



Kate Osborne MP
Monthly Newsletter
February 2023

Dear Constituent,

I hope you are well. I am writing today to update you on my work in Parliament and around the constituency over the past month. February was a hugely busy month, and I am proud of the work done representing the wonderful Jarrow constituency.

Around the constituency:

St Bede's Well

I had a great meeting with Maria, Lynn, and David from Friends of St Bede's Well during which we discussed the group's plan to restore this historic site. I share the group's view that we must do more to raise awareness of this historic landmark and to educate others of its importance.

I am looking forward to visiting the site with the Friends of St Bede's Well in the near future!



Hebburn Dementia Club

I was really glad to join members of the Hebburn Live Well Dementia Club for Fish Friday this month. Everyone there spoke so highly of Michael and the volunteers, as well as the quality of service they provide. More needs to be done to support those living with dementia – the Government has failed on its promise to fund dementia care and to provide social care services which would deliver devoted health workers to support those living with dementia and their families.



Traffic Issues

After being made aware of the traffic safety issues on Glasgow Road, I popped along to visit the area during the school run period to see for myself. I wrote to South Tyneside Council on behalf of constituent Lee to raise this and I have been assured that measures will be put in place to ensure a safer environment for school children and families.



South Tyneside Council

Kate Osborne MP
The Clervaux Exchange
Clervaux Terrace
Jarrow
Tyne and Wear
NE32 5UP

Date: 3 February 2023
Our ref: HJ/CE

Dear Ms Osborne

Mr Lee Hughes,

Thank you for your email dated 30 January 2023, with an enquiry from your constituent Mr Hughes, regarding road safety concerns outside Simonside Primary School.

I have made enquiries into this matter and have been advised as follows:

Officers in the Road Safety Team were made aware of an incident which occurred outside Simonside Primary School on Friday 27 January 2023 by the Headteacher of Simonside Primary School. Reports are that a young pedestrian was hit by a vehicle on Glasgow Road while attempting to cross the road.

In response to the recent incident, Officers in the Road Safety Team have arranged with the school to deliver road safety sessions within the school. This will include pedestrian training and Bikeability cycle training.

Officers also have plans to trial a "School Street" scheme around both primary schools in the area. This is in partnership with Sustrans who will be leading on the consultation for the project. This will see vehicular traffic restricted at school times to create a safer environment for school children. Consultation is expected to commence in the coming months.

I hope that this information is useful. Please do not hesitate to share this letter with your constituent.



Veterans Response Breakfast Club

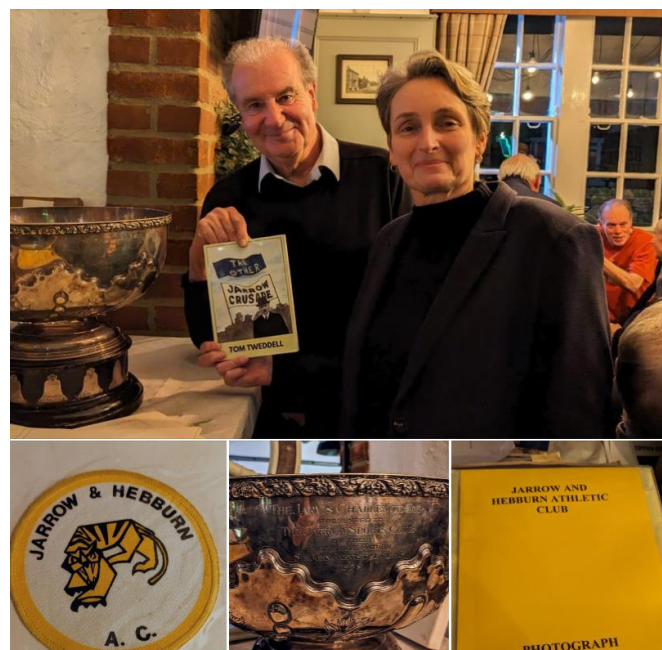
I joined around 40 local veterans at the Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Club organised by Veterans Response CIC. 74% of military charities say that the Government is not doing enough to support veterans. Thankfully, Veterans Response is there to help – but this Government needs to do so much more. This fantastic community breakfast is on the first and third Saturday of every month at The Britannia Toby Carvery in Cleodon. If you're a veteran who lives in the area, do pop along!

More info: <https://www.veteranstraining.co.uk/>



Jarrow and Hebburn Athletics Club – The Lord Nelson

I was happy to pop along to The Lord Nelson this month to meet with Jarrow and Hebburn Athletics Club members to hear more about the Jarvis Cup and the club's history. I am looking forward to visiting the club again at Monkton Stadium in the near future!



