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POLITICAL LIFE ISSUE 71

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Corby & E Northants Conservative Association

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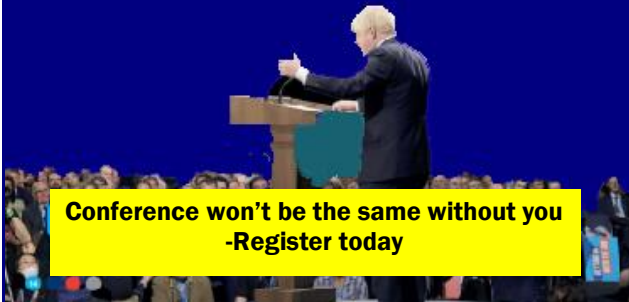
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READ TOM PURSGLOVE'S THOUGHTS ON THE RWANDA PARTNERSHIP INSIDE



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DISCOVER MORE LOCAL NEWS ON YOUR PHONE. SEE HOW INSIDE THIS MAGAZINE



PHISHING/SCAM WATCH

Phishing emails should be reported to the National Cyber Security Centre on
report@phishing.gov.uk

Please report every one of them. It is our weapon to stop the scammers

Text Message
Today 04.52

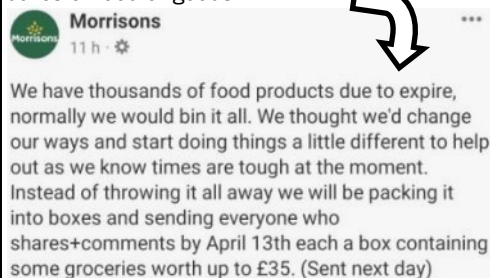
You've been in a close proximity with someone who has been contagious. You will need a test kit: <https://check-pcr-test.com> ← Do not go there!

This link will take you to what appears to be a NHS site. The site is fake. It will ask for some personal information and ask for details of your bank card. A small amount will be taken from your bank at first but then a large amount will be taken.

£150 council tax rebate scam

The government announced details of a £150 council tax rebate earlier this year to help ease the rising cost of energy bills. But it didn't take long for scammers to jump on this opportunity. Councils never ask for bank details over the phone. So if you're contacted this way about the £150 council tax rebate and are asked for personal and bank account details, please hang up. Please share this information with elderly or vulnerable people you may know.

A new scam on Facebook. They look like genuine Iceland and Morrison posts. Do not reply to these or any other posts offering free boxes of food or goods.



Morrison's 11 h

We have thousands of food products due to expire, normally we would bin it all. We thought we'd change our ways and start doing things a little different to help out as we know times are tough at the moment. Instead of throwing it all away we will be packing it into boxes and sending everyone who shares+comments by April 13th each a box containing some groceries worth up to £35. (Sent next day)

CONTENTS IN THIS ISSUE

- Cover. Party Conference
2. Scam Watch
- 3-4 . Association Chairman's report
5. Leader's Update
6. President Ray Jackson
7. Rt Hon Liz Truss report on the Ukraine
- 8/9. Tom Pursglove, MP
- 10/11. Stephen Mold PFCC
- 12 200 Club and Local Election thoughts
13. CPF Report/Council Tax Rebate
14. Immigration
15. Tom's Surgeries & DiscoverNN
16. Corby Conservative Club

(Note: Page numbers are not shown in the magazine but the list above should help you find articles.)

How do fake Facebook posts work?

The goal of these posts is often to reach as many people as possible in the hope that some of them will click through to websites that request personal information. This will likely include contact information and, in some circumstances, bank details by requesting a card payment.

In a similar case in 2020, fake posts purporting to be from Currys were shared thousands of times on Facebook, telling people they could win a free TV if they tagged in three friends.

Like old-fashioned chain mail, the more people who share these posts, the more who will see them and pass them on. Eventually posts like these will have been seen by hundreds of thousands, if not millions of people, which will only make them appear more genuine.

As a result, the fake pages behind the posts will also build up a following. The fake Morrisons page we've seen has attracted more than 3,500 'likes' - in other words people who are subscribed to the page's content. This puts those people at risk of seeing more fake posts, and sharing them again with their Facebook contacts.

Our Scam warnings are provided by Which? You can sign up for email scam warnings by searching:
which scam alert service

Conservative Association Chairman's Report to Members

Cllr Lee Wilkes (Association Chairman)

24 May 2022

Dear Members,

On 5th May 2022, people from across the UK voted in a set of local elections. Whilst they didn't include our areas, it was interesting to see the results. With the backdrop of global instability, inflation, the war in Ukraine, energy price spikes, and the general impact on families facing the rising cost of living, electors were asked to choose more than 6000 councillors, affecting 146 councils in England. The results in England were: -

- Labour won or retained control of 65 of the councils with elections, including 21 of the 32 London Boroughs. This is eight fewer than it controlled when these seats were last up for election in 2018, and it lost control of 15 councils compared with 2018.
- The Conservatives won or retained control of 35 councils in England, including winning the new North Yorkshire county council. This is seven fewer than in 2018.
- The Liberal Democrats won or retained control of 16 councils, eight more than in 2018, including two new councils, Somerset and Westmorland and Furness.
- There were 28 councils with no overall control, nine more than the last time these seats were up for election in 2018.

