

East Devon Conservative Association

Link

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Printed & promoted by Lucille Baker on behalf of EDCA both of
9c Mill Park, EX5 1EL

2013

Sunday 9th June Sidmouth Branch Sunday Lunch by kind invitation of Mary Jolly at 6 Balfour Manor Court, Station Road, Sidmouth, EX10 8XW - 1p.m. Tickets £10.00. RSVP: Mary Jolly 01395 516967 or Graham Troman Tel 01395 512564

Saturday 13 July West Hill Branch Hog Roast at West Hill Village Hall - 7.00pm

Sunday 1 September West Hill Branch lunch at the Deer Park, Weston - 12.15pm for 1.00pm

Friday 13 September East Devon Conservative Association Auction at Sandpark joint fundraiser with Exeter Foundation.

Saturday 12 October West Hill Branch Harvest Supper at West Hill Village Hall - 7.00pm

Saturday 7 December West Hill Branch Holly Ball - 7.00pm - 11.45pm

Forthcoming events - awaiting further information

Topsham & St Loyes Branch Fish Lunch

Budleigh Salterton Branch Party at Syon House, East Budleigh

Budleigh Salterton Branch Quiz Night at Venture Hall, Budleigh Salterton

Budleigh Salterton and Sidmouth Branch Christmas Lunch at the Westcliff Hotel, Sidmouth

Please contact the office for more information.
Events will also be circulated by email once they are confirmed.

Message from the Agent

Congratulations to all our sitting County Councillors on their re-elections to Devon County Council. Hard work and dedication to duty paid off on the day! John Hart, the Leader of Devon County Council, has run a very efficient Council over the last four years by freezing council tax, reducing the debts of the County Council by nearly £90 million and delivering good services all on reduced grant from the Government.

John Humphreys, Jill Elson and Chris Wale all fought extremely hard in their divisions and our commiserations to them for not making it to County Hall this time.

We have retained control of Devon County Council with a good working majority of 38 and it is the first time since 1981 that the Conservatives have won two successive County Council elections in Devon.

Thank you to all of you who delivered leaflets and did telling on election day, and thank you to all the candidates for whom I was Election Agent who made the whole the campaign a pleasure to coordinate.

UK Independence Party shook the whole political system and took a County Council seat from the Liberal Democrats in Exmouth. They came second in many of our county seats, pushing Liberal Democrats into third place. We must not forget that the Liberal Democrats were in control of Devon County Council just four years ago; now they only hold nine seats across the whole county!

Cllr John Hart has announced his Cabinet members, two of whom are within the East Devon Constituency; Cllr Andrew Leadbetter who is now the Cabinet Member for Economy, Enterprise and Employment, and will also continue to be the Cabinet member with special responsibility for Exeter and Cllr Stuart Hughes will be the Cabinet member for Highways and Flood Prevention. Cllr Bernard Hughes will be the Chairman of Devon County Council with effect from Thursday 23rd May.

Lucille Baker BA (Hons)
Group Agent



Parliament, Paintings and Politicians - Talk by Rt Hon Hugo Swire MP

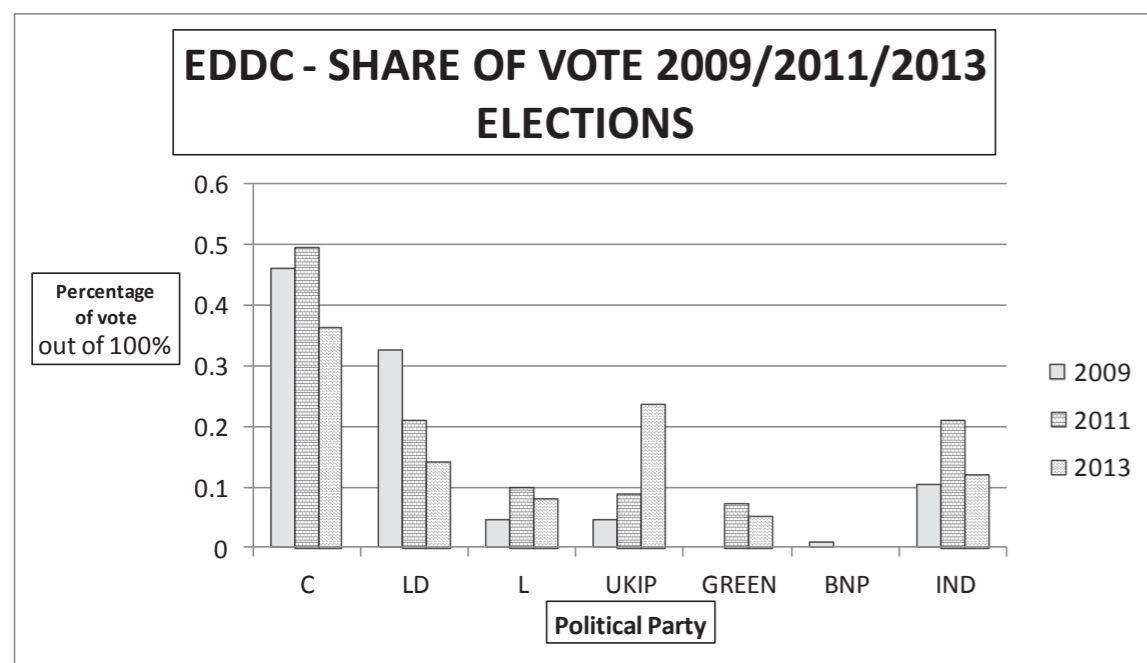
The Rt Hon Hugo Swire MP gave an interesting talk on Parliament to a packed audience at the Church Hall, All Saints Church, East Budleigh. It was organized by Stan Roberts on behalf of the Friends of All Saints and attracted a wide audience of art lovers, mainly from the village and Budleigh Salterton. The talk was punctuated by pithy asides on the characters that make up our Parliament, giving an insight into the day to day workings of our democracy. The portraits of our statesmen, going back to Pitt, Fox and, Churchill, brought home to us all just how much we owe to our history.



