



South Central News

Printed, Published & Promoted by South Central Region on behalf of the Liberal Democrats, all at 77 Oakwood Drive, Bletchley MK2 2JG

The newsletter from your South Central Regional Executive

May 2012

Strategic Seats

This is a reminder that on 30 June, South Central Region will be holding a "Dragons' Den" in Newbury where Local Parties can present their case for becoming a strategic seat in the 2015 elections.

If your Local Party wants to be considered, you need to send an e-mail to strategicseats@libdems.org.uk to note your interest. You must also provide your constituency name, a contact name and their tel no and e-mail. The team at HQ will then e-mail you back with more details.

So far six seats have registered their interest and we have room for as many as want to be considered. All applications will be considered on their own merits. If you would like your constituency to be one of the winners please make sure that your LP registers their interest immediately.

REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Included with this mailing is the Calling Notice for the Autumn South Central Regional Conference which will be in Chandler's Ford, Hants on Saturday, 27 October.

Key speakers **Tom Brake MP** and Lib Dem Chief Executive, **Tim Gordon**, already confirmed.

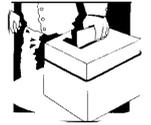
There will be the usual training sessions with a special new session on using social media, led by top guru Mark Pack. Find out how best to use twitter, Facebook and other modern media and what the pitfalls are too!

◆ Policy Motions Wanted Now

Remember, motions can be submitted by a Local Party, 2 Regional Conference Reps or by a Council Group. To submit a motion e-mail to Region by **13 August latest**. See page 2 of the enclosed Calling Notice for full details.

Remember, book early to register at the reduced **Early Bird** rate. Conference Committee has held down the registration fees again this year.

By-election Corner



Thursday, 24 May Chesham Town Council Townsend ward

Reason for by-election: LD resignation
Name of Candidate: Ruth Juett
Contact for helpers: Alison Pirouet
01494 261951 alisonp76@yahoo.com
Telephone canvassing and knocking up help especially needed.

East Hants DC Hordean Downs ward *date to be confirmed shortly*

Tory just resigned. Work has already started. We used to hold this ward and its winnable with your support.
Contact for helpers: Peter Rodgers
02392 647572 peter.rodgers2@ntlworld.com

Winning Teams

The next session in the "Winning Teams" Training Programme will be on Saturday, 14 July in Newbury.

Please put the date in your diary now.

Every Local Party will be encouraged to submit teams to the morning session which will focus on **Membership**. It will cover using your canvass data to recruit, Members' newsletters, getting former members to re-join and converting members to activists.

The afternoon session will be for all in Bucks, Hants and Oxon with **County Council elections** next May.

Full details will be sent to your Local Party shortly. ALDC Development Officer, Neil Fawcett, will lead the training.



Eastleigh Celebrating

8 years in a row of winning every seat in the Eastleigh constituency – and now a record 40 councillors, 40 years after the first Liberal councillor was elected

Portsmouth gained 3 seats, winning 9 of the 14 seats up for election, for the 2nd year running and won in both Portsmouth constituencies.

In West Oxfordshire the Lib Dems won two wards, taking one off the Tory County Council leader who was also standing for district and another with a single issue campaign against the Tories wanting to remove a recycling centre.



West Oxfordshire Winners

Elizabeth Poskitt (left) and Liz Leffman being congratulated by Vince Cable MP when he visited Woodstock recently.



Portsmouth Victorious

(photo courtesy of The News)

Local Elections

In South Central Region we had some very mixed results. Sadly we lost some councillors and have ended up with just one councillor on Slough and Havant Councils and no councillors on Rushmoor Council, the latter had all-up elections on new boundaries.

The national picture did affect our results but we also had some excellent successes that bucked the trend (see the photos).

Well done to all who worked so hard, especially to those who moved to our key areas to help out.

South Central News

The e-mailed version of SC News continues to grow its readership with more members across the Region asking to be included in the circulation list. Don't forget, you can forward SC News and the Regional Conference Calling Notice to all your members.

Diary Dates

To place your entry in this column contact the Regional Office (see right for contact details).



- **Friday - Sunday, 22 - 26 September**
Federal Autumn Conference in Brighton.
- **Saturday, 27 October**
Autumn Regional Conference - Thornden Hall Performing Arts Centre, Thornden School, Winchester Road, Chandler's Ford, Hants SO53 2DW

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