



## Catch up on my week!

Last weekend we had some great events on in Mansfield, many more to come throughout summer too!

As well as Armed Forces Day (more on that below) it was great to see so many people at Yeoman Hill Park for the Party in the Park hosted by Mansfield Woodhouse Community Development Group.

It was packed! With music and so many activities for families, [here's a quick snapshot of the day.](#)



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### Ways to keep in touch

*Click to follow and subscribe...*



[If you're a constituent, join the private Facebook](#)

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### Checking in

Every so often I like to ask Mansfield constituents to share a general sense of their



thoughts and priorities, both in terms of local and national issues, and also on the politics of it all.

It only take two minutes to tell me what you think, and it helps me to make sure I'm on the right track.

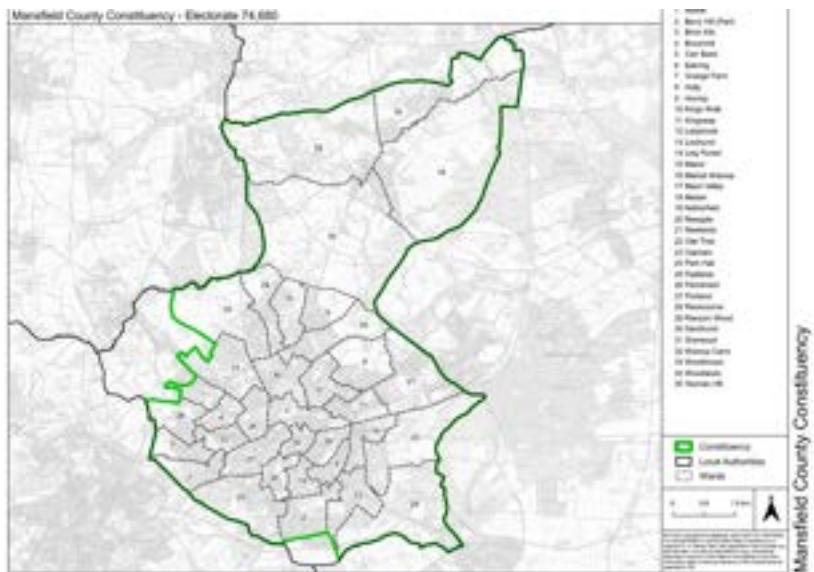
Please take my survey here, and help me to do the best job that I can.

[Fill in the survey here](#)



## **Armed Forces Day in Mansfield!**

Last weekend was Armed Forces Day. Thank-you to the men and women who dedicate themselves each and every day to the protection of the United Kingdom, together with their families and all our Veterans.



## Changes to Mansfield constituency boundary

This week the Boundary Commission published their final decision about boundaries for the next General Election in Mansfield (likely to

be next Autumn, best guess!)

This is the final decision, following several rounds of consultation, and cannot now be changed. I'm not very happy about it, to be honest, and I will explain why.

It's important to recognise - despite my frustration - that this ONLY affects the Parliamentary boundary. It does not change which Council you are under. If you are under Mansfield District Council now, that does not change. There are no changes to who delivers any of your local services. Only your Parliamentary constituency changes. It also does not change immediately. I will be your MP until the next General election, and the boundaries will change at that point.

I have to be honest and say I'm not happy, and I don't agree with the outcome. I'm frustrated that the Commission only showed us this particular version at the 'final draft' stage, with previous versions having been very different. As a result I don't feel we've had a full chance to argue the case. The postal strike at the time of the consultation also meant that some residents in affected areas didn't receive notification of the consultation until after the deadline. I did ask the Commission to offer flexibility, but they wouldn't do that.

I argued, as did a number of residents, that these areas - Pleasley, Bull Farm and part of Berry Hill - do not have any direct links to Ashfield conurbations, and whilst some areas of Mansfield do connect directly in to Sutton, for example, and you can walk between the two without ever leaving the urban area, these parts they've chosen to remove have no obvious links to Ashfield.

They've not taken my comments in to account, and instead have listened to Labour's comments. To be honest I think the motives for Labour's comments were more about what votes they'd get than the right thing for the community. All this is available on the boundary commission website so you can come to your own conclusion on that if you're interested.

Anyway, as I said, I'm disappointed. This is the final decision though, and cannot now be changed. Constituencies are being balanced up in terms of numbers, and Mansfield had to shrink in order to achieve this, so I am sad to be losing some parts of the community I currently represent, even though I know they will be well served by the Ashfield MP.

[Find out more here](#)



## Visiting Samworth Church Academy

Absolutely wonderful to be invited to discuss Project Can Do with

young people at The Samworth Church Academy this week.

