

MPs table motion over Ryton closure

OVER 100 MPs have backed a Parliamentary motion expressing concern and shock over the closure of Peugeot's Ryton Plant.

Peugeot bosses are also called upon to open talks with the trade unions about keeping the plant open and for the Government to get involved in any negotiations.

are putting pressure on Peugeot to give the union deal a fair crack of the whip and are extremely generous with the final pay deal for the workforce.

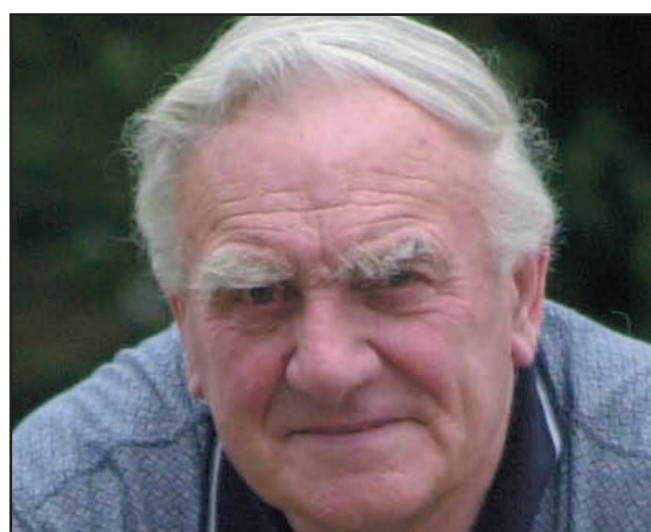
the Ryton plant. He said it had been a successful meeting and Mr Blair had promised to discuss the issues surrounding the industry in the West Midlands with trade and industry secretary Alastair Darling.

Parking charge will not affect trade, claim

TRADERS who claim new parking restrictions will kill their businesses and turn Rugby into a ghost town have been branded doom and gloom mongers.

Chris Smith

Borough and county councillor Gordon Collett said he did not accept suggestions that charging people to park on the streets in the immediate vicinity of the main shopping area would have much, if any, effect on trade.



Chris Smith

Coun Collett, the borough council's development chief, spoke out at a meeting last Wednesday when councillors approved the new restrictions that will see pay and display machines installed on seven central streets from October.

but strictly for one hour and will be policed by wardens.

motorists driving round and round on the chance they will find a space.

Since the parking scheme was announced two months ago it has faced massive opposition from businesses who fear it will force people out of Rugby to neighbouring towns and out-of-town retail parks.

The aim of the charges is to stop workers and shoppers clogging up street spaces all day and encourage them to use car parks. Pay-and-display is also part of a government drive to cut congestion and greenhouses gases caused by

The residents' parking zones on streets around the town centre will also be enforced more rigorously as part of the scheme which councillors ordered to be reviewed on a regular basis.

"I am not convinced at all that people will leave Rugby because, for one, Northampton charges for on street parking, Stratford has this, Leamington and Warwick will soon have it, as will Nuneaton.

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Sean Newman with staff, Lisa Pauley, Brian Williams and Phil Miller getting ready for the bikeathon. 20.06.110.MW

Fund-raisers get on their bikes

RUGBY is gearing up for one of its biggest charity events which takes place in just three weeks time.

Tootle begins in Newbold at 11am, the 26-mile Marathon starts at both Newbold, Rugby and Brandon at 10.30am and the 50-mile Challenge starts in Newbold and Brandon at 10am.

said: "We got involved because it was a good cause that was close to our hearts at the time and we have stuck with it. It's a great day out - I always look forward to it."

Around 1,000 people are expected to take part in the Leukemia Research Fund Bikeathon on Sunday, June 11.

Some £30,000 was raised last year with Sean Newman, of sponsors Newman Property Services, cycling the 50-mile course twice and one 13-year-old doing all three routes on the day - before cycling home.

Entry packs are available from Thorntons on Cambridge Street, Paddock Cycles in Hillmorton, Bikes Etc. on Murray Road, Halfords on Elliotts Field or the Lutterworth Cycle Centre. Telephone Janet Haynes on 01788 543430 or Sarah Heales on 01788 820012 for more information.

It is the 12th year the event has taken place raising hundreds of thousands of pounds for the charity in the process.

There are three bikeathons of different lengths to cater for people of all ages and abilities. The 10-mile

the Scooter Supermarket

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