reasons. If you wish to see the full article please contact the editor)

We love to receive letters or articles for the magazine, complimentary or otherwise. Just send them in Word format to the office. Photos are good too. Contributions may be edited or abridged slightly as necessary.

TOM PURSGLOVE

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR CORBY & EAST NORTHANTS



I hope that all members have had an enjoyable summer and have managed to make the most of the good weather! With the House in recess, it has been the perfect opportunity for me to catch up on various jobs both in Westminster and the constituency, as well as to visit some local businesses and do some all-important local campaigning!

First, congratulations are in order for the brilliant new Town Councillor in Raunds, Bill Tirebuck. The recent by-election campaign saw Bill knock on doors solidly for a month, and focused on the local issues that residents in Raunds Saxon have told us are most important as part of the Listening Campaign. I know that all members will agree with me that, in Bill, Raunds Saxon has a fantastic new Town Councillor and I very much look forward to working closely with him to help deliver real improvements for the people of the ward. It was also good to oil the wheels of our campaigning machine in election mode and I am incredibly grateful to all those who helped out - we have a crucial few months ahead of us with the Northamptonshire County Council elections in May, and we must work extremely hard and do all we can to support our candidates; not just to hold on to all the seats we currently hold, but to make ground in Corby and win additional seats.

I have also been pleased to be able to visit some great local companies in the past few weeks, such as Fairline Yachts in Oundle, and RCS Logistics in Corby.

Fairline, in particular, is an important part of our local industrial landscape and it was interesting to discuss with Russell Currie, the Chief Executive, what their plans are for the future. Having first visited the Oundle site during the dark days late last year, when Fairline Boats went into administration, it was lovely to see the new company making such good progress and the site operating in full swing - a real success story. I also really appreciated hearing RCS' enthusiastic plans for the future and to learn of their strong support for an Enterprise Zone in Corby - something I still believe would be of great benefit to the town and I hope that new opportunities to bid for one will come forward under the new Government.

In news from Westminster, as some members may know, at the beginning of the summer I was honoured to be appointed as a Parliamentary Private Secretary (PPS) at the Home Office, with specific responsibilities to support the new Minister of State for Immigration, Robert Goodwill MP.

I am delighted to have been asked to fulfil this role in the new Government - not least helping Home Office Ministers to ensure we deliver on our manifesto pledges. I have to say that I am extremely excited about the challenges that lie ahead and the opportunity to see at first hand the day-to-day workings of one of the great Departments of State, whilst supporting Ministers in their parliamentary activities.

To this end, I have already begun getting to work on my responsibilities over the recess, by attending briefings on current and upcoming issues that the Home Office will be focussing on, organising meetings

between colleagues and the Minister, and helping to prepare for Departmental Questions on the first day back of our short two week September sitting.

This new role will undoubtedly bring with it a lot of challenges, as well as a lot of extra work! But, at the same time, I think it is important to stress that I will continue to work tirelessly, both locally, and in the House of Commons, for the people of Corby & East Northamptonshire – I remain committed to being Corby and East Northamptonshire's voice in Westminster

and not Westminster's voice in Corby and East Northamptonshire. Indeed, this new role will allow me a unique opportunity to represent local views and feeling more easily to senior Home Office Ministers; a useful opportunity for our area, and I would like to thank everyone who has been in touch with congratulations, kind words, encouragement and support regarding my appointment – I really do appreciate it.

Sincerely

Tom Pursglove MP

How to get in touch with Tom

London phone number:
0207 219 8043

Write to him at Tom Pursglove MP,
House of Commons, LONDON SW1A 0AA

Follow on Twitter

@VotePursglove

Tom is also on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/VotePursglove>.

You can email Tom direct at:

pursglovet@parliament.uk

Phone or email to make an appointment to see Tom at one of his regular surgeries.

DOES THE PUBLIC SUPPORT RENATIONALISATION?

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn has argued the railway network should be taken back into public ownership. It was one of a raft of state-owned essential services privatised since the 1980s – usually by floating them on the stock market.

