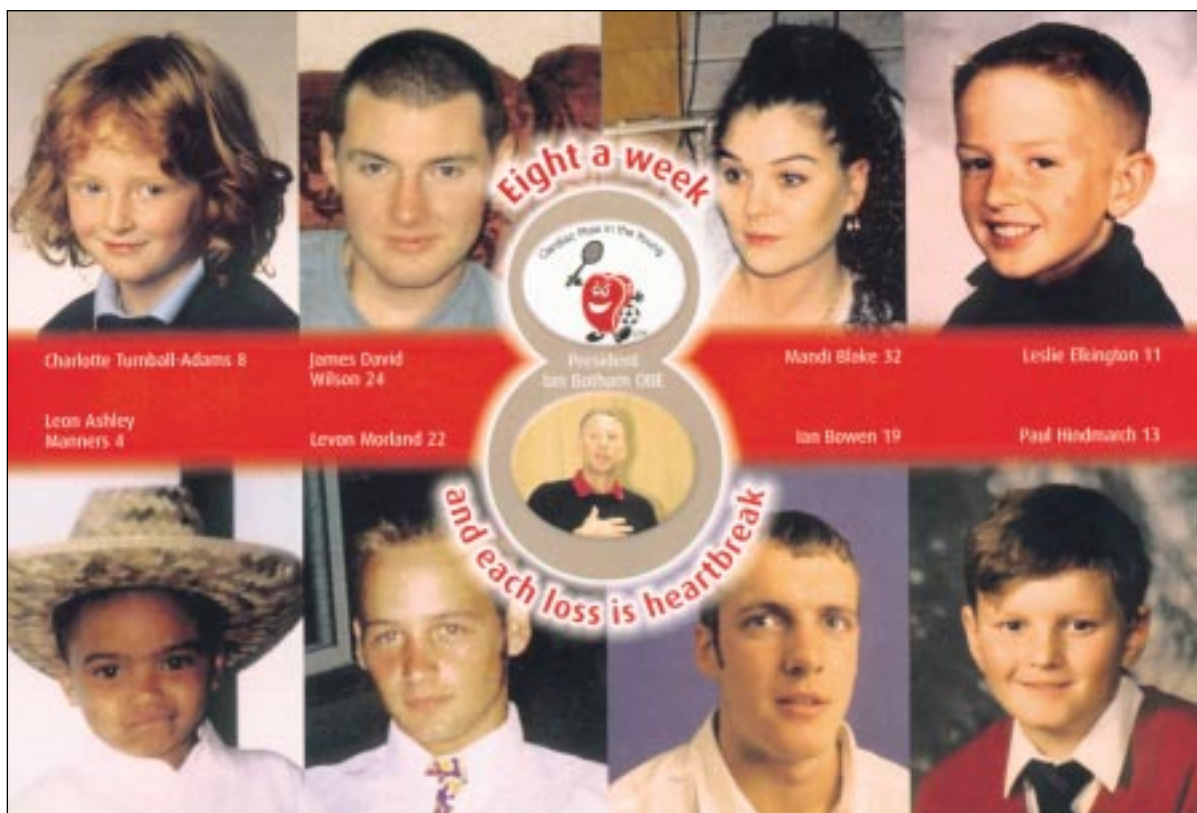


Screening would have helped to prevent their deaths



Dari's Private Member's Bill Cardiac Risk in the Young (Screening) – Excellent News

In March, after many months of hard work by me and many years of hard work by the charity Cardiac Risk in the Young, the first medical model aimed to prevent Sudden Cardiac Death - known as the National Service Framework (NSF) - was officially launched by the Health Secretary. This will help to prevent the deaths of 8 fit, young people taking place on a weekly basis.

My Private Member's Bill, Cardiac Risk in the Young (Screening), went through its processes in the House of Commons. I did not assume it would produce an Act of Parliament. However, I wanted to bring to the attention of the Department of Health and cardiac specialists the fact that many young people who show symptoms of heart problems, and indeed have cardiac conditions diagnosed, regularly die as a result of not being

offered appropriate treatment. There is an absolute belief among many in the medical community that you have to be over 50, fat and smoke cigarettes to have a heart problem. The straight fact is that you could be 15 and have a heart problem activated by physical exercise, as was the case for the footballer Marc-Vivian Foé and locally two young men, Ian Bowen from Redcar, and Levon Morland, a family friend from Durham.

I am absolutely delighted that my Private Member's Bill has produced an NSF, which all medics must use – one of my proudest moments as a Member of Parliament. If this chapter is as successful as the NSF for older cardiac patients has been, we should start to see a significant reduction in the number of young victims of Sudden Cardiac Death.

CONTACTING DARI

This report is one of the ways that Dari keeps in touch. If you would like to contact Dari there are a number of ways to do so:

By telephone: 01642 604546

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Dari also holds a regular surgery. For information or to make an appointment please telephone 01642 604546. Additionally, there is a helpline available between 11.00 and 1.00pm Monday to Friday on 01642 604546.

