

Bishopsgarth & Elm Tree

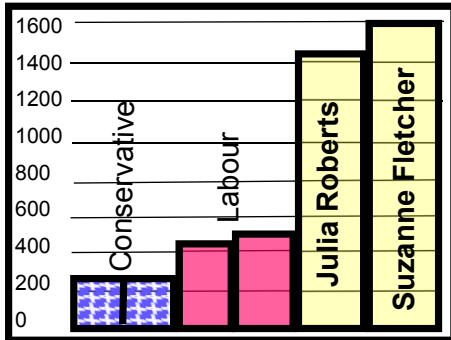
# FOCUS

No 191

Editors:

Cllr Suzanne Fletcher  
787652

Cllr Julia Roberts  
606732



## Thank You!

Julia and Suzanne thank everyone who voted for them in the Borough Council election on May 3rd. The result was a resounding vote of confidence in the Liberal Democrats to work with you for the benefit not just of Bishopsgarth and Elm Tree, but of the whole of Stockton Borough.

Thank you to everyone who supported us in the local election. We were delighted in the new greatly increased majorities and share of the vote in the election, and also for one of the highest turnouts of voters in the Borough. Thank for you showing your confidence in us. We will represent you all, regardless of whether you voted or for whom. The Focus team will continue their work in the ward, and will keep local people informed all through the year.

Now that the election is over we can get on with the real work - helping local people with local problems. If we can be of any help do not hesitate to contact us on the phone numbers or e-mail addresses or postal addresses on this leaflet.

Best wishes

*Julia*

*Suzanne*



## Labour Lose Election - Tories Give Them Power Vote Blue - Go Red

Stockton's Conservative leadership hit a new low point this month. Labour lost 5 seats in the election on May 3rd, Liberal Democrats increased their majorities over Labour in Eaglescliffe and Bishopsgarth & Elm Tree and took back a seat from an Independent in Billingham North. South Stockton became almost a Labour-Free Zone, but the Conservatives decided that Stockton couldn't possibly function without Labour in power! They offered the option of a "Rainbow Coalition" of all parties, but the Labour Leader had already written to local Liberal Democrats saying: "*i have absolutely no interest in what a handful of liberal democrats have decided, or who you will or will not work with.*" (The spelling

and grammar are all his own work!). The Conservative leader insisted that he would have a casting vote on decisions and he alone would decide who did each job in the Cabinet. He would not form a cabinet without Labour, claiming that Stockton's reputation would be ruined. Liberal Democrats could not be part of such an arrangement. We believe that the people of Stockton voted for a change of leadership when they removed 5 Labour councillors and gave members of other parties huge majorities. We are very disappointed that the Conservatives showed such cowardice in the face of a wonderful opportunity. However, as always, **your Liberal Democrat councillors will continue to work with you and for you all the year round, and every year - not just at election time.**

**LIBERAL DEMOCRATS - FAIR, HONEST, OPEN AND GREEN**

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS



Liberal Democrats on Stockton Council have been putting the case of giving each Council ward a budget to be spent on items to make the environment better in their area. This year the Council agreed to do this.

There is not as much money as we would have liked, and need, but Bishopsgarth and Elm Tree have £13,900 to spend this year, and the same amount next year.

The Council has given us very little time to consult with you, we don't yet have all of the information, and there is a waiting list of items amounting to over £144,000 already! The list of what the money can be spent on covers such as:

Verge repair; parking bays and lay-bys, new footpaths, new lighting schemes, and some of these are already on the £144,000 list. There is a full list on the local Liberal Democrat website at [www.stocktonlibdems.org.uk](http://www.stocktonlibdems.org.uk) or if you contact us we will send you the list. Other schemes could be: seats, fences, handrails, shrub,

flower or tree planting; hanging baskets; new dog waste and litter bins.

**However,**

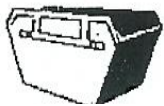
Julia, Suzanne, and some members of Bishopsgarth Association of Residents were at a recent meeting to put the case for a new, long awaited zebra crossing on **Darlington Back Lane**, near to **Felton Lane** and **Rimswell Road**. However there was only £25,000 for the whole of Stockton and this crossing would cost £20,000, and there was another safety scheme being asked for elsewhere from the same budget.

Julia successfully argued for £5,000 from the budgets of 3 wards to be put towards the shortfall, so this crossing will now go ahead this year!



## YOUR VIEWS NEEDED

Julia and Suzanne want to hear YOUR views on what the remaining £8,900 for this year could be spent on. Let us know by contacting Julia, or pop your suggestion into one of the special boxes in either of the newsagents on Marske Parade, or at the Elm Tree Centre, but all comments must have a name and address before they can be considered.



**SKIPS** The next skips for household waste are  
Thursday 14th June, behind the Elm Tree Community Centre.  
Wednesday 1st August, Mosston Road.

## YOUTH SURGERIES

These were not well used towards the end, so we have not booked any more sessions. However if any young people want to meet us about any issues they want to raise with us, then please do make contact and we will make arrangements.

Anyone, of any age, is, of course, welcome at our surgeries.

## Problems, Queries, Ideas & Views.

Suzanne and Julia will be holding their ward surgery at **Elm Tree Community Centre**

Tuesday 12th June 6.00 pm to 7.00pm

Tuesday 10th July 6.00 pm to 7.00pm

Tuesday 1st August 6.00 pm to 7.00pm

also

**Bishopsgarth School** (with local Police)

Before Bishopsgarth Association of Residents meeting at 6.30 p.m.

Monday 2nd July 6pm to 6.30pm

## NEW POLICE CONTACT

302930 is the new number for contacting Neighbourhood Police Officers.

If you wish to contact him, ring and ask for PC Dave Greaves and you will either be put through to him or a message will be left for him if he is not available. Dave's collar number is 268 and you may be asked for this.

You can still, of course, drop a note for him through the letter box of Medina House.

If there is an urgent matter for the Police, as before, ring 999.

If you want to report an incident, call 326326.

## Contact us by:

**Letter** - Julia Roberts, 22, Zetland Road, Stockton, TS19 0EQ  
**or** Suzanne Fletcher, 3, Hoylake Way,

Eaglescliffe, Stockton on Tees, TS16 9EU

**or** - Julia Roberts and Suzanne Fletcher,

FREEPOST, NEA 765, STOCKTON-ON-TEES, TS16 9BR  
(no need for a stamp)

**Phone** - 01642 606732 (Julia) or 787652 (Suzanne)

**e-mail** - [julia.roberts@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:julia.roberts@stockton.gov.uk) (Julia)

or [suzanne.fletcher@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:suzanne.fletcher@stockton.gov.uk) (Suzanne)

**WORKING WITH YOU, WORKING FOR YOU!**  
**FOCUS - THE ORIGINAL AND BEST. NOW IN ITS 26TH YEAR!**