

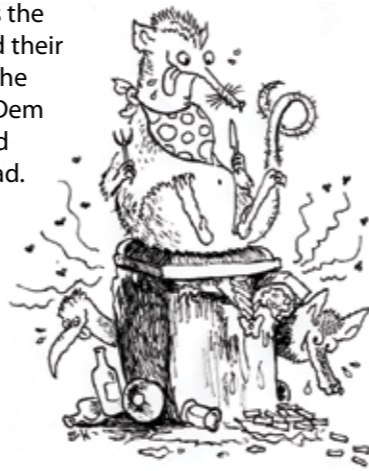


## The Black Farmer

I recently met Wilfred Emmanuel-Jones, who is the Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for Chippenham. Talk of the importance of the family, and the extended family young and old, was a hot topic. We need to champion the whole family, grandparents, parents and children, in equal measure and reverse the trends causing its current disintegration. See more about Wilfred on our blog.

## New Rubbish Regime

**Binsanity!** The outcry across the city about the green bins and their covert surveillance devices (the spy-chip) has forced the Lib Dem led Council to back down and offer paper green bags instead. At least with the bags you only need to use them as often as you have garden waste, but they are still charging you for collecting them, unlike neighbouring Councils. Angelo says, "The public health hazard caused by two-weekly collections is plain for all to see. The only happy creatures are the maggots, rats, seagulls and foxes that are feasting on it." Amid alarm and fears over hygiene and health, the Government has now belatedly ordered an inquiry into the health implications of fortnightly collections.



**Composting:** On the 29th of August 2006 Councillor Gary Hopkins (or 'King Rat' as the Evening Post have dubbed him) stated that kitchen waste collected from Bristol streets in June

# St George West Matters

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Happy Christmas to members of all the faiths of the people of St George. Peace and goodwill to all.

Local community news from St George West Conservatives

## Success! Huge local interest for 'Friends of St Georges Park' group

Following the huge response to Angelo's survey on the future of St Georges Park, and other green spaces throughout St George, a packed public meeting was held at the Beehive Centre in October. Local residents were joined by representatives from the Council, business people and local experts to discuss our ambitions for the Park.

Angelo said, "A big thank you to all who attended the meeting. I am greatly encouraged by the enormous support shown for our Parks. I found the advice from the Council Officers very useful and the positive comments made by the majority, extremely helpful. We were told of the many other parks that had organised themselves and found sources of funding ranging up to £100,000 in one year. I shall now be



contacting everyone who has offered their support to take the group forward, campaign for improvements and arrange events for local residents to enjoy."

If you have not yet expressed support for the Group and would like to help, please contact Angelo.



Bringing politics to the people  
**stgeorgewest.blogspot.com**  
 It's your local magazine and forum... get blogging!

## Help us, to help you

Angelo and his team are working hard to improve the local community, and they need your help. Please let us know how you can help us!

- Joining 'The Friends of St Georges Park' Group
- Delivering a few leaflets in my area
- Joining Angelo's Local Team
- Joining The Conservatives

Name

Address

Phone

Email

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was, "Already being used on Somerset fields," as fertilizer. In other words, he said that the process of composting took less than ten weeks. However, on 12th September the Evening Post talked to the company in Dorset that is dealing with Bristol's composting. They reported that the total time from start to finish of their composting process is over four months and that it was only being done in Dorset. Angelo comments, "As a keen gardener, I have never been able to create home compost in less than a year. If the Lib Dems have some secret knowledge or method by which we could all produce compost in about two months, please tell us!"

## Equality without uniformity

Angelo reports: "I recently joined local Conservatives for a discussion on issues surrounding racial equality, with Professor Tariq Modood MBE, from the University of Bristol's Department of Sociology. I came away from the meeting with one particular message; the notion of 'equality not uniformity' that is the laudable English tradition, as opposed to say the French or American tendency toward 'equality by conformity'. There were other interesting topics for debate, and I would be keen to hear from people from all faiths in our community to contribute to the debate on our blog.

If you would like more information about coming along to Conservative Discussion Groups, contact Angelo.

# No Dedicated Bus Lane!

Join our campaign to save our high street and residents parking. **See inside for more...**



## Vital Footpath Saved Estate celebrates!

Residents of the Whitehall Avenue/Plummers Hill Pre-Fab estate celebrated after receiving assurances from Bovis Homes that their vital footpath link through to St Georges Park and the Church Road shops will be saved in the new development. Earlier this year, residents petitioned the Council to keep the footpath between Whitehall Avenue and Howard Avenue open. For the elderly and disabled people living on the estate, it is their only direct route to the shops, the library and the park. Angelo says, "I have seen the plans and the new pedestrian access closely follows the route of the existing footpath. I am very grateful to Bovis for being so helpful in reassuring the residents and keeping in touch with them while the new houses are being built."

Conservatives Caring and Campaigning for our Community

Bristol Evening Post



## Dedicated Bus Lane Campaign!

Angelo reports, "On 5th December I took a delegation of local traders and residents to speak to the full Council after having submitted 20

statements and a petition of over 1200 names. We think we made our point.

Residents have stuck cameras out of their windows and filmed Summerhill Road in the rush hour for a week, showing that the traffic flows freely. They do not need an inbound peak hour bus route which is going to lose or displace over 60 parking spaces just in their area.