Ultimately the Government, and we Conservatives, must continue getting on with the job. Government and Councils need to prioritise keeping bills down, cutting down on waste wherever possible, growing the economy, and helping communities and businesses in their recovery from COVID-19.



Knife Angel: This nationally recognised anti-violence sculpture visited Corby in May as part of a UK wide tour. The Knife Angel, also known as the National Monument Against Violence & Aggression, is made from over 100,000 seized blades. It was specifically created to highlight the negative effects of violent behaviour, and act as a memorial to the victims and families affected by knife crime and other forms of violence and or aggression. Let us hope that it helps educate people about the harmful effects violence has on our communities, and helps further reduce future crime.

Electric car charging investment: As many of you will have noticed, many new public charging points are currently being installed as part of the Government's £500m Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy. Our area is lucky to already have some great charging points, but there is no doubt more need to be installed if people are to really maximise the use of electric vehicles, especially in areas where there is limited or no off-street parking. The Government's strategy aims to increase the number of public chargers across the country from 30,000 to 300,000 by 2030. Mayoral system scrapped in Bristol. Perhaps it is good timing that, as we celebrate the first and very successful year of our new North Northamptonshire Unitary Council (for which our Leader, Deputy Leader, Executive and Councillors should be applauded), an alternative method of local government has been scrapped in Bristol. 10 years after narrowly voting for a mayoral system rather than a committee system, the people of Bristol have overwhelmingly voted to scrap it. Marvin Rees, the current Labour Mayor, will be replaced at the end of

Continued>>>>

Chairman's Report – continued>>>

his term with a more traditional committee system which will see councillors from all parties forming groups to decide on the main council issues. It has become clear that putting so much power, along with a £400m budget, in the hands of one person, hasn't worked well at all. In fact in the words of one prominent local person, it has been a complete disaster.

Russian / Ukraine War: Whilst it has been frustratingly getting less coverage in the news just recently, the Russia-Ukraine war has not come close to going away. The Ukrainians resolve to defend and protect their country, their families, their very existence, is undiminished. Whilst Russia is still the dominant force and has significant military might, there has been no swift victory as they hoped and planned for. In an increasingly grinding and bloody affair, both sides have made gains, both have suffered setbacks, and both are wearing the other side down. Our thoughts go out to all of those innocent victims, along with our hopes that Putin and his power-mad plans are soon defeated. At home, the UK has welcomed more than 53,000 Ukrainians who have fled the Russian invasion. Whilst more can always be done, we must ensure that those who look to the UK to provide a safe haven are placed and housed in suitable and safe accommodation.

The pressure on North Northamptonshire Council is considerable to ensure that each property is approved and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are carried out on all potential hosts. It is a time consuming feat, and we all wish it could be done “yesterday”, but it is vital to make sure we protect these already vulnerable people.

Monkeypox! Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water!. It seems that the media are still in virus overdrive, filling the void left by the disappearing COVID with new-columns filled with stories of a new “threat” to civilisation called monkeypox. Whilst I don't wish to trivialise any new virus, we should remember that monkeypox does not spread easily between people, is self-limiting, and most people recover within a few weeks. The risk to the UK population is low. The media should take their responsibilities seriously and understand that the world is in a natural state of high-alert after the pandemic – they should limit their scare-stories and stick to the facts.

Take care all.

Onwards and Upwards!

Yours,

Councillor Lee Wilkes

Chairman – Corby & East

Northamptonshire Conservative Association

OUR OFFICE OPENING TIMES UPDATE

A MESSAGE FROM RAY BOYD AT YOUR LOCAL ASSOCIATION OFFICE

The Corby Conservative Club has opened fully and we are able to man the office at the Club once again from Monday to Friday from 11am to 1pm. Outside office hours you can reach me at: Email: office@cenca.co.uk. This email address is monitored seven days a week.

The office telephone is manned during the above hours. My home telephone is: 01536 742954 (Unless already registered you may have to identify yourself on this phone before being connected as there is a spam filter fitted). If I am unavailable please leave a message and I will get back to you. You can also contact the Chairman, Cllr Lee Wilkes. Email me if you need to get in touch with Lee.

Kind regards and keep well, **Ray Boyd**

PLEASE WATCH OUT FOR MAILCHIMP COMMUNICATIONS WHICH MAY GO TO YOUR EMAIL SPAM BOX

Leader's Update

Clr Jason Smithers
Leader of the Council

19th November 2021



This article has been condensed from the Leader's web update

OVER 4,000 TREES PLANTED

The Queen's Green Canopy was created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Between October 2021 and the end of the planting season, North Northamptonshire Council teamed up



with the Northamptonshire Lord-Lieutenant's office, volunteers, local schools and community groups to plant new trees at sites across North Northamptonshire. All the trees were planted on land owned by the Council, including country parks across the area and community green spaces, with the final 200 trees planted in Hazel Wood, Corby in a section of the wood that is being reverted to natural woodland. To commemorate the Platinum Jubilee events will take place across North Northamptonshire including beacon lighting and a Big Picnic Lunch at Wicksteed Park on Sunday 5 June.

