

# FOCUS



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## LOCAL CANDIDATE CHOSEN

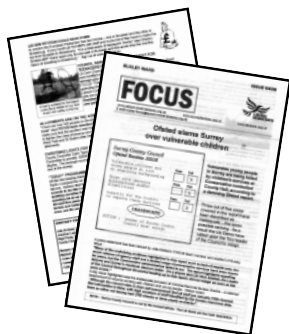


**Already well-known amongst local residents, Margaret Derrett is the Liberal Democrat candidate in the Ruxley ward by-election on February 26th.**

Margaret has lived in the borough for the last 22 years. Her late husband Bill was the county councillor for Epsom & Ewell West, which includes Ruxley ward, from 1989 to 1997.

Margaret is a retired teacher by profession. She taught English at the Ashcombe school in Dorking, having previously taught at Epsom & Ewell High School, Ruxley Lane.

### **"I WILL KEEP IN TOUCH" PROMISES MARGARET**



A recent Ruxley ward FOCUS

"Once they're elected, so many councillors just disappear into the Town Hall and you don't hear from them again until they want your vote at the next election," says **Margaret Derrett**. "But I won't be like that. I know that the job of a councillor is to listen to local people and to keep in touch to tell them what I'm doing on their behalf. That's why I will make sure that I will hold regular councillor's advice surgeries and ask your opinion via the **FOCUS** newsletter, just like other Lib Dem councillors in this borough. In fact, we've already been delivering **FOCUS** in Ruxley ward for the last couple of years. You will always know how to get in touch if you need me.

*"Don't vote for anyone else until you have asked them if they will make the same promise!"*

**MARGARET DERRETT**



## **A MESSAGE FROM MARGARET**

*"I am looking forward to working for the people of Ruxley Ward as your local councillor and I am looking forward to working inside the Council chamber with the other Liberal Democrat councillors. With 10 councillors, the Lib Dems are the main opposition on the council and constantly hold the ruling Residents' Party to account. A strong opposition is an important part of any democracy. The Conservatives have only two councillors and are ineffective. The Labour Party has no councillors at all.*

*"I share the local Lib Dem vision for our borough:*

Consult on council tax, keeping increases at or below inflation

Become the best at recycling in Surrey

Make parking problems one of the top priorities

Improve the local environment

Invest in young people

Continue the cross-party campaign to keep Epsom Hospital

Run a modern council which puts local residents first

***"Please support me on February 26th so that, together, we can fight for these priorities."***

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## **WATCH OUT FOR THOSE PORKIES**

It's by-election time, so you can expect to be receiving extravagant claims from the other political parties.

The **CONSERVATIVES**, for example, can be expected to :

- give the impression of being very active - when their isolated councillors often don't attend or leave early from meetings, even to the point of submitting a "motion" to the council and then leaving before it's debated!
- have already said in a newsletter to Ruxley ward residents that they have introduced modern recycling to Epsom and Ewell - completely untrue since they have only 2 councillors and the ruling Residents' Party have 25!
- blame the county council for just about everything including the state of our roads - yet it is the Conservative Party that is in control of the county council!



And **LABOUR** usually

- say "it's a two horse race", implying that they are in the running - then in the event usually come last.
- accuse the Lib Dems or their candidate of something outrageous - completely at variance with actual actions, policy or statements
- try and distance themselves from the Labour government - because they know their track record is so dreadful and the country is in such a state of turmoil

The **RESIDENTS' PARTY** will

- tell you that all other parties have to follow party diktat - utter nonsense as, certainly in the case of the Lib Dems, policy is created by local people, on local issues, for the benefit of local residents
- avoid mentioning their role in the recent Epsom & Ewell High School fiasco where at least two active Residents' Party members have been sacked from the board of governors
- try to convince you that RA rule is a good thing - forgetting to mention that they still wear velvet robes for meetings, their Mayor uses an expensive Rolls Royce and they have failed to wake up to the 21st century

