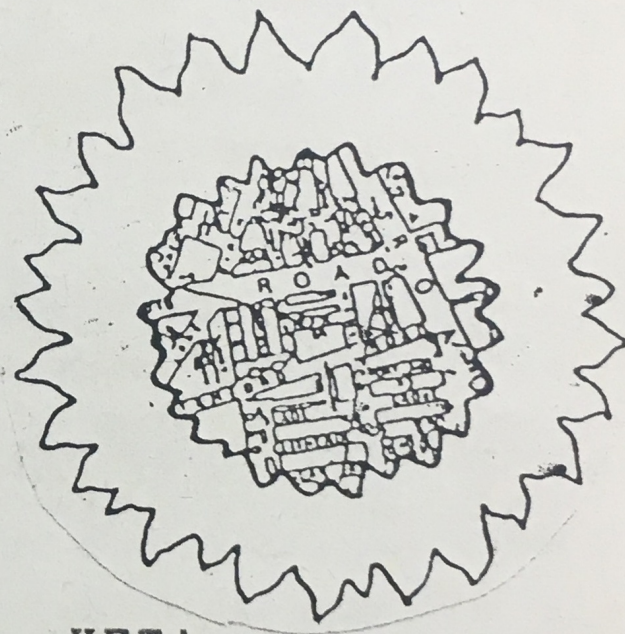


CITY

APRIL ISSUE 1989

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DESPERATION,
MEDIA WORK,
NAMES, DATES,
PLACES AND THE
GREATEST CAMPAIGN YET!



GREEN

NEWSLETTER OF SOUTH MANCHESTER GREEN PARTY

Manchester - Periodicals A-2

GREENS GET DESPERATE

Green issues are rapidly moving to centre-stage in British life: green consumerism, green books, green this, that and the other. The Sunday Times supplement recently stated in bold words on its cover: "The Earth is dying. What are you doing about it?". So Green is now no longer cranky, but politically how does the Green Party fit in? We are now mentioned in some opinion polls and sometimes a thin green stripe appears on the TV (I'm told). Everyone's falling over themselves to be green.

In a great city like Manchester, the hub of the industrial revolution (the drawbacks of which ultimately gave birth to green politics), you'd expect the Green Party to be well organised. Well it isn't, and the Earth is dying, and what are YOU doing about it? Politics isn't everything of course; we've all got our own lives to lead. But frankly, we'll none of us have a life worth leading if we don't change the nature of politics. The other parties will eventually change, but we can affect the speed and direction of that change. Where are the alternative energy programmes, the encouragement of organic farming, preventive medicine...? personally, along with a couple of others, I'm killing myself trying to keep this party going while 90% of the members (that's about 70 or so) for some reason seem to feel they have no part to play.

OUR GREATEST CAMPAIGN EVER

It now looks as though there will be a Green Party candidate in every constituency in the land for the coming European elections, making this the Party's biggest campaign yet. On 17th April we are having a meeting in the Town Hall to discuss some of the issues surrounding this campaign: (NB this will be a business-free event)

Why we are standing given our objections to the EEC.

What policies we should be standing for.

What we can do to make Europe Green.

Brian Candeland, our prospective candidate, will be speaking, having just returned from a trip to Strasbourg. With current interest in Green things, and desperate attempts by others to get on the bandwagon, this campaign should put us on the political agenda like never before.

There are a few things going on that require us to pull together (if not, a few people will be running their feet off).

* Shares in Democracy. From April 15th (approx) we will be raising our ENTIRE deposit by selling "shares" to the public for £1. If everyone in our Euro-constituency sells eight shares we could raise that £1,000 in an HOUR! If everyone thinks, oh they'll get sold, then a few of us will have a very hard job indeed. Any of the contacts listed at the back will have details of this. The deposit has to be handed in on May 11th.

* Sponsored Bike Ride. The ride to Tatton Park was postponed due to a shortage of volunteers. Come on please, we can have a good day out and raise some money at the same time. The ride is planned to be approx. 40 miles total which in a day is nothing. A half length version is being organised for the less keen. Details from Bruce, Brian or Paul. This is supposed to be our main campaign fundraiser, but I have found more volunteers from non-members!

