



AUTUMN 2003

Here to help...

Lawrie Quinn MP
can be contacted locally:

Write or call into
53 Westborough
Scarborough
YO11 1TU

The Coliseum
Victoria Place
Whitby
YO21 1EZ

By phone:
Scarborough office:
01723 507000
Whitby office:
01947 821733

By Fax:
Scarborough office:
01723 507008
Whitby office:
01947 604726

MP's Surgeries:
Lawrie holds regular surgeries
at both Scarborough & Whitby
offices.

For an appointment call either
of the above numbers.

If you would like further
information visit Lawrie
Quinn's website at

www.lawrie-quinn.org.uk

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW *for Scarborough & Whitby*

Reporting back...

Listening to YOU

Which ever way you look at the past year the communities in Whitby and Scarborough have never seen so much potential assistance coming in to help us make the Yorkshire Coast a better place to live and work.

As your local MP I've continued to argue for the fullest government support for local schemes like the controversial sea defence work in Scarborough, which looks like it will cost around £ 40 million when complete.

Yorkshire regional support for job creation, the Market Town Initiative in Whitby, the Spirit of Staithes project and the Urban Renaissance of Scarborough are all great boosts to local communities ignored for too many years in the past.

Working in partnership with local councils and regional bodies we've continued to press for support for transport improvements along the A64 corridor, the moors and coast roads. At the same time pressing the Strategic Rail Authority on existing train services, I've been working with the Esk Valley Rail Partnership to get Whitby a restored rail link to York via Pickering and Malton.

In the past year my work for you has seen success with the local roll-out of broadband access... did you know we've got some of the best take up for this service in the whole country !

This will cost the national taxpayer and I recognise that local people are



▲ Lawrie assists with Volunteer Week.

supporting my demands for full recognition from Westminster to secure a vibrant local economy so the Yorkshire Coast is the best place to live in this new challenging century.

My job is always made easier when local people stand up for our community and help me to lobby for the interests of the Yorkshire Coast. Whether it's health, education or law and order issues your feedback is always the starting point for any of the work I do in Westminster and elsewhere, to ensure that we get the best opportunities for this community on offer.

**CREDIT WHERE ITS DUE...
PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU AND
YOUR FAMILY ARE NOT ONE OF THOSE
LOCAL RESIDENTS MISSING OUT ON
HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF
POUNDS AVAILABLE TO YOU NOW BY
CHECKING INSIDE THIS REPORT...**

Are you missing out on the cre...

ANOTHER YEAR'S PROGRESS

The beginning of August saw a parliamentary record achieved. This is the longest serving Labour government ever. I believe we have continued with the good progress in transforming Britain for the challenges of this new century. I am privileged to have played my part at Westminster in supporting these changes and am pleased that you have taken the trouble to tell me what you think about the record to date.

My local constituency offices have dealt with thousands of local constituents' problems. I cannot function effectively as a Labour MP without a constant feedback from local people and my job for our community relies on my regular surgeries, constituent's letters and phone calls. I know this approach across our Constituency makes my weekly trips to Westminster worthwhile.

When Parliament returns in a few weeks time I will be taking forward my project to achieve UNESCO World Heritage status for Whitby, the establishment of a Whitby & District Credit Union and Sure Start project in Whitby.

***If you want to hear more about these initiatives contact my Whitby Office
or for The Credit Union speak to Nicole Taylor on 01947 605256.***

LAWRIE WORKING FOR YOUR COMMUNITIES...



▲ Juniper planting in the National Park with local school children.



▲ Lawrie launches Sure Start child safety booklet.



▲ Broadband comes to Scarborough and Whitby thanks to Lawrie's seminar.



▲ Celebrating carers week 2003 at the Coliseum, Whitby.

dit due to you and yours today?

Thousands of local people are potentially missing out on a share of hundreds of thousands of pounds available to them following changes brought in by the Government after lobbying on your behalf by myself and other Labour MPs from across the country.

ARE YOU SURE THAT YOU ARE GETTING FULL TAX CREDIT FOR YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES ?

CHILD TAX CREDIT

Since April 2003 CHILD TAX CREDIT has been available to support families with children on top of existing Child Benefit. This new system is designed to bring together all income-related payments for families with children, and will be paid directly to the main carer. At least 85% of families in Whitby and Scarborough should be eligible for support. Since April 2003, the Child Tax Credit, together with Child Benefit guaranteed...

- **£54.23 A WEEK FOR THE FIRST CHILD**
in families with an income less than £13,000 a year
- **£26.50 A WEEK FOR THE FIRST CHILD**
in families with an income less than £ 50 000 a year

A FAIRER DEAL FOR BRITAIN'S PENSIONERS

Thousands of local pensioners are set to gain through new

PENSION CREDIT

From October 2003, across the Yorkshire Coast and throughout the UK pensioners will be better off because of the government's new Pension Credit.

Pension Credit is a new entitlement for people aged 60 and over that will replace Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) from 6th October 2003.

You will not lose any money that you currently receive. You do not need to do anything in order to receive your full entitlement to Pension Credit.

