

Winter/Spring 2016

# activist

West Lancs Conservative Association Newsletter

## EVENTS

### ANNUAL DINNER

Our Annual Dinner takes place on Friday 19th February with James Wharton, MP for Stockton South and Minister Responsible for the Northern Powerhouse, as the guest speaker. Ticket price £30. The PCC Elections candidate Andrew Pratt will be attending.



Menu for Annual Dinner-

- ◇ Bucks fizz welcome drink.
- ◇ Smoked salmon/dill tartlet. (Vegetarian option available confirm before the event).
- ◇ Roasted chicken with various veg. (Vegetarian option available confirm before the event).
- ◇ Glazed lemon tartlet with cream & raspberry coulis.
- ◇ Coffee and shortbread.

Contact Ruth Melling on (01704) 896373, 7pm for 730pm.

At West Tower, Mill Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk Lancs L39 7HJ. Black-tie.

<http://www.jameswharton.co.uk/>  
<https://twitter.com/jameswhartonmp>  
<https://www.facebook.com/jameswhartonuk>

### Local Elections 5th May 2016

The candidates are listed below. If you would like to help please get in touch. Our website has the latest information.

- Aughton and Downholland - Sam Currie.
- Burscough East - Rob Bailey.
- Burscough West - Leon Graham.
- Derby - Thomas Burton
- Halsall - Cllr Doreen Stephenson.
- Knowsley - Edward McCarthy.
- Scott - David Meadows.
- Upholland - Jane Houlgrave.
- Wroughton - Cllr Carolyn Evans.

### PCC Elections

Andrew Pratt has been selected to stand in the Police and Crime Commissioner Elections taking place on Thursday 5th May 2016.

Andrew Pratt is a retired policeman who works part time as a primary school teacher. He said: "I am delighted to have been selected as the Conservative candidate for Lancashire's PCC election next year."

- **Thursday 21st January 2016. Infusions.** Join like minded people for political debate about topical issues. Infusions, Orrell Lane, Burscough, Ormskirk Lancashire L40 0SQ. Confirm your place by the Monday before event- by e-mail [thecharmels@aol.com](mailto:thecharmels@aol.com), or by phoning Ruth on 01704 896373. £10 beef bourguignon with glass of wine. With speaker-Hannah David the CPF National Voluntary Director- [www.hannahdavid.co.uk](http://www.hannahdavid.co.uk);
- **12th February 2016 WLCF and Ormskirk AGM.** 730pm at the office.
- **Annual Dinner Friday 19th February 2016.** See article.
- **25th February 2016 7pm for 730pm Enthuse at Infusions - Discussion night with meal.** Price £10. With Andrew Pratt Candidate for the PCC Elections.
- **3rd March 2016. Ormskirk Branch Coffee morning.** The Kicking Donkey, Narrow Moss Lane, Ormskirk Lancs L40 8HY. 10am-12pm. With tea/coffee/biscuits and raffle. Price £5.
- **Cake, Cava and Coffee. 13th March 2pm to 5pm.** £8. Raffle and tombola. Turbury Farm, Heathey Lane Halsall, Ormskirk Lancs L39 8SH.
- **Enthuse at Infusions. 17th March 2016 7pm for 730pm.** Meet the Candidates for the 2016 Local Elections.
- **Friday 18th March 2016. WLCA AGM.** 730pm. With refreshments.
- **Thursday 5th May 2016**– Local Elections and PCC Elections.

# NEWS

A selection of recent news stories from around West Lancashire.

All articles are on our website. [www.westlancsconservatives.com](http://www.westlancsconservatives.com). Our Twitter page is [@WestLancsCF](https://twitter.com/WestLancsCF).

Also our Facebook page is [www.facebook.com/westlancsconfuture](http://www.facebook.com/westlancsconfuture)

- ◇ Ormskirk's popular Chapel Gallery looks set to become a landmark cultural destination for the North West after receiving a £127,933 Arts Council England grant. The money will enable staff at the Gallery, run by West Lancashire Borough Council, to develop a first-floor exhibition and events space and effectively double the highly impressive range of activities currently provided.
- ◇ Voters living in part of Derby Ward, Ormskirk, are being invited to give their comments in an important local review. The Borough Council is carrying out a review of the DEC Polling District, within the Derby Ward of the Borough, to ensure electors are able to vote conveniently and efficiently. Electors living within that Polling District can give the Council their views regarding the current location of Polling Places and Polling Stations for that Polling District, and suggest possible new ones.
- ◇ Work has finally started on repairing the bridge on Ormskirk's Bridge St. Work should be complete by the end of January.
- ◇ Thomas Burton Candidate for Derby Ward is welcoming moves that'll improve parking provision at Ruff Woods. Thomas Burton from Aughton said "The planned developments at Ruff Woods will improve the car park for all users of this much loved local attraction." "As I'm sure people will agree Ruff Woods car park need improving." "The benefits of a new car park will benefit local residents in West Lancashire." The project of improving Ruff Woods and the funding were a Conservative initiative that was in the Conservative Budget last February. Explaining the changes, a statement from the Borough Council's PR department outlines the plans. It reads: "The kerbing is for a £15,000 Borough Council project to re-surface the lay-by alongside Ruff Wood to provide good quality parking for visitors to this public open space. "Ruff Wood has recently undergone a variety of improvement works including better access points, improved pathways, signage and artwork features. "The improvements to the layby, which is very uneven, were planned as part of this improvement programme for visitors to the woodland, particularly for disabled users "The scheme has started and will take two-three weeks to complete.

## Patrons News

This time last year we could not foresee how happy we would feel about the New Year. Yes it's wet and too many are flooded, and we face the vexed question of in our out of Europe, but we have a Conservative Government , against all the predictions. Elections cost money and our best way to help the Party is by being paid-up members. The Patrons Club is a special way of doing this - yes one pays £100 annually but we have an event for which your ticket is paid by the Association. In the last year we have attended two dinners, with the Rt Hon Theresa May MP and the Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP as guest speakers, and the Ladies' Day Event at the Royal Lancashire Show. All interesting and enjoyable. We would be delighted if this year you joined us. Contact Jenni or Edward for details.

## Chairman's Report

I hope all our readers had a very Merry Christmas, and wish you all a Happy New Year. Now that the holidays are past and life has returned to normal, we're busy gearing up for this May's local elections. Retaking control of the Council is going to be an uphill struggle, but we have several new, young candidates running in the key seats of Burscough East & West and Derby wards, and I am quietly confident in obtaining a favourable result when the count is done. Finally, here's hoping for lots of dry, sunny weather for the remainder of the winter !



**Bill Weingart ,  
West Lancs Conservatives  
Association Chairman.**

For more information about our activities, or if you would like to help, please contact us:

 **WLCA , Glover House, 72C New Court Way,  
Ormskirk, Lancs L390 2YT**

 **Tel 01695 572306**

 **office@westlancsconservatives.com**

**www.westlancsconservatives.com**

## Membership News

You can use Safe Pay on our website to pay for any event you attend or to renew your membership. It means you can use a Credit or Debit Card and the money goes straight into our account here in West Lancs.

When you renew your membership you will only get a new card if you request one.

If you receive this in the post we don't know your email address. Please email the office so we do.

**Next Newsletter will be in the summer please let Edward know about any news or events at the office.**