

After an unusually warm Easter weekend and just a few Easter eggs (honest!), we are already in May. Despite the hiatus over Brexit, it's been another busy month in South Cambridgeshire.



I was absolutely thrilled to be able to visit the Royal Papworth Hospital at their new home on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus before patients arrived. It was quite eerie, walking around an empty hospital! I was absolutely overwhelmed not only by the new state of the art facilities but also the seamless transition from one site to another. The move has been the culmination of years of planning and effort. The staff have been working so incredibly hard to make this a reality and I am so proud that we have this world class facility in our constituency.

Back at the office, I also met with a number of local businesses for a round table discussion with me organised by the Federation of Small Business (pictured right).



This was a great opportunity to hear from local businesses about the current economic climate, their needs and to gain an insight on some of the challenges they are facing. It was also possible for me to update them on national policy as well as local initiatives and infrastructure improvements.



As well as inviting businesses into the office to talk, I've recently visited Map BioPharma in Papworth Everard (pictured left). They offer consultancy services that help BioPharma and MedTech clients achieve optimal market access in the UK and Ireland. Yet another example of one of our thriving businesses who contribute so much to job creation and ensure that we remain at the forefront of research and innovation.

Last month, my parliamentary office (and my husband Phil!) made up a team at Caxton Village Hall for quiz night! Wow – the questions were hard! I am pleased to report we didn't come last (though not far off) but we did have a thoroughly enjoyable evening and helped to raise funds for improvements to the Hall.

My most memorable appointment this month was as a member of the judging panel for Fen Drayton Primary School's Poetry Aloud competition. The children had been taking part in Poetry for Pleasure

by selecting and learning their poems, with a competition at the end of two weeks' hard work. We cried with laughter, such was the enthusiasm and energy the children put into their recitals! It was so lovely to see how engaged the children were – from Reception to Year 6. Well done to all the children involved!

I was honoured to be asked to present an award at the Cambridge United Community Trust Gala Dinner at Duxford Imperial War Museum. The Community Trust is the charitable arm of Cambridge United and they are involved in many projects which help to deliver improved health, education and inclusion. If you would like more information about their work or would like to donate to their fundraising, details are available on their website - <https://www.cuctrust.co.uk/>

Looking ahead, in May I will in Litlington for Desert Island Discs, visiting the WI in Bassingbourn and visiting businesses and community groups in Cambourne.

As ever, my newsletter can only provide a snapshot of my work on your behalf but if there is anything you would like to talk to me about, my next surgery is on Saturday 8th June. This is a “drop in” surgery between 10.30-12.30pm at Gamlingay Village Primary, Station Road, Gamlingay, SG19 3HD. No appointment necessary.

Further surgery dates will be added to my website soon - <https://heidiallen.co.uk/surgeries-2.html>

In the meantime, if you would like to contact me, please email heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk or call my office on 01223 830037.

See you next month!