

Friary & St. Nicolas FOCUS

AUTUMN 2006

- CCTV to help fight crime
- Recycling scheme here at last
- New fence for Stoke Rec

LOCAL PEOPLE BACK CAMPAIGN FOR A&E

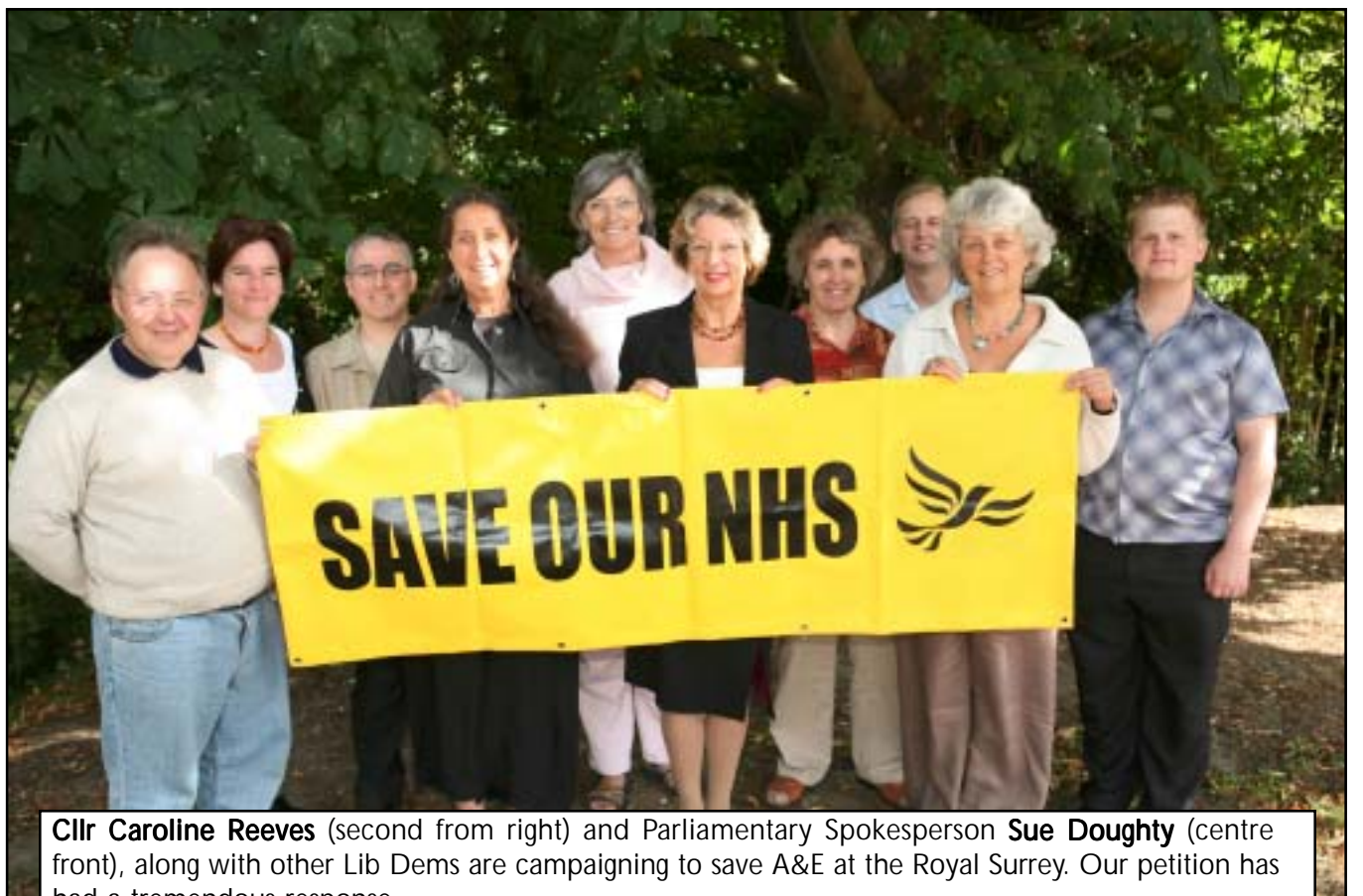
Thousands of local people have signed a Lib Dem petition as the battle intensifies to save A&E at the Royal Surrey.

The department could be under threat due to the massive debts that the Government has lumbered the NHS with.

Lib Dem Parliamentary Spokesperson **Sue Doughty** said, "Local people are rallying round our campaign to avoid these savage cuts. We have received thousands of signatures already."

Cllr **Rupert Sheard** added, "The Government has plunged our NHS into chaos through mismanagement. We are already losing Cranleigh and Milford hospitals and now there is another threat."

Sue Doughty has also written to Health Secretary Patricia Hewitt about the local NHS. You can sign our petition online, at: <http://campaigns.libdems.org.uk/guildfordnhs>



Cllr **Caroline Reeves** (second from right) and Parliamentary Spokesperson **Sue Doughty** (centre front), along with other Lib Dems are campaigning to save A&E at the Royal Surrey. Our petition has had a tremendous response.

New cameras to help fight crime



Sue Doughty discussing crime with a local police officer. The Lib Dems successfully campaigned for more CCTV cameras in Guildford to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour.

Guildford Borough will soon benefit from new CCTV cameras.

The Liberal Democrats proposed a number of new sites for CCTV in light of residents' fears about violent crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Conservatives twice rejected the plans before they eventually passed them at a full council meeting.

Local campaigner **Anne Meredith** said, "I am glad that the Conservatives have backed down and the Borough will benefit from more cameras. CCTV has an important role in protecting the public's safety."

"We must now extend the cameras to other places to help protect the public."

