

TOGETHER IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST

Theresa Villiers, Member of Parliament for Chipping Barnet, reports back on Party Conference...

Wasn't it great to be attending party conference back in power for the first time in over a decade?

'Together in the national interest' was the big theme of this year's conference. And that's exactly the example we set by taking the difficult decision to form a coalition government, to tackle the mess left behind by thirteen years of Labour government. As David Cameron said in his conference speech, it was the responsible thing to do. A minority government would have limped through parliament and been unable to do anything useful, without the authority and strength needed to tackle the crisis in the public finances.

Reducing the deficit and securing economic recovery and growth are the most urgent issues facing our country. And the Coalition Government is determined to carry out this tough task in a fair way that protects the most vulnerable, that strengthens and unites the country and that demonstrates that we're all in this together.

In just the five months since the election, the Coalition Government has already taken decisive action; cutting corporation tax, abolishing ID cards and creating two hundred new academy schools to name but a few. In Chipping Barnet, two schools are already enjoying the benefits of academy status. I am sure that more will soon follow.

Another key achievement is one I know you will strongly support: doubling the operations allowance for members of the armed forces. This goes some small way to recognising the tremendous bravery of the servicemen and women fighting in



Afghanistan. During the conference we went further and delivered on our election promise that the children of British military servicemen killed in action would be offered subsidised university education.

As a busy week progressed, ambitious plans were announced to support small businesses and boost enterprise. Justice Secretary, Ken Clark, confirmed the introduction of a structured working day in prisons; with extra money going to support the victims of crime. Further progress was announced on our plans for a new high speed rail line to link London with Birmingham and the north of England. And we confirmed that we will legislate to make it impossible to ever again transfer more of Britain's powers to Europe without asking the British people.

Lastly, but probably most importantly, we also set out tough measures to deal with Britain's ballooning benefits system. This issue has proved to be so difficult that no Government has been brave enough to tackle it for 50 years. *(continued overleaf...)*

JOIN OUR NEW POLITICAL FORUM — IT'S FREE!

All members are invited to attend the new CBCA Political Forum and get involved in a discussion on a variety of current political topics. Best of all, it's free and includes wine and nibbles!

The forum will be hosted by our Deputy Chairman Political, Chris Costigan, accompanied by a different local political guest each month.

The forum will take place on the second Wednesday of every month at Chipping Barnet Conservative Office, starting at 7.30pm. No need to book—just turn up!

First session:

Wednesday 10th November 2010

Visit our website or contact the Conservative Office to find out who the political guest is each month.

CBCA VISIT TO STRASBOURG

At the beginning of September, thirty-five members of CBCA enjoyed a highly successful fundraising visit to the European Parliament in Strasbourg, where they were hosted by former Oakleigh Ward Councillor, Marina Yannakoudakis, now MEP for London. *(continued overleaf...)*



The European Parliament, Strasbourg.

Strasbourg continued...

At the European Parliament, the group were treated to a question and answer session with all three London MEP's, Charles Tannock, Syed Kamall and Marina. They also had the opportunity to sit in on a session of the European Parliament to watch the MEP's in action.

En route to Strasbourg, the group also stopped off at Reims for a tour of a Mumm's Champagne House and to view the great Cathedral where all the kings of France were crowned. On the way back, the group stopped for a night in Ypres to attend a remembrance ceremony at the Menin Gate and for a tour of the WWI battlefields.



Reims Cathedral



The Menin Gate

Photographs were taken on the visit by Jim Baxter.

Theresa's article continued...

I know the pledge to cap the maximum amount of benefits that can be paid to workless households will be welcomed by association members. For years you have been telling me of your concerns about people who make a lifestyle choice to live off benefits even when there is no

reason why they can't work. The changes to child benefit are of course much more controversial. However, I strongly believe that we have to take these kinds of controversial decisions if we are to cut the deficit and put the public finances on a sound footing after Labour brought the nation to the brink of bankruptcy.

EVENTS

All events can be booked by contacting Chipping Barnet Conservative Office on 020 8449 7345 or cbca163@gmail.com. For updates, please visit our website at www.barnetconservatives.co.uk

- Thurs 21st October** CWCC Autumn Lunch at 163 High Street, Barnet EN5 5SU. Tickets £12.50, 12.30pm start.
- Sat 30th October** Old Fold Halloween Dinner at 163 High Street, Barnet EN5 5SU. Tickets 15 each, including a 3 course salmon dinner. 7.00pm start.
- Sat 6th November** Cockfosters Branch Fourth Annual Olwen Evans Lecture at Alan Ware's home, 2 Eccleston Close, EN4 9EZ. Tickets £15 each, including a jacket potato dinner and selection of desserts. 7.30pm start. Speaker TBC.
- Sun 7th November** Underhill Branch Musical Evening at the home of Joan Butcher, 31B Manor Road (behind Norfolk Court), Barnet EN5 2LA. Tickets £12.50 including a finger buffet with wine. 7pm start. To book, please contact Joan Butcher on 0208 364 9314.
- Sat 13th November** Lyonsdown Branch Movie Evening with movie expert, Alex Nunes, at 163 High Street Barnet EN5 5SU. Tickets £14 each, including a buffet supper & wine. 7.30pm start.
- Thurs 2nd December** CBCA Christmas Gala Dinner at The Emerald Suite, North London Business Park, Brunswick Park Road. Tickets £35 each including a Sparkling Reception, four course meal, wine/soft drinks throughout the evening and entertainment by Glen Howe singing a selection of swing and Christmas Classics! 7.00pm start. For menu choices and to book, please contact the Conservative Office on 020 8449 7345.
- Sat 11th December** Friern Barnet Branch Christmas Brunch, 11.30 am - 2.30 pm. Details TBC.
- Sat 11th December** Osidge Branch Christmas Dinner at the home of Cllr Andreas and Joanna Tambourides, 47 Hampden Way, N12 5DJ. Details TBC.
- Tues 14th December** Old Fold Christmas Tea Party at 163 High Street, Barnet EN5 5SU. Tickets £10 each, 1.00pm start.
- Sat 18th December** East Barnet Village Branch Christmas Dinner at 163 High Street, Barnet EN5 5SU. Details TBC.