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Leading Gloucester Forward

Gloucester

With AbbeyViews

Matters



LOCAL NEWS FROM RICHARD GRAHAM CONSERVATIVE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR GLOUCESTER

NEW UNIVERSITY BUSINESS SCHOOL OPENS

“No city in the UK has been successfully regenerated without a university playing a big part”, said Gloucester’s MP Richard Graham, “and we can now see that happening in Gloucester”. Richard highlighted five ways the University of Gloucestershire is changing our city:

1. A stunning £15m new Business School at Oxstalls for local businesses to get competitive insight and new staff skills
2. An expansion of the Growth Hub with our Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for small businesses to grow and be the employers of tomorrow - e.g. cyber, technology, financial services and retail
3. 300 university students from the University of Gloucestershire and Britain’s newest university, Hartpury, now living in Blackfriars - a huge boost for city centre regeneration and cultural activity
4. New nursing degrees and nursing associate higher apprenticeships, with additional courses in mental health and paramedic science starting this year: all in our biggest employment sectors (health and care, above all the NHS)

5. Fantastic new sporting facilities at the 62 acre Plock Court sports hub with two new all-weather playing pitches already in full use and a giant new Sports Hall about to open, in partnership with the Aspire Trust – for the community as well as students

Not long ago there was a real danger that Higher Education could have left Gloucester for ever. Today, those days are gone. Pam Tracey, Councillor for Westgate, said: “Having lots of university students living in the city centre is very positive and brings Blackfriars back to life”.

It all adds up to both a city and a university on the UP.



UofG Performing Arts Centre opens 2015: now the Business School has moved to Gloucester

ROADWORKS TAKING PLACE IN ABBEYMEAD

There are a number of roadworks currently taking place and planned for Abbeymead and the surrounding areas. County Councillor Andrew Gravells has provided an update.



Gordon and Laura inspecting the roadworks

The works are intended to make the crossings safer and will have the latest up to date technology:

Metz Way and Eastern Avenue Junction: Resurfacing works have currently been programmed for late October/early November. These works are weather dependant and are subject to change. The new traffic signals at this junction should become operational in mid to late November.

Metz Way/Coney Hill Roundabout: Due to commence soon and be completed in December. Minor improvements to the dropped kerbs

and a new foot way being put in where there is currently none.

Abbeymead Avenue to The Oaks: Upgrading of existing crossing currently programmed to be completed in October.

Abbeymead Avenue/Mead Road Upgrading of existing crossing currently programmed to start in October and be completed in Late October/Early November.

Abbeymead Avenue/Kimberland Way: Currently programmed to start in October and be completed in Early November.

Earlier Cancer Detection and Cutting the Cost of Living

Gloucester resident David Champion is supporting the government's new strategy to increase the early detection rate of cancers.

The government's aim is to increase detection from one-in-two today, to three-in-four by 2028, by lowering the age to screen for bowel cancer from 60 to 50. It will invest in the very latest scanners and build more rapid diagnostic centres, using the new '70th birthday' investment. David said 'this should help reduce the number of people whose cancer is incurable'.

At the same time the Prime Minister has also frozen fuel duty for the ninth year running. This means an annual reduction of £160 for drivers compared to Labour's fuel plans.

Richard Graham said helping cancer sufferers, not increasing the price of fuel and freezing the cost of energy are examples of what a strong economy can deliver. "Wages are up, inflation down, and growth up. Now I want to see action on digital services (Amazon, Google & Facebook) in the Budget so that we raise more tax for vital services."



Keeping the cost of living down matters to us all.



Richard with National Citizen's Service Team 5 in the GRH

£20 Billion Boost for the NHS to Benefit Gloucester Royal Hospital

The government's decision to fund our NHS with an extra £5 billion a year for the next four years is 'huge news' Richard said. It comes on top of a recent £40 million grant for our Hospitals Trust to improve Gloucester and Cheltenham services.