We measured the new restrictions (see picture) with a pedometer and we will shortly be publishing them street by street on stgeorgewest.blogspot.com as well as traders and residents statements. Over the entire route we estimate a loss of over 400 parking spaces.

We are taking a further delegation to the January meeting of the Physical Environment Scrutiny Commission, which advises Bristol City Council's Lib Dem Cabinet.

We sincerely hope the Councillors will 'Take Five' and reconsider the worst aspects of the route through Easton and St George which will lose some of our traders up to a third of their business (as they themselves have stated to the Council) and lower the quality of life for our elderly and

disabled residents who can rarely park anywhere near their homes as it is.

Our local MP, Kerry McCarthy, has admitted in the Evening Post that there is huge public concern about the impact of the proposed dedicated bus lanes. To see her letter attacking our campaign and our reply, check our Blog for all info."

The Council's stated concessions so far are:

- No Closure of Ducie Road
- No Speed Hump on Church Road
- No Speed Humps on The Avenue
- No Speed Humps on Queens Road

**Join our campaign today, it's not over yet!**

## Invitation to join new Traders Association

Do you work along the bus route corridor between Tesco/St Patrick's Church Charity Shop and Kingswood? Join a new Association to represent traders interests. Check the blog for more or contact Angelo or Nick Jethwa (07909 570919) for more information.

## St George Library Temporary Arrangements

Our local library is now closed for refurbishment until 16th February 2007, provided that the work goes according to schedule. Until then, the library service will be operating from 'Summerhill Senior Citizens Club' (opposite St George Baptist Church, Summerhill Road). Opening hours for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday are 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 4 pm, and on Fridays 10am to 1pm only. Please support the library while it's at the SSCC.

## St George Film Club

Do you want to join St George Film Club? We have spoken to St Georges Community Centre and they are very interested in being the venue for our planned film club. These clubs are funded by the British Film Institute and have a very low membership fee, typically £2-£3. A local film club could show lots of films throughout the year without having to drive to larger cinemas. If you would like further information, contact Angelo 07867 971717.

## Down Your Street

### We've reported to the Council:

- Naseby Walk - fly-tipping
- Albert Grove South - fly-tipping
- Sycamore Close - hazardous path and lack of street lighting
- Beaufort Road - street lighting obscured by trees
- Whitehall Avenue - hazardous trees
- Plummers Hill Prefab estate - hazardous entrances
- Kensington Road/Battenburg Lane - fly-tipping

Please contact Angelo if you have any problems down your street.

## Success for Residents Association

Grenville Johnson, Secretary of the Kensington Road Residents Association and Neighbourhood Watch, reports: "Last year the Council spent taxpayers money to erect public footpath signs on the lane linking Kensington Road and Battenburg Road. The lane is often blighted by fly-tipping, and the disabled cannot use the lane as the surface is so rough. Despite being labelled as a public footpath, what we actually have is a dangerous and appalling eyesore. As the Council seem unable to confirm when funds will be available to improve the lane, we have set up a working party to do the job ourselves. We are aware that there is a Council budget for the upkeep of footpaths, but cannot get an answer as to how the money is spent and how projects are prioritised.

Similarly, residents of Kensington Road were promised that trees removed from the road over the last couple of years would be replaced this year, commencing November 2006. The Council told us there was no money for the project and invited each resident to sponsor a tree at a cost of £250 each! Angelo fully supported local residents and the Council has since agreed to put in four Rowan trees in 2007.

**The motto for the city used to be 'Shipshape and Bristol fashion'. It's time to clear the decks of Bristol City Council clutter and sail again with real pride and vision - other cities are leaving us in the docks!"**



## Action in Dragon Walk

A disabled resident of Ventnor Road recently contacted Angelo because she couldn't use the lane linking Ventnor Road and Holmes Hill Road because of overhanging trees. Having reported it to the Council and waited three weeks for action, Angelo and his team got down to work and trimmed back the trees. Angelo comments, "It's unacceptable that a public footpath was allowed to become impassable for months on end, for the sake of 15 minutes work with a hedge trimmer!" The resident concerned said, "Thank you for the kindness shown in clearing the lane that runs alongside my bungalow and in such a short time after I reported this to you. You will certainly get my vote at the next election."



## Plummers Hill Field news

Angelo has been inundated with complaints from local people horrified at the amount of fly-tipping, vandalism and anti-social behaviour associated with the field in recent months. The effect of this, and the lack of imaginative use, has put off local people from enjoying its benefits. In September, Angelo contacted the Council to clear up an unhygienic 'den', including an abandoned boat, which was attracting crowds of youngsters indulging in under age drinking and minor arson. As a result, the Council has cleared the den and fly-tipping and arranged for the BMX ramps, which have been dug in the park, to be levelled and made safe. The Council has also installed additional gates at the entrance to Plummers Hill to stop motorbikes from being driven in. Funding has also been secured for a permanent gate to block the Cecil Avenue entrance. The Council also agreed to fence off the Naseby Walk entrance.

## A little under aged thinking...

Angelo reports, "I hope the 'Friends of St Georges Park Group' will adopt this open space and that local residents will campaign for improvements. A little 'under age thinking' gave us the idea that a simple five-a-side football pitch marked out in the small field would encourage local children and their parents to make more use of the space. Perhaps this could be linked by the city parks review into some sort of little league like the ones on the Downs. Other ideas include more events in the field to encourage community participation and discourage yobbish behaviour."



Angelo talking to local youngsters who have ideas for a five-a-side pitch