



Visiting Crowthorne Old Age to Teen Society



Visit to Barclays' Bracknell branch



Representing Bracknell in Westminster

# intouch

## How to contact Dr Phillip Lee MP



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**DR PHILLIP LEE MP Working hard for Bracknell constituency**

**Issue 27— August 2014**

## Dr Lee Pays Tribute To Fallen Soldiers On Centenary Of Great War



Dr Phillip Lee MP with one of the giant poppies placed across Bracknell

August 4th 2014 marked one hundred years since Britain declared war on Germany. Nearly every family and community across Britain was affected, with almost one million British lives lost. The commemorations that took place up and down the country were a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made to defend the nation, and Bracknell was no exception.

In the Bracknell Forest area, a collection of 25 giant poppies were commissioned by the local council to commemorate the beginning of the First World War. Based on the official Royal British Legion design, the poppies were produced by ATOM, a local creative model builders based in Sunningdale.

Standing at 6 feet tall, the poppies are located on roundabouts and roads across the town and will remain in place until Remembrance Day.

I was impressed and humbled when I visited one of the memorial sites in Crowthorne; the poppies are a unique and fitting way of paying tribute to the sacrifices that were made in order to protect the independence of our nation.

## Dr Lee Congratulates COATS On Royal Award

On Friday 1st August, I visited the Crowthorne Old Age to Teen Society (COATS) at their headquarters at the Woodmancote Centre and joined in with the celebrations following their achievement of a Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

First established in the 1960s, COATS seeks to promote the well-being of local senior citizens by offering companionship, meals and recreational activities. The charity's name derives from the idea that local young people can make an important contribution to the lives of older members of the community. This legacy continues, as young people from across Crowthorne and beyond continue to volunteer at COATS' centre and their charity shop in Crowthorne High Street.

In June of this year, the charity was awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest honour to be bestowed to volunteer groups in the UK, in recognition of the important contribution that voluntary groups make to their local community. I congratulated COATS on the receipt of the award which is a testimony of the vital work the charity performs in the community by improving the lives of local elderly people.



Dr Lee with COATS' Trustee and Shop Volunteer Ken Wicks and Honorary Secretary Yvonne Hattersley

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**SERVING BRACKNELL, CROWTHORNE, FINCHAMPSTEAD AND SANDHURST**

**Dr Lee Speaks At Involve Re-launch**

Dr Lee speaking at Involve's re-launch

On Friday 1st August, I was invited to attend the re-launch event of Involve, formerly known as Bracknell Forest Voluntary Action Group, at Braybrooke Community Hall in Bracknell.

Involve is a Bracknell-based association that plays an instrumental role in the local voluntary sector, providing groups and organisations with guidance on infrastructure, volunteering, funding and training support. Their important role in the community was evidenced by the many local dignitaries and supporters who attended the event. Involve do a fantastic job in supporting the many voluntary organisations across Bracknell Forest and I sincerely hope they continue to prosper.

**Dr Lee Attends International Conference With IEA**

From 31st August to 3rd September, I attended an international economic conference in Slovenia. The conference was organised by the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA) and brought together a wide range of experts and political decision-makers from across Europe, including Sweden, Germany, Italy, Lithuania and Portugal. During the conference I was a keynote speaker and chaired a discussion on increasing efficiency and diversity in public healthcare systems. I returned from the IEA conference with many positive impressions and insights.

**Next Public Q&A Session****Where:**

Morgan Centre,  
Wellington Road,  
Crowthorne,  
RG45 7LD

**When:**

Thursday 18th  
September,  
7.30 - 9pm

**Dr Lee Visits Barclays Bank in Bracknell****Dr Lee with Matthew Bell, Barclays' Community Leader for Berkshire**

On Friday 1st August I paid a visit to the Barclays branch on Bracknell High Street where I met with their team, including the recently appointed Community Leader for Berkshire, Matthew Bell.

At the meeting I was given an overview of the bank's operations across Bracknell and Berkshire, including the Barclays' LifeSkills programme. The programme helps secondary school pupils to develop skills which will assist them in gaining jobs in the future, such as CV writing and communication techniques. Barclays also runs an apprenticeship scheme which, since its inception in 2012, 1,000 young people have graduated from. Last year I met with Mark Shakespeare, a Bracknell resident who obtained a permanent position at the Barclays Bracknell branch through the scheme.

The local staff also consulted me about potential local organisations and charities that Barclays could form partnerships with. It was great to learn more about their community initiatives, as well as their positive analysis of local business conditions and growth. I am confident that Mr Bell and his colleagues will successfully expand on their work in the Bracknell area and I wish them every success with this.