

- CCTV to help fight crime
- Recycling scheme here at last
- Local bridge fixed

LOCAL PEOPLE BACK CAMPAIGN FOR A&E

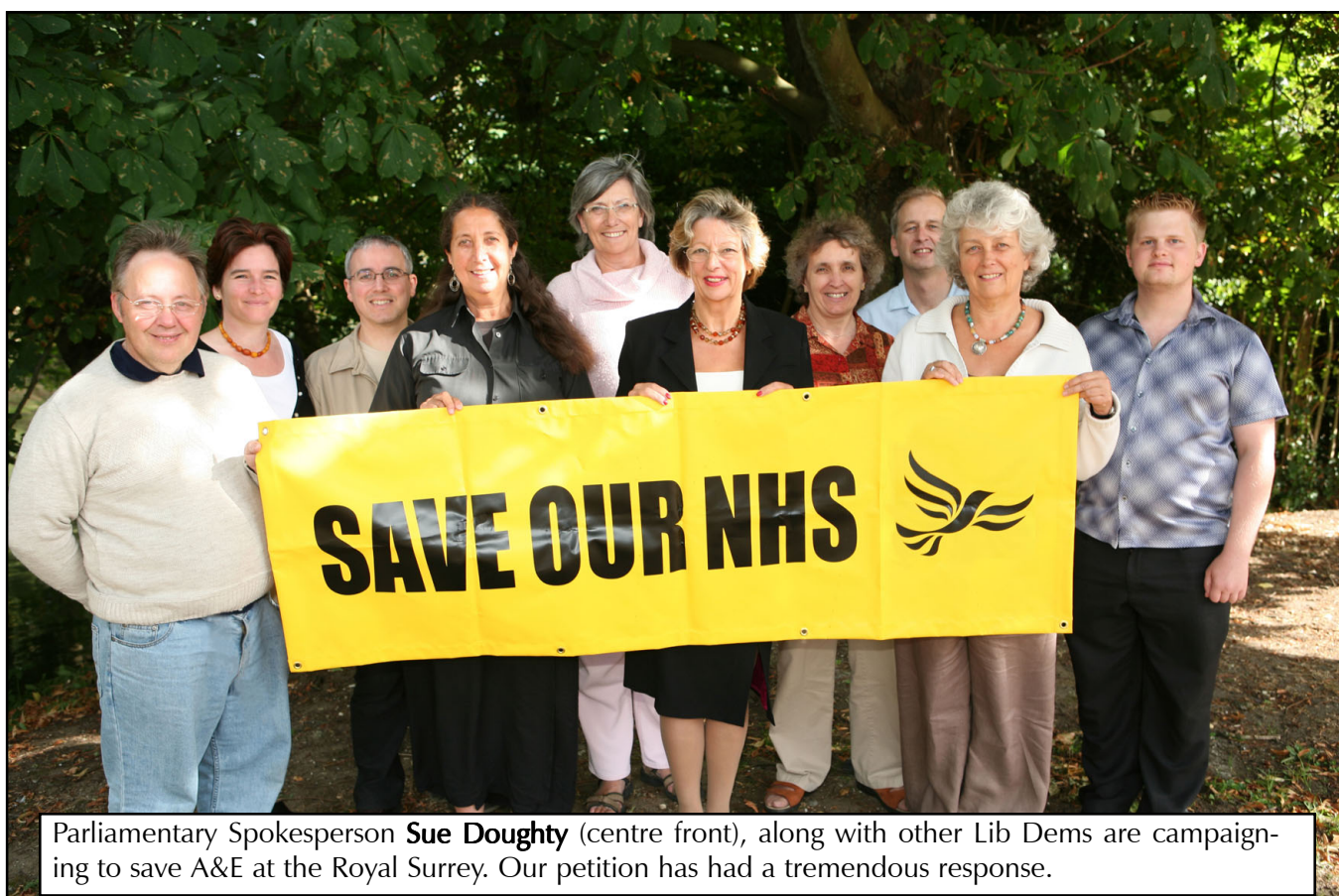
Thousands of local people have signed a Lib Dem petition as the battle intensifies to save A&E at the Royal Surrey.