"This is the biggest ever cash increase to the NHS in its 70th anniversary year, and will be welcomed by the many staff at all four NHS Trusts in Gloucester, and all my constituents. Making sure that the money is there to help

families with physical and mental health issues is vital." Richard noted that there will be further change on specialisation between the two hospitals, with emergency and planned inpatient services here and gastro intestinal services at Cheltenham: "this is about better services to patients and is likely to start next year". Meanwhile the government has provided an extra £1.3 million to help deal with winter pressures and extra funds for greater use of technology.

Pushing for New Rail Service to Bristol

MP Richard Graham says Gloucester needs better rail connections to Bristol and beyond. So he has had talks with GWR, the Rail Minister and the West of England Metro Mayor to push for a new additional, every half hour service to Bristol in 2020. Gloucester's MP notes "there's a lot of support in principle for my idea and now we need the Transport Department and Network Rail to work together to make it happen."

Meanwhile Richard formally opened the new Great Western Road entrance to the station which makes getting to the GRH safer and easier. Richard has arranged for talks between GWR and the Hospital about a deal on staff parking. Former community nurse specialist Cllr Collette Finnegan said, "nurses on late shifts would especially appreciate this". Meanwhile design tenders for the underpass, forecourt and other works close soon.



GWR staff celebrate the new entrance from Great Western Rd to platform 4 with Richard



COMMUNITY NEWS

MORE JOBS AT PROGLOBAL

Gloucester based insurer ProGlobal is expanding rapidly and offering many new opportunities for young residents to enter insurance. See: <https://proglobal.current-vacancies.com> for more detail.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Gloucester Culture Trust's Cllr Lise Noakes has highlighted 100+ volunteering opportunities to widen horizons and learn new skills. See <http://engagedingloucester.volunteermakers.org> for more detail and to sign up.

BABY LOSS

Richard spoke up in Parliament for those who have suffered baby loss, and called for improved support at Hospitals, similar to the Chaplains team at GRH. See also <https://bit.ly/2IZ1A1e>. Alongside vital help for mothers he also backs resident Martin Tudor's new Dads Support Group S.H.E.D.

COULD YOU BE A LOCAL COUNCILLOR?

Do you want to stand up for your local community and the interests of local residents?

Gloucester Conservatives are looking for City Council candidates who want to serve their local community. We welcome anyone who cares about representing local views and looking after the interests of their area. In May 2020, local Councillors will be elected to represent their communities on Gloucester City Council.

friendly team of Councillors and help shape the future of Gloucester, please get in touch with us!

For more information email gloucester@gloucestershireconservatives.com or call 01452 371630

If you want to be part of our strong, supportive and



A Brexit That Works For Everyone

Richard Graham, an elected member of the parliamentary Brexit Select Committee, says the next few weeks are crucial for delivering Brexit. "The negotiations now focus on the key outstanding issues – the Northern Irish border and future trade and customs arrangements.

Almost everything else – from security and intelligence sharing, nuclear and chemical co-operation, to university research, mutual travel health insurance and dog passports – has been agreed in principle." Gloucester's MP is clear the Referendum must be respected and that we will leave the EU and ensure continuity of jobs and opportunities with our closest neighbours."

Gloucester's MP says "the result of the Referendum must be respected, which means we will leave the EU and we should do so in a way that protects jobs and trade with our nearest neighbours. It is the job of government to come up with a sensible deal, and Parliament to approve it. We do not need a further Referendum, which was specifically ruled out in 2016 and would further damage confidence and re-ignite divisions – rather than uniting the country on implementing change and making it work best for us."

Richard also supports a more level immigration field in the future, open to those of talent from all over the world, including the Commonwealth. His open letter of reassurance to EU nationals in Gloucester on their future is on: <https://bit.ly/2EndjIg>

Parliamentary Award for the Turk's Head Pub?



