

# Alan Campbell MP

## Community News

September 2024



Welcome to the latest edition of my Community News.

In this edition of my Community News, you will find details of recent events I have attended as well as details of the work of local and national organisations I am supportive of.

You can also find useful information on my website at [www.alancampbellmp.co.uk](http://www.alancampbellmp.co.uk) or on Facebook at;

[https://www.facebook.com/AlanCampbellForTynemouth/?eid=ARCt\\_uybFykBHP9Ze74JbIWM5zGUiDhFgl8FizrUZK7Zmr1vijlCM68TFI\\_cGhOnsm\\_TvNnVuiYMhiLm](https://www.facebook.com/AlanCampbellForTynemouth/?eid=ARCt_uybFykBHP9Ze74JbIWM5zGUiDhFgl8FizrUZK7Zmr1vijlCM68TFI_cGhOnsm_TvNnVuiYMhiLm)

I continue to write my fortnightly column for the News Guardian, you can access these on my website at [News Guardian Articles - Alan Campbell MP for Tynemouth](#)

Best wishes

Alan Campbell MP

Tynemouth

## **Google Digital Garage**



I am delighted to invite local small businesses to attend a day of digital skills workshops and training events that I'm running alongside Google on 13th September in Tynemouth.

All across the UK, businesses are adjusting - and making sure your organisation can too is more important than ever. That is why we'll be joined by Google Digital Trainers who will deliver in-person digital skills training & mentoring. They will also be able to share some tips and tricks on how to improve your digital marketing strategy and answer any questions you may have about helping your small businesses.

Date: 13th September Time: 10:00 - 15:00 How: Visit the registration page at:

<https://rsvp.withgoogle.com/events/tynemouth-mp>

Spaces are limited, so please register by 11th September to reserve your spot. The Google team will follow up with additional details. If you are unable to join this session, Google also runs a series of free online courses, with modules that focus on topics such as graphic design and effective social media techniques, allowing you to learn at your own pace.

## **Meetings with the Chief Constable** **and Neighbourhood Inspector**



Ahead of the bank holiday weekend I met with the local Neighbourhood Police Inspector, Mick Hood in Cullercoats to get an update on Operation Coast Watch, the initiative to tackle anti-social behaviour at the coast.

It has been a successful joint initiative between the police, council, Nexus and local stakeholders and it's important that it continues with the resources in place to tackle anti-social behaviour at the coast, especially over the summer.

I liaised with Northumbria Police Chief Constable Vanessa Jardine during the recent disorder which we saw in communities across our region.

I expressed my support and gratitude for all her officers were doing to restore calm and order and help ensure swift and severe consequences for those who break the law.

## **Working Well Hub in North Shields**



I had a really informative visit to the council's Working Well Hub. Based at the Beacon Centre in North Shields, it's home to the council's Employment and Skills Team and hosts a range of partners including the NHS, North

East Autism Society, North Tyneside Carers Centre, North Tyneside Citizen's Advice and Age UK North Tyneside.

Working Well North Tyneside was created to simplify the process of finding and securing jobs by bringing together a wide range of support services in one place.

The initiative offers expert employment advice and addresses common barriers to employment, such as finance, debt, housing, and physical and mental health issues.

By providing these crucial resources, the service empowers individuals to take control of their future and fulfil their aspirations.

As Working Well North Tyneside continues to grow, the programme remains dedicated to supporting even more residents on their journey to stable and fulfilling employment.

The Working Well hubs in North Shields and Wallsend are open from 9.30am to 3.30pm, Monday to Friday.

## **Regeneration of Northumberland Square**



I was present at the official opening of Number 11 and 12 Northumberland Square in North Shields.

I'd like to congratulate everyone involved in the revival of these Georgian townhouses especially the local firms which played a part.

This is another important step in the regeneration of North Shields.

## **Visit to Ovington Boats**



It was fascinating to visit Ovington Boats based on the Fish Quay in North Shields recently.

At the recent Olympics, teams in Ovington Boats won 7 sailing medals which is testament to the fact that they are one of the world's most successful small boat building businesses.

It's great to see such skills coming out of North Shields and shows how important manufacturing still is to our local economy.

**Catch up with Port of Tyne**



I met with the Chief Executive Matt Beeton to hear about the exciting work the Port is doing. The Port is an important part of the plan to grow our regional economy and bring investment and jobs to our region.

### **Visit to Mactech**



I visited a local company Mactech who are experts in renewable energy and low carbon planning.

We discussed issues they are experiencing with skill shortages in the sector and what action the new government should take to tackle this. Businesses like Mactech show just how important our local companies are to the wider economy and to getting the economic growth we all need

### **Meetings with the Mayor and the Chief Executive**



North Tyneside Council

I have held meetings with both Paul Hanson, the council Chief Executive and Dame Norma Redfearn, the elected Mayor, for our regular catch up and to discuss mutual areas of concern. I continue to raise post-16 education as a main priority and I know the council are working hard to address this locally.

### **Visit to Cullercoats Watch House**



Thank you to the Trustees of Cullercoats Watch House, Frank, Mick, Helen and Viv, and volunteer Kevin for hosting me at the Watch House.

It was great to go back and see the full extent of the external renovations that have happened since my last visit. They have done a magnificent job and I want to congratulate everyone involved. It is a reminder again of how strong and positive our local coastal communities can be.

It was also good to hear about the team's exciting plans for the future. There's still a lot of work to do and I've pledged to support them in any way I can.

It was also good to see the local Cullercoats councillors who hold weekly surgeries there.

## **North Tyneside Together**



It was a pleasure to attend North Tyneside Together – a free family festival in Northumberland Square celebrating the borough's multicultural diversity.

North Tyneside Together is organised by North Tyneside Council's Ethnic Diversity Community Task Force, whose members work to tackle racism and celebrate equality and diversity throughout North Tyneside.

Thanks to all the local organisations who worked to give people a chance to share culture, music, food and art – it was a really great day.

## **Vigil for Peace at St Paul's**



I attended a vigil for peace in the grounds of St Paul's Church in Whitley Bay. It was important for the local community to come together following recent events and it was great to see people from so many of our local places of worship.

Thank you to all those in our community who do so much to make our area a welcoming and inclusive place to live.

## **Historic England Funding** **for Coastal Locations**





Historic England

Historic England has announced new funding for its Everyday Heritage grants programme, celebrating working class histories. This time, with a focus on buildings or places in rural and coastal locations.

Historic England is inviting community and heritage organisations across the country to apply for grants of up to £25,000 through its Everyday Heritage Grants: Celebrating Working Class Histories.

Each project should enable people to share untold stories about the places where they live, encouraging communities to examine and tell their own stories in their own ways.

Applications open on Friday 16 August and close on Monday 7 October.

For more information visit <https://historicengland.org.uk/everydayheritage/>

## **Congratulations to local students**



A big congratulations to all those students who got their exam results this summer.

I also want to pay tribute to all the education professionals who have been part of the enormous effort to support children before and following the pandemic.

Three years post pandemic, there is still a clear need for an evidence-based intervention to address the impact of learning loss and the ongoing challenges across our education system. Disadvantaged primary school pupils remain months behind their peers in reading and maths. The attainment gap at GCSE is at its widest since 2012. The recent GCSE results also highlighted a worrying regional divide.

Breaking down the barriers to opportunity is the aim of this Government, and it is one that I am committed to delivering for our local area.