



Nottingham Green Party

Members' Bulletin Summer 2007

Greens make good gains at Local Elections!

This year's Local Council Elections on May 3rd saw Nottingham Local Green Party stand a record number of candidates. Altogether, 32 stood, including 8 Young Greens (the second most candidates from Young Green groups across the UK).

Throughout Nottinghamshire the results mirrored the increase in candidates. In Rushcliffe, both Richard Mallender and existing councilor Sue Blount standing for Lady Bay ward, were elected with a staggering 53% of the vote. Across the City, the Green vote was approximately 5%, with Sherwood attaining as much as 6% and Dunkirk and Lenton showing promise gaining 8% of the vote having had no Green candidate in 2003. Gamston also showed positive Green election results with 12.6%, rivaling Labour's share of 14.7%.

Overall the local elections were a success with results we can make gains on. The local party is now looking at standing more than one candidate in some of the wards; ensuring voters can use all of their ballots to vote Green.

Green Party Regional Council Meeting arrives in Nottingham

Nottingham Local Green Party is proud to host The Green Party Regional Council's quarterly meeting in Nottingham over the weekend of 14th and 15th July. This is a great opportunity for the local party to liaise with other Greens.

We have arranged the meeting to be held in the ICC and are obligated to provide refreshments and accommodation to the Council Members over the weekend. We would be most grateful if any of our local members could provide help serving light refreshments on the Saturday and Sunday and would appreciate any beds for the 16 attendees on Saturday 14th and the few who arrive on Friday 13th.

Please do get in touch with Councillor Sue Blount (see contact details overleaf) if you want to get involved with any offers of help with food and accommodation.

Nottingham Green Festival

A big thank you to all those who contributed to the Green Party stall at the Nottingham Green Festival on Sunday 27th May. Despite the terrible weather, the stall raised £139! Many thanks go to all those who provided cakes, jam, plants and bric-a-brac for the occasion.

General Election Candidates – we want you!

Following the successes at the Local Elections, it is now time to look towards the General Elections for even more gains! Nottingham Green Party is looking for five candidates, three for the city, one for Rushcliffe and one for Gedling. If you want to stand, or just find out a little bit more about standing, please do get in touch with local party election agent Chris Dixon. (See contacts overleaf)

Nottingham Young Greens: Recent News

Having only established itself last October, The Young Green Society at the University of Nottingham has been going from strength to strength! Here's an overview of a few of our activities this spring and summer...

Young Greens make their voice heard in student politics and at Faslane

The Young Greens Society has started to make waves in student politics. Chloe Cheeseman was elected as the University of Nottingham's first Green Party delegate to the National Union of Students annual conference and as the first Green Party member on the Students' Union Executive as Environment and Social Justice Officer.

The group has also been working hard on national Young Greens' campaigns, namely creating student awareness of Trident, the government plan to upgrade UK's nuclear weapons system. We petitioned outside the central university library in advance of the parliamentary vote on Trident in March, and had a fun evening creating 1000 origami peace cranes that were posted to the office of the Prime Minister in protest. The campaign also went to our Students' Union Council where we proposed a policy motion stating the union's official opposition to Trident replacement. Having faced considerable resistance by those who considered nuclear weapons to be an "irrelevant" student issue and after a heated debate, we lost by just one vote. However, the campaign continues, members Andy Birkby, Jacob Vincent, Ed Claringbold and Andy Black blockaded the Faslane naval base this spring and the Young Greens and Nottingham Student Peace Movement are taking another trip up to Scotland on the 28th June to take part in the Students Against Trident (Strident) summer camp.

For more information on the student blockade at Faslane visit www.faslane365students.org

Fighting Xenophobia

As part of the National Young Greens campaign against Xenophobia, the Young Greens collaborated with the university's Islamic Society during Islam Awareness Week in February. We arranged a talk from leading academic on Islamophobia, Dr. Chris Allen, who discussed Islamophobia and its prominence in the media. The talk received a record number of attendees and we have now forged strong links with the university's Islamic Society in our fight against discrimination and prejudice.

Gender Equality – A talk from Green Party London Assembly Member Jenny Jones

As part of our contribution to International Women's Week (5-11 March), the Young Greens invited London Assembly Member and former Green Party Chair Jenny Jones to discuss her experiences as a woman in the political arena. There was lively discussion about the place of women in politics and how we can encourage more of our female membership to put themselves forwards as speakers and election candidates.

Diary Dates

Tues 3rd July: Monthly meeting, Ye Olde Trip To Jerusalem, 1 Brewhouse Yard, Nottingham, 8pm.
Sat 14th and Sun 15th July: Green Party Regional Council Meeting, Nottingham ICC.

Contacts

Chair: Richard Mallender: verence55@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Jane Carruthers: paul.carruthers93@ntlworld.com
Local Party Contact: Sue Blount: seblount@hotmail.com
Press Officer: Beth Hewis: beth@hewis.fsworld.co.uk
Election Agent & Membership: Chris Dixon: mr.chrisdixon@gmail.com
Web Editor: Simon Anthony: simon@torty.org.uk
Minutes & Newsletters: Emma Walkers: emma.walkers@gmail.com
Young Greens contact: Chloe Cheeseman: chloecheese@hotmail.com
Nottingham Green Party website: www.greenparty.org.uk/nottingham