The project is all about adding value and skills beyond academic education, like teamwork, leadership, communication and entrepreneurial skills; giving students some support to engage in business and be creative. Often our curriculum and our system isn't great at those things, and I'm delighted that here they're really investing in it.

I also visited recently when they launched their Academy+ Fund, which aims to help support projects like this and enhance the core curriculum. [You can read more about it here](#) and even offer your help.

Fab project, fab school, and great kids

[Here's more of my thoughts on this amazing school](#)



## Inspire Learning Awards

An absolute pleasure to spend Thursday evening at the Inspire Learning awards at Inspire Mansfield Central Library. A wonderful community venue full of the County's best and brightest staff, volunteers and residents who do wonderful things.

A massive shout out to the recipient of the big Chief Executive's award tonight, Andy Dawson, who is an absolute wonder and has changed the lives of so many young people in Mansfield and beyond. Proper hero. More about him in the link below!

Brilliant to celebrate amazing local people

[Watch here](#)



**TARGETED**

**LUNG CANCER  
SCREENING  
PROGRAMME**



People aged 55-74 with a history of  
smoking will be invited for checks to  
*help catch cancer earlier.*

## **Targeted lung health screenings in coalfield communities**

From 2017 to 2019 Sherwood MP Mark Spencer and I lobbied the Government for targeted lung health screenings in our coalfield communities, to help identify and get early treatment for people in our area, which has a very high prevalence of lung conditions due to both high smoking rates and our coalfield history.

This lobbying resulted in a Mansfield and Ashfield pilot programme, which has since screened thousands of 'at risk' local people and helped to identify cancers early, improving the outcomes for those people and saving lives.

The programme is now being rolled out nationally, as its been shown to be beneficial both in terms of those health outcomes and also in preventing more expensive treatments later on. A real success story and now a billion pound investment in preventative care.

Proud!

## THE WORKFORCE PLAN

Made by the NHS  
***Backed by Government***

This week Government announced a huge new long term plan for the NHS workforce...

**Watch: The PM outlines our plan**



## Talking about the economy at EMA

Though there may be one or two out there who would celebrate me leaving the country (and though I also quite fancy a holiday) - no luck I'm afraid!

I'm actually at East Midlands Airport this morning to meet the new Chief Executive. We spoke about the role this place plays in our region's economy and long term investment plans, as well as about how the economy is impacting the airport and what needs to be done.

This is actually the biggest pure freight airport in the UK. A bit of a jewel in our crown really, and part of the big growth opportunity for the region.



## Can you help young people in Mansfield learn to read?

A pleasure to meet Sue from Literacy Volunteers on Friday who do wonderful work supporting children to learn to read. We often take for granted that every child is supported to learn to read at home, but sadly that's not the case and many children arrive at primary school having never read anything. Obviously it's a vital thing for future opportunities and work, but also to fuel imagination, creativity and confidence. Reading is hugely important!

Literacy Volunteers are a charity, part funded by the County Council's Local Communities Fund, a bit by the schools they work in, and also by donations and fundraising. They work in Mansfield and Warsop, as well as many other areas of Notts. They need more volunteers, particularly here where there is sadly a higher need for their support for local children.

Can you help? Do you have an afternoon a week during term time where you could support a child to read? Seeing that growth and development is a massively rewarding thing to do, if you have time.

If so, have a look at their website using the button below, or email Sue on [contact@literacyvolunteers.org.uk](mailto:contact@literacyvolunteers.org.uk) and you can find out more.

[Find out more here](#)





## **Making a success of East Mids Devolution**

Join me in Nottingham for a discussion on how we can best make a success of devolution and the ground breaking billion pound East Midlands Devolution Deal I helped secure for our region.

University of Nottingham and the Institute for Government will be launching a new report full of evidence-based advice on how we can best utilise these new powers and funding in areas like Transport, skills training and more, to truly Level-up Mansfield and the whole East Midlands.

**The event will take place on Thursday 6th July from 12:30 — 13:30, at the Plaza Suite in the Park Plaza Hotel, 41 Maid Marian Way, Nottingham, NG1 6GD and will also be livestreamed.**

You can register to watch along or join me at event using the button below

[Find out more here](#)



## **Making progress on potholes and road repairs**

Over the winter we've talked a lot about roads, and about delivering better quality repairs, first time around, rather than filling holes. I get as frustrated as anybody about all of this, and my response has always been that this - better quality, right first time - is exactly where Via and Notts Highways are trying to get to.

Now that the pressure of chasing after weather damage has subsided, you'll begin to see more of this kind of work on our roads; properly cut and sealed, high quality patch repairs as the first options wherever its possible.

There will still be occasions where filling a hole is a legal obligation, but we're giving front line teams more flexibility to do what is best rather than what is quickest.

In the coming weeks we'll also be launching a new website where you can track all of the work, including before and after images, to see what's happening.