LEADER'S UPDATE 1 May 2022

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

A new partnership, led by Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner and supported by organisations such as Northamptonshire Police and Northamptonshire Rape Crisis, has created a network of measures to make women safer at night by improving physical safety and security.. The programme of work carried out has included measures to make licensed venues safer and a ground-breaking programme to train venue staff to recognise and tackle predatory behaviour. More details on the new website <http://www.itonlytakesone.org.uk/>

UPDATE ON UKRAINIAN RESPONSE

The Russian atrocities continue to horrify us and North Northamptonshire Council has put together a Resettlement Team who are working to support the local response. We are continuing to develop the information on our Ukraine page. Those accepted under the scheme will be granted a visa that lasts three years, giving them certainty and ensuring their future in the country. The scheme is free and does not include any salary or language requirements. This scheme lets individuals, charities, community groups and businesses offer a route to safety for Ukrainians, even if they have no ties to the UK. Councils will administer 'thank you' payments of £350 per sponsoring household per month. The government is allocating additional funding for these payments, but they do expect councils to cover administration costs within the tariff.

£2,000 'KICK START' GRANTS

Entrepreneurs in Northamptonshire with a great idea or a business less than 12 months old are invited to apply for grants and free expert advice by Friday 15 July this year . After a Dragon's Den style grant panel session in September for shortlisted applicants, winners will receive: a £2,000 grant for business expenses, a year's free membership with the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), and ongoing support from the Business and IP Centre (BIPC) Northamptonshire team. Further details on how to apply including eligibility criteria, are available on the BIPC Northamptonshire website.

Go to the North Northamptonshire Council website and search for 'Leader's Update' for the very latest news about what is happening at your council.

With Best Wishes,

Jason

THE BBC REVEALS ALL ABOUT PARTYGATE

Laura Kuenssberg gleefully reports the awful truth revealed by the Sue Gray dossier. But the reality? A few bitter civil servants, probably passed over for promotion, are vengefully attacking the bosses who failed to reward their brilliance. Shockingly, one even sat on another's lap at one of the gathering.

As propaganda this is pretty effective. And it's revealing too. The BBC has dropped the pretence and is openly campaigning to unseat an elected prime minister.

With acknowledgements to Lloyd Evans (The Spectator)

RAY JACKSON : 'Ms RAYNER—A BORING WASTE OF TIME'

24 May 2022

Thank goodness! We are now seeing our Prime Minister leading his whole cabinet to deal with the problems facing us and our country. The days when we privately began to worry that he had gone off track are over and we are beginning to see traces of the man who so successfully ran London; whom Ken Livingston, a very good Labour politician, said before the Election that Boris would win. We are now seeing his bright intelligence, his enthusiasm and hard work. Trips to foreign countries are now the norm, with face to face meetings with leaders of state to co-ordinate policies especially in Ukraine.

How boring, tiresome, wasteful of time it was to hear our parliamentarians having to dance to the tune of Ms. Rayner, Deputy Leader of the other party whose qualifications for achieving such a high position was whilst working as a member of staff of a care home she created a trade union branch there. Her slugging of Boris resulted in her Leader saying he would not have expressed her views in the way she did.

The invective followed and went backwards and forwards across throughout the House and its business was badly affected. Eventually we keen news followers could take no more and switched off.



Ray Jackson

Does anyone really believe that Boris, himself a victim of Covid had really wanted to make the sorrows of the mourners even worse? Now a rejuvenated Boris is going to show his true form and lead us from strength to strength. I, who tend to respect leaders for the responsibilities they take, got as low as thinking of him as 'irresponsible' when he made speeches, compared with Obama's which were well crafted whereas Boris sometimes drifted in key phrases from an empty and tired mind at the end of the speech. What a period. How pleased we all were to see how our MP kept out of it and maintained his dignity.

Now that unfortunate period is over and our government can tackle our major problems. Reduce income tax for the benefit of the really poor people. Encourage the one million unemployed to get into jobs and start helping the economy. Get behind the levelling up programme and tell the country what is being achieved. Overwhelm the poorer towns and cities in the north with transport so that people can move to where jobs are and start earning decent salaries.

There is a lot to do and a lot to be done quickly. With a re-charged Boris as our Leader it will happen.

Ray Jackson

President and 200 Club organiser

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY

To minimise local administration, the Voluntary Party's Membership Committee has recommended that no new **local** Standing Orders or Bank Transfers are set up from now on. They advise associations to direct members to pay through Direct Debit or Credit/Debit Card (online or via the CCHQ Membership Team). Please note, the money received by Associations remains the same whether payments are made centrally or locally. Existing members coming up for renewal will be asked to transfer their payments to CCHQ. So if you know of someone who would like to join please ask them to go to:

www.conservatives.com/join

Rt Hon Liz Truss MP Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs

THE UKRAINE

Thanks to the support of members like you, this Conservative government has been at the forefront of the international response.



