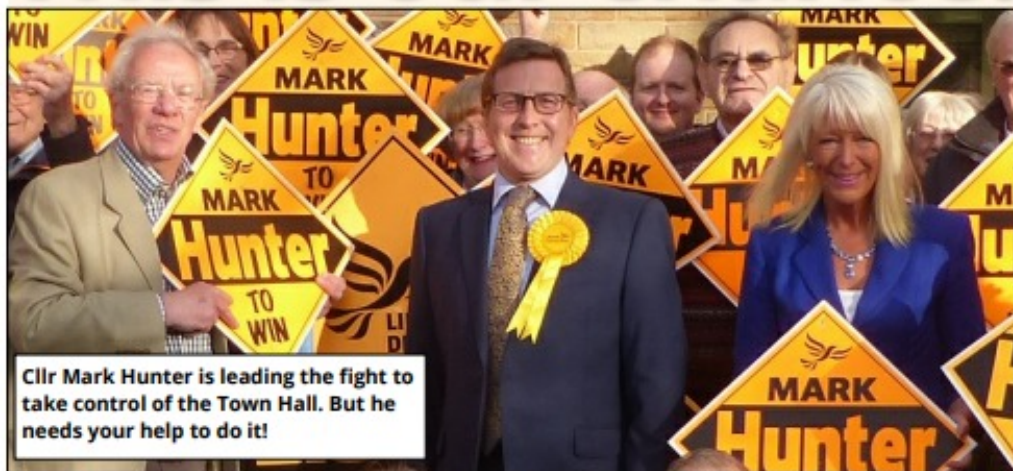


Bird's Eye View

Liberal Democrats

The Cheadle Liberal Democrats newsletter - free for members and activists.

This is our chance!



Cllr Mark Hunter is leading the fight to take control of the Town Hall. But he needs your help to do it!

"The January blues have been beaten and the campaign to take control of Stockport Council is in full swing" writes Mark Hunter.

"2017 was a strange year - we had a snap General Election where Theresa May snatched defeat from the jaws of victory, the Government's Brexit negotiations went from bad to farce as the Conservatives got played time and time again by EU negotiators and, perhaps more importantly, my beloved Manchester City went on a winning streak not seen ever by the blue half of Greater Manchester!

On a more serious note though, I have never been more optimistic here in Cheadle. We have a real opportunity to win control of Stockport Council and have some fantastic candidates ready to take their place in the Council Chamber.

But we need your help to do this!

Our movement is completely dependent on the help and support that it's members provides. Every donor, every deliverer, every letter writer plays a vital part in helping us change things for the better.

So, if you can spare some time, or money, please get in touch on the details on the back of this newsletter. Winning control of the Council will allow us to achieve real change in the area - from ending the car parking hike to fighting for better transport links across the constituency.

It's not often that we are given an opportunity to make a real difference to people's lives and to put Liberal Democrat policies in action.

So please, come and help, you can really make the difference!"

Mark Hunter is the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group on Stockport Council and the former MP for Cheadle.

A proud Cheadle tradition

Vice-chair, Helen Foster-Grime, discusses the tradition of women politicians in Cheadle



Helen Foster Grime and Tom Morrison joining local campaigners in Cheadle Hulme South.

It was 100 years ago in February that some women won the right to vote. Reflecting on this locally many of us remember Patsy Calton who first won the parliamentary seat from the Conservatives and who championed equality. The Cheadle Liberal Democrats have a proud tradition of getting strong, leading women elected and one we hope to carry on!

As such, we are delighted that Claire Halliwell in Cheadle Hulme North and Grace Baynham in Stepping Hill are working so hard to be elected in May which will further increase our female representation on the Council. Both are leading teams across their wards and taking up issues for local residents.

Talking of strong willed local ladies we are sorry to see Cllr June Somekh retire from the Council in Cheadle Hulme North. June has been a passionate advocate for our cause in the Town Hall and we will miss her wisdom, her kind dedication and not least of all her cheeky sense of humour!

Our great team of hardworking candidates all featured elsewhere in our newsletter need your help to make "taking back control" a reality locally. There are many tasks from organising, delivering and bundling leaflets to clerical tasks, making phone calls to residents and volunteers, putting up posters, tellers on polling stations and canvassing to kind donations and digital campaigning on social media.

If you can kindly help please do get in contact. The coming few weeks are crucial but whether you are new to us or an experienced hand we need you. **We can do this!**

Politics and Pizza with Lord Storey, Thursday 1st March 2018

Join us on Thursday 1 March at 7.30pm for politics and pizza with Lord Storey, the Lib Dem Education spokesperson at The Micker Brook, Councillor Lane, Cheadle Hulme, SK8 5NU.

The event costs just a £5 donation and food is provided - Politics, pizza and perhaps some prizes, a great combination! For more information contact Tom Morrison on 07854562460 or t.w.morrison2@gmail.com.



