

Here is your latest Green Info for September 2023.

Sad News: John Simmons, a long standing Green Party member, died last Monday having been diagnosed with lung cancer only a few weeks earlier. We will miss his sense of humour and dry wit and Cathrine, our Treasurer, has lost her life support. There will be a memorial service and I will let you know the date.



Make Votes Matter: The campaign for Electoral Reform and proportional representation is hoping to start a local group in Torridge. The first meeting will be online on Tuesday 19 th September from 7 – 8 pm Tracey Beresford, a Green Party member from the Holsworthy area, will be leading the meeting. MVM is a cross-party movement open to people of any or no political affiliation who support progressive policies. Contact me, Ruth Funnell, on ruth.funnell@btinternet.com for the code if you want to join the meeting



Greenpeace Operation Climate Vote Launch: George Monbiot is hosting a zoom call on Monday 18 th September from 6.30 to 7.45 pm. Go to their [website](#) if you would like to join this call.

Buses in Torridge: If you use the buses you will probably be aware that there have been quite severe cuts to services. Some routes have been shortened and some had the frequency reduced. Numbers of passengers have not recovered since the pandemic but these cuts make it less likely that people will return as the services become less frequent and therefore less useful. Funding support is a County Council responsibility and the latest news about Devon is that it is one of several (many?) County Councils facing bankruptcy after thirteen years of austerity have seen its support from Central Government gradually cut to nil. But we won't get people out of

their cars without decent public transport. Write to your County Councillor and your MP to raise this issue. This is the time to get their attention with CC elections in May 2025 and a General Election any time from May 24 onwards.



Sham Fest 23: Plans are now well ahead for Sham Fest at the Pollyfield Centre in East the Water on **Friday 22nd from 6 – 11 pm and Saturday 23rd September from 11 am to 11 pm.** Huw has managed to persuade our MP to donate a barrel of beer along with the other main political parties. It promises to be a great event with beer and cider plus other drinks, food and music, all in aid of local charities and organised by Huw Thomas, our Green Councillor for East the Water, so do get along and support it if you are free. [Visit their Facebook page here.](#)

Next Green Party Meeting:

Our next meeting is this coming Saturday, 16 th September at 2.30 pm at the Pannier Pantry on the corner of Bridgeland Street and the Quay in Bideford. Convenient for buses and free parking in the car park next to the new library building). All members and prospective members welcome. Come and see what we are about and hear what our four District Councillors are up to.

Ruth Funnell

Secretary

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