

local election special FOCUS

Serving parts of St. George, Whitehall, Redfield, and Speedwell



TONY POTTER

a LOCAL candidate who will work for YOU!

Local campaigner TONY POTTER will stand as the Liberal Democrat candidate for St. George West Ward in the City Council elections on Thursday May 5th. Tony lives in Whitehall, and has lived in this area for most of his life. "I'm very pleased to have this opportunity to work for local people in this area", Tony said. "The response I've had from residents shows that many of you are sick and tired of Labour rule in Bristol. I believe local people deserve better. The Liberal Democrat Council Team are the ones who can make a difference, and I look forward to joining them as Councillor for St. George West".

Tony is a printer by trade, he worked for a large packaging company for many years, until being made redundant in the recession of the early 1990s. He then ran his own printing and delivery services business for a few years. Tony re-established the St. George West Focus newsletter last year, and reports that "the response has been fantastic - far better than I ever hoped for". Tony has taken up many issues raised by local people, and reported back to them on progress made.

Tony Potter has already shown that he'll work for the people of St. George West all year round, but he'll be able to do much more if you elect him your local Councillor.



Tony Potter - dealing with issues raised by local residents

CHURCH RD. BUS LANE - LATEST

Bristol City Council have launched their consultation on the proposed 'showcase' bus route on Church Rd. The aim is to raise the profile the bus services by improving the environment through which they pass, to increase the number of people using the buses, and to assist the bus company to provide a reliable and frequent service. The scheme would feature new low floor, environmentally friendly buses, and is designed to give better reliability and frequency of buses, faster journey times, and better quality shelters with clearer information.

A priority bus lane would be created from Russell Town Ave to Chalks Rd (outbound only) at peak times. They will restrict on-street parking at these times they also want to introduce new parking bays opposite Cyril Dark's furniture showroom close to Weight Rd. The plan also includes upgrading the pedestrian crossing arrangements, and to introduce a new pedestrian crossing point at the Avonvale Rd/ Church Rd junction. The Council would like parts of Church Road to become a 20mph zone.

The main concerns expressed at a recent public meeting were around side street parking and the impact the bus lane could have on local traders along Church Road. The issue of disabled parking access was also raised.

Tony Potter says "this is your chance to make your views known to the Council.- make sure you do".

If you would like further information on the scheme then please contact Geoff Mills, Team Manager, Public Transport Dept, Bristol City Council, tel: 922 2397.



IT'S A TWO HORSE RACE!



Years of Labour rule in Bristol could come to an end on Thursday May 5th.

The Liberal Democrats are poised to win many seats from them. In St. George West, the Lib Dems were runners up last time, with the Tories in third place *(as they have been for over 20 years!)*.

As in the City of Bristol as a whole, it is a straight choice between the Labour Party nominee and the Liberal Democrats round here.

Only the Liberal Democrats can beat Blair's New Labour in St. George West



BRISTOL EAST ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION


Cordially invite you to their
Spring Fayre and Open Day

Saturday 2nd April 2005 at
the Pavillion, Nicholas Lane

Come and see what we're all about!



Tenants opt to stay with Council



A massive 74% of Bristol's Council tenants indicated that they wished their homes to remain owned and managed by the Council, rather than see their management transferred to an arms length management organisation (ALMO - 18%), or their homes transferred to a housing association (6%), or funds raised through the private finance initiative (3%). The Council still has to balance its business plan, and previous forecasts suggested a £50m hole in the finances by 2010. This could be bridged through 10% savings in management costs, which are likely to decimate the network of local area offices and may result in redundancies. A further 10% cut in the amount spent on day to day repairs and maintenance could happen, as well as delaying for a number of years, or even cutting altogether a substantial part of the long term investment programme. In Autumn 2004 Liberal Democrat Councillors successfully tabled a motion calling on the Labour Government to review its policy of negative subsidy, which takes money away from Bristol's tenants, and for the Government to provide funds to the Council to help it meet the decent homes standard. St George West candidate **Tony Potter** said "Tenants have now had their say. They should not be penalised for wishing to stay Council tenants, and rejecting New Labour's plans!"

BUILDING BOOM ON 'BROWNFIELD' SITES



The building boom in St. George continues apace. Over the past few months new houses, and flats have been built (or are intended to be built) at:

- * Whitehall Road (previously, petrol station)
- * Church Road, opposite Tesco's, Redfield (previously a Church building)
- * Blackswarth Road, a-joined to St Patrick's primary school.
- * Church Road, near Park, previously Summers (stone masons)

Proposals for more residential building on Church Road have been made for the site of the former Don Johns Cross and Three Horseshoes pubs, and the closed down petrol station opposite the park.

Whilst nobody wants to see such sites remaining derelict, some residents have expressed concern about the number and scale of such developments. One wrote to Tony Potter and said "*it seems to me that this ward is in danger of losing it's personality and turning into a concrete jungle*" Concern has also been expressed about the loss of community facilities, and that the area is losing its character. Church Road (the A420) is already one of the most congested routes in Bristol, and if the new residents all have cars it will just get worse.

Focus Editor Tony Potter said, "these applications come in one at a time, but taken together they amount to a big change in our area". He called for a wider public debate on the issue, so why not make your views known. **Contact TONY POTTER of the Liberal Democrat Focus Team, and let us know what YOU think. Your views matter!**



The Best Person for the Job

St. George West Liberal Democrat Focus Team



Tony Potter
Focus Editor



Phil James
Parliamentary Spokesman

Tony POTTER

X

DO YOU NEED A POSTAL VOTE?

If you think you may be away from St. George West on polling day, **Thursday May 5th**, or if you have difficulty in getting to the polling station, apply for a postal vote NOW. Postal votes are now available for all who want them. To apply for a postal vote, ring electoral services on **0500 901 108** (09:00 -16:00), e-mail: registertovote@bristol-city.gov.uk, or contact Tony Potter, at the address below.

LAST DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS TUESDAY 26th APRIL



We want to hear from you

My suggestion/complaint is:

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number:

E-mail:

I'd like to help by

- DELIVERING FOCUS
- MAKING A DONATION
- DISPLAYING A POSTER
- CLERICAL HELP
- ADVERTISING IN FOCUS

Get in touch with your St. George West Liberal Democrat Focus Team:

Tony Potter Telephone: 0117 955 1586

Phil James Telephone: 079 7318 1638

or by post to: Liberal Democrat Focus Team, 64 Vicarage Road, Bristol, BS5 9AF