From the backroom to the front line - Claire Halliwell talks about being a candidate



Claire Halliwell and her team are making a positive impact on people's lives in Cheadle Hulme North.

"Some of you will remember me from my time working for Mark Hunter at Gillbent Road. This was when my interest grew in standing and making a difference in the Town Hall.

Since being selected in October 2016 in Cheadle Hulme North, I cannot tell you the amount of support I have had from councillors and members. Cllr June Somekh, who will be standing down after 16 years, is going to be a very hard act to follow. But the whole team have shown me the ropes.

Despite having been employed in the party for over 9 years, I did not realise the range of issues

that I would face - Yes Potholes come up a lot, but so do neighbour disputes, parking and school concerns. My inbox is fairly full and it goes to show how many people need help across Cheadle Hulme North.

Campaigning has been a real team effort. My crime survey has been very popular and lots of people have shared extremely worrying stories of their experiences. This is something I am passionate about changing and our campaign for more funds for the police has been supported widely.

The campaign team are already making a difference. Labour Council chiefs had to drop plans to only collect black bins once every three weeks because of our campaign and our efforts against Labour's 67% increase in parking charges is also very well received, including by the Federation of Small Businesses. Elsewhere, the Conservatives have been completely invisible.

Being a candidate is so rewarding and everyday I meet a new challenge, but its made easier by the amount of help from members and supporters. I've managed to help local people already and know that if elected, I can make an even bigger impact!" **Claire is the Liberal Democrat candidate in Cheadle Hulme North.**

BEAUTIFUL BRAMHALL

There are many Liberal Democrat voters to be found in Bramhall.

It's easy to become focused on defending the wards where we are strong, particularly where our opponents are cheekily sniffing around, but we don't need to be defensive, we have a strong positive message and should be taking the fight to them. When we win back overall control of the council it will be because we found our voters in Bramhall.

The big push is in Bramhall South & Woodford where Jeremy has slashed the Tory lead, while Richard is working in Bramhall North to develop our chances for the future.

You can help! with donations to fund the ambitious plan for leaflets or with delivering them (particularly in Bramhall North).



Team Bramhall - Jeremy Meals and Richard Flowers

Events and getting involved

The diary is getting packed full of events and campaigning sessions, so make sure you don't miss out.

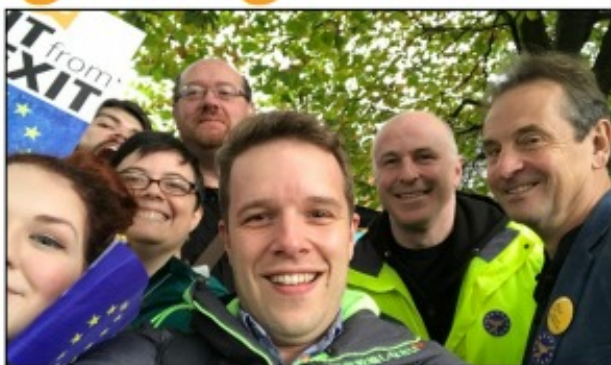
With so much at stake in the May local elections, Tom Morrison, Cheadle's new Membership Secretary, is keen to get as many people involved in campaigning across the constituency.

"As well as delivering leaflets and knocking on doors, we need people to help raise money, run and manage events, make telephone calls and write letters" says Tom.

A former councillor himself, Tom knows the magic ingredient to winning elections is the members.

"When I became the youngest councillor in Liverpool, it was down to the hundreds of people that helped me deliver a winning campaign. I owed it all to them," said Tom. "We need to replicate that across Cheadle!"

As well as campaigning, Tom is keen to run a cross range of events for people. Whether it's policy



Tom and Claire Halliwell joined former MEP, Chris Davies at the anti-Brexit march in Manchester this summer.

discussions, social events or just a coffee morning, Tom is keen to get it sorted.

There are already a host of events being planned so put them in your diary.

If you have any ideas, or want to get involved more, contact Tom on

t.w.morrison2@gmail.com or on 07854562460.

Dates for the diary...

Thursday 1 March 2018, 7.30pm

Politics and Pizza with Lord Storey, Education Spokesperson @ The Micker Brook, Councillor Lane, Cheadle, SK8 5NU. Join us for some pizza and light political chat! Cost - £5 donation.

Thursday 5 April 2018, 7.30pm

Politics and Pizza with speaker TBC @ The Micker Brook, Councillor Lane, Cheadle, SK8 5NU

Thursday 3 May 2018, Starting from 6am

Polling Day! More details TBC

Friday 18 May 2018, 7.00pm

Annual Dinner TBC - join us for our annual dinner with a very special guest speaker!

Thursday 7 June 2018, 7.30pm

Politics and Pizza with speaker TBC @ The Micker Brook, Councillor Lane, Cheadle, SK8 5NU

Saturday 9 June 2018, 2.30pm

Manchester Walks presents 'The Pankhursts: Suffragette City'. A walk through Manchester's suffragette past with historian guides. Ticket prices TBC.