

BISON FARMING PROGRESS

Recently I've been working with local farmers and animal experts to change the way Bison farming is understood by the EU.

High in protein and low in fat, Bison meat is rapidly becoming the go-to meat for gourmet food and health



enthusiasts. Whilst the demand for Bison meat is rocketing, the farming of Bison in the UK is struggling under the weight of EU regulation.

The EU Commission has assumed that Bison and

bovine animals are the same, and yet in reality they have to be handled in completely different ways. Current EU legislation has not appreciated the complexities or details of implementation.

'One size fits all' EU policy doesn't fit all. We need to take into consideration their differences to ensure we have the best animal welfare practice in place.

Having met with the commissioner earlier this year, we have, together,

found a more humane way in which to test Bison for TB which the Commission will permit. I hope to also have some further news later this year on the tagging and institutional recognition of how Bison differentiate from Bovine.

WORKING TO REDUCE THE ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE

Earlier this year I joined a new 'MEPs for Wildlife Interest' group, which is a cross-party initiative aiming to keep the pressure on the European Commission to propose an EU Action Plan against Wildlife Crime.

Wildlife crime is now the fourth largest illegal trade in the world, providing a growing source of revenue for armed terrorist groups and pushing many species to the brink of extinction.



Following a European Parliament resolution on wildlife crime last November,

I and 81 other MEPs wrote a letter to the European Commission calling for an Action Plan against Wildlife Crime.



The Commission needs to ensure that a proper plan is formulated and then put in place, to stop the illegal trade and help combat the terrorists and criminals that it funds.

I also visited The Parrot Zoo in Lincolnshire with Matt Warman MP, where we saw their tigers and talked to the keepers about animal conservation.

#LincolnshireTigers

ADDRESSING THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION

Earlier this year I had the privilege of speaking at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and used it to urge them to engage more with young people and to promote the many benefits of free trade - to both them and other consumers.

Outlining how the world of trade has changed in the 20 years since the WTO was founded, I highlighted some of the ways in which global trade has expanded, especially over the internet. Reminding them that these days it is possible for young people to sit in their bedroom and order virtually anything, from almost anywhere in the world, and have it delivered to their front door in a matter of days.

I challenged the WTO to be more confident and ambitious in how it portrays itself, as well as taking more advantage of modern social media platforms to express the benefits of trade through mediums that appeal to young people.



We need to see real momentum towards seeing a conclusion of the Doha round by the end of 2015. This is the WTO's challenge, and what it needs to act on for the benefit of all. As could be said on social media, #TradeMatters.

A POSITIVE VOTE FOR AN EU-US TRADE DEAL

Back in July, the European Parliament finally held a vote on the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).

The vote confirmed that the majority of MEPs are in favour of it, which I was pleased to see, as it will bring huge opportunities for small businesses.

Too often we hear from TTIP opponents that this deal is all about the multinational companies and servicing their needs. In fact this couldn't be further from the truth. Multinationals—broadly speaking—have the resources to be able to deal with whatever the trading environment throws at them.

SMEs, on the other hand, are excited about what TTIP could offer them. These are companies that want to enter

the US market but can't deal with the added bureaucracy. This deal can deliver for them, as well as consumers.



Estimates show that based on the removal of customs duties alone, consumers could make good savings on a range of products, and that's before taking into account other potential savings brought about by the removal of non-tariff barriers and economies of scale.

Consumers will have more choice of products at competitive prices, and that can only be a good thing.



Emma McClarkin
MEP for the East Midlands



Your European Parliamentary report from Emma McClarkin MEP

Autumn 2015

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to my latest newsletter.

After an exciting election result, all focus now is on Europe, delivering an EU Referendum, and managing the repercussions of the Greek crisis. At a time of some turmoil in the Eurozone, one thing is for sure; over the coming months and years there will be huge consequences for the future of the EU.

Closer to home, I have been travelling all over the region, and it was a pleasure to meet so many of you while out campaigning in the run up to the election. Your hard work and dedication was inspiring, and I will keep working just as hard for you in Brussels.

Emma McClarkin

WE DID IT!

They say a week is a long time in politics, but the 24 hours between the opening of polls on Thursday 7th May and the following morning seemed almost like different eras.

On the morning of polling day, opinion polls were predicting a hung parliament, with the two main parties neck and neck in the polls. But 24 hours later we had the first majority



North West Leicestershire, May 2015

Conservative Government for 23 years! Uncertainty had given way to clarity and stability.

It will go down as one of the most exciting election nights ever and could indeed see a reshaping of the future political landscape.

