

Dear Members & Supporters,

Well here we are again! It's been another busy month here in South Somerset, and further afield.

We had a really productive and positive Green meeting at Eleos in Chard, discussing ways in which we can take our campaigning further and make our community a Greener-thinking and living place; lots of fantastic ideas came up, and I learnt a lot from meeting new people and hearing their perspectives. I am always learning in this job!

Rob and I were in London visiting family when Donald Trump made his visit, so we were able to participate in the march on 13th July as part of the Green Bloc. We met some fantastic people and the atmosphere was really positive, despite the extreme heat and strong sun. I think we were both cursing my home-made placard once we'd carried it all round central London and then back to our AirBNB flat via the Thames Clipper! Donald was rather large and heavy but he made the point!



Also whilst in London, Rob and I did a fascinating tour of the Houses of Parliament, which we arranged via Marcus Fysh (or rather one of his minions). I was very much in awe of the beautiful building and its history, but did wonder how they manage to do a proper job of governance when the chambers are so tiny and antiquated.

The by-election for Preston Ward of Yeovil Town Council was last Thursday. We leafletted every household (thanks to the amazing efforts of Rob, Alan and Kek) with a simple A5 leaflet so everyone knew they had a Green candidate. Rob and I also did some canvassing but were a little beaten by the heat. On the day, turnout overall was poor due to the school holidays and the weather. The Conservative candidate won the election; I came 4th but with a fantastic 7.57% of the vote share that even earned me a "well done" from Amelia Womack! We'll keep on standing until we get Greens on our local councils, no matter how long that takes, and no matter how much it annoys the other parties!

A couple of dates for the diary....



We are trying to put together a Green Team for the Inflate-A-Race charity event in Yeovil on Sunday 9th September, in aid of Yeovil Hospital:

<https://www.yeovilhospital.co.uk/get-involved/support-us/events/the-great-inflate-a-race/>

As well as this being a very worthy cause, it would also be a great activity for us to raise our profile in the community (and to show our fun side!). We need to get our initial registration in ASAP, so if you may be interested please email Rob (robwood@talktalk.net) to discuss further. It costs £21 to enter but we may be able to help with that cost for those members/supporters on low incomes.

Our next party meeting is on Friday 24 August at 7pm, at a fantastic yurt in Hinton St. George. Full details will follow closer to the time, courtesy of our Secretary Alan.

Until next month.....

Best wishes

Diane Wood (PPC and Membership Secretary)