We have led efforts to sanction Russia – as well as providing weapons, military hardware and humanitarian aid to Ukraine. We are spearheading the diplomatic effort, rallying countries in support of President Zelenskyy and his people. But while we're doing everything we can to end the atrocities that Putin is committing in Ukraine, we also need to learn the lessons of this crisis. The truth is the world should have done more to deter the invasion – and we will never make that mistake again. We need a new approach to tackling aggressors – one that combines hard security with economic security.

We must build stronger global alliances, where free nations are more assertive and self-confident. So this new approach will be based on military strength, economic security and deeper global alliances. Our country has a long history of standing up to bullies, so we're uniquely placed to lead this change. Britain has the economic heft and agility, military strength and intelligence capabilities, and an unrivalled diplomatic network with international reach. If we maintain our focus, the prize will be a new era of peace, security and prosperity.

Together we can build a stronger network of economic and security partnerships that will strengthen freedom and democracy, while drawing more countries into the orbit of free-market democracies. Our new approach will deliver this vision for a world where free nations are assertive and on the rise and aggressors are contained. And it's all made possible by the support of members like you.

We're able to stay at the forefront of international efforts because our members help us win elections and stay true to our mission. And that's something none of us, from the Prime Minister to local councillors, ever forget.

MARRIAGE ACT
NOW LAW

IT WILL NOW MEAN:

- Minimum age for a marriage or civil partnership is raised to 18
- Arranging the marriage of someone under 18 is criminalised

A graphic with a purple background. On the left, the text 'MARRIAGE ACT' is in small white letters above 'NOW LAW' in large, bold, white letters. On the right is a portrait of Pauline Latham MP, a woman with dark hair, wearing a dark blue jacket and a gold necklace. Below the portrait, a white box contains the text 'IT WILL NOW MEAN:' in purple. Below this are two circular icons with white text: a scale icon for 'Minimum age for a marriage or civil partnership is raised to 18' and a person icon for 'Arranging the marriage of someone under 18 is criminalised'.

Changing the law to protect young people from the harm of child marriage

Let's be clear: forced marriage is abuse. Raising the minimum legal age of marriage to 18 will help protect vulnerable children from this appalling practice and as the Minister, I'm proud to have supported my brilliant colleague, Pauline Latham MP, on changing the law.

Tom Pursglove MP

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
is now part of our
£302 MILLION

**Family Hubs &
Start for Life Programme**

Conservatives

A graphic with a black border. At the top, the text 'NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE' is in bold black letters, followed by 'is now part of our' in smaller black letters, and '£302 MILLION' in bold red letters. Below this is a horizontal red line. Underneath the line, the text 'Family Hubs & Start for Life Programme' is in bold blue letters. At the bottom is a photograph of a family of five (a man, a woman, and three children) walking hand-in-hand on a path towards a sunset. The Conservative Party logo and the word 'Conservatives' are in the bottom right corner.

TOM PURSGLOVE

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR CORBY & EAST
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE JOINTLY
AT THE HOME OFFICE AND THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

25 April 2022



My thoughts on the Government's new Migration and Economic Development Partnership with Rwanda

The Government's recent announcement about the processing of asylum claims in Rwanda is a significant one and one that has attracted much media attention and comment. I have read so much of the coverage of this attentively - and recognise the strong opposition that exists in some quarters to the policy, as well as strong support elsewhere - but wanted to set out why I support the approach and cannot idly endorse the unacceptable and unsustainable status quo.

Let me be clear in reaffirming at the outset that the UK has a proud history of supporting those in need of protection; indeed, our resettlement programmes have provided safe and legal routes to better futures for hundreds of thousands of people from across the globe. Since 2015, over 185,000 men, women and children seeking refuge have been offered a place in this country, which is more than any other similar resettlement scheme in Europe. This includes almost 100,000 British Nationals Overseas (BNOs) threatened by draconian security laws in Hong Kong, 20,000 people through the Syrian scheme, 13,000



Afghans, and around 50,000 Ukrainians.

However, it is clear that the global asylum system is broken. Some 80 million people are on the move around the world, driven from their

homes by conflict and instability. Many more people are on the move to seek better prospects, driven by a desire for a better life.

The result is increased illegal migration flows, including into Europe and onto the UK, with our asylum system collapsing under the strain of real

humanitarian crises and people smugglers exploiting the system for their own gain. We saw the dangers of these crossings so starkly in the Channel last November where 27 people drowned, and when 39 people lost their lives in the back of a lorry at Grays in Essex in 2019. Both were appalling tragedies and they must not be repeated. That is why standing back and doing nothing is not an option - to do so would see the numbers of people making these dangerous journeys dramatically increase further, with spiralling costs and all the risk to life they involve, all facilitated by evil criminal gangs who have no regard for those they are transporting, apart from turning a dirty profit.

There is a moral imperative to act and I would gently add that I have not yet seen a single credible alternative plan that meets the scale of the challenge and all its complexities - and I say that as someone who deals with this issue every day of the week as the Minister for Justice & Tackling Illegal Migration.

