

News from your local Conservatives

Delivered FREE throughout the South Northamptonshire Constituency



InTouch

with South Northamptonshire

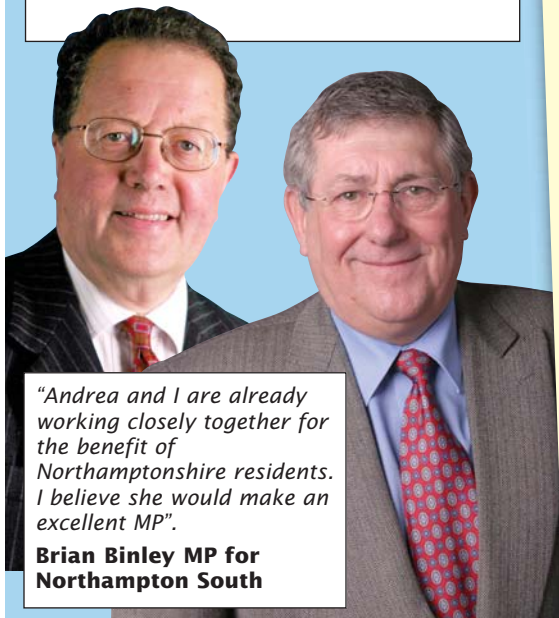
from Andrea Leadsom, Conservative Parliamentary Candidate

Winter 2008

Andrea Leadsom... THE LOCAL CHOICE

"I am delighted that South Northamptonshire has chosen Andrea as their Conservative candidate. She is hard working and highly capable, with a supportive family behind her. I wish her every success".

Tim Boswell MP for Daventry



"Andrea and I are already working closely together for the benefit of Northamptonshire residents. I believe she would make an excellent MP".

Brian Binley MP for Northampton South

Local MPs back Andrea Leadsom

Dear Resident

I was selected in 2006 as the Conservatives' Candidate for the new constituency of South Northamptonshire (See map below of the proposed new boundaries). I live with my husband of 15 years, Ben, and our three children in a village near Towcester in the heart of the constituency.

I have worked in the finance industry for 25 years, the last nine as Head of Corporate Governance at Invesco Perpetual in Henley on Thames. I have also been Chairman for the last eight years of a charity in Oxfordshire called the 'Oxford Parent Infant Project', set up to help families who are struggling to cope emotionally with a new baby.

My family comes from Northamptonshire – my Mother grew up in Ashton and went to Northampton High School; my Father was educated at Magdalen College School in Brackley. I have relatives in the area, many of whom are farmers.

I know we are in unprecedented times, with huge uncertainty in our economy and with many families struggling to cope already with the cost of living. My goal as a politician is first and foremost to use all my knowledge and experience to ensure we have a stable and growing economy, both locally in Northamptonshire and nationally. That will take time and enormous effort.

I sincerely hope that you will give me the opportunity to become your representative at the next General Election, whenever the Prime Minister decides to call it.

*With very best wishes
Andrea Leadsom*

OUR NEW CONSTITUENCY

South Northamptonshire is a new seat to the south of Northampton, taking in most of South Northants District Council area as well as East and West Hunsbury and Nene Valley in the Borough of Northampton.

The largest towns are Brackley and Towcester, the latter well known for its racecourse. The seat also contains part of the world famous Silverstone Circuit which provides a

centre for high tech industry. To the south the constituency stretches close to the outskirts of Milton Keynes, taking in nearby villages like Old Stratford and Cosgrove, while to the north it includes villages like Wootton and Hardingstone as well as the southern outskirts of Northampton itself.



The constituency comes into being at the next General Election. Until then your current MP's, Tim Boswell (Daventry) and Brian Binley (Northampton South), still represent you.

Andrea Leadsom – On Your Side – www.andrealeadsom.com

A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

PICKING LITTER IN EAST HUNSBURY



Andrea spent the morning with Brian Binley, MP for Northampton South, and Michael Ellis, Candidate for Northampton North, litter picking and planting trees in East Hunsbury.



Visit **Andrea's website**

www.andrealeadsom.com

THE CREDIT CRUNCH HITS HOME

Andrea wants to see that developments begun during the years of the housing boom are completed in spite of the credit crunch.

St. Crispins and Upton Village, both in West Hunsbury, have won awards for the quality of their design and build, but both have unfinished projects. The proposed sports pitches are still a field of thistles and the old clock tower at St Crispins stands broken behind locked gates.



Examining the Old Clock Tower with Cllr David Hugheston-Roberts



Andrea surveys the thistle strewn sports pitches

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

We have a thriving town centre in Towcester, and Conservatives want it to stay that way!

Conservatives are urging the Government to help small businesses through the current economic crisis by allowing them to defer VAT payments for up to six months, and also by reducing National Insurance by 1p in the £ for businesses with fewer than four employees.



Andrea and Cllr Diana Dallyn in Towcester shopping parade

SAVE OUR POST OFFICES



Post Offices are the lifeblood of any community – and yet 4,000 have been shut under Labour and they are planning to close a further 2,500 by 2009.

We are vehemently opposed to these plans, as we believe Post Offices are vital institutions, as important to communities as the local school or pub.

Conservatives put forward a motion in Parliament calling for an end to closures, but despite the support of 20 Labour MPs, the Government managed to narrowly defeat our proposal. We will keep fighting to save our Post Offices.

