



PCA Supper Club - UK Budget 2016 - PCC Election

Dear Reader

Great news - we at the PCA have organised an exciting new supper club! This will be a regular social event where we get together to sample the culinary delights of all the world, as represented by some of our finer local restaurants. Our first date will be on Wednesday, 18 May, for a Spanish evening. For more details, see [below](#).

The Government's 2016 Budget on 16 March brought good news for most of us and is well worth understanding in more detail, as Chancellor George Osborne explains [below](#). If you want to discuss the implications in more technical detail, do contact us - we can recommend one of our special interest clubs where you can make friends with some of the most successful business leaders and investors in Poole. The report includes some wise words from our local MP, Robert Syms, on the economic situation.

The Police and Crime Commissioner election on 5 May gives you the opportunity to elect a Conservative commissioner for Dorset. Our candidate Lt. Gen. Andrew Graham introduces himself [below](#).

Last but not least, Robert Syms MP spoke recently in Parliament on the topic of end of life care. This topic is of deep importance for every family and well deserves its time in our national debating chamber. See [below](#).

Peter Adams

Chairman, Poole Conservative Association



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

POOLE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION SUPPER CLUB

We are starting an exciting new venture which aims to try all of the world's cuisines, from east to west and north to south.

Our inaugural event will be a Spanish tapas and paella evening in Westbourne. A set price of £15 per person offers great value for money: a bread with olive oil dip, a choice of one of three main course dishes, and a glass of wine (red, white or rose). Everybody is welcome, we guarantee no speeches (but of course there is a raffle, for which the prizes will be food and drink items only, with no unwanted gifts), and you can enjoy getting acquainted with some of the best company in town.

You don't even have to be a member of the PCA to come along!

Later suppers will include an Italian evening at La Lupa, Poole Quay, on 1 June, and an Indian evening at Ashley Cross in July.

First date: Wednesday 18 May, 6.30 pm for 7 until 9 pm
Restaurant: Spanish Taste, 59 Seamoor Road, Bournemouth BH4 9AE
Set price menu: £15 (includes starter, main course, glass of wine)

For full details contact:

kay@pooleconservatives.org

[Visit our online events page](#)

Budget 2016



Your money was the topic on March 16, when Chancellor George Osborne said: "Today I delivered a Budget that puts the next generation first and redoubles our efforts to make Britain fit for the future by -"

Cutting taxes so working people can keep more of the money they earn

From April next year the tax free personal allowance will rise to £11,500, a tax cut for 31 million people that means a typical basic rate taxpayer will be paying over £1,000 less income tax than when we came into government. The higher rate threshold will also increase to £45,000, a tax cut of over £400.

Freezing fuel duty to support household budgets and small firms

We have frozen fuel duty for the sixth year in a row, a saving of £75 a year to the average driver and £270 a year to a small business with a van. We're also freezing beer and cider duty to back British pubs.

Improving our schools so our children get the best start in life

We're providing extra money so every school in England becomes an academy and we are going to put a new sugar levy on the soft drinks industry so they reduce the sugar content of their products to tackle childhood obesity. The money raised will be used to double sports funding in primary schools and fund longer school days in secondary schools that offer their pupils a wider range of activities, including extra sport.

Introducing a new Lifetime ISA to help the next generation to save

We know people like the simplicity of ISAs so we're going to increase the ISA limit from just over £15,000 to £20,000 for everyone. For those under 40, many of whom haven't had such a good deal from pensions, we're going to introduce a completely new Lifetime ISA. You won't have to choose between saving for your first home, or saving for your retirement - the government is going to give you money to do both. For every £4 saved, the Government will give you £1. So put in £4,000 each year and the government will give you £1,000 every year until you're 50.

Cutting taxes for small businesses

600,000 small businesses will now pay no business rates at all, an annual saving of up

to almost £6,000, and a further 250,000 small businesses will get a tax cut on their business rates bill. We have also cut Capital Gains Tax to boost enterprise and cut Corporation Tax to support investment and job creation."

