

# Kwasi Kwarteng MP In contact

My journal

Winter edition 2010/2011



Delivering my maiden speech, May 2010

## IN WESTMINSTER

Back in May, I delivered my maiden speech to the House of Commons. This was a proud moment, a real chance to stand up for Spelthorne and express my views on national issues.

The past six months have been very busy from the Government's point of view. The most significant moment was October's comprehensive spending review, and its policies, which will reduce our national deficit.

Scrutinizing new policies is an important part of our democracy. I have taken every opportunity to engage in the frequent debates held in the chamber.

The spending review is right and responsible. On October 28th, I explained to the House why: "The cuts are necessary. After all, £1 in every £4 we spent was borrowed, which was unsustainable. No one in their right mind would lead their private life on that basis. We cannot keep on borrowing and spending. These are obvious truths, which we have recognised and addressed." Acting now will ensure that Britain is more prosperous at the end of this Parliament than it is now.

## Sitting on the Transport Select Committee

In June, I was elected to sit on the Transport Select Committee. This is a working group of all parties that holds the Government to account on transport policy.

At the moment, I am engaged in an inquiry into the

**A**s your new Member of Parliament, I have in recent months got to know Spelthorne better. Since I moved to the Constituency in May 2010, I have met hundreds more residents. I have felt very welcome, and would like to thank you.

Being an MP is a balancing act between working in Westminster, engaging in the Constituency and addressing national and local issues. I spend most of the week in Westminster, being involved in debates there, and Fridays and weekends in Spelthorne, listening to residents during my weekly surgery and meeting constituents on the doorstep.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you updated on my activities.



Government's transport spending priorities with regard to supporting the economy nationally and in the regions. I am also scrutinizing transport development plans around the country; in Hull, we listened to plans to develop the UK's greenest offshore wind manufacturing facility, and improve transport infrastructure to support this.

From a local perspective, the future of Heathrow, the possible development of Airtrack, and the Crossrail project are key concerns. Transport is vital to our local economy, affects the environment and our day-to-day-lives. Being a member of this committee puts me in a position to keep a close eye on policies that will affect Spelthorne. This is exactly what I'll be doing into the New Year.

In Hull with the Transport Select Committee, October 2010



## IN SPELTHORNE

Being back in Spelthorne for Friday and the weekend is a highlight of my week. It gives me the opportunity to address residents' issues, visit sites across Spelthorne, and generally get a feel for what is happening. Here are some of the places I have been to...

### Local schools

In October, I visited Matthew Arnold School. The School has won coveted awards for improving standards in recent years. I could see why. I was extremely impressed with the atmosphere, friendliness, and professionalism I saw, and was very encouraged to see the variety of work experience placements the school offers its Year 10 and 11 students.

In early November, I met the teachers and students of Littleton Infant School and spoke at assembly. The children were inquisitive, enthusiastic, and bubbling with energy. This spirit was great to see, and must be encouraged in our children as we look to the future.

Matthew Arnold School, September 2010



### Shepperton Studios

I recently paid a visit to Shepperton Studios. It really is the most remarkable place. It's been responsible for so many blockbuster hits, including Alien back in 1979, Shakespeare in Love, Gladiator and Batman Begins.

A place like Shepperton Studios offers an incredible array of practical jobs for young people. I saw an extremely impressive and professional hair and beauty salon, sound and lighting engineers, electricians and carpenters. Going round the studios taught me that a commitment to high quality vocational education is vital to our future economic development.

## Kwasi's Quiz

**Staines sits on the site of an ancient Roman town. But what was its name?**

**Spelthorne is twinned with which French town?**

**When was the last time a king or queen entered the House of Commons?**

**What colour is Ashford Town (Middlesex) FC's home shirt?**

**Big Ben stopped chiming in 2007. How long did this last?**

Answers in next edition

### Remembrance Sunday

On 14th November, I attended the Remembrance parade and service in Staines. Over 1000 people braved bad weather to pay respect to those who gave their lives securing the freedom we sometimes take for granted. Representatives of the armed forces, veterans, cadets, scouts, guides, cubs, brownies, beavers and rainbows marched to the War Memorial. The morning was impeccably organised, and this was reflected in very well attended events across Spelthorne.

For me, the morning also symbolised the community spirit I regularly see in Spelthorne, and showed why it must be maintained and supported.

Remembrance Sunday in Staines, November 2010



I hold regular advice surgeries from my office at 55 Cherry Orchard, Staines. As your Member of Parliament I can only assist with those matters for which Parliament or central government is responsible. I may be able to help you with problems relating to:

- \* Central government policies
- \* National Health Service
- \* H M Revenue and Customs (tax issues, child benefit)
- \* Department of Work and Pensions (benefits and pensions)

To arrange an appointment please call 020 72194017