

Dr Phillip Lee MP's Monthly Newsletter



Dr Phillip Lee MP

Caring for Bracknell, Crowthorne, Finchampstead and Sandhurst

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Opening a new care home in Crowthorne



Dr Lee with the St Brendans team

Friday 7th September saw the official opening of St Brendans: B&M Care's newest care home situated on Sandhurst Road in Crowthorne.

Officiated by Conservative Member of Parliament for Bracknell Constituency Dr Phillip Lee, highlights of the occasion included: the unveiling of a commemorative plaque; a drinks reception hosted by Home Manager Debbie Rapson; and live music from local singer Renee Sears.

Guests included B&M Care Chairman Bill Hughes and Group Chief Executive Ian Sloan, as well as the home's neighbours, residents and their families.

This purpose-built care home has been developed to boast 62 en-suite bedrooms across four floors, as well as a gym, a cinema, a spa, a bar, an extensive outdoor living space, and a choice of lounge and dining areas.

Dr Lee said:

"As you can imagine, I have visited a fair number of Care Homes in my capacity as a GP. Each has its own feeling, and you are able to get an impression of the care they provide almost immediately. What struck me most about St Brendans was the ethos of the management, the commitment of the nursing staff, and the relaxed and happy atmosphere amongst the residents."

"I would like to thank Dr Phillip Lee for taking the time to officially open the home; it was a fantastic event enjoyed by both staff and residents alike," stated Debbie Rapson. She continued: "Here at St Brendans, we are passionate about delivering high quality residential & dementia care and my team works tirelessly to ensure that our residents, guests, families and friends are always welcome and feel at home."

Debbie manages the home alongside Deputy Managers Nicola Foyle and Lynn Storrer, and Engagement Lead Marene Myburgh who champions an activity-rich schedule through a person-centred approach that aims to improve communication, mobility and quality of life.

Meeting the Bracknell teacher 'saved' by the local community



Phillip with Miss Cassandra Loj at Brakenhale

For the last couple of weeks, Cassandra Loj has been back at work in Bracknell doing the job she loves. Nothing unusual about that in itself, but if it hadn't been for the combined efforts of her colleagues at Brakenhale School, members of the local community, and a well-timed intervention by the local MP, Dr Phillip Lee, Cassandra could currently be 3,200 miles away in Montreal.

Miss Loj, a well-respected history teacher at Bracknell was told earlier in the year that her visa to work in this country would not be renewed and that she must return to her native Canada. Initial appeals were unsuccessful, so the school began a social media and letter writing campaign.

Some of those letters went to the Bracknell MP and he was able to raise the case with the minister responsible. Just before the summer break came the good news that not only would Cassandra be allowed to remain, but that she could stay for a further five years.

Last week, Dr Lee met up with Miss Loj at the school to congratulate them on their campaign and to thank her for wanting to teach in this country.

“This country – our children – need good, dedicated teachers. It is a fact of life that many schools in the South East rely on overseas teachers” he said. “I am delighted that the original decision was overturned and that Brakenhale has been able to retain her much-needed skills.”

Brakenhale’s head teacher, Jane Coley, added:

“We were absolutely overwhelmed by the support our campaign to keep Miss Loj generated. We are delighted that she is now a permanent member of our staff and she can continue to do what she does best, teach the young people of Brakenhale School.

“She has also taught them all a very important lesson: you can achieve change, your voice does matter and never give up on what you believe in.”

MPs 'wear it pink' for charity fundraiser



Phillip with Donna Fraser, four-time Olympian for Great Britain and Breast Cancer Now Ambassador

Phillip added a splash of pink to his usual attire to support Breast Cancer Now's wear it pink fundraiser, which will take place on Friday 19 October to raise money for vital breast cancer research.

Phillip was joined by over 200 other parliamentarians in Westminster last week, all encouraging people across the UK to take part on wear it

pink day and raise money for Breast Cancer Now.

Dr Lee is calling for his constituents in Bracknell to join him, as well as thousands of others across the UK, to sign up and take part in 'wear it pink', which takes place during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and to date has raised over £31million towards Breast Cancer Now's important work.

Anyone can take part in wear it pink, whether at work, school or in your community. All you need to do is wear something pink, or hold a pink themed event, and donate to Breast Cancer Now. With every penny raised, fundraisers across the UK will be helping the charity achieve its aim that, if we all act now, by 2050 everyone who develops breast cancer will live, and live well.

Phillip Lee MP said:

"Breast cancer is still the most common form of cancer in the UK. Each year around 11,500 women and 80 men lose their lives to the disease. That's why I'm encouraging everyone in Bracknell to take part in wear it pink day on Friday 19 October.

"Wear it pink is great way to come together with friends and family to have fun whilst raising money for Breast Cancer Now's vital research. As you can see from my photograph, all it takes is an additional splash of pink to your normal outfit!

"Breast cancer affects so many people in Berkshire, so I hope that everybody in the Bracknell constituency will get involved this October and support this very important cause."

Welcoming business back to Bracknell



Meeting with PiLON's leadership team

Dr Lee was pleased to visit the Bracknell-based HQ of PiLON Ltd, a main contractor specialising in the refurbishment and regeneration of social housing and public buildings.

The visit was made extra special by the fact that they have just returned to Bracknell after a short hiatus in Ascot, and Phillip was on hand to welcome them back to the constituency.

He met with the PiLON leadership team and they discussed many things, including their move back to Bracknell and their Brexit fears and questions. They also mentioned how great it was to be based near the Lexicon Centre!

Phillip said:

"I'm delighted to be able to welcome PiLON back to Bracknell. It is great to have such fantastic businesses in our town. Best wishes to everyone for continued success in the future."

Florian Moldoveanu, Founder and CEO of PiLON said:

"It was a really good meeting at our HQ with our MP and PiLON Leadership Team - interesting updates and insights on Brexit negotiations and a good discussion about our local community initiatives."



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Monthly Newsletter

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