



NEWSLETTER April 2012

Elections Loom, have you got 3rd May in your diaries?

All of the Green Councillors and members are now concentrating on elections and are getting a good response on doorsteps. We need more Greens in the Council chamber to maintain and develop Green alternatives and this is the time to make sure that we canvass in as many wards as possible.

There has been an excellent campaign to raise the profile for saving the NHS from the Coalition Government's privatisation bill we have made sure the Green Party banner has been at as many events as possible to support those who had occupied the local NHS building and to join the national demonstration with the BMA against the bill, but the Coalition Government have closed minds and the struggle to maintain a free efficient NHS for all goes on.

Locally, the East Oxford CPZ decisions were very encouraging and the majority of residents have been happy that they have a result that they wanted and others are reassured that a review will take place to make sure that what ever was in place is working.

This is only a brief report, much more has happened and needs to happen in the future so our first priority for April into May is to make sure we return as many Green Party Councillors as possible.

Please come to the general meeting on Thursday, 12th April to hear more and to see how you can help. The agenda is on the back page of this newsletter.

Choose life . Choose quality . Choose to tread lightly .
Choose local . Choose renewable . choose to care , to help , to work together . Choose satisfaction , fulfillment and joy . Choose to learn . Choose to listen .
Choose to work with others improving your own life , your own community , your own society . Choose to reduce , recycle , to reuse . Choose to be yourself .
Choose the person who is honest and fairness and choose who is kind and fair around .
Choose making time for yourself and giving a laugh with mates , choose to be happy . Choose to walk in the sun . Choose to be on the bright side . Choose you . Choose to arrive surrounded by people who love and care for you .
Choose to leave a better world for those who follow you . Choose love . Choose life . Choose your future .



Choose Green
www.greenparty.org.uk/join

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES: A LUXURY IN HARD TIMES?

Thu, 19 April, 18:30 – 20:00
Friends Meeting House,
43 St Giles, Oxford

Green Party

Caroline Lucas MP will give the national perspective whilst former Green councillor - Sushila Dhall will focus on the local situation.



CAROLINE LUCAS MP

Education for Sustainable Development at Oxford Brookes University

Dr Hazel Dawe, Chair of Kent Green Party and Campaigns Officer for West Kent Green Party has written an article which has been published on the Oxford Brookes website in the ejournal of learning and teaching, you can view the article at:

http://bejlt.brookes.ac.uk/article/education_for_sustainable_development_at_oxford_brookes_university/

In the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), the article explores how far ESD is being used in the curriculum and assessments at Oxford Brookes University.

An appeal was made on the University's internal 'enviroforum' email list for examples of ESD. This was followed by web site searches and follow-up queries to individual academics and support staff. Using this audit data, the article examines the efforts at Oxford Brookes University to create a sustainable

campus and looks at the links between the formal curriculum and the campus curriculum. It investigates prevalence of ESD in the university's teaching and learning and proposes ways in which its importance could be enhanced. It identifies ways of improving the profile of ESD at Brookes and encouraging a greater external focus.

It is not entirely surprising that those subject areas which have most enthusiastically embraced ESD are those where there is a natural environmental aspect to their subjects: Planning and the Built Environment, Life Sciences and Geography. Where ESD is present at Oxford Brookes it is not always evident in all phases of the student experience of the module. There is a need to ensure that ESD is fully integrated at all stages of learning and teaching as well as being followed through in the assessment criteria. There is a considerable body of research evidence suggesting that students study to the assessment: incorporating ESD into the assessment criteria is therefore essential if students are to take SD and its principles seriously.

Witney Greens

Be The Change - Towards a Sustainable Future

An interactive Workshop with inspiring videos

Saturday 14th April 10:00am - 5:00 PM

Registration 9:30 am Admission Free but Donations appreciated to defray costs.

Upper Hall High Street Methodist Church, Witney

Hot drinks provided. Please bring your own lunch (vegetarian if possible to fit with the ethos of the day).

Telephone 01993 702518 to book a place or sedemihcra@phonecoop.coop

and also our Green Cafe event

Green Cafe

21st April 10am - 3pm at the Piano Shop Bridge Street Witney Oxon.

Come along and enjoy FairTrade tea/coffee/cakes and find out about Car Club, Thermal Imaging, Carbon Conversations and to meet your Green Party candidates for the May elections.

Witney Green Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations are due to Witney Green, Kevin Hickman, who has been awarded the CTC (Cyclists' Touring Club) Volunteer of the Year title. Kevin leads the CTC group for cyclists with disabilities and established a forum for the group, "Kevin leads the forum at a time when there is growing recognition of the value of cycling for people with disabilities, and increasing willingness to support it. His energy and focus have proved invaluable in holding it together." say the CTC in their annual report. Well done, Kevin. (www.ctc.org.uk)

To download a copy of *Making Tracks*, MEPs Keith Taylor and Jean Lambert's animal protection publication:

<http://www.keithtaylormep.org.uk/2012/02/23/making-tracks-%e2%80%93-spring-2012-animal-welfare-newsletter/>

Green Diary: Upcoming events...

