

Porchester Ward

Focus

March - April 2018



Your Porchester Ward representatives are Alan Dawson, Seb Soar and Robert Swift.

If you have any issues that concern you, why not get in touch with us.

This is your newsletter.

www.gedlinglibdems.org.uk

Liberal Democrats Behind Life-Saving Defibrillator

Let us not under-estimate the importance of having life-saving defibrillators around our cities. Every year, 30,000 people go into cardiac arrest whilst out of hospital. Breaking down that figure across the country, it amounts to roughly 50 this year in Gedling Borough alone. Access to a defibrillator dramatically increases a person's chance of surviving cardiac arrest. There is a real likelihood that this machine will be used on more than one occasion, and could potentially save a life.

Liberal Democrat Alan Dawson says, 'I was concerned that there wasn't access to a defibrillator in such a busy and populated area of Mapperley Top. I thought why not organise one. The money was raised very quickly, with the bulk of it being donated by David James Estate Agents. Other personal donations have ensured that there are funds to maintain the equipment for eight years. It took a bit of negotiation to ensure that it was placed in the right location and to arrange a demonstration of the equipment for businesses in the area.'

The Borough Council replaced and relocated a litter bin so that the defibrillator could be attached to the wall of Top Tub Launderette, making it visible from the busy Plains Road. Local electrician Sam Marshall installed the equipment, giving his time for free.



Alan Dawson and James Roys of David James Estate Agents



The Nottingham Post reported the story of Mapperley's Defibrillator

HUNGRY FOR DEMOCRACY?

On February 6th, two of our members took part in a 'Hunger Strike' to mark the centenary of the Representation of the People Act.

We know that we live in a world where people still go hungry and discrimination impacts on too many of us. The event aimed to honour these realities and contribute to a society where such inequality and injustice is overcome.

All money raised went to three causes, Make Votes Matter, a women's rights charity and a food bank charity supported by #Hungry4Democracy.

Our members were slightly apprehensive about taking on the challenge but were glad they took part.

Seb Soar said, 'Our democracy needs to evolve and that is why we are taking part. To celebrate the efforts of the suffragettes, but also to highlight the need of democracy to be more representative.

Proportional representation is the way forward and with enough support, it will happen.'

Alan Dawson said, 'The First Past the Post system often means that 70% of those that vote in elections do not get the kind of representative they want.

No wonder that politics is so polarised at the moment. People should not have to vote tactically every time. They should have the confidence to vote for a candidate who they believe in.'

More information at www.makevotesmatter.org.uk