

Simon Hart MP

Member of Parliament

Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire

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LATEST NEWS:

The second **Pembrokeshire Jobs Fair** will take place at Pembroke **Town Hall from 10am - 1pm on Monday May 12th**. Last year's event was a great success with 350 jobseekers coming to talk to 30 businesses and training organisations - ten per cent of people left with a job. I was pleased to see the latest figures showing that unemployment in the area has fallen again, and in Wales by 6000, but there is always more to do. Contact christine.toy@parliament.uk for more details.



I was delighted that the campaign to **bring S4C's headquarters to Carmarthen** paid off - congratulations to the University of Wales: Trinity Saint David for their winning bid.

I have also kept up the pressure on the **Welsh Assembly's poor record on health care** - figures I obtained clearly prove that Welsh patients are waiting twice as long as English patients for hip replacements. This is unacceptable and needs to change. In addition, worrying evidence from support groups indicates that Welsh veterans are waiting longer for help with mental health issues than those in the rest of the UK.

Recent events here in Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire have included:



Meeting members of **Tenby's Soroptimist International (left)** who presented me with a petition against Female Genital Mutilation signed by more than 2,600 people. I will be presenting this to Parliament after Easter.

Visiting the remarkable **Special Unit at Myrddin Primary School** in Carmarthen to help their bid to win a £80,000 classroom. They are one of six finalists in a national competition that had 400 entries so please vote for them by clicking [here](#).

Helping **Ysgol Dyffryn Taf in Whitland** celebrate its five year anniversary as a Fair Trade School. This is a fantastic achievement and I was delighted to attend a special celebration lunch prepared by students.

Inspecting the **student cadets at Pembrokeshire College (right)** who were passing out of the Army Preparation Course. I was impressed by their dedication and enthusiasm and know they will remember every moment of their time in the services.



Meeting **Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service Chief**, Fire Officer Richard Smith, to discuss ongoing concerns over possible changes to personnel and manning in stations in Pembroke Dock and Milford Haven.



Touring the Pembroke Dock base of the **West Wales Maritime Heritage Society** and hearing of their future plans; being shown around **Caffle micro-brewery in Llawhaden**; and speaking to the **Carmarthen and District Hearing Impaired Group** at their monthly meeting.

Attending the opening of a new £1million holiday complex at **Croft Holiday Park in Reynalton**. I am pictured (*left*) with owner Huw Pendleton of Celtic Holiday Parks at the new clubhouse with saltwater spa and 90-seater restaurant. This will bring important business and employment to the local area.

In Westminster I have:

Taken part in **several debates in the Chamber of the House of Commons** on issues such as rural crime, the Wales Bill, National Parks, Tourism VAT, and plain packaging for cigarettes.

Debated and voted on the measures included in the **2014 Budget** - I was delighted that the **Wales Air Ambulance** will no longer have to pay VAT on their fuel and that 14,000 people in Wales will be lifted out of paying income tax altogether.

Meeting Transport Minister Stephen Hammond to discuss the future of **Mustang Marine in Pembroke Dock**.

Held discussions with Western Power Distribution about the planned route for power lines to **Brechfa Forest wind farm**. I am lobbying for them to be placed underground.





Attended the launch of a special stamp that commemorates the **100th anniversary of the birth of Dylan Thomas** and was privileged to meet his granddaughter, Hannah Ellis (*left*).

Taken part in the **Daily Politics show** on BBC2 as well as several interviews for local radio and press.

Further afield I was fortunate to spend a week in **Patagonia** meeting the remarkable communities who are keeping Welsh alive so far from its home. It is a thriving language spoken by thousands of people and next year will see the 150th anniversary of the first Welsh emigrants to the Chubut region. It was a fascinating trip.

And finally....

BBC2's 50th anniversary celebrations at the Palace of Westminster led to a memorable encounter with **Sir David Attenborough (*right*)** - a truly remarkable man.



May I wish you all a very Happy Easter and maybe I will see you racing at the point-to-point at Lydstep on Easter Monday.

What's coming up:

I've recently held surgeries in Whitland and Tenby and my next ones are in **Whitland on 9 May** and **Saundersfoot on 23 May**. Please call the office to make an appointment.

A chance to meet: many of you will be receiving invitations to meetings I am holding around the constituency over the next few months. These are open to anyone regardless of voting intention and are a chance to ask me questions and discuss issues and concerns that really matter, so please come along. The next event will be held in **Hundleton on 24 April**.

Contact me by emailing simon.hart.mp@parliament.uk or call 01994 342002. Up to date information and news can be found on my website simon-hart.com

You can also follow me on Twitter @Simonhartmp

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