

Henbury & Brentry Matters

Local news from Mark Weston and Charlotte Leslie

Your local Conservative team

Charlotte Leslie

Conservative Parliamentary Candidate

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Local woman, Charlotte Leslie, on track to be your new MP

Conservatives have chosen a local woman, Charlotte Leslie, to be their Parliamentary Candidate at the next General Election. Charlotte has lived in Bristol for over 25 years and went to school in Westbury.

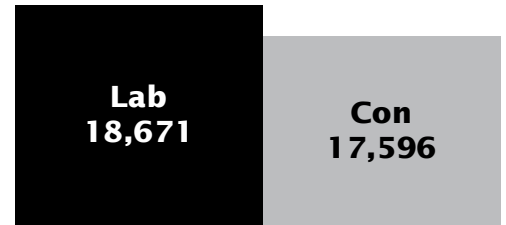
Bristol North West is going to be one of the closest run contests between Labour and Conservative in the country!

Bristol North West constituency is largely back on the boundaries that elected a string of Conservative MP's in the past. Election experts predict that the Lib Dems are out of



the race, with only 4 out of 18 Councillors in the new constituency. Charlotte said, "This is

where I grew up, where my friends and family live, and where I count as my home. It now looks highly likely that Bristol North West will return to the Conservatives. I would be proud to serve the interests of every resident here as your local MP."



Source: UK Polling Report (notional 2005 result).

Blaise under fire!

Mark reports, "I am sure that everyone shares my disgust at the recent vandalism at the Blaise Castle estate. Graffiti was sprayed over ornaments and the entrance, statues were defaced, and even the balustrade pushed over in three separate attacks."

In total, the damage has cost a total of £20,000 to repair, and there is now a reward of £250 available for information leading to the arrest of those who carried out these crimes. Anyone with information on the attacks can call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.



Mark is calling for action on Blaise vandals



Charlotte campaigning with care workers

Care for the elderly

Charlotte Leslie supported the Bristol Home Care workers' successful campaign to prevent further Lib Dem privatisation of home care.

Charlotte said, "The Liberal Democrat plans to further privatise home care were brutal cost-cutting measures that would have put the welfare of our elderly at risk. The Lib Dem Council presided over gross mismanagement, paid out an excess £800,000 of our money to private companies, and then had plans to cut the in-house service to compensate. I do not think that the vulnerable and elderly should have to pay for Council mistakes. This is not about party politics. This is simply about our duty to the older generation."

www.charlotteleslie.blogspot.com

Less low flyers

Day after day, Henbury and Brentry residents are persistently irritated by the sound of low flying aircraft from Filton Airfield.

Local people have had enough! Why should we put up with the noise 12 hours a day, 7 days a week?! The noise will become an even bigger issue as the summer advances, and we spend an increasing amount of time in our gardens. In response to this seemingly never ending irritation, a group of local residents have formed CALFA (Campaign Against Low Flying Aircraft) under local Chairman Peter Togwell. They are currently collecting signatures and complaints to take to the managers of Filton Airfield in an attempt to cut the noise and make the local area peaceful again!

If you would like to register your complaint, please call CALFA on 07880 500212 and leave your details.

Update: Crow Lane Toilets

The old Crow Lane Public Toilets, long a haunt of those involved in anti-social behaviour, still face an uncertain future.

The site was sold off by the Council to a private developer who, after obtaining permission to renovate the site into two 'Retail Units', has put it back up for auction asking for offers over £60,000.

The delay and uncertainty over the future of the site will not ease worries and concerns over the behaviour that goes on in the vicinity now. We will keep you informed as and when the situation changes.

New fares not fair

First Bus is increasing its fares from the 5th August, and children and season ticket holders will be the hardest hit. Bristol people pay some of the highest bus fares in Europe, despite the fact that First Group is raking in annual profits of almost two million pounds.

Passenger journeys have already decreased by two million because of previous fare increases - people are being priced off the buses at the very time that they are being encouraged to cut down on carbon emissions and leave the car at home.

Charlotte said, "Our City Council pours considerable amounts of our cash into the coffers of First Bus. But at the moment it looks like First Bus is running rings around the Council and Bristol people foot the bill.

I am calling for an open public meeting with First Bus, Bristol City Council and the other unitary authorities to talk urgently about fare rises. It is time for some answers. If First Bus cannot tell us how it is going to offer an efficient service at a reasonable price, then appropriate action should be taken to find a transport provider which can."

More Police on the beat

Henbury & Brentry now have two new Beat Managers on the streets. Constable Andy Stamp is a recent addition to the local force, along with our new Police Community Support Officer Abigail Elliot-Taylor. These officers have the sole responsibility of patrolling our community, to provide a visible presence on our streets. I am sure that Constable Rachel-Jane Mann will very much appreciate their support.

Road Tax: Have your say on what we pay...

Charlotte Leslie has launched a petition for Bristol people to approve any final decision of the Council to introduce a road-tax pilot.

There are arguments for congestion charging - reducing carbon emissions is a priority and at peak hours, Bristol is grid-locked. But charging people to use the roads while our public transport is so inadequate seems unfair. Until we have decent public transport, it is unlikely people will get out of their cars. Instead of reducing carbon emissions, it could simply push more traffic congestion out into areas of Bristol

like Westbury-on-Trym, Henleaze, Stoke Bishop and Horfield, and make it even harder to park outside the Congestion Zone.

Conservatives believe this is an issue for the people of Bristol to decide. Please sign our petition calling for a referendum on congestion charging.



Bristol Evening Post 6.7.07

"I/we oppose the introduction of a pilot scheme of congestion charging in Bristol without giving Bristol's citizens a referendum on the issue."

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Please return to: The Conservative Party, **Freepost** (SWB 176), Bristol, BS6 6BR.