Martin Lewis recently carried out an on-line poll on this question (Aug 2016).

Those arguing for privatisation often focus on increased efficiency due to competition. Those against say that firms do what's best for their shareholders and not for consumers.

Percentages amongst age groups varied with over 65s showing less enthusiasm (probably remembering the reality of nationalisation). The figures have been averaged to cover all age groups.

The figures for Phone/Internet, Oil and Aviation were not so enthusiastic, but it is all a bit worrying considering the Conservative position on nationalisation. 109,244 people responded to the poll.

UTILITY	In favour of nationalisation
RAIL	75%
GAS/ELEC	58%
WATER	72%
POST eg: Royal Mail	68%
BUS eg: Nat. Expr	54%

IMF admits disastrous love affair with the euro

The IMF is an organisation that is almost out of control

Jul 2016

The International Monetary Fund's top staff misled their own board, made a series of calamitous misjudgements in Greece, became euphoric cheerleaders for the euro project, ignored warning signs of impending crisis, and collectively failed to grasp an elemental concept of currency theory.

This is the lacerating verdict of the IMF's top watchdog on the fund's tangled political role in the eurozone debt crisis.

The report by the IMF's Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) describes a "culture of complacency", prone to "superficial and mechanistic" analysis, and traces a shocking breakdown in the governance of the IMF, leaving it unclear who is ultimately in charge of this extremely powerful organisation.

The three main bailouts for Greece, Portugal and Ireland were unprecedented in scale and character. The trio were each allowed to borrow over 2,000pc of their allocated quota - more than three times the normal limit - and accounted for 80pc of all lending by the fund between 2011 and 2014. The Report said "Many documents were prepared outside the regular established channels; written documentation on some sensitive matters could not be located. The IEO in some instances has not been able to determine who made certain decisions or what information was available, nor has it been able to assess the relative roles of management and staff," At root was a failure to grasp the elemental point that currency unions with no treasury or political union to back them up are inherently vulnerable to debt crises.

States facing a shock no longer have sovereign tools to defend themselves. Devaluation risk is switched into bankruptcy risk.

"In a monetary union, the basics of debt dynamics change as countries forgo monetary policy and exchange rate adjustment tools," said the report. This would be amplified by a "vicious feedback between banks and sovereigns", each taking the other down. That the IMF failed to anticipate any of this was a serious scientific and professional failure.

In Greece, the IMF violated its own cardinal rule by signing off on a bailout in 2010 even though it could offer no assurance that the package would bring the country's debts under control or clear the way for recovery, and many suspected from the start that it was doomed.

Tom Pursglove, MP's Weekly Advice Surgeries

As your local MP, I believe it is extremely important to be as accessible as possible, in order to be able to best help with any problems or concerns that my constituents have. As such, unlike most MPs, I hold weekly advice surgeries, both in Corby and in East Northamptonshire. The venues for my surgeries are:

Corby: Corby VCS, The TA Building, Elizabeth Street, Corby, NN17 1PN

Irthlingborough: Irthlingborough Children's Centre, Scarborough St., Irthlingborough, NN9 5TT

Raunds: Raunds Library, High Street, Raunds, NN9 6LT

Oundle: Oundle Baptist Church, 1 St Osyth's Lane, Oundle, PE8 4BG

Thrapston: Thrapston Library, High Street, Thrapston, NN14 4JJ

To book an appointment, please telephone 020 7219 8043, as I have decided to operate my surgeries on an appointments basis, in order to ensure that my constituents do not have to rush through their concerns. This approach also allows me to provide immediate help - I often make a start on casework matters prior to an appointment, to try and resolve concerns more quickly, whilst it also allows me to seek any appropriate advice, or obtain clarification on technical points, in advance of the meeting.