Gloucester's new 'haven of individuality'

All over the county about 50 pubs a month close. But in our city centre a new one has opened: The Turk's Head in Southgate Street. Richard said "the original Saracen's Head was closed under Oliver Cromwell, so it's taken a while to bring it back for today's needs, but Peter and Chris have a wonderful haven of individuality now. You can take dogs or sheep to the Turk's Head but no Facebook or Morris Dancing is allowed. The ales are all CAMRA approved and changed frequently and there's a piano at the back. The trend in Gloucester is more encouraging with The Ridge and Furrow re-opening too". Cllr Paul Toleman noted "Up the road Robert Raikes opened 10 years ago and The Bell, Northend Vaults and the Liquor and Chow are all refurbished. I hope the arrival of Business School students will help us to keep bucking the trend'.



HOW TO CONTACT RICHARD GRAHAM

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The photographs included do not imply that people shown with Richard either endorse or oppose him as a Member of Parliament.

Stunning New Bus Station Sets the Tone for Kings Quarter Plans

Gloucester's smart new bus station is getting rave reviews now that the £8.5 million facility is approaching completion. The modern design and use of quality materials is setting the tone for future phases of the eagerly-awaited Kings Quarter development. The bus station is to be known as Gloucester Transport Hub because it brings together buses, coaches, a taxi rank, bicycle parking and is next to the Railway Station, which is due to get its own makeover starting in 2020 – including the awful underpass to Great Western Road. The bus station was funded with £6.4 million of central government grant.

City Council Leader Paul James said, "I'm



The new bus station

delighted with how the new facility looks and I know that's a view shared by many people in Gloucester. I wanted something distinctive to Gloucester and something of real

quality and that's what we've got. It's important now that we keep up the momentum for the next phase of the Kings Quarter project."

A planning application is due to be submitted

for the scheme, including a detailed design for a revamped Kings Square, at the end of October with work on site planned to start in 2019.

Upcoming Trip to London

Abbey Conservatives are organising a day trip to London on Monday 3rd December, to include an optional tour of the Houses of Parliament. This may be one of the last opportunities to visit the House of Commons and House of Lords, as the palace is expected to close for refurbishment soon.

In addition, you will have the chance to meet with our own Member

of Parliament, Richard Graham. There will be time for you to spend at your leisure, visiting the nearby Westminster Abbey, seeing the Christmas lights or shopping and dining in London.

We expect it will be a great day out!

The coach leaves Morrisons Abbeydale at 7.30am and we are expecting to return by approximately 7pm.



Get your ticket for Abbey's London Coach Trip!

Coach tickets cost £25.00. To book a place, contact Andrew Gravells on 01452 503974.

Your Local Conservative Team

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NO 2019 HUCCLECOTE SHOW

The show organised by the Hucclecote Community Association (HCA) has been enjoyed by many for years but the huge crowds it now attracts means the way it is managed and run must change. HCA hope to return in 2020 with a revitalised event.

UPDATE ON LOCAL COUNCILLOR TEAM

We are excited to announce that over the summer Laura got married, so has now become Laura Brooker (was Pearsall). Her email address has also changed to laura.brooker@gloucester.gov.uk Unfortunately, the changeover did cause some disruption to her email and as a result she was without emails for quite some time. Laura said, "I would like to apologise to anyone who contacted me during this time but did not get a response. If you were affected by this, please do resend your email to the address above or contact me on 07508 294182 and I will ensure any issues are looked into as quickly as possible."

Litter Louts Targeted as Enforcement Officers Hit the Streets



Laura and Gordon at the Glevum Park

People who drop litter, dump unwanted items or let their dogs foul the pavement in Gloucester will have nowhere to hide as a new team of enforcement officers with the power to issue fines take to the streets.

Richard Cook, the Cabinet Member for the Environment backed this year-long trial to be undertaken by private company 3GS Environmental Services, which, if successful, could be made permanent. Fines for dropping litter will increase from £75 to £100 with even stiffer penalties for flytippers.

Your local councillors, Laura and Gordon support the trial and said, "Most people in Gloucester are responsible in how they deal with litter and other waste. But we know that many people aren't and it's wrong that the council taxpayer keeps picking up the bill for this. Our new enforcement officers will be employed across the city to deal with these issues that blight communities."