

# West Lancashire Conservative Association

## Members Newsletter

Autumn 2017



**Message from the WLCA Chairman, Cllr David Westley**  
Dear Member

I am delighted to be contributing to my first Newsletter. This will now be sent on a seasonal basis to keep you informed of what is going on within the Association, both politically and socially. My first 6 months as Association Chairman have flown by, as it has been, a busy time due to getting up to speed with the role and the overlapping elections for the County Council, the snap General Election and then a Borough By-election in Ormskirk's Derby Ward..



The success of Cllr Eddie Pope in winning the Burscough & Rufford Division from Labour contributed to the Conservatives regaining control of Lancashire County Council. The new Conservative administration is already delivering on its election pledges to re-open libraries, put a further £5m in the budget to address the backlog of highway repairs, protect and enhance essential bus services and getting to grips with the very challenging financial and organisational problems left by the previous Labour Administration.

The snap General Election in June was certainly a surprise, Cllr Sam Currie proved to be an excellent parliamentary candidate and his campaign was considerably helped by the Party designating West Lancashire as a target seat. The help we received from the Party, both financial and organisational, coupled with some very generous donations resulted in the Association making a profit on the campaign. The result was disappointing but expected in the national context. However, the Conservative vote in West Lancashire rose by more than 4,000 or 4.5% which was quite an achievement, given Sam was only selected after the start of the Campaign and was opposing a well established sitting MP in Rosie Cooper.

Your Officers have developed a strategic plan that was approved by the Executive Council in August and are now busy with its implementation. Our aim is to increase the membership, identify good local government candidates, improve our election campaigning with the aim of regaining control of the Borough Council and building a strong base to fight the next General Election.

### Candidates Wanted

Have you ever thought about being a conservative councillor? The Association has started the process of selecting possible candidates for the West Lancashire Borough Council Elections in May 2018 and 2019.

If you, a family member or a friend could be interested then contact Cllr Eddie Pope, Vice Chairman Political to have a confidential chat. Eddie would be pleased to explain the selection process, the nature and obligations of the role and the likely time commitment plus the possible benefits. Either telephone 07969919212 or email [eddiepope@hotmail.com](mailto:eddiepope@hotmail.com)



Cllr Eddie Pope  
Vice Chairman Political

# Membership & Fundraising

I was delighted to be elected Vice Chairman Membership & Fundraising at the Executive Council Meeting in August following the retirement of George Pratt for personal reasons.

Apart from my other responsibilities, I am chairing a new Fundraising Committee, established to co-ordinate our activities with the Branches. Members of the Committee represent all areas and are developing a calendar of social and fundraising events.



## Saturday 14th October - Lunch at Glover House

You could go shopping in Ormskirk in the morning or afternoon and have lunch at Glover House where there will be free all day parking. We will be serving between 12 noon and 2.00pm a delicious Buffet Lunch followed by cakes and puddings plus tea/coffee all for £8 a head. You will also have the opportunity to meet some of your association officers and get a better understanding of how the Constituency works. To book ring Marilyn Westley on 01704 840681 or e-mail: [marilyn.westley@btinternet.com](mailto:marilyn.westley@btinternet.com)

## Vice Chairman David Marsh

## Sunday 26th November - Clay Pigeon Shoot.

A taster day for those who have not shot before or a refresher for those who have. Fifteen clays from three different traps. £30 a person to include hot drink and bacon or sausage barm. 10.30-13.30 at a venue within the Borough to be advised later. Limited to twenty shooters so first come first served, open to all. Spectators welcome. Reserve your place by contacting Dave Marsh on 07525135143 or email: [davemarsh013@gmail.com](mailto:davemarsh013@gmail.com).



## Wednesday 29th November Flower Arranging

Kick start your Christmas festivities with an evening of mulled wine, mince pies and flowers. Venue in Scarisbrick to be advised. Contact Jane Marshall at [cllr.Marshall@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.Marshall@westlancs.gov.uk).

## 200 Club

An essential part of our fundraising activities is the 200 Club that is open to all Members. For £13 a year you get allocated a number that goes into a monthly Draw for cash prizes.

The surplus the 200 Club generates goes to the Association to help fund our political activities. There is a monthly prize of £30, a quarterly prize of £100 and a half yearly prize of £200

Recent winners were:

August £30 Carmel Mason

September £30 Phillip Banks

September £100 Val Marsh

September £200 George Pratt

If you would like to take part contact Bill Weingart on [billweingart@gmail.com](mailto:billweingart@gmail.com) or ring the Office on 01695 572306

## Conservative Policy Forums

Each month we hold a Forum at Briars Hall to discuss and give feedback to the Party on topical policy issues.

Starting at 7.00pm for 7.30pm, the cost is £12 a head for a set main meal and a glass of wine.

Future meetings are as follows:

19th October

23rd November

25th January

22nd February

29th March

26th April

Why not join us for what is always a relaxed and convivial evening. To book contact Carmel Mason by e-mail: [Thecharmels@aol.com](mailto:Thecharmels@aol.com)

or ring the Office on 01695 572306

**Membership** The Members are the lifeblood of our Association. If you are not paying by standing order or direct debit watch out for your renewal letter and please renew. New members are always welcome. For an application form contact Dave Marsh on 07525 135143 or [davemarsh013@gmail.com](mailto:davemarsh013@gmail.com)