CONSERVATIVE PLANS TO STRENGTHEN BRITAIN'S POST OFFICES

Using Post Offices as a one stop shop for Government services

- We will investigate a scheme whereby Post Offices operate as a 'One Stop Shop' for people who have concerns about Government services, including tax returns and pension entitlements

Freeing up Sub-Postmasters

- We will rewrite Sub-Postmasters' contracts and allow them to provide a greater range of products and services

Bolstering the Post Office Card Account

- This scheme is hugely important to millions of families without access to bank accounts – and we will make changes so they can benefit from the lower utility bills offered to customers paying by direct debit

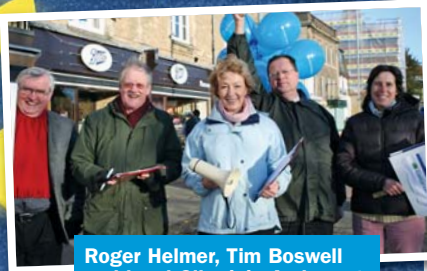
Encouraging 'Council Counters'

- We will encourage local councils to see what services they could provide though Post Offices.

WHERE IS OUR EU REFERENDUM?

Roger Helmer, MEP, and Andrea took to the streets in Brackley, Towcester and Northampton to protest about the broken promise of a referendum on the EU. Hundreds of local residents signed our petition demanding a referendum.

Even the author of the EU Constitution, French ex-President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, admits that the Lisbon Treaty is just a re-write of the Constitution. In spite of all three main political parties agreeing at the last election to hold a referendum on the constitution, Labour have since refused to do so.



Roger Helmer, Tim Boswell and local Cllrs join Andrea at Brackley EU Referendum Day

STAMP DUTY PROPOSALS

Mr. Brown's property tax hikes have helped kick a whole generation off the housing ladder. We will address this by:



- Scrapping Stamp Duty for first-time buyers on homes up to £250,000, so that nine out of ten pay nothing
- Abolishing Home Information Packs which have made moving house even more expensive and difficult

SUPPORTING OUR NHS

The NHS is a top priority for the Conservative Party. But in spite of billions of pounds being poured into it, we have been threatened with the closure of the maternity unit at Banbury and we have faced cuts at Northampton General as well as Milton Keynes Hospitals.

Conservatives are determined to free up local healthcare professionals from the central government targets that are stifling initiative. We will give Doctors and Consultants the freedom to determine the health priorities in their area.

NH
yes



Andrea celebrates 60 years of the NHS with Michael Ellis Conservative Candidate for Northampton North and local Councillors



Campaigning against cuts in NHS services

THE ECONOMY

In these difficult times, government should try to help people with the cost of living. But Mr Brown's years of spending and borrowing have left Britain's debt fuelled economy ill-prepared for a downturn.

We will not promise unfunded tax cuts we cannot deliver, or take any risks with the public finances. But we will take immediate action to help people cope with the rising cost of living, including:

- Introducing a fair fuel stabiliser so that when the price of petrol goes up, petrol tax goes down.
- Raising the Inheritance Tax threshold to £1 million.

Both of these changes will be funded by a flat-rate tax on UK residents who normally only pay tax overseas.



A BITTER PILL TO SWALLOW

Threat to Dispensing Doctors is a grave concern for Northants Surgeries

Andrea and local MP, Tim Boswell, recently met with GPs to talk about a Government proposal that could in future prevent them dispensing medicines from their surgeries. This would mean that patients who visit their local doctor will then have to travel to the nearest chemist to pick up their prescription.

Andrea wrote to each of the

surgeries in South Northamptonshire to ask for their views, and their response is worrying. Several village surgeries are subsidised by income from dispensing. If that income were to go, it would threaten their continued existence.

Village life has already lost so many amenities under Labour, and Andrea has been working with the Shadow Health Team to highlight this latest threat.



UGANDA SCHOOLS TWINNING PROJECT

In 2007 Andrea launched a 'Uganda Schools Twinning Project'.

Together with a teacher from Campion School in Bugbrooke, Andrea arranged for sixth form students from Caroline Chisholm and Campion Schools to go to Jinja, Uganda, to hold a Youth Conference with students from 5 Ugandan schools.

It was a huge success and this year the project is going ahead again with students from Chenderit, Roade, Campion and William Parker Schools taking part.



WATERWAY TO GO!

Andrea and her family are keen canal enthusiasts!

In 2007 they travelled along the Grand Union Canal, through Stoke Bruerne and the Blisworth Tunnel. In 2008 they tried out the Oxfordshire Canal, travelling from Lower Heyford up through Aynho to Banbury and beyond.



A strong voice for local people

Andrea Leadsom
Your Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for South Northamptonshire



SUPPORT FOR OUR RETURNING TROOPS

Conservatives plan to encourage ex-servicemen and women to make teaching a career by offering them free training, as well as free university tuition.

This is one way of recognising that the young men and women serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere are true heroes of our time, whose sacrifices in the cause of freedom make them uniquely well placed to inspire the next generation, bringing discipline to classrooms when it is needed.

Can we help you?

Please let us know of any issues you would like us to deal with locally or nationally

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Can you help us?

If you would like to help your local Conservatives please tick a box(s) below...

- I can help deliver leaflets
- I would like to display a poster
- I would like a postal vote for future elections
- I would like to help local campaigns
- I would like to be informed of Conservative events
- I would like to join the local Conservatives
- I would like to make a donation

Please return to:

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