Cost of Living Roadshow

I hosted another cost-of-living roadshow this month at Boldon CA. We were again joined by a variety of organisations, including Citizens Advice, Mental Health Concern, Veterans Response, DWP and the Boldon Labour Councillors – all ready to give advice to Jarrow constituents. I was glad to welcome a number of constituents to this roadshow, all of whom left with information and the help they needed. While these events should not be necessary, this Government's political choices have unfortunately created a need for them. It was lovely to chat with constituents who came along, including Joan who is 93. To use Joan's words – you're never too old to ask for advice. If you were unable to come along to the Boldon Roadshow, I am holding another event at the Jarrow Focus from 6pm-8pm on 23rd of March.



Campaigning in Pelaw & Heworth and Wardley & Leam Lane:

It was good to get out in the Gateshead wards this month. I held a street stall outside Aldi in Pelaw and spoke with residents about issues important to them. I then went out to speak to residents in Wardley and Leam Lane on the doorstep. People were telling me how sick of the Tories they are as well as raising local concerns. The issue of off-road motorbikes was raised numerous times and as I take issues about anti-social behaviour very seriously, I have contacted Kim McGuinness and Gateshead Council about this issue. Thank you to all who came along or spoke with me while out campaigning!



#ShopLocal

The cost of living is hitting us all hard, including local businesses. For Valentine's Day, I asked on my social media pages for your favourite small businesses so I could show them some love! I received a number of recommendations which are listed below:

- Bill Quay Café
- Masat Craft Supplies
- Gifts by JT Designs
- Reef Hair Design
- Jordan's Bar Hebburn
- Mark's Family Butcher
- Blacks Corner
- Hive Coffee Company
- Café Obscura
- Ivy's Tea Party

There are so many more wonderful small businesses in the Jarrow constituency, and we can all do our bit to support them by shopping local! In the near future I am planning to host a small business cost of living event, so if you have your own small business, or know a friend or family member who does, please do email me at kate.osborne.mp@parliament.uk and I will reach out ahead of this event.

Following on from these shout outs, I popped along to Café Obscura to visit Karl and speak to him about his struggles as a small business. I am really pleased that Karl's café is now doing better and hope that this continues. I recommend dropping by for a coffee if you're in the area!



Save South Shields Driving Test Centre

Over a year since the DVSA closed down the driving test centre on the Bede Industrial Estate, it is still having negative impacts on our constituency. The Save South Shields Driving Test Centre has my support. I spoke to BBC Look North about the closure. You can watch in full [here](#).

South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Trust – CQC Report

The CQC report that came out this month is extremely concerning. Yes, there are local issues, but the blame lies squarely with the Government. Years of austerity, pay cuts and underfunding by this Government, along with privatisation and mismanagement, has created chaos in our NHS. I spoke on BBC Newcastle about this, you can listen in full [here](#).

Jarrow CLP General Committee meeting

It was great to speak with members of the CLP at the Jarrow Focus this month. I spoke about my work in Parliament and the constituency as well as other vitally important issues like the NHS, cost of living crisis and supporting our residents during these difficult times.



Pride Media Centre

February is LGBTQI+ History Month, and as well as attending events in Parliament, I had a great visit to Pride Media Centre in Pelaw where I discussed with CEO Peter the importance of LGBTQI+ History Month. The centre, based in Stonehills, is the only one of its kind in the UK and offers a safe and inclusive space to over 30 businesses, young creatives, and the wider community. I did a radio interview which will air later this week on Pride Radio too!



Durham Miners Gala Fundraiser:

I attended a fundraiser this month for the Durham Miners Association organised by North of the Tyne Mayor Jamie Driscoll. It was an excellent show of solidarity, and I was proud to speak alongside Mick Lynch of the RMT. You can watch my speech in full [here](#).