St. Catherine's Trees

In July, Cllrs **David Goodwin** and **Caroline Reeves** met with residents at **St Catherine's** when **Adam Owen**, GBC Trees and Countryside Manager led a very informative tour of the site.

Adam pointed out which trees would continue to grow over the next 10-15 years, and suggested which trees could be felled to improve the views without destroying the feel of the area.

It is proposed that selective felling should take place to restore the views and the open areas, together with management of the scrub under the trees, most of which have grown from seed in the last ten years or so.

Cllr **David Goodwin** said, "This is an important gateway into town - **St Catherine's** has been neglected for many years. It will be good to give this lovely site a new lease of life and enhance the views for residents."

News In Brief

Caroline tackles parking

Many local residents have long been concerned about the difficulty of parking locally.

At long last there is the opportunity to solve many of the problems. Cllr **Caroline Reeves** has been working with GBC officers to explore the possibility of a car share scheme in the town centre.

One of the schemes being investigated is run by Streetcar and you can see information on their site <http://www.mystreetcar.co.uk> If you are interested in joining a car share scheme, please let us know — the more people who are interested the sooner a scheme can be started. There will be a full update in the next edition of FOCUS.

Underpass Update

Many of you are concerned about local underpasses. You will be pleased to know that they will all be cleaned and repainted! The Haydon Place one will have new security lighting with CCTV cameras and the one at the roundabout end of York Road will be filled in and replaced with a much safer street crossing. Also, the resurfacing of Woodbridge Road should be finished by mid October.

Revision of CPZs

Many of you have been asking when the agreed changes will be taking place. We have been told that all the work will be complete by the end of September - ready to go live by the beginning of October.

It is a big logistical undertaking as all the signs have to be replaced at the same time as the road markings are altered.

Loquat Cottage

Some of you may be aware that the planning application for Loquat Cottage development in Beech Lane went to appeal. At appeal, we won on the grounds of SPA and listed building (telescopic machinery.)

Civic Hall latest

Guildford will finally be getting a new Civic Hall after years of Tory dithering were brought to an end. The new-build project in London Road will cost £20 million+.

Plans for a move to the University campus were rejected after a survey carried out by the Lib Dems found less than 2% support. The Lib Dems are glad that we will be getting our Civic Hall back, but concerned at the huge cost.

Still waiting on play area

The Lib Dems are disappointed that another summer has gone and Artillery Terrace play area has still not been refurbished.

Because all the town centre play areas are being refurbished, the contract had to be put out to EU tender and the whole process is dragging on.

We have been assured that Artillery Terrace will be the first area to be done, and that Stoke Square will be replanted and cleaned up in the Autumn.

We have requested extra dog litter bins both here and in Stoke Fields. Cllr **Caroline Reeves** said, "This area is in desperate need of refurbishment and it is very sad that for another summer the local children have, again, been unable to play here safely. We will keep the pressure on to ensure that the work happens as soon as possible."



Cllr **Caroline Reeves** and Cllr **David Goodwin** with frustrated local children. We are still waiting for the Artillery Terrace play area to be refurbished.

New fence for Stoke Rec

Designs are being drawn up for new fencing around the children's play area.

Cllr **David Goodwin** explained, "The fence will be designed to be attractive, keep small children in and discourage larger children from mis-using the play area."

The fencing around the whole of the recreation grounds will remain the same, but the gates will be locked at sunset and re-opened at 07.00. A new path will be fenced off along the side of the grounds nearest to Woodbridge Road to allow people to cross without having to walk down to Woodbridge Road or Stoke Road when the gates are locked.

The designs for the plans will be shown to residents before the fence is commissioned.

Lib Dem recycling scheme is coming at last!



The Lib Dems are delighted that plastic bottles will finally be collected across the whole borough.

Lib Dems including Friary campaigner **Anne Meredith** (second from left), Cllr **Caroline Reeves** (third from right) and Parliamentary Spokesperson **Sue Doughty** (centre front) are delighted that Guildford will finally see kerbside collection of plastic bottles.

After years of Lib Dem pressure, the Council have finally backed down and are introducing the scheme. Now the Lib Dems want to take the scheme further by allowing organic kitchen waste to be collected as well.

BOOK SALE

Saturday 25 November

St Joseph's Church Hall, York Rd

Free entry - refreshments - thousands of second hand books, CDs, vinyls and tapes

Please contact Alan or Maija Lawrence on 01483 503701 if you have any spare books, tapes or CDs. We will collect from you.

Contact your local Lib Dem team

Parliamentary Spokesperson - Sue Doughty

☎: 306000

✉: sue@suedoughty.org

County and Borough Cllr David Goodwin

☎: 824616

✉: david.goodwin@guildford.gov.uk

Borough Cllr Caroline Reeves

☎: 450816

✉: caroline.reeves@guildford.gov.uk

Borough Cllr Rupert Sheard

☎: 576897

✉: rupert.sheard@guildford.gov.uk

Local campaigner Anne Meredith

☎: 839111

✉: anne.meredith@ntlworld.com

Meet your Lib Dem councillor: If you have an issue that you would like help with, we hold a surgery at Millmead on the first Thursday of every month from 6.30pm. Ring 306000 to book an appointment with a Borough or County Councillor.

Help us to campaign for the local area!

Do you want to help the Liberal Democrats? Return this slip to:
Liberal Democrats, Freepost, SCE 15741, Guildford, GU1 1BR.

I can deliver some leaflets in my area

Name

I can display a poster at election time

Address

I can help with clerical work

Tel

I can make a donation of £___ to help pay for *Focus*

Email

(A donation of £6+ entitles you to party membership. If you do not wish to join or already belong, tick here)

The Liberal Democrats may wish to use the information above to contact you from time to time to keep you informed of campaigns we think are of interest to you. Please write to us if you do not wish to be contacted in this way.