Thursday 12th April—General Meeting, Oxford Town Hall, 7.30-9.30 pm. All welcome.

Saturday 14th April—Witney Greens interactive workshop, see p. 2 of the newsletter

Saturday 14th April—OGP regular Bring and Share, 7 pm, Magic Café, Magdalen Road, see box below.

Thursday 19th April—City Election Campaign Launch. 5-6 pm. Outside St. Michael at the Northgate Church, Cornmarket street, Oxford, OX1 3EY Come & join candidates, members and supporters on the Green Party stall to launch the City elections campaign!

Thursday 19th April—Caroline Lucas speaks: Environmental Policies, a luxury in hard times? 6.30-8 pm. Friends Meeting House, St. Giles, Oxford.

Thursday 19th April—Cycles as Mobility Aids. 7.30-8.30 pm. Be inspired by Kevin Hickman, CTC award winning cycling activist, chair of Witney BUG, Witney Green Party and disability champion describing how to get cycling within the reach of everyone. Friends Meeting House, St Giles, Oxford.

Saturday 21st April—Green Café, Witney. See p. 2 of this newsletter.

Tuesday 24th April—Amnesty lecture. The Human Right to Water. Peter Gleick. 5.30pm in the Gulbenkian Lecture Theatre, St Cross Building, Manor Road, Oxford OX1 3TU. £8/£5.

Is it all Greek to you? Well, It is Greek Theme at this month's Bring and Share

Please come along to our monthly Bring and Share @ The Magic Cafe, Magdalen Road East Oxford (OX4)

Saturday 14th April 7pm

Bring Greek Vegetarian food to share and sup some Greek and non-Greek drinks available at our well stocked bar.

This event has now been running a few months and here's some feedback from some of our Bring and Share punters.

" Please can you hold this event every Saturday"

" We never get to go out on Saturdays any more but this is great because we can bring the kids "

As can you see, all are welcome. Kids are free. To emphasize the need to Bring food to share we are now asking people who do not bring food to pay £5 entrance. Adults with food pay the discounted price of £2 and kids free entrance.

For more details email aduckmanton@gmail.com or text 07933 989925

Welcome to new and renewing members

Welcome to Tanya Morris, Cowley Marsh; Sietse Boeles, St Clements. Please come to a general meeting in Oxford or a meeting of your local group, or come to one of our events and introduce yourself, we'd like to meet you.

If you'd like an informal discussion on how you might be involved please call Sid—01865 727723 or emailsid@greenoxford.com

Oxfordshire Green Party

General Meeting to be held Thurs 12th April 2012 at 7:30pm , Plowman Room, Oxford Town Hall

Note: Please bring your copy of the newsletter (agenda) and the minutes of the previous meeting

Agenda

Chair – David Newman

- 1) Attunement
- 2) Introductions
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of last meeting and matters arising
- 5) Competency group reports
 - Elex - Sid
 - Website – David Newman
 - Green Group (Cllrs)
- 6) AOB
- 7) Chair of next meeting

Future dates and location of GMs:

10 May 2012	Plowman Room
14 June 2012	Plowman Room
12 July 2012	St Aldate's Room
09 August 2012	Plowman Room
13 September 2012	St Aldate's Room
11 October 2012	Plowman Room
08 November 2012	St Aldate's Room
13 December 2012	Plowman Room

Oxfordshire Green Party

**Summary of EGM held on Thursday 8th March
11 members attended.**

Matters discussed included:

- End of year reports
- Revised constitution
- Development plan update
- Candidate selection
- Election of OGP officers
- Barton Area Action Plan

Full minutes are available to all members from Sid on request, 01865 727723 or sid@greenoxford.com.

If you'd like more information or want to get involved, please see the relevant person or get in touch with Sid.

Your Oxford City councillors:

David Williams, Iffley Fields , Elise Benjamin, Iffley Fields, Matt Morton, St Mary's, Nuala Young, St Clement's, Revd. Dick Wolff, St Mary's.

Your Oxfordshire County Council councillors:

Chip Sherwood, Isis, Larry Sanders, East Oxford

Your OGP officers, elected at the February AGM:

Chair—Sushila Dhall, Secretary—Judy Chipchase, Treasurer—Don O'Neal, Elections Co-ordinator—Sid Phelps (until July 2012), Deputy chair—Alison Williams

Sid Phelps - development worker and volunteer support (p/t) and a.n.other - administrator (p/t paid workers).

Toryspotting



Choose the Tories.

Choose Eton educated toffs who know nothing about you or your life. Choose unemployment, closed schools, privatised hospitals, benefit cuts, pension cuts, housing cuts and tax cuts for the rich. Choose to believe a smug self satisfied tosser telling you it's for your own good. Choose to watch the rich get richer and the poor get trodden into the dirt. Choose to know your place. Choose your future.

Choose the Tories.