

Dear Members & Supporters,

Well here we are in March and already we have seen plenty of crazy weather thanks to climate change in the year so far.

Yet again it has been a busy month for me. I attended the Green Party Policy Fest in Newport which was very interesting. I met Greens from all over the UK and we learnt more about the work that goes on behind the scenes at the Party, not just creating policy but also costing out its implementation. Green Party volunteers are working tirelessly to try to keep our Party policies up-to-date in this fast moving world and aiming to find better ways to communicate them in clearer and more concise ways. The event organisers gathered a lot of feedback from us all to take back to HQ and hopefully the Party improve how they put policy together in the future. They are planning another similar event in the Summer, which is well worth attending if you can.

I was also lucky enough to grab a quick word with Amelia Womack, while she was munching on her sandwich, and congratulate her on her selection as GP candidate for the Newport West Parliamentary By-Election, which is to be held on Thursday 4th April. Anyone who wishes to help with her campaign should contact the Newport GP directly, all helpers gratefully received.

Last Saturday I spoke at the opening of the fabulous new Eco Shop in Yeovil – Take No Wrap. I gave a speech about how I came to join the Greens and why/how individuals can make a difference in tackling climate change. My 5-year old daughter totally upstaged me but she's a future GP candidate so might as well start prepping her early! The ladies from Sustainable Yeovil also spoke later on in the day. They have been doing very well lately, getting articles published in the Western Gazette and really pushing for action against plastic locally. Fantastic stuff!

I am also hoping to speak in Yeovil when the XR Marchers reach the town on the afternoon of Weds 27th March, details to follow.

My husband Rob has been busy sorting out candidate paperwork for the upcoming local elections. Peter Bysouth had very big shoes to fill, with his years of knowledge in the role, but Rob is coping admirably under the pile of paper. It's not too late to put yourself forward to be a candidate. Remember, you do not need to be a Party Member and you can choose to be a "paper candidate" if you don't have time to actually be a councillor. We just need to give as many people as possible the chance to vote Green in May. Please contact Rob on robwood@talktalk.net to discuss further.

Some upcoming events you may be interested in:

Sat 23rd March - Put It To the People: People's Vote March, London

Sat 23rd March – March Against Hunting, Exeter

Tues/Weds 26th/27th March – XR Earth March: March for Life, Chard, Tinker's Bubble and Yeovil

Sat 6th April – The Pop-up Eco Supermarket, Odcombe

Sun 7th April – Litter Picking, White Mead, Yeovil

Sat 13th April – EcoBrick Event @ TNW, Take No Wrap, Yeovil

Good Friday 19th April – Plastic Free Chard litter pick

That's about it for now. Until next month.

Best wishes

Diane Wood (PPC and Membership Secretary)