

The Green Party has several key focuses; which ones are you interested in?

Greening the Economy.
Learning for Life.
Health and Wellbeing.
Reliable, Inclusive Transport.
Peace, Justice and Security.
Home and Community.
Food We Can Trust.
Clean Green Energy.
Animal Rights.
By the People, For the People.

GET IN TOUCH!

Please tear off this form and return to Cheltenham Green Party, 10 Kingsley Gardens, Cheltenham GL51 7TF Tel: 01242 521265
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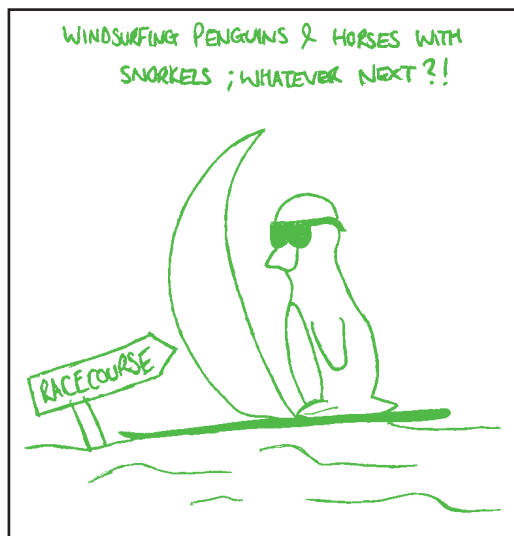
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- I'd like a sample copy of Green World Magazine
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In an effort to save paper, this leaflet has only been delivered to odd-numbered houses; please pass to your plus one, even-numbered neighbour - if you're No 23, pass to No 24.

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Green Horizon

Issue 2. August 2007

You should vote for the Green Party in this byelection because only the Greens have a thought-through set of policies fit for the modern era. We start from the idea of sustainability and work upward from there. We must think through the local implications of the coming shortage of oil and gas supplies. This restriction of supply will shape the development of our industry and trade. The county council must prepare to respond to this challenge and adapt the way they run our planning, education and environmental services. Only a Green County Councillor will take this challenge seriously.



Hi, I'm Janet Thomas, I ride a bike, walk everywhere, catch buses, trains, and actively belong to my local car-share and freecycle. My home is almost entirely decorated and stocked with recycled and reclaimed furniture. My carbon footprint is modest. I've taken a plane trip 5 times in the last 40 years. I work locally, and am about to start a new job only a few hundred metres from my back door. I've been a campaigner/activist on green and social issues for many years. A particular bee in my bonnet is tarmac terrorism; that's to say the way we are tarmac every available bit of land to accommodate our 'sacred' motor cars...The recent flood crisis (my home was flooded too) has put the issue of climate change and the question of our personal environmental responsibility on everyone's lips. We've got to plan for the future now with real urgency, and give our kids a chance to live as well as we have till now. We know what the answers are. It's not impossible to quit talking and start acting instead...

In my area the skips are real treasure troves...great for reclaimers like me, but it gets my goat the way we are accommodating all this perfectly serviceable stuff in land fills.

We've got to start building homes that are carbon neutral as a matter of course..... We've simply got to stop being so greedy for space, resources, and objects too. We can do this. With a few timely policies we can do this in Gloucestershire. Vote Green!

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ONE WORLD. ONE CHANCE.

Vote Green Party 

Ark Building?

The recent floods experienced by large areas of the country, including those that have seriously affected Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury, might just be freakish in their magnitude and timing. But what if they are not? What if they are a sign of more common weather to come? If people's lives, livelihoods and houses are at risk from the increasingly severe elements, we should at the very least be asking ourselves some basic questions – are we contributing to what we are experiencing through irresponsible energy-usage? Are we doing everything possible to minimise the damaging consequences of adverse weather? How do we plan for the future? The Green Party asks these questions with the understanding that Nature is to be taken a lot more seriously than it would seem it is at present!



Peak oil will affect us all

Virtually our entire way of life is based on oil. So much so that during the fuel protests of 2000 the head of Sainsbury's warned Tony Blair that it could run out of food in a matter of days. Oil reserves are finite and they could peak by the end of this decade, leading to huge cost increases as demand exceeds supply. Goods will become more expensive whilst inflation and interest rates will rise.

In the UK we are already seeing rising energy prices. But Britain could be a world leader in renewable technology. Our island is surrounded by a coastline that could help us become self sufficient in energy. We can ease the transition by saving energy today and promoting a local and rural economy. With the global recession resulting from peak oil just around the corner, our country is in danger of being badly affected by our oil dependence. If we take action now, creating new jobs, our economy will benefit.

The Green Party believes it is better to plan and implement changes now, before we have no choice and are forced into making even more difficult choices about our energy use.

The County Council is important to us

The County Council sometimes seems a little remote when compared to our local council in Cheltenham. But the County has responsibility for services that affect us all. And these services would be better if they were developed on a green and sustainable basis.

The County takes strategic planning decisions like the siting of waste disposal sites. Cheltenham Green Party contributed to the County's consultation on their Waste Strategy, because we want to be sure that they do not back down on their 'No Incinerator' policy. To burn our rubbish will only take us away from the green and sensible ideas of Reduction, Reuse and Recycling. And what is more incineration will only produce more toxic waste to be buried just outside Cheltenham at Wingmoor Farm. We need industry and retailers to reduce the amount of packaging they expect us to throw away; and to wrap our goods in materials that can be recycled. Our Green candidate, Janet Thomas, is a keen recycler; and takes every opportunity to promote the Freecycle website, which encourages both sharing and neighbourliness.

The education of our children is in the hands of the County Council. Greens insist that the new generation of citizens must understand what response is needed to the issues of climate change. And that means teaching them about the international dimensions of the issue. Our young people deserve to know they are citizens of the whole world; and how interdependent we all are.

The County is not being generous in the way it provides for the elderly and the disabled. A green councillor would speak out on their behalf and look for ways of increasing what we spend to care for the vulnerable in our community.

The Parkway Station plan may not be completely dead. The County proposals, to use green belt land by the railway line for a Park and Ride site, look like a way of keeping the idea alive. The Green Party says that if an inter-city station, like Parkway, finds favour with the train-operating companies, then it may not be good for the travelling public. The whole Parkway proposal was not thought through strategically, or on sustainable principles. A Green Councillor would make sure that integrated transport was the watchword (and that includes pedestrians and cyclists); and that this paved the way for the reduction in car usage that is coming in the near future.

So think hard and then vote Green.