

EMMA TALKS TRANSATLANTIC TRADE AT BRITISH-AMERICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL

Emma took part in the British American Business Council's "Annual Interview" and shared her insights on the future of the UK-US relationship.

In June 2018, Emma participated in a panel with US Ambassador to the UK, Woody Johnson, to discuss how the UK and US can continue to find common ground and work together to strengthen the transatlantic relationship.

Emma discussed the main areas of opportunity for a UK-US free trade agreement, how the UK can work with the US to reform the World Trade Organisation, and the ways forward for addressing US tariffs on steel and aluminium.

Emma said, "With the UK's withdrawal from the EU fast

approaching, I am continuing to champion the UK's trading interests in the European Parliament and abroad. Brexit



is a fantastic opportunity to forge free trade agreements with natural allies who share our values, culture and principles, and it is in this spirit that I believe in a strong transatlantic relationship with many opportunities for the UK and United States."

EAST MIDLANDS BUSINESS GIVE THUMBS UP TO PROJEKT HANSA



In January 2018, Rupert launched Projekt Hansa, a group which seeks to look for opportunities for trade and the sharing cultural exports across Northern Europe. Nearly a year on and we have been striving to build a network of like-minded stakeholders across Northern Europe, underpinned by trust, with the ambition to pursue shared economic interests. Here are some notable highlights from 2018:

We hosted business hubs and conferences in the East Midlands throughout the year. Nottingham and Boston were just two of the locations where local businesses came together

to engage with our Northern European neighbours and discuss the future of exports/imports, the labour market, tourism, and the cultural nuances in foreign markets.

Focusing on Iceland, we held an exhibition on its natural resources in March, followed by an interview with Iceland's ambassador to the EU Mrs. Bergdís Ellertsdóttir, and the publication of The view from Iceland - Being Free and Being Free to Trade by historian and political journalist Hjörtur J. Guðmundsson.

A key issue for the group this year has been fishing, a crucial aspect of Northern European trade and Brexit. In June, we hosted a debate on the future of fishing trade with Dutch MEP Peter van Dalen and thereafter published The Future of Fishing.

Both contributions stressed the importance of cooperation and interconnectivity of the fishing markets.

RUPERT LAUNCHES EAST MIDLANDS WAR MEMORIALS ASSOCIATION



To commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War, Rupert has set up the East Midlands War Memorials Association to help remember those in the region who have died in that conflict and others since. The organisation, which is a not-for-profit company, aims to help remember their legacy by focusing on some of the war memorials in the East Midlands.

Since its launch in Market Bosworth in March, the

Association has visited war memorials in every county of the East Midlands. There have also been several educational visits where Rupert has spoken to local community groups, scout groups, schools and church congregations about the Association and their local war memorials. Rupert also held an event at Conservative

Party Conference recently where he showcased a new exhibition entitled *The Trail of Angels* which detailed his personal journey from the East Midlands to the Menin Gate in Belgium. Rupert is planning to take the exhibition around the region in 2019.

The Association will shortly be releasing a documentary film which examines the role played by regiments from the East Midlands during the First World War.

EMMA HOLDS FIFA TO ACCOUNT

Emma hosted a conference in the European Parliament with Damian Collins MP, bringing together FIFA, UEFA, the UN, Europol and other key organisations to discuss how to tackle corruption in football.

In April, Emma chaired a panel in the European Parliament of experts in football and law enforcement to discuss how to kick match fixing out of football. This panel built on her work as an MEP since 2009, to make sport, and sport governance, more transparent and effective.

The panel included representatives from different organisations, such as Vincent Ven from Fifa; Nick Raudenski from UEFA; Ronan O'Laoire from the UNODC; Sergio D'Orsi from Europol; and Ramon Vega, ex-Swiss international footballer and sports advocate.

The panellists discussed the importance of sharing information between international governing bodies

in the sport, in order to coordinate their approaches.