East Devon District Council Elections Campaign 2015

The 42 Conservative Councillors on East Devon District Council (25 in East Devon Constituency, 16 in Tiverton and Honiton and 1 in Central Devon) have had a lengthy discussion concerning the recent elections for Devon County Council and the consequences of the results.

All the candidates standing for Devon County Council were very grateful for the help they received from members and friends. These were difficult elections particularly when the coalition Government is not popular with a case of "mid term blues" and many of our own members have difficulties with some of the policies and decisions. District Councillors have also had to make difficult decisions to comply with Government policy, not least coping with the reduction in expenditure of 33%.



Conservative Councillors at East Devon District Council are led by Paul Diviani and have started the process of setting up a **CAMPAIGN TO WIN in 2015**. Conservative Councillors value members help and the invaluable local knowledge of their "patch" that this brings. East Devon District Council Conservative members recognise that they must give our members, friends and Conservative minded people the information they need and get them to ask questions and get answers about the issues that concern them about East Devon District Council straight "from the horse's mouth" and not just from an opposition perspective, newspaper and social media channels. It is critical that Conservatives communicate with younger residents of East Devon as they are the future of our society whose voice is not always heard. We need to communicate with them more effectively our core values and what we stand for. It is vital that the **CAMPAIGN TO WIN in 2015** engages with younger people and this will form a key part of the campaign. Conservative Members on East Devon District Council are inviting members to a Question and Answer session at the Council Offices, Knowle, Sidmouth on **WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER AT 7pm** and would very much like you to come along to meet your elected members, have your say and help to shape our future in East Devon. Contact: Jill Elson email: jill@jillelson.co.uk, Telephone 01395 264731

PARIS BY EUROSTAR FROM EXETER

In the February 2013 issue of Link we saw an announcement about Riviera Travel, the award winning Travel Agents, who were offering 10% to our Conservative Association funds for any trips booked through them. This is the first trip which our members have experienced. Amongst the 40 people on the four days/3 nights trip to Paris were eight people from our own area. The photograph shows from Exmouth branch Cllr. Bernard Hughes & Mrs Hughes, Cllr. Richard Turner & Mrs Turner, Cllr. Bill Nash & Mrs Nash and Mr. Mrs Black from Sidmouth branch. The whole trip was escorted from St Pancras International Eurostar and return by a very experienced and amusing Tour Manager who accompanied us on all the coach travel to see L'Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, Louvre, Montmartre, Versailles, River Seine Cruise and of course the Latin Quarter for the Caberet and Dinner on the Saturday night. The hotel (Mercure Porte de St Cloud) was of a high standard with restaurants close by and the metro station for those who wanted to explore Paris on their own. This tour was enjoyable and very cost effective and can be recommended so our congratulations to Riviera Travel and Link for arranging this. We look forward with interest to see announcements of future tours which they organise to European cities and places of interest.



Bill Nash - Secretary Exmouth Conservative Branch

DEVON AREA 2014 European Parliamentary Elections MEP CANDIDATES HUSTINGS



In May 2014 there are elections to the European Parliament. In the previous European elections in 2009 the Conservatives won 3 out of 6 seats in the South West Region. The Regional Selection College has carried out preliminary interviews and both Julie Girling and Ashley Fox have been re-adopted to stand following a vote from the College. They will take position 1 and 2 on the Ballot Paper. All qualifying members of the Association will have the opportunity to take part in a postal ballot. There will be two ballots. Members will be asked to rank the re-adopted MEPs in one ballot and all the rest of the new applicants in another ballot.

The new applicants are: Georgina Butler, Don Collier, James Cracknell, Melissa Maynard, Virginia Morris, Sophia Swire.

You are invited to attend a Meet the Candidates session, which will be for the new applicants only. The details are below. The postal ballot is from 5th to 26th July, and you may like to attend this event to help you in your decision making. I would be very grateful if you could contact Patricia White, Chairman of the Devon AME if you would like to attend.

Meet the Candidates

Saturday 29th June, 9:30 - 12:30 (Registration from 9:00a.m)
Conference Room, Westpoint Arena, Clyst St Mary EX5 1DJ

There will also be hustings in Plymouth & North Devon. Please ask Lucille for details.
As this is an event for more than one Association, capacity is limited, so please confirm your attendance by contacting Patricia White. Email: patricia.e.white@gmail.com
or complete the form below:

Name/s.....

Association

Email/Phone.....

Please return to Patricia White, 9c Mill Park, White Cross Road, Woodbury Salterton, EX5 1EL.