I believe it is therefore extremely welcome that the UK has now entered the world's first Migration and Economic Development Partnership with Rwanda. Under the partnership, people who enter the UK illegally, including by small boat across the Channel, may have their asylum claim considered in Rwanda, rather than in the UK, with a view to receiving the protection they need in Rwanda if their claim is granted.

I suspect that this will be the first partnership of its kind - and we already know that other European countries have similar negotiations ongoing at present. It is clear we need global solutions to tackle this global challenge.

The UK is therefore investing £120 million into the economic development and growth of Rwanda, with funding also provided to

Continued>>>>

support the delivery of asylum operations, accommodation and integration, similar to the costs incurred in the UK for this work presently. Furthermore, it is the case that Rwanda has one of the fastest-growing economies and enterprise cultures, with growing trade links with the UK, which this scheme will complement as part of the Government's 'Global Britain' agenda.

Despite some of the misreporting and scaremongering we have seen, Rwanda is a fundamentally safe and secure country with respect for the rule of law. Under this agreement, Rwanda will process claims in accordance with the UN Refugee Convention - of which it is a long-term signatory - national and international human rights laws, and will ensure protection from inhuman and degrading treatment, or being returned to the place individuals originally fled from. I should also just add here for reassurance that when deciding who will be relocated to Rwanda, a thorough screening process will first be undertaken, where any vulnerabilities will be fully considered, along with all other relevant factors. Cases will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, with the ultimate determinative principle being 'is Rwanda safe for that individual?'

Rwanda has a credible track record of hosting refugees and providing safety, working constructively with the UN Refugee Agency to provide food, healthcare and jobs, with over 130,000 refugees recently resettled. Specifically, both the EU and the UN resettle people in Rwanda. Since 2019, Rwanda has been working with the UN Refugee Agency and the African Union to support over 500 refugees and asylum seekers evacuated from Libya under the Emergency Transit Mechanism. They are housed at a dedicated centre providing mental health services, legal assistance, employment, training and opportunities. Rwanda has also supported around 30,000 Burundian refugees who have transited to the centre since 2015. I also happen to think it is admirable that the Rwandan Government feel a moral obligation to play their part in ending the despicable criminal enterprise of people smuggling and worry greatly about African lives in particular being lost in the course of the perilous journeys we have seen being made across Europe and beyond - and are determined to help stop such journeys in future.

This new approach, combined with the wider reforms to the asylum system and the changes to our laws through the Nationality and Borders Bill, will help to deter illegal entry into the UK. In doing

BORDERS ACT
NOW LAW

IT WILL NOW MEAN

- Maximum life sentences for people smugglers and foreign criminals
- Increased prison time for people entering the UK illegally
- New powers to removed failed asylum seekers and dangerous criminals
- Powers to make it easier to process asylum claims overseas

so, it will help break the business model of the criminal smuggling gangs, protect the lives of those they endanger, ensure continued support for the truly vulnerable, and enhance our ability to remove those with no right to be in the UK.

After all, nobody should be paying a people smuggler, getting in a small boat or in the back of a lorry, with all the risk that entails to life, and attempting to get to Britain - all those making such journeys are leaving what are safe European countries with fully functioning asylum systems. Ultimately, with 80 million displaced people in the world, we cannot accommodate everyone here in the UK, but people who wish to come here should come through safe and legal means - opportunities we are committed to continuing to provide in generous measure, in line with this country's proud tradition, but our generosity is undoubtedly constrained and challenged by present illegal migration flows. These issues cannot be seen in isolation and I strongly support the steps we are taking to restore a pragmatic and fair balance in our asylum system, preserve life, end the evil criminal enterprise of people smuggling, and provide sanctuary for those who are most vulnerable, as we always have.

Sincerely

Tom Pursglove Member of Parliament
for Corby & East Northamptonshire



Northamptonshire PFCC

Stephen Mold's Newsletter



A partnership led by my office with West Northamptonshire Council, Northamptonshire Police, Northamptonshire Rape Crisis and Northampton BID, has come together to create a network of measures to make women safer at night by improving physical safety and security, tackling perpetrators and starting a conversation that helps people call-out abuse.

The programme of work carried out has included measures to make licensed venues safer and a ground-breaking programme to train venue staff to recognise and tackle predatory behaviour.

Central to the programme is a new communications campaign that will raise awareness of all forms of harassment and violence against women and highlight that it only takes one person to say enough is enough to challenge the attitudes and inappropriate behaviours of some men.

The communications campaign will include advertising, social media, and billboards in the first phase, to highlight the different forms of harassment and encourage bystanders to offer support safely and appropriately.



www.itonlytakesone.org.uk is a new website for Northamptonshire and it will provide information, signpost to agencies that offer support and encourage men to have a conversation about attitudes towards women and the impact harassment and abuse has on their lives.

And the wider programme of work will continue to expand and be developed in the coming months and years and rolled out across the county.

Protecting vulnerable people is a key area for our work across Northamptonshire and Operation REPEAT is a scheme that is training health and social care workers from across the county to recognise doorstep crime and fraud offences thanks to funding I have been able to provide.