Emma said, "I was delighted to bring representatives of football governance bodies together with international law enforcement



agencies to really highlight the problem of match fixing in football, especially in a World Cup year."

She added, "My conference demonstrated the need for open and frank discussions about how we tackle corruption in football, and the importance of upholding virtues in sport such as fair play, responsibility and enjoyment for fans."



Working for you,
Working for the East Midlands

Emma McClarkin MEP and Rupert Matthews MEP

Winter 2018

FIGHTING FOR THE EAST MIDLANDS

In their final full year as MEPs, 2018 has seen Emma and Rupert working hard in Brussels, Strasbourg and the East Midlands.

To deliver a successful Brexit, both have attended meetings and events across Europe to secure support for an ambitious free trade deal, protect the integrity of the United Kingdom and protect the rights of both UK citizens in Europe and Europeans in the UK. In particular, Emma, in her capacity as Chair of the Commonwealth Forum, has been working to boost Commonwealth cooperation after the Commonwealth Summit in London this April. Rupert, meanwhile, has been working to reinvigorate cultural and economic ties between northern European and Scandinavian states through Projekt Hansa.

Both Emma and Rupert have steered legislation to ensure it benefits UK businesses, consumers and residents of the East Midlands. Emma has pioneered a report on Blockchain; ensuring that cutting-edge technology drives innovation and streamlines business costs. She has also helped steer

the EU-Japan Free Trade Agreement through the European Parliament; the largest trade agreement ever negotiated. She did this while championing creative industries through the Copyright Directive and continuing to drive to kick corruption out of sport.

Rupert, in his role as Spokesman on the Energy Committee, has helped to decommission old soviet nuclear power stations in Lithuania. As the Shadow Rapporteur on the Environment Committee, Rupert has been involved with the public procurement of low emissions heavy goods vehicles, this will mean not only a better environment and a reduction in emissions but should also save businesses money on fuel too.

In a busy year for the East Midlands MEPs, Emma and Rupert have fought hard for the East Midlands; ensuring the region's voice is heard loud and clear across the continent.

Emma & Rupert

BOOSTING COMMONWEALTH COOPERATION

Over the course of 2018, Emma has championed the Commonwealth and promoted closer cooperation between its members, the UK and the EU.

Emma said: "Brexit gives the UK the opportunity to define Global Britain in the eyes of 2.4 billion Commonwealth Citizens. Global Britain must be a champion of free trade for mutual prosperity. Global Britain must take the international lead by lifting the barriers that too often hamper development, equality and education."

In 2018 Emma held a number of events, designed to promote closer-cooperation between the UK and the Commonwealth. In

January, she held a roundtable on EU-Commonwealth cooperation post Brexit, a Reception to celebrate Commonwealth Day in March and two further roundtable events

to discuss the Future of Economic Partnership Agreements and Zimbabwe's application to join the Commonwealth. She also attended a Trade Delegation to the Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth Summit this April.

She added that: "2018 has been a crucial year for the United Kingdom's future relationships across the world. I have spoken to people from across the Commonwealth this year and it is imperative the United Kingdom makes use of Brexit as an opportunity to champion free trade, drive change and equality to make sure no one is left behind."



PROTECTING LOCAL FOOD & DRINK

In March, Rupert launched his 'East Midlands Food and Drink Heroes' campaign to recognise the wonderful food and drink produced in the region.

Not only does this campaign celebrate the high-quality food and drink produced across the East Midlands, through the Heroes certificates, it also aims to lobby the Government to continue the regional protection schemes which have ensured that specially certified produce are protected from standard imitations using the same name.

These protections are in place to ensure that Melton Mowbray Pork Pies cannot be made elsewhere or to a lower standard and still be labelled as being from Melton Mowbray. These protections not only help to preserve the sometimes historical nature of the food and drink but local jobs also.

Rupert has taken his campaign to the Government and has written to the Secretary of State, Rt. Hon Michael Gove MP, as well as setting up a petition on the Government's website to ensure that the message gets across clearly.