* Jumble Sales. The first is on the 15th April in Withington. Help is needed both to collect jumble beforehand and to staff the tables on the day. More Jumbles will follow...

* Campaign. (a) we need your ideas - they can be polished up if need be but don't keep good ideas to yourselves. Tell Brian or Paul orally, in writing, by phone or by semaphore...

(b) We will be cycling around the constituency. What's in your area? If you know of anything interesting tell us....if not get out there and start looking. Get in touch with Paul if you can help unearthing those things they'd rather we didn't know about.

(c) We need 'experts' - don't be bashful please, you probably know something about something that no-one else does. Is your 'professional' knowledge useful? Alternative Health? Housing? Water? Food? Transport? Technology? Get in touch with David Wild 227 9167, 9 Whalley Grove, if you think you can help in any way - and don't worry we're not going to ask you to go on the nine o'clock news if you don't want to.

HELP PLEASE NOW!

Your time and money are desperately needed. If the few active members have to spend all their time raising money, the rest of the campaign will FLOP, and Green politics will yet again be SET BACK. All we need is a bit of commitment over the next 10 weeks...

Thought Processes

Housing, Local Democracy, Inner Cities, Transport, Health, Education. All these areas of concern have had, or are having draft papers written on them, summaries of which appeared in past editions of City Green. The purpose behind this activity is to produce a reasonably coherent set of policies with which we can contest elections on a local level. Many of us don't want to rely for ever on the manifestoes that come from London - a decentralist party should have decentralised policy.

The Town Hall has been booked for a whole day of relaxed and informal discussion of what we want as local policy - make a note of May 6th now. If you want the local party to reflect what you think, you'll have to make your thoughts known. The final date for getting policy papers ready is 12th April, so if you're preparing one still, get a move on. From that date copies of all papers should be available from Paul (address at back).

The Green Party has nationally a number of policy working groups that discuss and develop party policy. Many of these produce regular newsletters, to which the internal committee is considering subscribing. These would then be available for local party members to browse through, and would be invaluable background material when considering local policy. What we would like to know is what areas interest people? There are newsletters on: Agriculture, Food, Forestry, Fishing and the Countryside; Animal rights; Arts; Economics; Education; International Relations; Local Government; Science & Technology; Workers Rights, and Transport.

We want to know which you think it is worth the local party getting: your thoughts to Joe Otten at 30 Kirkmanshulme Lane, Longsight (256-2201). The final choice will probably be made at the policy day.

NAME CHANGE NAME CHANGE NAME CHANGE NAME CHANGE NAME

At the next monthly meeting a proposal is going to be made that we change the party's name, dropping the 'South' from the front, making us into 'Manchester Green Party'. If you care about this at all, make sure that someone knows of your feelings, either by coming to the meeting on Wed 12th April, or by phoning/writing to someone who will be at the meeting.

Media Work

NORTH WEST EUROPEAN ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

Few would deny the importance of media in political campaigning. The importance of a successful media campaign is even greater in a European election campaign. With such large constituencies and relatively low public interest. The 'door step public meeting' style campaign is not realistic.

Securing access to the media can be difficult. But by understanding the needs of the media and knowing what works for them, it is possible. The media do not ignore us because we are the Green Party. we do not give them enough material that suits their needs.

The North West Area are planning a media campaign to support the constituency campaigns. The aim is to promote the Green Party through all regional papers, radio and television by mounting a series of media designed events. An event will be staged in each of the 10 constituencies in the Area. The event will high light an issue that is important both locally and to Europe.

THE 10 POINT PLAN




Ten issues will be covered, one for each constituency. This will spread the load of organisation around the area. The issues are:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. AGRICULTURE | 6. WASTE |
| 2. FOOD | 7. WATER |
| 3. WILDLIFE | 8. DEMOCRACY |
| 4. NUCLEAR ISSUES | 9. UNEMPLOYMENT |
| 5. AIR POLLUTION | 10. THIRD WORLD |

On each issue we will publicise a statement about what we were saying on the issue 10 years ago: how our predictions have happened now and what we predict will happen in 10 years time if our Green policies are not followed. This will show how quickly events can slip from control. It will show how the so called "alarmist" fears of 10 years ago were sensible warnings and how ignoring them will now cost us dearly. It will show the urgent need to adopt green policies and that in many areas there is no longer any choice. We aim to be hard hitting. On some of these issues at least there is now official concern, so there must be real problems.