North East APPG

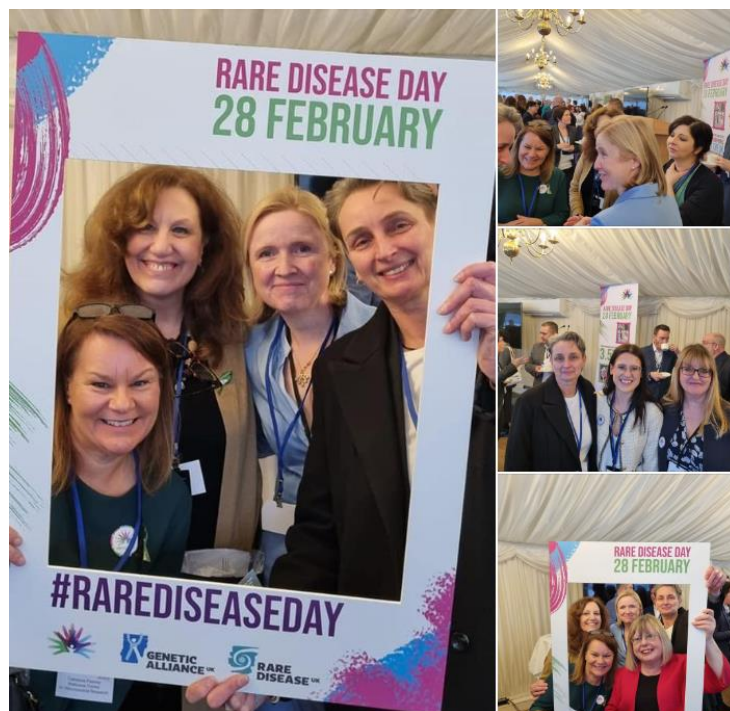
I am delighted to have been elected co-chair of the new APPG for the North East.

We need a strong cross-party, collaborative voice speaking up for our region's economy, tackling the challenges our constituents face, including housing, health, and connectivity, to offer hope and opportunity.



Rare Diseases Day

Jarrow constituency is in the top 30 for the number of adults and children living with mitochondrial disease in the UK. On #RareDiseaseDay I popped along to speak to Mito Research about how they support those living with mitochondrial disease.



Long Live the Local

I've received a number of emails from constituents in support of the #LongLiveTheLocal campaign, and I was pleased to attend a drop-in in Parliament this month to show my ongoing support! Pubs are vital locally in terms of pumping billions into our economy and by creating connected communities.



Casework Wins:

My office continue to work hard supporting Jarrow constituents every day. Below are some of the recent casework successes we have had! If you need support with an issue you're having, contact my office: kate.osborne.mp@parliament.uk 0191 466 1509

KATE OSBORNE MP
CASEWORK SUCCESSSES

- **BANDING INCREASED FOR HOUSING**
- **STATE PENSION ISSUES RESOLVED**
- **PENSION CREDIT BACKDATED**
- **FALLEN TREE REMOVED FROM GARDEN**
- **VISA GRANTED AFTER ISSUES RESOLVED**

KATE OSBORNE MP **KATE-OSBORNE.CO.UK**
KATE OSBORNE MP PROUDLY REPRESENTING...
Bede / Boldon Colliery / Cleodon & East Boldon / Fellgate & Hedworth / Hebburn North
Hebburn South / Mankton / Primrose / Pelaw & Heworth / Wardley & Leam Lane

In Parliament:

Drop in #ITestHIV

I was glad to pop along to meet with the Terrance Higgins Trust as part of national HIV Testing Week 2023. We can end new cases of HIV by 2030 with proper awareness and normalising HIV testing. Together we can end the stigma. <https://www.startswithme.org.uk/>



National Apprenticeship Week

We have seen a decade of decline in skills and training opportunities under the Tories, growing vacancies in public services and rising skill and staff shortages in our NHS. Labour will bring in more opportunities so people can gain new skills, access better jobs, and grow our economy.



Parliamentary Tour

I was really pleased to be able to give my Jarrow constituents Valerie and her Mam Pam a tour of Parliament this month. We had a good look through the House of Lords as well as the Commons! Pam was 75 in January and hadn't been to London since 1962.

I've recently had a few enquiries to my office about tours of Parliament. You can request a free tour by contacting my office who will then contact the tours team to see if one is available on the date requested. Please note, tours are currently booked up until the end of March/April, so booking in advance is needed. <https://www.parliament.uk/visiting/visiting-and-tours/tours-of-parliament/tours/?fbclid=IwAR2LEX0F5z6dllNWHn9oQWfL090f9T9hY9xb1uTnov4BGotgQKcM0t7bG>
[LA](#)



Great British Spring Clean

Glad to have joined my friends the Wombles in Westminster this month to discuss The Great British Spring Clean. #LitterHeroes can participate by pledging to clean up the places and spaces we love. More info on how to get involved can be found [here](#):



DEFRA Questions

Jarrow constituents face rising bills from Northumbrian Water. They underspent on repairs and dumped sewage in our waters whilst taking millions in profits. I asked the Government to commit to fining them up to £250 million for dumping sewage. You can watch my question in full [here](#).