Rupert said: 'It is vitally important to local jobs that we keep the protections in place following Brexit. I want to see these protections expanded, where reasonably possible, and included within all trade agreements around the world. I believe that we should be proud of our produce and sell it as far and wide as possible - I hope to see Stilton cheese in Korea or Pork Pies in Australia!'

You can sign up to Rupert's petition online at: <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/230455>



Mansfield

Emma popped in for a pint at the Brown Cow Microbrewery in Mansfield. As a joint project between Everards and local craft breweries, they discussed the importance of authentic, locally brewed ales for rejuvenating local pubs across the UK. Sampling a few ales, Emma would definitely recommend a visit and the Mucky Duck!



Derby

In July, during the peak of the heat wave, Rupert paid a visit to Bluebell Dairy just outside Derby. An excellent family run business which is open to the public and has an excellent children's play area and café. Rupert was given a tour of the dairy and enjoyed a tasting session of the delicious ice-creams they have to offer.



Ripley

Emma joined local Member of Parliament, Ben Bradley, in Ripley to knock on doors during the run-up to the local election last May. She spent the day delivering leaflets and listening to local residents' concerns about housing, litter and increased traffic on residential roads.



Rutland

As part of World Wetlands Day, Rupert visited the Nature Reserve at Rutland Water to learn more about the wildlife there. After the visit, Rupert said; "The staff and volunteers do a wonderful job of maintaining the nature reserve. Their hard work and dedication will ensure that natural habitats thrive here."



Castle Donington

On a Sunny day in July, Rupert visited the base of the Air Ambulance who are based at East Midlands Airport to find out about the essential work they do saving lives throughout East Midlands and further afield. He briefly met the crew before they had to fly off again on another life-saving mission.



