

# FOCUS

SPRING 2011



CROPTON

## NOT THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

We underline again, we are NOT the Liberal Democrats. The Liberals have a long history behind many social changes. Lloyd George introduced the state pension. Beveridge designed the NHS. Keynes showed that government spending was needed to stop a recession hurting the vulnerable.

The Liberal Democrats are propping up the Tories. ConDem policies are hurting the vulnerable, the poor, the elderly and the young. This is not a Liberal approach, it is a destruction of our social fabric.

### Cuts Hurt the Rural Areas

The purely economic approach to services and facilities often hurts people living in country areas far more than those in towns. Our village post offices, shops and telephone boxes have mostly disappeared. Petrol price increases are impossible for us to avoid. We have further to travel for medical services, shopping and work. The County Council cuts to music transport, bus services and libraries are harshest in the countryside. All this is because we have fewer 'votes'. Our voice must be heard.



### Mobile Library Service to be Axed?

The Conservative controlled County Council is going to close many of the smaller market town libraries. This cut will include stopping all the mobile libraries. The Liberals on North Yorkshire County Council found a way to keep the mobile libraries. Our proposals were: All libraries would have reduced opening hours and slightly fewer books—but at least they would be open. The mobile service would be reduced from once every three weeks to a fixed day each month. Not a single Conservative Councillor voted for this fair solution. The Tories promised to delay the closure. Has this 'delay' in abolishing the mobile service anything to do with the local elections? Liberals will continue to campaign to keep all library services, including mobiles, in place.

### Community Politics

Other politicians, once elected, tend to ignore the people they represent. Liberals campaign with people to achieve benefits for all. This is 'community politics'. The result is a stronger community working together to achieve a collective aim.

#### YOUR LIBERAL CONTACT

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LIBERAL FOR RYEDALE

## Ryedale District Council

The Liberal Group on Ryedale District Council is the *only* opposition. At the recent budget meeting the voice for change came from the Liberals. The Tories, Liberal Democrats and the so-called Independents all voted 25 to our 3 against our proposals. We continue to voice your views.



## North Yorkshire Bus Services

Conservative controlled North Yorkshire County Council has removed the subsidy to evening and Sunday bus services. 40% of evening use is to and from work. Meanwhile some daytime services with less usage are still supported. How does this help our rural communities? Once again a blunt axe and not a scalpel to make a saving. The Liberals opposed this.

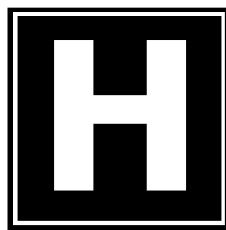


## Cuts

The ConDem government has forced draconian cuts on Local Government. Liberals believe that the massive debt should be paid, but like a mortgage, be paid off over a longer period.



## NHS Changes



For 60 years GPs have been the 'voice' of the patient. They have challenged the system. The ConDem government is changing the NHS. GPs will become the system. Who will be the 'voice' of the patient now?



## Arms Sales

David Cameron going to the Middle East to discuss change is good. Good is not the word for taking 8 arms dealers with him.

## NY Times

You should by now have received your *last* copy of the NY Times. The Conservative controlled County Council said it was 'value for money'. They have been forced to cancel it. £240,000 well saved—that is value for money.

## Forests

The Liberals submitted a motion to Ryedale District Council calling to:

- Ⓢ Halt the waste of money on the consultation
- Ⓢ Abandon the sale of any forestry land.

Less than a week later, before it was debated, the ConDem Government had done a U turn and stopped the consultation. This is good news. However we need to watch them closely as they have a record of 'selling off the family silver'.

