

September Newsletter

Dear West Londoner,

Welcome to my Monthly Newsletter - this is the inaugural edition and I look forward to communicating with you in this way for many months and hopefully years to come!

My aim with these newsletters is straightforward.

I want to let you know what your local Conservative teams have been up to over the past month.

I want to let you know of forthcoming events that you might be interested in attending.

I want to let you know where I stand on certain issues.

Most of all, I want you to know how to get in touch with us if there are issues or problems we might be able to help you with.

Since my selection as our Parliamentary Candidate in January, I have had the privilege and pleasure of joining thousands of local people at different events across the two Boroughs. The best thing about those events? The fact that the politicians there attended in support of residents, who have had the energy and commitment to stand up for their interests when threatened with unwanted and ill-thought out change.

As a result, I have joined many of you to oppose the West London Tram, the extension of the Congestion Charge and the building of a waste recycling site near residents around Old Oak Lane. I have supported efforts to save parts of Wormwood Scrubs Park from being lost to a Crossrail depot and to ensure the South West Spur did not ruin the lives of residents around Stamford Brook and Bedford Park. I joined 8 Residents Associations opposing the closure of Somerfield supermarket on The Vale and, in February, I joined other residents' groups who have so far fended off the imposition of a Bus Depot at the top of Horn Lane. Every single one of those campaigns have been initiated by you - and many of them have been successful. I am ready for continued, and new, battles over the next few months.

One of the next battles will be for the future of train services through Acton Main Line.

As a result of changes to the First Great Western Link (FGWL) timetable, from December 2004 Acton commuters will see the number of the trains in the morning drop by half. To make things worse, the timing of the trains from Acton will be changed resulting in an uneven pattern of service with long gaps between some trains. The organisation Save Acton Main Line have been fighting for the retention of a full and efficient service through this key station and yet these changes have been introduced without consultation. I know they would appreciate your support in our fight to reverse these unhelpful and short-sighted decisions - their e-mail address is saveactonmainline@yahoo.co.uk

Don't forget the following Public Meetings coming up --

Save Ealing Streets and Friends of the Earth debate on the Tram at Ealing Town Hall on Thursday 9th September starting at 8pm.

"The Truth about the Tram". Bush Hall. 310 Uxbridge Rd Shepherds Bush on Monday 13th September starting at 7pm.

September is obviously the month for firsts - I will hold my first surgery on the last Saturday of the month from 10 - 11.30am at the Association Office. If you, or colleagues and friends, wish to see me there - please feel free to drop in, or make an appointment by e-mail.

Our website (www.actonconservatives.com) has been upgraded. We now have an online Survey form and a Blog - a diary, in other words. I aim to use it a lot in communicating our messages - so if you know of anyone who would be interested in visiting it, please pass on the address.

For those of you with business interests, you may wish to know more about a business forum that has been established by a number of West London Conservative Associations. Known as "Business and Politics" it allows businessmen and politicians to share ideas and thoughts on topical issues. Let me know if you would like to hear more.

Finally, I would like to give you advance warning of some political supper evenings we have coming up in September and October.

On Wednesday 15th September we will be hosting the thought-provoking Rt Hon John Redwood MP.

On Friday 8th October the legendary hairstyle of Boris Johnson MP will be joining him at dinner.

And on Monday 11th October the outstanding MEP and newspaper columnist Dan Hannan will be in the constituency for the evening.

Please let me know if you wish to have further details of any of these events.

Do not hesitate to contact me if we can be of help or if you have comments about our views and activities. Not all of you are Conservatives I know - if you don't want to hear from me, just let me know. But I hope most of the recipients of this e-mail will understand my intent - to be able to offer you our support when we can and give you

a means to contact us at any time.

I look forward to meeting you in the future.

Best wishes,
Jonathan