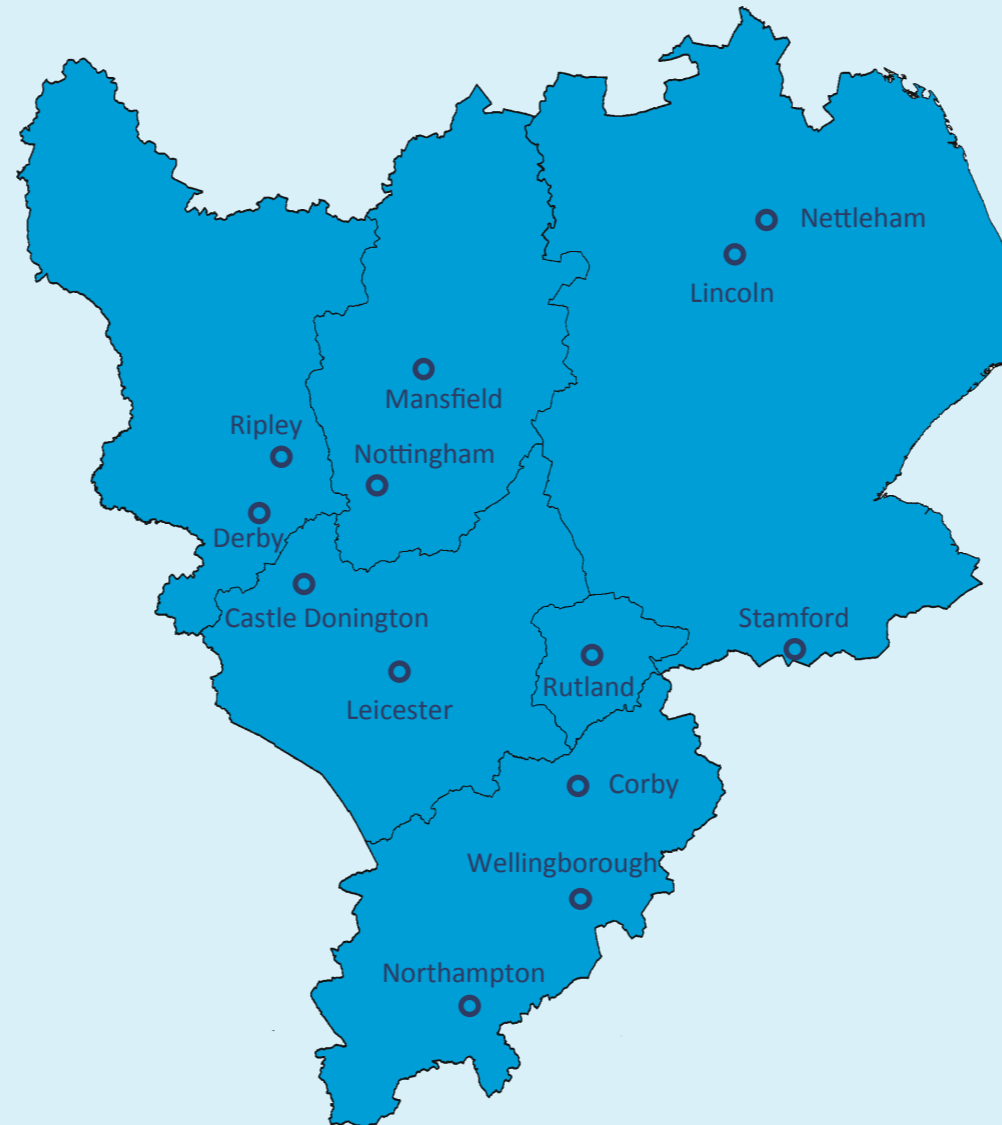
Leicester

In July, Emma co-hosted a roundtable with Lord Callanan, Minister of State at the Department for Exiting the European Union. They brought together businesses from across the region to update them on the Government's Brexit negotiations and to listen to their priorities. Emma held many similar summits through 2018 and hopes to hold more in 2019.



Working hard for the East Midlands with

EMMA & RUPERT



Northampton

Rupert was invited to the Hope Centre in Northampton in June to see the work that they do to help the homeless of Northampton. The Centre has over a thousand people on its books and welcomes more than a hundred people every day. Rupert met with Robin Burgess who runs the centre, which aims to provide not only a hot meal for those most in need but training, advice and job skills.



Wellingborough

Emma was delighted to be invited to speak to the sixth form students of the Sir Christopher Hatton Academy in Wellingborough to discuss politics, Brexit and her vision for a Global Britain. As an Ambassador at the Academy she spent time talking to the students about the realities of working in contemporary politics and discussed their aspirations. She hopes to visit again in 2019.



Lincoln

As part of Rupert's East Midlands War Memorials campaign, he paid a visit to the Skellingthorpe War Memorial and was shown the village's two war memorials. These memorials not only commemorate the men who left the village to go to war, but also those who were posted there.



Nottingham

In November, Emma & Rupert hosted their regional conferences. Over a weekend, they were delighted to host delegates from across the region to share their thoughts on Brexit, European and British politics, as well as listen to contributions made by speakers from across the globe.



Stamford

Emma was delighted to join members of the Rutland Biz Club at their lunch in Stamford. She addressed members on the progress of Brexit negotiations and answered their questions on the way ahead. She also spoke about Global Britain and her belief that, in the long term, Brexit will make the UK more ambitious and outward looking.



Nettleham

Rupert spent the day on the beat in Lincolnshire with PCC Marc Jones. He saw first-hand the calls coming into the command centre and, following this, he paid a visit to the Police Training Village where he saw some of the new recruits being put through their paces with different policing scenarios.



Corby

In September, Emma attended a meeting of the Corby Breakfast Group as well as a Macmillan Coffee Morning at the Holiday Inn. She spoke to them about her ongoing campaign to beat cancer and was delighted to buy a cup of tea and a cake as all proceeds were donated to Macmillan.



Visit the European Parliament!

Emma was delighted to host a number of visitor groups in 2018. Get in touch now to arrange a paid visit to Brussels or Strasbourg in 2019.

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