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PARLIAMENTARY REPORT STOCKTON - SOUTH



TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN STOCKTON SOUTH



Alex Bain local resident and chairman of the Parkfield and Mill Lane Management Pathfinder Scheme. This excellent initiative has supported a housing market renewal and received £8.65 million from the government. The achievements of this Pathfinder scheme were officially recognised by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister last year when it received no fewer than three national awards and two commendations, including the prestigious 'Partnership of the Year' award.

Dari Taylor MP working for Stockton South



Routes into Work for the Blind

I am delighted to act as a Parliamentary spokesman for Action for Blind People and our own Stockton Blind People's Voice. These two organisations are currently very focussed on encouraging local employers to acknowledge the talents and intellect of blind and visually impaired people, who deserve the opportunity of paid employment.

The hill we have to climb is great. We have not achieved better employment opportunities for blind and visually impaired people in the last 10 years. 3 out of 4 blind and visually impaired people of working age are not employed – this is a disgrace.

I am working with ASDA, the Local Authority, the Police Authority and other local organisations to persuade them that with Jobcentre Plus support, we could all support blind and visually impaired people into employment.

Thornaby Schools Prove They Have Talent



I asked pupils from primary schools throughout Thornaby to design a Christmas card for me to use in 2004. From all the excellent cards created, those designed by Sabaa Ahmed (Mandale Mill Primary), Charlotte Good (Christ the King RC Primary) and Mustafa Khan (Harewood Infants) were announced as the overall winners of the competition. The prizes they received were: free trips to the swimming pool, free 10-pin bowling and a lunch for two.



Celebrating Excellence at Bishopsgarth School



I was absolutely thrilled by the recent announcement that Bishopsgarth School had achieved specialist status for Maths and ICT teaching. Bishopsgarth's headteacher, John Golds, his staff and pupils have all worked incredibly hard to achieve this honour. The school will receive a £100,000 capital grant, in addition to an extra £128 per pupil to help deliver excellent educational achievement.

The announcement follows a very successful year for Bishopsgarth:

- Recording their highest ever exam results;
- Being Identified by the Department for Education & Skills as an example of excellent practice in providing for children with disabilities and complex educational needs; and
- With four students receiving the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Award for acting as role models throughout their time at the school.



WaterAid at Ingleby Mill

In October 2004, Ingleby Mill Primary School invited me and Northumbrian Water to join them in a WaterAid charity morning. The support of staff meant pupils raised £600 for this excellent cause.

From my visits to India, I know that this money will help to sink wells in many rural villages and small towns – giving many children their first ever opportunity of going to school. Well done Ingleby Mill Primary School!



Hunting with Dogs – Banned at Last

I am absolutely delighted that the total ban on the hunting and killing of wild mammals with dogs finally came into force in February. I feel very strongly about animal welfare and believe this activity is barbaric and totally out of place in 21st century Britain. I know that very many people throughout Stockton South share my view – indeed, this is probably the single biggest issue on which I have received correspondence. I am of the confident belief that the ban can and will be effectively enforced by the police.

My next campaign is the welfare of retired greyhounds. 10,000 greyhounds are retired every year – the fate of only 20% is recorded. The other 80% effectively vanish. Hopefully many of you will come on board and support this campaign.

Achieving a Safer Community – Together



Anti-social behaviour and crime are the words on everybody's lips. However, I know just how hard the Police, Special Constables, Community Support Officers, the anti-social behaviour team and Community Wardens are working in close partnership to reduce the type of behaviour which has made lives miserable for far too many in our community.

I recently had first hand experience of this fact when I went on patrol with the high visibility Neighbourhood Policing Team which is dedicated to the Parkfield/Mill Lane area, and with the Special Constables to mark National Special Constables Weekend. Both of these teams – full-time and volunteers – are delivering a safer community. The introduction of the Neighbourhood Policing Team, which includes two police officers, a

community liaison officer and four community wardens, has seen a dramatic reduction in crime (house burglaries are down by 30%) and increased trust in the community. The Government is committed to introducing this style of 'neighbourhood policing' in every area of Stockton, supported by a new national £50million Neighbourhood Policing Fund.

Sure Start

The Government's Sure Start programme aims to improve life chances by giving every child the best possible start. This initiative has brought life back to Tedder Primary, the old Queen Street School on Gilmour Street (now Riverbank) and the Thornaby Family Centre, Baysdale Road. Bayheath House on Prince Regent Street in Stockton serves Parkfield.

Sure Start offers:

- Quality, affordable childcare;
- Family support services & activities; and
- Health & development support and advice.

If you want to know more, please get in touch with Thornaby Sure Start on 308 609 or Parkfield & Victoria Sure Start on 527 246.