THE NEW FIVER



The New Fiver began making its way into shops on 13th September. Paper £5 notes will now be gradually withdrawn and will cease to be legal tender in May 2017. The new £5 note, which features former Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill is made of polymer, a thin flexible plastic. This means that the note is cleaner, safer and stronger. The introduction of polymer banknotes allows for a new generation of security features which make it even harder to counterfeit. The note also remains in much better condition for longer. The New Fiver is expected to last at least 2.5 times longer than paper notes - around 5 years. But don't try to fold these new notes to fit your wallet as they can spring out as they flatten themselves. A polymer £10 note, featuring the novelist Jane Austen, will be issued in summer 2017 and a polymer £20 note featuring the artist JMW Turner will enter circulation by 2020. These two notes will include a tactile feature to help the vision impaired people distinguish between denominations.

THE MISERABLE OLD GIT – ‘GET MOVING’

In London a couple of weeks ago my taxi had to make an extensive (and expensive) diversion to avoid road closures caused by Remainiacs holding a parade to demand a second referendum on the European vote. The holdup in traffic was dreadful and goodness knows how many police officers were involved in controlling the crowds. I do respect the right to parade for a cause, but not if the aim is to overturn the democratic will of the people.

Eddie Izzard was there with his pink beret looking as weird as usual. But as long as he is involved Brexiteers can be assured that there will be no second vote. Indeed Theresa May has said just that.

Regular readers will know that I was not in favour of leaving but now the result is known I completely accept the democratic decision of the British people.

What do these Remainers want, for goodness sake? Should it be best of three votes? Brussels of course favours holding extra referendums until the people give the correct answer.

Now the Prime Minister must quickly get moving so Britain can move forward.

But there is no quick-fix for Brexit—there are going to be a lot of lengthy drawn out negotiations before all is settled.

One thing that does make me angry is the doomsayers in the media who jump on PM Theresa May's every statement.

She has said that we will not be using the Australian points system so she is condemned for that and accused of leading a soft-Brexit process.



But the official Leave campaign did not ask for a points system. Their slogan was: 'Take Control'. Ordinary people recognise that we can't just close our borders.

Our country has always had immigrants but it is only since the huge surge caused by the poorer ex-Soviet bloc countries joining the EU that a problem has emerged. A problem which has been exacerbated of course by the millions leaving North Africa and heading for us.

Many genuine immigrants come here looking for a job and a better way of life but for some our generous benefits system is obviously a lure. The government will have to work on David Cameron's idea of limiting benefits to immigrants. (And incidentally, access to the NHS).

Immigration will continue but we cannot allow our country to be overwhelmed. Limits must be imposed and we should now treat EU immigrants in the same way we have treated immigrants from the rest of the world.

We just want proper control.

It is not going to be easy, but **WE ARE LEAVING!**

MOG

THE NEW OFFICE PRINTER



As members were made aware in the previous issue of the Magazine, our office printer is now defunct and we have had to manage for some time without this facility.

We had a number of good donations to help fund the purchase of a new machine which was initially going to cost a great deal of money.

However, the Management have had a rethink about this project and have decided not to replace the costly, all-singing, all-dancing, all-problems machine but have instead purchased a smaller laser machine on which we will print all the usual office letters and reports.

For larger runs of printing we will engage the help of the two excellent companies who already do a large amount of work for us at a reasonable cost.

The new machine cost has been covered by the generous donations from our members and for this we thank all who contributed.

MOG is not a member of our Association and his comments are obviously his own opinion which do not necessarily reflect the views of our members, Association or its management.

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15 Sep 2016

Today's employment statistics show that with 31.77 million people in work, employment remains at a record high of 74.5%, while unemployment stands at 4.9%. This is the lowest for over a decade.

Over the last six years Conservatives have created more than 2.5 million jobs. That's 2.5 million people in Britain with the security of a regular pay cheque, able to provide for their family and plan for their future. With the unemployment rate at a 10 year low and wages growing healthily, we are making progress in our mission to build an economy that works for everyone. But there is so much more to do if we are to build a country that works for everyone. As well as working with businesses to continue to create jobs, we will work hard give people job security, reward the work that people do and spread opportunity throughout our country.