[Online version of this story](#)

Comment by Robert Syms MP

Robert Syms, Member of Parliament for Poole, spoke in the Commons debate on the Budget. Some highlights:

Budgets come and go, but what is important is the direction of the country over a period of years. When we came into office in 2010 in coalition, we inherited the largest peacetime deficit—nearly 11%. That required some tough measures and also some persistence, but fortunately the Government have been quite sensible. ... We now find that the budget deficit over the next year or two will be down to the levels it was at pre-crash, before 2007. ...

The British economy has performed tremendously well over the past six years at creating jobs. Compared with the rest of Europe or the rest of the world, we have done a fantastic job. That is because employers have been sensible and employees have been sensible, sometimes accepting the fact that they have to be more productive or accept lower pay rises, but it is also because the Government's policies of ensuring a combination of welfare reform and pushing up the allowances—the rate at which people pay tax—have provided a big incentive for people to take employment.

There were two events on Wednesday: one was the Budget, but the other was the employment figures, which I want to focus on briefly. We have employment in Britain of 31.42 million—a record. That is a massive number of people, and it is up nearly half a million over the last year. We have real wages growing at 2.1%—above inflation—which means that living standards are slowly starting to recover, albeit perhaps not fast enough. In this Budget, the Government have again pushed up the allowances before people pay tax, but they also have proposals for a living wage, which should help to repair living standards, which we all want.

The number of people in private sector employment is 26.1 million—a record level. The claimant count has fallen in the last year—102,500. Even youth unemployment is down, while the number of those on unemployment benefit is down to its lowest since the 1970s, so there is a pretty good record on what is happening in the British economy. The Government have created a framework and they have the stability and a plan—a long-term economic plan. Employers have been able to invest, employees

have taken sensible decisions, and we have got a lot of our citizens into work. ...

I was glad to note that the Government were assuming that, although the rate of growth would slow as productivity picked up, we would still end up with unemployment below 5% over the next two to three years. That constitutes a real success of economic policy, changing people's life chances and giving them far more opportunities to make the best of their lives.

[Full report in Hansard](#)

[Police and Crime Commissioner](#)

Dorset Candidate Andrew Graham



The election for the position of Police and Crime Commissioner for Dorset is on Thursday 5th May. The PCC is responsible for setting the policing priorities for the County, providing the Police with the financial resources needed, and holding the Chief Constable to account.

I am standing as the Conservative candidate and I believe I have the experience, leadership, commitment and all-round management skills to represent the people of Dorset and provide the quality of strategic direction, leadership and resources to the Police that is needed.

I left the Army four years ago as a lieutenant general. I have had my home in Dorset since 1999. I have spent my working life committed to public safety and the security of the country. I have worked closely with the Police in a number of places including Northern Ireland.

I know what it feels like to be on the receiving end of a criminal act. I am committed to the principle that the rule of law is vital to safe, successful communities, but the Police cannot work alone. If elected my absolute priority will be to work with the Chief Constable and the people of Dorset to make and keep our county a safer place in which to live and to work, and to visit.

[Read this message online](#)



Robert Syms MP

[Hospices and End of Life Care](#)

Robert Syms, MP for Poole, spoke on 2 March in the House of Commons on recent Government reviews of end of life care. Here is an extract from his speech:

Over the years, I have observed fantastic fundraisers for hospices in the community, and this is one area where the charity sector comes into its own, with rugby matches, cricket matches and jamborees. These things do get public support but it is sometimes a hard ask to keep raising the sort of money that they do. I therefore welcome the fact that the Government have increased the funding, although I think it is right and proper that they do not overdo it, because sometimes Government money can drive out money raised by the private sector. ...

I welcome the “Choice” review, which the Government have set up. It has come up with some sensible recommendations and I hope the Government respond to them soon, so that people can spend their final days with dignity, respect and a degree of privacy. ... It is up to us, as politicians, to give people the maximum possible choice, so that they have the maximum possible control over those final few days and can discuss with their family what is going to happen. ...

A relatively small number of people die in hospices. As I say, the main benefit of the hospice movement is the day care and outreach it provides to the community, and the reassurance, support and experience it gives to the NHS. The charity sector and this sector are perfect examples of where private and charity bodies can work with the NHS, and may well sometimes be a model for other areas. This is Britain at its best.

[Full report in Hansard](#)

Promoted by Peter Adams on behalf of PCA, both at 38 Sandbanks Road, Poole BH14 8BX.