The scheme, which launched in Northamptonshire in September 2021, is the only scheme in the country to offer doorstep crime prevention training and is already having a huge impact in Northamptonshire, as more health and social care professionals recognise and report incidents to the police.

Rogue traders, unscrupulous salespeople, distraction burglars and bogus callers are some of the professional criminals that target elderly and vulnerable people. The training sessions being delivered by Operation REPEAT, which stands for Reinforcing Elderly Persons Education at all Times, aims to arm attendees with the knowledge to recognise when fraud is happening, understand the chain of criminality and how details are shared in the criminal world, know what lengths the fraudsters will go to exploit vulnerable people, as well as how to report criminal incidents.

Numerous offences have already been reported and prevented following these training sessions. Within three days of attending an Operation REPEAT session a carer was able to recognise an attempted courier fraud whilst visiting a client and was able to intervene and cut off the call.

A romance fraud was also averted by a 61-year-old woman, who had lost her husband a few years earlier. She met someone on social media purporting to be an Officer from the United States Army and became emotionally attached to him. Following several months of contact, the woman started to become suspicious as the conversation turned to money and after hearing about romance fraud she stopped contact.

Continued>>>>

Stephen Mold— continued>>>

Fraudsters use psychological tactics, befriending and grooming to gain trust and then persuade the victim to part with their money or valuables. As trusted members of the community, health and social care workers can warn and support the elderly or vulnerable people in their care and help them avoid falling for these scams.

I was delighted to attend a recent training session in Moulton to see for myself how impactful this project is. The principle of using trusted members of the community to continually reinforce fraud prevention messages on a weekly or daily basis is a really effective way to reach the most vulnerable people in our county. We want this training to provide the existing community workforce with the knowledge and confidence to spot and speak out to help us break and disrupt this type of crime. We cannot rely on justice alone, we need to intervene early to protect older and more vulnerable people from these fraudsters.

Such work has meant that Northamptonshire is now recognised as a county that is delivering innovation in relation to our emergency services. We were one of the first areas of the country to adopt a Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner model and the Government's White Paper on the future of the fire service, is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to build on the work we have delivered to further reform the sector.

As one of just four Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners, I am directly elected by the public and am accountable to them. Under my governance and away from the old county council, Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service has been given financial stability and has been able to plan to modernise and develop as an organisation.

The Chief Fire Officer and his team have the stability and autonomy they need, and our fire service is better equipped, prepared and able to respond when called on to do so. Our shared approach to buildings and professional services with the police has resulted in closer collaboration that makes sense to the public and can only result in better outcomes.

But it takes more than response to deal with the changing risks that face our communities – prevention, protection, community resilience are all vital to public safety. We saw this clearly during the pandemic, when firefighters stepped up to

carry out a variety of roles to keep people safe and keep public services moving.

That must be the catalyst for reform and to ensure our fire service is able to meet the challenges that face communities today and tomorrow. I welcome this opportunity to make changes that will enable firefighters to reach the highest professional standards, to have the most rewarding career path and to play the strongest role in community safety.



At the centre of the Government's Fire Reform White Paper are plans to deliver:

- Increased public safety: by improving the professionalism of the fire and rescue service through modern workforce practices and potentially establishing a College of Fire and Rescue
- Improved accountability: through the proposals to transfer fire governance to a single elected individual, overseeing delivery by operationally independent Chief Fire Officers
- Better engagement with the public: through the 10-week consultation the government will listen to the views of the public and stakeholders, after which it will finalise its reform programme.

Stephen Mold

Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire

As ever, if you need any help or assistance, I can be contacted at:
commissioner@northantspfcc.gov.uk

200 CLUB NEWS



You have probably heard of the fellowship enjoyed at the luncheon of the 200 Club and their friends which was held recently in Glapthorn after two years of Covid. As Chairman of the 200 Club I am keen to get it going fully again, not only because it brings people of goodwill together, but also because it could bring in a small, but useful income to Party funds. The monthly raffle brings a smile to the face of the winners.

I am asking you to consider buying a pledge for £15 a year. I want to get back to the happy days when we could support the Party, give good prizes for the pledges and discount the annual luncheon for the members. The prize for each of 11 months is £25 and the annual prizes in February are £100 and £50. 200 Club members receive a discount on the price of the annual lunch tickets. They also receive a complimentary copy of our magazine 'Political Life'.

A form is enclosed with this issue of printed magazine for you to make payments through your bank, thereby easing the administration while we strive for the growth to the level we enjoyed pre-Covid.

Please give thought to this way of helping the Party with fun and fellowship. And if you are already a 200 Club member—thank you and good luck in the monthly draws.

Yours sincerely,
Ray Jackson.

President of CENCA and 200 Club Chairman

Latest 200 Club winners: April: Keith Burdett £25 May: Mrs H Harca £25

SOME THOUGHTS ON THE RECENT LOCAL ELECTIONS

On 30th April 2022 our Party Chairman, Rt Hon Oliver Dowden CBE MP, wrote to Sir Keir Starmer to ask some pertinent questions about the local elections held in early May.