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 **Jill Chan** added, "The crisis our NHS is in is a disgrace. If A&E closes at the Royal Surrey then lives will be put at risk. No wonder our petition has had so many signatures."

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>



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.

Cllr **Victor Searle** said, "These new cameras will help reduce the threat of crime and anti-social behaviour throughout the borough. I am glad the Conservatives backed down.

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

No money for home safety scheme

Local campaigner **Mary Laker** has slammed the **Conservative Borough Council** for its lack of funding of a scheme to prevent accidents in the home.

The Child Safety Equipment Loan Scheme provided stair gates to low income families but Borough cuts have stopped this vital preventative measure.

Mary Laker said, "This shows a lack of foresight and compassion as an injured child will cost society and families alike. Instead of wasting £1.5million on a unwanted office refurbishment at Millmead, the Tories should be spending the money on something useful."

Conservatives ignore public protests over SPA mess

Many local people are angry about Conservative panic-proposals to avoid the ban on new housing caused by Special Protection Areas (SPAs) such as Whitmoor Common.

New houses can not be built within 5 km of the SPAs inhabited by certain rare ground-nesting birds.

The Conservatives want to spend over £1 million on four sites of council-owned countryside to divert people from the SPAs. The Lib Dems say this will

not work and the money should be spent on green space easily accesible to new housing .

North Guildford will suffer the most after a Lib Dem proposal to include Westborough Woods in the scheme was rejected by the Tories.

Cllr Victor Searle said, "The south of the borough will benefit far more than we will from these ill-conceived plans. Investment in green spaces should not be miles away from the areas it is meant to serve."

Lib Dem recycling scheme is coming at last!



Local campaigner Mary Laker at the Wood St fair recycling stall. The Lib Dems have fought a long campaign for plastic bottles to be collected from the kerbside for recycling.

Guildford will finally benefit from Borough-wide kerbside collection of plastic bottles, after the Conservatives backed down.

For years, the Liberal Democrats pushed for the scheme to help reduce landfill and the threat of incineration across Surrey. After rejecting the scheme in February, the Conservatives have finally bowed to Liberal Democrat pressure and will be introducing the scheme.

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.

Bridge Fixed

A local railway bridge has been made safe after Lib Dem Cllr Jill Chan spotted cracks widening.

Jill contacted Network Rail and the work was done after a meeting and site inspection.

Jill told Focus, "They have done an excellent job repairing the bridge."

Jill has also noted problems with finding the new Wood Street Route 3 service at the bus station. Buses cannot get into their correct departure bay and it is essential for passengers to check where to board. Please let Jill know if you are experiencing any difficulties.



After Cllr Jill Chan alerted Network Rail that a local bridge was damaged, it was fixed. The Lib Dems are delighted with the outcome.

The next task is to keep food waste out of the black sacks going to landfill. Lib Dem councillors want that collected for composting, and proposed a trial scheme for 2007. So far the Conservatives have refused to commit themselves.

Cllr Terry King said, "I am glad the plastics collection scheme is finally here - we have campaigned long and hard for it. Hopefully collection of kitchen waste will soon follow."

Contact your local Lib Dem team

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Cllr Victor Searle

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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.

News In Brief On your bike!

There are dramatic changes to our bus services in Fairlands and Wood Street with some services being cut.

There is still a direct hospital bus Route 520 from the bus stop at Fairlands main road (Guildford Route 20 stop) on Mondays to Fridays at 1005 and 1205. The return journeys are scheduled at 1035, 1335 and 1635.

Local campaigner Mary Laker said, "It is a shame that bus services are being lost and more people will be forced to use their cars."

Civic Hall latest

Guildford will finally be getting a new Civic Hall after years of Conservative 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.

Did you know?

Guildford's Conservative MP has missed over a third of her meetings on Parliament's Health Select Committee.

With health services in Guildford under threat from Government cuts, she has the worst attendance record of all the committee members who have been in place since May 2005.

Here to help

If you need help with a local problem in your area, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Sue Doughty and the Lib Dem team using the contact details on this page

Help us to campaign for the local area!

Do you want to help the Liberal Democrats? Return this slip to:
Liberal Democrats, Freepost, SCE I5741, 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.