Across the East Midlands region, we held all of our Conservative seats, as well as retaking Corby after the 2012 by-election and winning Derby North - after three recounts!

These results were down to you. You knocked on countless doors, delivered thousands of leaflets, stood at street stalls in the rain, sat at polling stations, and got those Conservative

AT LAST — AN EU REFERENDUM

One of the main consequences of the General Election result is that there will now be a referendum on our membership of the EU.

As a result of our election success, our EU partners understand that there will be a referendum and are finally realising that there will have to be real change to our relationship if we are to stay in the EU. They realise that we are serious about reform and serious about renegotiation, and that there will indeed be a referendum following real changes.

Before that referendum, I and my Conservative colleagues will continue to push for this change in our relationship with the EU, including respect for subsidiarity and the end to needless red tape.



voters out to vote.

On my travels across the region in the months leading up to polling day, I saw for myself how hard you all worked, and the result of your hard work is that we now have a majority Conservative government - the first one that some of our younger members will ever have known! So for this, a huge **THANK YOU!**

Now the hard work begins. There is a lot to do, and the next five years will bring a lot of challenges. We mustn't forget May 2015 though—the election where we united as a party to work towards our common goal of a Conservative future for our country, and defied expectations in doing so.

VISITING DENBY POTTERY



of Brussels are stopped, better crafted, or less burdensome for businesses.

Recently I was keen to make sure there was no overflow from a recent

Earlier this year I was shown around Denby Pottery in Derbyshire.

It was a pleasure to visit the 175 year-old company to hear about their rich history and how European legislation affects the modern business.

There's no doubt that the EU's regulations are affecting how companies approach their business procedures, and it's up to us as MEPs to feed this back to the Parliament so that regulations coming out

EU push to ban Cadmium in TVs. Denby uses Cadmium to achieve the famous red glaze of Poole pottery. I was eager to ensure the ban did not creep into other sectors where Cadmium is needed.

I was very pleased to hear that the opening of a Free trade agreement with South Korea had been delivering them increased export opportunities. Who'd have thought we'd be selling rice bowls to the Koreans? My thanks for a super visit; they even let me glaze a teapot!

CANCER RESEARCH PROGRESS

As many of you know, raising the importance of Cancer research is something close to my heart. Before the General Election, I visited Cancer Research UK's centre at Leicester University with Edward Garnier MP to see how their work is helping to save lives.



During our visit, we met with researchers based at the University of Leicester, who focus on understanding the

inner workings of cancer, with a focus on lung cancer, finding new ways to prevent, diagnose and treat the disease.

The dedicated researchers we met are working tirelessly to beat cancer sooner, offering families in the region and across the

UK new treatments and hope. It was an honour to see their amazing work and outstanding facilities, and even see the busting of cancer cells with their new drugs! Hats off to them for the life changing work they are doing.

Winning across the East Midlands With Emma McClarkin MEP

Helping and supporting colleagues across the region in the run-up to the May 2015 General Election.



Derby North, Derbyshire



Bosworth, Leicestershire



Charnwood, Leicestershire



South Leicestershire



Corby, Northamptonshire



High Peak, Derbyshire



Bassetlaw, Nottinghamshire



Lincoln, Lincolnshire



Northampton South



Sherwood, Nottinghamshire



Nottingham South



Gedling, Nottinghamshire



North Derbyshire

WORKING WITH OUR LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS

The Chairman of Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership recently invited me to visit them.

During our meeting, we discussed the NEP's strategy for the region and how to increase their visibility in Europe to develop possibilities of EU funded projects, as well as how to strengthen the links between the EU and businesses in the county.

It's clear that they do well in promoting the county in Europe through their extensive business

contacts, and, as MEP for the region, I am happy to work with them in any way I can to help them further improve relations and get the best opportunities for businesses across the region.



If you or your Local Enterprise Partnership have a project you would like me to support, please do get in touch.

NEW FUNDING BOOKLET

Earlier this year, Andrew Lewer and I launched an updated guide to European funding opportunities and a new youth opportunities booklet.

We did so in an effort to help groups and organisations across the East Midlands gain access to EU funds and opportunities.

The previous East Midlands funding booklet that ran through to 2014 was widely popular, therefore we have updated and republished a new version, which includes the new funding cycles that are currently running and a special one on funding for young people.

Funding is one of the most common enquiries we get as MEPs, therefore this booklet aims to provide you with a good start in understanding what is available and how groups



and individuals might be able to access European Funds for projects here in the East Midlands.

The booklet can be downloaded free from my website,

www.emmamclarkin.com