He had spotted the following:

- Labour were only standing candidates in 61% of seats in the South West compared to 97% in 2018. They were only standing candidates in 88% of seats in the South East compared to 99% in 2018.
- The Lib/Dems, a much smaller party than Labour are standing in 77% of seats in the South East and 87% of seats in the South West.
- It appears that the LibDems are returning the favour as in the North East as they are standing in just 56% of seats compared to 78% four years ago.

Our Party Chairman thinks these changes are far too substantial to be a mere coincidence and wonders if there had been a pact between Labour and the Liberal Democrats and he asks:

- When did Labour and the Lib/Dems agree to this pact?
- Were Party members and MPs in the affected regions consulted about the pact?
- Why has Sir Keir attempted to conceal this from voters?

Thinking back to the strange resurgence of the Lib/Dems recently in the Oundle seat one has to wonder why Labour did so badly there. And compare this to the Oakley seat where conversely the LibDem vote collapsed which allowed Labour to take these seats. We shall have to watch out for any trends in the future..

JUST A THOUGHT:

Finland and Sweden officially announce that they will apply for NATO membership. **WHY?**

Ukraine wins Eurovision Song Contest. **WHY?**

The end of the line in Finland for last direct high-speed EU-Russia train link **WHY?**

MacDonalds closes and sells all 300 fast-food outlets in Russia. **WHY?**

Why? Look in the mirror Mr Putin.



Summary of Families and Communities Consultation

In response to the CPF consultation on Families & Communities, the CPF received

substantive submissions from 59 CPF groups, representing at least 502 members from 75 constituencies plus two national groups and two Conservatives Abroad groups. Of those who participated this time, one-in-five (19%) had not previously participated in CPF discussions. There was a very high level of support for the following:

- An improved, mandatory curriculum offer in schools for life skills, including financial accounting and domestic organisation (84% net positive support)
- Greater support for marriage and other stable relationships within a legal framework as a basis for raising children (80% net positive support)

Other top suggestions

- The combined salary of both partners should be what determines the cut off for Child Benefit payments, not one earner being in the higher tax bracket.
- The married tax allowance should be generously enhanced when parents have children.
- Prisons should assess inmates for literacy skills, offer courses to upskill prisoners and offer better mental health support to prisoners.
- Improve mental health programmes for all ages and the early identification of mental health issues in schools and further education.
- A specialist team based in GP practices involving practice nurses, a health visitor, a social worker, neighbourhood police, school liaison person, to “join the dots”.
- Greater support for local sports clubs, homework clubs, youth clubs and other groups that help children and families, in an Academy model/ approach.

At the moment we are still setting up our local discussion group but you can still have your say in Party policy:

Go to: www.conservativepolicyforum.com/ and click on ‘Why join the CPF’ box.

Council Tax Rebate Scheme

For those who pay Council Tax via Direct Debit



The NNC has begun making payments from the 9th May to those residents who pay via Direct debit

For those who do not pay Council Tax via Direct Debit

These residents will be contacted to invite them to provide the necessary details via a simple on-line form. (Other methods are available). Once details have been verified payment will be made.

The energy rebate is a government payment based on Council Tax data and is not a rebate to the Council Tax bill.

Your Association contact details:

Corby & E Northants Conservative Association Office

Phone: 01536 200255

Email: office@cenca.co.uk

Web: www.cenca.co.uk

Mail: CENCA, Cottingham Road, Corby, NN17 1SZ

See also Office Opening Times on Page 4

Copy for the next issue must be received by 10th July 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

All emails will be acknowledged.

If any members would like to submit a letter or an article for the Magazine or comment on our contributors' articles please email the editor at ray.boyd@talktalk.net. Letters may be edited. The comments of magazine contributors are obviously their own opinion and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Conservative Party, our members, the Association or its management.

How successful was Australia's policy of processing asylum applications offshore for any migrant who arrives by boat? The figures are for migrants arriving by boat in Australia.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION- EVERYONE SAYS SOMETHING MUST BE DONE AND MAYBE THIS IS WORTH TRYING

A highly controversial plan to fly asylum seekers who enter the UK by boat or lorry 4,000 miles to Rwanda for processing has been widely condemned. Australia has run a similar policy with offshore detention centres that have been dogged with accounts of severe trauma and there has been widespread criticism of Australia's policy.

In August 2012, (after a pause in the policy in 2009) Australia resumed sending people who came by boat to the country seeking asylum to Manus Island in Papua New Guinea and to the Republic of Nauru. Since July 2013, the Australian government's policy is that no one in this group will ever be resettled in Australia, even if they are recognised as refugees. According to Australia's Department of Home Affairs, as of July 2019, 4,183 people have been sent offshore since August 2012.

Australia's arrangement with Pap New Guinea ended in 2021, meaning Nauru is now the location for offshore detention centres.

Given that anyone sent to offshore centres cannot apply to reside in Australia, most people are then sent to third countries. The Refugee Council of Australia reports 1,047 have been resettled to a third country. Another 998 were transferred to the US and 992 have been returned to their country of origin.

