

Company shows its fighting spirit

SO many ghastly things are happening at the moment with cuts and the wretched legislation coming from the government, it was good to have some optimism in the Forest with the opening of the new showroom at Hales.

We are living in difficult times with an economy that is stagnant and soar-



LAUNCH: Baroness Royall and MD Les Hale at the opening of the showroom.

LETTERS Page

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ing unemployment, especially among young people.

Whoever the Government tries to blame, the truth is that Britain's economic recovery was choked off a year ago due to lack of a growth strategy and the Government's insistence on cuts that go too far and too fast.

Austerity is not the answer and the Government should embrace Labour's five-point plan for jobs and growth which will get young people off the dole.

In January there were 35 young people in the Forest who had been unemployed for more than six months, in October there were 95. The Government likes to tell us that we are all in it together. But I don't think that many people would agree, especially our fantastic young people.

But there are some reasons to celebrate. It was a real privilege to attend the opening of the new kitchens and bathroom showroom at Hale & Co of Drybrook on Friday. Hales sets a fine example for other companies by investing in its workforce, including young people, and investing in the Forest.

The fact that the company is not just thriving but growing in such difficult economic times is a tribute to the Hale family who have been trading in the Forest for 180 years.

So thank you to the Hale family and their workforce for their contribution to our community.

Baroness Jan Royall
Blaisdon