Women and Equalities Select Committee

This month at the Women and Equalities Select Committee, I pointed out that the Government is playing politics with trans people's lives. The fearmongering and hostile environment remind me of the battles we had over Section 28 – it is regressive and extremely worrying. You can watch Lord Falconer's great responses to my questions [here](#).

At another of this month's sessions, we discussed the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on carers and families of disabled people. In the North East we have the highest percentage of disabled people at 21%. I asked questions to the panel about the disproportionate impact the cost-of-living crisis is having on carers. You can watch in full [here](#).

Finally as part of our enquiry into misogyny in music, we looked into support available to women experiencing sexism or misogyny in the music industry. My particular focus was on the ability of women to report harassment and the attitudes around misogyny. The music industry is – as we all know – a male dominated industry. During the session I asked how willing the industry is to combat misogyny...The response I got: "Not very". You can see some clips of my questions [here](#).

The Future of the NHS

The NHS is being pushed into an avoidable and unprecedented collapse. The Government must end its ideological commitment to the free market which is forcing through more and more privatisation of our health service – to the extent that some Government backbenchers are openly talking about moving to an Americanised system, where people are priced out of health care.

I secured a debate in the House of Commons chamber on the Future of our NHS, its funding, and its staffing. You can watch my speech in full, via my YouTube channel [here](#).

This Government has underfunded the NHS to the tune of billions – it has allowed the private sector to run rampant taking hundreds of billions out of the NHS budget over the last ten years. It's even performed smash and grab raids on hospital repair budgets – taking £4.3bn away and leaving hospitals falling apart, crumbling, and leaking at the seams.



Early Day Motions

Below is a list of the EDMs I have signed this month, click on each one for further info:

- [EDM831: Forced installation of prepayment energy metres](#)
- [EDM832: Pay offer for Members' staff](#)
- [EDM847: Complaints of sexual harassment at McDonalds restaurants](#)
- [EDM860: Croxteth Walled Garden, Botanical Collection](#)
- [EDM861: 2022 Champions League Final and Liverpool Football Club supporters](#)
- [EDM898: NAO report and Common Platform](#)

Industrial action:

Solidarity to the strikers

We've seen a continuation of industrial action across sectors and on 1 February there were 500,000 workers out on strike on a single day and demonstrations outside parliament and in many towns and cities. These were a powerful show of solidarity with picket lines across the country. I was really pleased to be able to attend six PCS picket lines in a single day to show my support. Every worker taking industrial action has my full support – I stand with you all.

For one of my regular columns for the Shields Gazette I wrote about the Tories' mission to take power away from the people. You can read this in full [here](#).



**THE SHIELDS
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KATE OSBORNE: Tories 'on a mission' to take power away from the people

Yesterday 500,000 workers took strike action to protect their pay, standard of living and the services they provide in what was the biggest day of industrial action in over a decade.

Heart Unions Week

Thank you to all the trade unions, members, and reps for all the vital work you do every day in standing up for our rights and for better workplaces and attacks on workers' jobs, pay and pensions from employers and government. If you aren't already, join a union!



Advice Surgery Schedule:

As always, I host regular surgeries where constituents can speak to me about any issues they may be having. If you would like an appointment, please email me at kate.osborne.mp@parliament.uk

My upcoming surgeries are:

- Thurs 9th March– SURGERY – 1pm to 2pm – Hebburn Helps
- Fri 24th March – SURGERY – 10.30am to 11.30am – Wardley
- Sat 25th March – SURGERY – 12pm to 1.30pm – Boldon

General Election Fighting Fund:

You can help with our General election plans by making a donation online here: https://actionnetwork.org/fundraising/keep-jarrows-red-flag-flying-2?source=direct_link& Donations will go towards the next general election campaign – 10% of all donations will go to our local foodbanks. (Donation policy can be read in full via my website)

Stay up to date with my work via my social media channels:

Website: www.kate-osborne.co.uk

Twitter: @[KateOsborneMP](https://twitter.com/KateOsborneMP)

Facebook: @[KateOsborneMP](https://www.facebook.com/KateOsborneMP)

Instagram: @[KateOsborneMP](https://www.instagram.com/KateOsborneMP)

Tiktok: @[kate.osborne.mp](https://www.tiktok.com/@kate.osborne.mp)

If you need assistance with anything, please don't hesitate to contact me via kate.osborne.mp@parliament.uk or by calling my office on 0191 466 1509.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Osborne MP