The issues will be high-lighted by some event that will be designed to attract the media. We are still working on the detail of these. The event will be backed with press releases with information on the background and Party policy. These events will be included in a campaign calendar that will be circulated to the press. All candidates will be briefed on the issues and a number will be present at each event.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL	EVENT	VENUE
3rd	Finance Cttee	Joyce's, 26 Atwood Rd, Didsbury. 8.00pm
5th	Public Meeting on Waste	Sale Town Hall, 7.30
5th	Internal Cttee	Colin's, Flat 1, 16 Whalley Rd, Whalley Range 8.15pm
8th	NW Area Euro meeting	Somewhere in Manchester phone Juliet 225 4077
10th	External Cttee	Joe's, 30 Kirkmanshulme Lane Longsight 8.00pm
12th	Monthly Bus- -iness Meeting	Joe's, 30 Kirkmanshulme Lane Longsight 8.00pm
15th	Jumble Sale	Withington, Burton Road, phone Brian & Mary on 434 7116 to offer your help
17th	 Euro-election briefing	Manchester Town Hall, Cttee rm 2 7.30pm
23rd	 Social Gathering	Joyce's, 26 Atwood Rd, Didsbury in the afternoon
24th 30th	Euro Campaign Meeting Sponsored Bike Ride	Brians, as below Between here and Tatton Park
3rd MAY	External Cttee	Brians, 28 Tintern Ave. Didsbury 8.00pm
4th 6th	 Crisis Euro meeting Policy Day	Phone Mark 928 6821 Manchester Town Hall, Cttee Rm 2 All Day, Bring lunch.
10th	NW Euro Press Launch from Moss Side	
13th-15th	Green Party Council meet in York	

A telephone network is a strange animal. It lies dormant for weeks on end, many people perhaps even forgetting it ever existed. But then out of the blue comes that message, the one which gets you out of your apathy and along to some event or other. Even if you can't make it this time, at least you were informed, and you helped to spread the message to three more people. If you want to join in, become part of this wonderful creature, then phone David on 227 9167.

For those of you already part of the network, the odd detail has changed since last published, so please check to see if your contacts are different. Again, phone David if there's any problem.

A	Liz Honeybell	B E O
B	Edwin Howard	A E F
C	Branwen McHugh	D F H
D	Guy Otten	C H R
E	John and Frances Poole	A B I
F	David Wild	B C G
G	Steve and Beryl Clarke	F J K
H	Gary Lawson	C D L
I	Brian and Mary Candeland	E J M
J	Juliet Denham	G I N
K	Bryony and Dave Howarth	G L O
L	June Buchan	H K P
M	Paul Emmerson	I N Q
N	Joyce Foster	J M R
O	Joe Otten	A K P
P	Alan and Linda King	L O Q
Q	Alison Hunt & Jonathan Booty	M P R
R	Brenda Kellet	D N Q

WATER PRIVATISATION - NATIONAL RALLY AND LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT 12th APRIL

Organised by the Water Industry unions, there will be coaches going to the Capital - but the deadline for booking on them is very, very soon, the 3rd of April. If you want more details, the Joint Action for Water Services secretary Ken Birch can be reached on 832 5625. If you can spare the time it may well be worthwhile - this is one privatisation bill where the government looks to be in trouble, and pressure might make the outcome a little more sensible. Who knows.

Think Globally



Act Locally

CONTACTS

Membership Secretary	Joe Otten	30 Kirkmanshulme La, Longsight 256 2201
Secretary	Juliet Denham	66 Birch Lane Longsight 225 4077
Treasurer	Dave Howarth	72 Milwain Rd Levenshulme 256 3160
Internal Cttee Convenor	David Wild	9 Whalley Grove Whalley Range 227 9167
External Cttee Convenor	Joe Otten	30 Kirkmanhulme La. Longsight 256 2201
Finance Cttee Convenor	Bruce Bingham	1 Rita Avenue Moss Side
Euro-Campaign Coordinator	Paul Harrison	96 Gretney Walk Moss Side 226 6683

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