## **Out and about delivering our summer newsletter!**

Out in Woodhouse with the team and our summer newsletter, updating residents on some of what were up to, including:

- Over £50m secured for regeneration, the town centre and Warsop Leisure Centre
- Four schools to be rebuilt and a new SEND school too
- A new Community Diagnostic Centre on Sutton Road to speed up diagnosis and cut waiting lists
- Over £30m+ investment to improve the A614 and Ollerton Roundabout.

Loads going on

If you can help at all, by sparing an hour or two to drop some of our update leaflets near where you live, please do let me know! It's all done by volunteer power so, the more the merrier!

Drop us an email on [ben.bradley.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:ben.bradley.mp@parliament.uk) if you fancy it?!

**I was out and about this week delivering my summer newsletter**



## **Supporting youth football at Woodhouse!**

At Debdale Park Sports Club in Woodhouse last weekend with hundreds of kids playing football. We're so lucky to have amazing sports facilities like this in our area - not everywhere does - and it makes such a difference to their opportunity to play and develop.

One of my big national campaigns has been to open up more sports facilities, particularly where they already exist but are not open to the public, like in schools. We've managed to secure over £10m nationally to help to do that, and get school facilities open, and now I need to try and ensure that some of that comes our way (particularly for Manor Sports Centre just up the road from here).



## **Less and more expensive choices?**

A Labour Government will meddle in your life, cost you more, and limit your choices. As proven once again as Labour implement plans in Wales that were ditched in England. They carry on even though the evidence suggests this won't make the blindest bit of difference to people's health. It will only cost the poorest people more money at a time when things are already tight!

[Read more](#)



## Shakespeare in the park this weekend!

"Are you joining us for Shakespeare in the Park on Sunday 2 July?

The fabulous Titchfield Teahouse have kindly agreed to open their doors to provide food, drink and toilet facilities for ticket holders.

Find out more and book now below."

[Find out more here](#)



## Tour of Britain competition

Calling all parents and teachers!

We want YOUR 4 -11-year-olds to get involved with our exciting Tour of Britain competitions!

They could be officially starting the Nottinghamshire stage of the race at Sherwood Forest on 6 September by waving the flag they have designed, or presenting the winner of the stage with the trophy they have designed!

This year we've added new competitions including designing a cycling jersey to present to the winner of the stage, writing a short story about cycling which will be read out over the tannoy at the race and building a sculpture, display or land art out of recycled materials with their classmates!

We've got great prizes on offer including tickets to family fun activities at our country parks and VIP tickets to the start or end of the stage!

So, what do they need to do to enter?

All of the details on how to enter as well as the entry forms are on our website.

Entries close at midday on Friday 14 July, so make sure your children don't miss out on these great opportunities to be part of the Tour of Britain 2023!

[Find out more here](#)



## Mansfield Day is in August!

"Mansfield Day happening on the 26th of August, right at the heart of our town - Mansfield Market Place from 10:30am until 4pm!

We will be revealing event specifics such as FREE activities, amazing live entertainment and other details over the next few months leading up to what will be a spectacular day!

So, mark off your calendars and get ready for a fun-filled celebration of all things Mansfield. Stay tuned for more details. Exciting times ahead!"



## **Bid for life-saving Defibrillators**

Community Organisations Invited to Bid for Life-Saving Defibrillators.

- We are inviting community organisations to bid for funding for an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for their area.
- £1 million fund to increase the number of AEDs in public places where they are most needed.
- Funding will provide an estimated 1000 new defibrillators in community spaces across England.

Organisations across England are being invited to bid for a share of £1 million of government funding to buy life-saving defibrillators for community spaces.

An estimated 1,000 new defibrillators will be provided by the fund, with the potential for this to double as successful applicants will be asked to match the funding they receive partially or fully.

As part of the grant award, applicants will be asked to demonstrate that defibrillators will be placed in areas where they are most needed, such as places with high footfall, vulnerable people, rural areas, or due to the nature of activity at the site.

Examples could include town halls, community centres, local shops, post offices and local parks, to ensure that defibrillators are evenly spread throughout communities and easily accessible if someone is experiencing an unexpected cardiac arrest.

Organisations who submit an expression of interest will be notified once grant applications open to the Department of Health and Social Care's £1m Community AED Fund.

The funding is part of our drive to equip the health system with the right technology to ease pressures, reduce backlogs and cut waiting lists, and to improve public access to care when they need it.

Organisations can submit an expression of interest below.

[Register here](#)

## [And finally, this week's column! ↓](#)

*Click below to read...*

**"It's fantastic that the Tour of Britain is returning to Nottinghamshire!"**

That's all for this week!

Thanks for reading and I hope you have a great weekend!

Ben

## **Follow me on social media**



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