Pension Credit is made up of two parts:

- A guarantee credit, for people aged 60 or over, that guarantees a minimum income.
- A savings credit that means you may get extra money if you are aged 65 and have some savings or other income.

If you or your partner are aged 65 or over, you may be eligible to receive both the guarantee credit and the savings credit.

Since I was elected in 1997 as your MP I've argued that people should be rewarded for having saved, as well as guaranteed a decent minimum income.

The idea behind Pension Credit is really that simple and most local pensioners have asked me to pursue this with my Labour colleagues in Westminster.

The PENSION CREDIT builds on extra support we're providing for pensioners.

Security in retirement

Labour's extra support for pensioners

- **Basic state pension increased to £77.45 in 2003 and to £79.40 in 2004.**
- **The Minimum Income Guarantee (from October 2003 to be known as Guarantee Credit) ensures that over two million pensioners will have at least £102.10 for single people and £155.80 for couples from April 2003.**
- **A £200 Winter Fuel Allowance for everyone over 60 to help pay the heating bills at winter time.**
- **Free TV licenses for over 75s are benefiting nearly four million pensioner households.**
- **Free eye tests for all pensioners restored and free NHS prescriptions.**
- **Concessionary travel schemes to help pensioners get around.**
- **No pensioners aged 65 or over pays income tax on income less than £127 a week.**

*At work, single or no family
...are you missing out on your entitlement too ?*

WORKING TAX CREDIT

No one would turn down cash from the Inland Revenue are you sure that this statement doesn't apply to **YOU**? The Citizens Advice Bureau locally reckons **thousands of pounds are simply not claimed** by people in work because they don't realise that **the government** changed the tax system to assist working people with a **tax credit** too... here's the detail

You may qualify for Working Tax Credit if you are :

- ✓ Single, no children, 25 or over, working at least 30 hours per week and earning less than £10,750* per year
- ✓ A person with disabilities, 16 or over, no children, working at least 16 hours per week and earning less than £14,650* per year
- ✓ A couple with at least one person 25 or over, no children, working at least 30 hours per week and earning less than £15,000* per year

* Some pension contributions are deductible from gross income

IF YOU WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CLAIMING EITHER WORKING, CHILD OR PENSIONER TAX CREDITS CONTACT MY OFFICE (see front panel)

OR



Age Concern 01723 379058
Citizens Advice 01723 368710
Tax Credit Helpline 0845 300 3900

Lawrie opening this summer's People's Carnival at Scarborough Castle.



Your major concern ...in 2003

This year the major items in my mailbag have been about the conflict in Iraq and the Middle East, controversial sea defence work along the Yorkshire Coast and issues around council spending particularly education with pensions and health related matters a big priority.

The size of the mail bag remains at around 700 items or thereabouts each week!

So here's a breakdown of policy issues raised by local people during the last 12 months...

Issue	%
Health	10
Social Security – benefits and pensions.....	10
Housing	9
Foreign & International Development policies.....	8
Transport.....	7
Animal welfare & hunting with dogs.....	6
Social Services in Scarborough & Whitby	6
Education in Scarborough & Whitby	6
Crime and anti-social behaviour	6
Agriculture including GM Crops.....	5
Planning issues and applications.....	4
Environment	4
Tourism related issues.....	4
Economic development including telecommunication.....	4
Other Scarborough & North Yorks Council responsibilities	4
Ethical issues, particularly medical research	3
Fishing industry.....	2
Issues raised by constituents not classified above	2

News from

DAVID BOWE

MEP for Yorkshire and the Humber

David has worked closely with Lawrie Quinn MP over the last six years. Over the last year he has been involved in the following local issues.

- Fylingdales - there has been much local concern over the plans to use the base as an early warning station for the proposed new "star wars" anti missile system. David organised along with Lawrie Quinn a well attended public meeting in Whitby in March. They listened to the many local concerns raised and will continue to raise these with the Government.

- Fishing - local fishermen have been affected by the recent proposals from the European Commission to introduce severe cuts in cod fishing. However there is no easy solution to this crisis the choice is simple - either short term pain or permanent destruction.



▲ David Bowe & Lawrie Quinn meet local Fishermen.

The European Parliament has recently backed a call for a £100 million-plus aid package and David Bowe will be working hard to ensure that local fishermen benefit from this. We need to ensure that Europe acts quickly over compensation that will help to ensure that when North Sea fish stocks recover, we still have a fishing industry.

- Clean Beaches - two local beaches West Cliff at Whitby and North Bay Scarborough have been awarded "Blue Flag" status. This award by the European Union has helped to drive up standards across Europe. The award is only given to resorts that pass stringent inspections of beach management, safety and water quality. David Bowe is pleased with these local successes.

David Bowe MEP

Yorkshire and the Humber

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E Mail: mail@davidbowe.demon.co.uk

A64 PUBLIC MEETING TO BE CHAIRED BY LAWRIE QUINN MP

Providing an opportunity for local people to discuss transport links to the Yorkshire Coast

**Friday 17th October 2003
at 10.00am**

**at The Concert Room
Scarborough Library, Vernon Road**