

# Emily Thornberry MP

ISLINGTON SOUTH AND FINSBURY

October Report



## Foodbank Collection in Islington

On the 29th October, I took part in a local foodbank collection for Copenhagen Street Foodbank.

We were overwhelmed by the generosity of all donors to helping those during times of need. I'd also like to extend a thank you to all volunteers who have helped to keep these services running.

As many are coping with the cost-of-living crisis, it is vital that we are able to provide support where necessary. Any donation - big or small - counts!

To find your local foodbank, [here](#) is a link or call Citizens Advice on 0808 208 2138.



Taking Local Food Donations in Islington



## National Campaign Day

I thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Labour's post conference National Campaign Day on the afternoon of the 29th. We spoke to numerous residents about difficult issues, such as coping with the Cost of Living Crisis and the current turbulence in our political system.

As ever, the reception on the doorstep was warm. If you haven't tried it yet, do come along. The secret is that it's great fun!



# Tory Chaos With Channel Crossings

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In recent weeks, the government has been grappling with chaos surrounding our immigration and asylum system. Manston, a migrant holding centre in Kent, has unveiled the horrendous mismanagement of asylum seekers by Home Secretary Suella Braverman.

According to the BBC, the Home Secretary was warned that the government was breaching statutory duties by failing to sign off on ways to immediately move people to hotels or alternative accommodation. At the time, 4,000 migrants being housed there, despite it being meant to hold just 1,600 when it was built.

On the 31st of October, I did a number of media appearances where I outlined how the immigration system was broken as a result of Tory chaos and mismanagement.

As I said on LBC, "if the Home Secretary spent less time indulging in culture wars and a bit more time doing her job, not leaking things, not stirring up trouble... we would be in a much better place."



Condemning Suella Braverman whilst on LBC

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## Remembrance Sunday

On Remembrance Sunday, I attended the Remembrance Parade, which runs down past Islington Town Hall. We will never forget those who gave their lives so valiantly for our country.

I was also honoured to lay a wreath on both Islington Green War Memorial and at the Finsbury Memorial. On this day, I wear a brooch given to me by my Irish grandmother. It had belonged to her aunt who had been engaged to a soldier who died in WWI.

Although she married again, she kept a photo of her first love in the back of the brooch all her life. I wear it in honour of their love and his sacrifice.



Islington's Remembrance Parade





# PinkNews Awards



On Wednesday the 19th October I had the absolute pleasure of attending the PinkNews Awards, which was established to recognise the incredible contributions of those who campaign for LGBTQ+ equality worldwide whilst celebrating moments of LGBTQ+ achievement. I was also nominated for Politician of the Year!

I had the pleasure of hosting an auction with Kitty Scott-Claus and Ella Vaday, both contestants on RuPaul's Drag Race UK, to raise money for the Kaleidoscope Trust. Ironically, the most difficult item to auction off successfully was the signed bottle of Champagne by Liz Truss. Now she's left office, this rare item must be highly sought after!



During my remarks, I discussed prosecutions I had undertaken which were homophobia in action. I highlighted the importance of supporting the trans community and protecting individuals from politicians trying to divide everybody. I also called for a ban on conversion therapy.

Britain has come a long way when it comes to LGBTQ+ rights - but sadly, in other countries LGBTQ+ people are still persecuted. The Kaleidoscope Trust champions work to fight this, which you can read more about [here](#).

# Barbara Castle Memorial Event



On Sunday 6th November, I was invited to the Barbara Castle Memorial Event at Oxford University Labour Club.

Barbara Castle was MP for Blackburn from 1945-1979. She was the fourth woman in history to sit at the Cabinet table and served as Secretary of State for Transport, introducing the breathalyser, 70mph speed limit on motorways, and legislation requiring all cars to be fitted with seatbelts. She then served as Secretary for Employment and Productivity and First Secretary of State from 1968-1970. She also went on to successfully bring in the Equal Pay Act 1970

Barbara Castle was also a great internationalist who campaigned for the introduction of the Department of International Development.

In my speech, I remembered Barbara Castle, what lessons she can teach us all today, and what it truly means to be a Castleite.



# Diary

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## Constituency

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### October

21 Oct - City University Visit  
21 Oct - City and Islington College Visit  
25 Oct - Islington South and Finsbury Labour new members parliamentary tour and drinks party  
26 Oct - Constituency foodbank collection  
26 Oct - Islington South and Finsbury canvassing

### November

12 Nov - Islington Town Hall constituency surgery  
13 Nov - Remembrance Sunday service  
13 Nov - Mehri Jafari tree planting

## Media

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### October

21 Oct - BBC Radio 4 Any Questions  
24 Oct - Morning media round interviews with Good Morning Britain, GB News, BBC Radio 4 Today Programme, Times Radio, LBC, Sky News, 5Live, ITV News, BBC News Channel, and Bloomberg International News  
31 Oct - Afternoon media round interviews with Sky News, LBC and Times Radio

### November

2 Nov - Post-PMQs Politics Live  
9 Nov - Afternoon media round interviews with LBC, BBC News Channel, Times Radio, and Sky News  
10 Nov - Question Time in Wells

## Parliament and Shadow Attorney General

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### October

19 Oct - Pink News Awards  
20 Oct - Attorney General Oral Questions  
26 Oct - Basingstoke CLP Visit  
30 Oct - Campaigning in Dover

### November

2 Nov - Islington South and Finsbury Tigray human rights campaigners meeting in parliament  
6 Nov - Speech to Barbara Castle memorial event  
14 Nov - Trans in the City Award Ceremony