I recently joined the elected Mayor Norma Redfearn at the Annual Service of Remembrance for Lost Fishermen and Seafarer’s. Held every September at North Shields Baptist Church and organised by the North Shields Fishermen’s Mission it is a important event in the calendar of the local fishing community.

The service was an opportunity for reflection and remembrance, for all fishermen & seafarers lost from the waters of the North East & beyond and was led by Superintendent Peter Dade, Mission Area Officer, North Shields. The speaker was the Venerable Simon Golding CBE.

I was also pleased to speak at the event and welcome fishermen and their families from not only North Shields but Grimsby, Hull and Fleetwood. My thanks to all at the North Shields Fishermen’s Mission for organising this poignant and moving event.

I spoke at the launch of Hidden Histories, a showcase exhibition at the Jam Jar cinema in Whitley Bay organised by leading UK children’s charity Barnardo’s.

The project is a youth led social research project into the lives of LGBT people in the 1960s to the 1990s and is the culmination of a year of hard work and intense learning by an amazing group of local young people aged 14-25. Barnardo’s The BASE in Whitley Bay has been developing a programme of work specifically with young people who identify as LGBTQ+ for just over two years. The Hidden Histories work came about due to a government white paper that highlighted the disproportionately high levels of mental health issues, serious self-harm and suicide attempts by young people who identify as LGBT.

The project tells part of the story of our local community and the diversity which reminds us who we are. It is also a hidden story, the story in many cases of personal struggle and the pioneers who led the way for others.
The Great British Beach Clean is the biggest beach clean and survey in the UK and I went along to give a hand this summer. The work of the volunteers over the past 25 years has led directly to policy changes such as the plastic carrier bag charge and changes to wet wipe labelling.

I officially opened Rockcliff Rugby Club’s new artificial grass pitch, made possible by an £800k investment by the RFU. The new pitch is the pinnacle of development of the club over the last ten years and cements Rockcliff as a community asset offering all-year round, all-weather playing facilities for rugby and other sports.

I’m happy to be raising awareness for Breast Cancer Now’s flagship fundraiser Wear it Pink. This year’s event is on 19th October, anyone can take part whether at work, school or in the community. All you need to do is wear something pink, or hold a pink themed event, and donate to Breast Cancer Now.

I joined the elected Mayor Norma Redfearn at North Tyneside Disability Forum’s recent AGM. North Tyneside Disability Forum play a crucial role supporting people with living with disabilities in our area and importantly, their wider families.

I’m happy to be raising awareness for Breast Cancer Now’s flagship fundraiser Wear it Pink. This year’s event is on 19th October, anyone can take part whether at work, school or in the community. All you need to do is wear something pink, or hold a pink themed event, and donate to Breast Cancer Now.

Community Commitment Common Sense

Championing Communities

North Tyneside Disability Forum AGM

Opening of new pitch at Rockcliff Rugby Club

25 Years of the Great British Beach Clean

Wear it Pink !

Will you wear it pink?
To mark the centenary of the Royal Air Force I laid a wreath at the Cheviot Memorial, located in the College Valley and which is a poignant reminder of those who lost their lives in the Cheviot hills in WW2.

I laid a wreath at the annual service held at the Centotaph on the Links in Whitley Bay on Battle of Britain Day. The service, organised by the British Legion is held every year and is an important reminder of the air men who gave their lives to protect Britain in World War 2.

During September, to highlight Blood Cancer Awareness month I went along to an event organised by Anthony Nolan to encourage people to sign up to become a blood donor. To find out more visit www.anthonynolan.org.uk

There are plans to create a Marine Conservation Zone between Berwick and St Mary’s Lighthouse and I met with the Marine Conservation Society to find out more. The site would take in the area around Whitley Bay and Defra are currently considering the plan which see important safeguards to local wild and marine life.