Source: ITV News 14 Apr 2022

No policy	
1998	200
1999	3721
2000	2939
2001	5561

Kevin Rudd,s government scraps policy	
2009	2726
2010	6555
2011	4565
2012	17204
2013	20587

Offshore processing starts under John Howard	
2002	1
2003	53
2004	15
2005	11
2006	60
2007	148
2008	161

Julia Gillard 's government reintroduces policy	
2014	160
2015	0
2016	0
2017–2021	42

Australian Border Force recent report

This statement provides an update on Operation Sovereign Borders (OSB) activities related to the on-water reception and processing of illegal maritime arrivals (IMAs). The reporting period is from 01 March 2022 to 31 March 2022. During this reporting period, OSB intercepted no illegal maritime ventures and returned no potential illegal immigrants. During this reporting period five IMAs were removed voluntarily to their country of origin from Australia and 5 IMAs were involuntarily removed from Australia to their country of origin.

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/migrants-detected-crossing>

MIGRANTS DETECTED CROSSING ENGLISH CHANNEL

w/e	Migrants	Boats
24 April	263	7
1 May	254	7
8 May	792	30
15 May	607	25
22 May	685	17

There were 17 days during this period with no boats detected

But we will decide who comes to this country and the circumstances in which they come. We will be compassionate, we will save lives, we will care for people but we will decide, and nobody else, who comes to this country.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard, 28 October 2001

TOM PURSGLOVE, MP's WEEKLY ADVICE SURGERIES



As your local MP, Tom believes it is extremely important to be as accessible as possible, in order to be able to best help with any problems or concerns that his constituents have. As such, he holds weekly advice surgeries.

To book an appointment, please telephone 020 7219 8043, or email pursglovet@parliament.uk, as he operates his surgeries on an appointments basis, utilising virtual, telephone and face-to-face methods - ensuring that his constituents do not have to rush through their concerns and to best meet people's individual circumstances and requirements.

This approach also allows him to provide immediate help - he often makes a start on casework matters prior to an appointment, to try and resolve concerns more quickly, whilst it also allows him to seek any appropriate advice, or obtain clarification on technical points, in advance of meeting.

Tom is sure people will appreciate why the venues are not listed - the official security advice remains that MPs should not disclose this information publicly, given the appalling attacks we have seen, with terrible consequences, but Tom is always willing to discuss any issue of concern with his constituents and makes appropriate arrangements to do so.

You can write to him at: Tom Pursglove, MP, House of Commons, Westminster, London, SW1A 0AA

- From 1st to 25th May Tom has received over 750 constituent queries, with 524 specific new cases being opened, and with more coming in all the time.

Good news! Parliament has reopened for visits. If you are interested in sitting in on a debate, having a tour or getting some work experience, please don't hesitate to email Tom Pursglove who will be delighted to help organise.

Modern Slavery Meeting

Our Member of Parliament recently had an insightful meeting with the Acting Head of the Modern Slavery Unit at the Centre for Social Justice. We've seen some really worrying examples, both nationally and locally, of cases involving modern slavery, but it was encouraging to hear in more detail about the extensive work that goes on to support victims and uncover the perpetrators who practice these despicable crimes within our communities, and the intensive work that goes in to bringing those responsible to justice. This remains a top priority for the Government and the various criminal justice agencies and it was so useful to understand more about the local situation and the constant work that is going on to tackle this scourge head on.

An invitation to local businesses from Councillor Helen Howell, Deputy Leader of North Northamptonshire Council

Are you a local business looking to advertise for FREE? With over 200 businesses already signed up to our new app DiscoverNN and almost 2000 downloads, don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity.

<https://join.discovernn.co.uk/>

The new local app for North Northants.



And if you want to know what is going on in our area download the app **DiscoverNN** from the Appstore.

CORBYS CONSERVATIVE CLUB

POP IN AND PICK UP A MEMBERSHIP FORM



WE ARE NOW FULLY OPEN AND YOUR
SUPPORT WILL BE APPRECIATED

www.the-cons.co.uk

Photo: R Boyd



CORBYS CONSERVATIVE CLUB

Members of Corby Conservative Club have always been generous with donations to charity but this latest effort deserves a mention.

Club member Pete Buckby used to play in a youthful band back in the 60s. The band split up around 1966 and members drifted away from Corby, one as far as Australia.

But the old band members kept in touch and recently they decided to get together after 56 years for a final gig at the Club on 24th April.

The result was that the 'RISING SUN REUNION' raised £782.25 for the Lakelands Hospice in Corby and for the Charity Pot. Pete and the rest of the band would like to thank all who contributed to make this a splendid event.



1965

The Rising Sun

2022



POLITICAL LIFE

Our magazine is available as an A5 printed booklet.

Issues are also available in a format suitable for reading on iphones, ipads and PCs. Details of publication date are emailed to members via Mailchimp.

A copy of recent magazines is also available on our website at www.cenca.co.uk

Printed circulation is restricted to Conservative Party members.

Non-members who would like to receive news of our magazine regularly will need to join the Association.

Please contact our office by email at office@cenca.co.uk or telephone 01536 742954

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