



Banffshire and Buchan Coast Liberal Democrats November 2023 Newsletter



Hi Leslie,

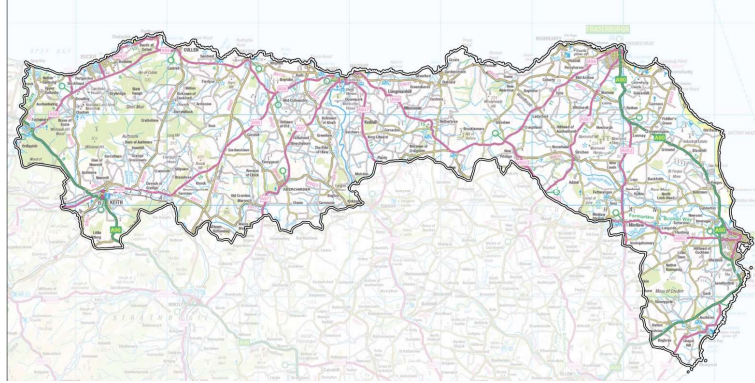
This is the local party's first e-newsletter using the Targeted Email system. We are hoping to make this a monthly publication to keep members informed about the activity of the local party, councillors and the Scottish and federal parties.

We will also include articles from members and information about upcoming events.

Headline News

Westminster Boundary Review

Boundary Commission Review



The coming General Election will be within the next 18 months and offers the voting public a chance to change the shape of politics, This General Election will be fought on the new boundaries established by the Boundaries Commission.

Our local party will now contest the constituency called Aberdeenshire North and Moray East. This extends from Cruden Bay on the East Coast to Spey Bay on the Moray Coast to the west of Fochabers and Buckie. The constituency covers a wide area of the North East and Moray Coast, and will challenge the party's resources, so we are looking for new members and existing members to help where they can.

Details of the Boundary Commission's changes can be seen by clicking [here](#).

We've seen the mess the Tories have made of the economy with their revolving Prime Ministers, and the impact of the disastrous tenure of Liz Truss. In Westminster, so far, eight SNP MPs have indicated they are standing down.

The time has come for a change

The Scottish Liberal Democrats offer that chance for change, we believe in a better voting system for Westminster, federalism that would see power and decisions pushed nearer the local levels, true environmentalism, not the power grab of the Greens, and democratization of the workplace.

These are not new ideas, its what we've stood for since the days of Jo Grimond.

Join us and be part of the change.

Our Local Team of Councillors

Cllr. Anne Simpson



Cllr. Ann Bell



Cllr. Colin Simpson



Ward 4: Central Buchan

Ward 3: Fraserburgh and District

Ward 6: Peterhead South and Cruden

We also cover three other wards within Aberdeenshire Council, Troup, Banff and District and Peterhead North and Rattray. In the Moray Council area we cover Keith and Cullen and Buckie.

There will be additional wards in Moray following the boundary changes.

We are looking for candidates in these additional wards. You would be fully supported by the local party in the local council elections of 2027. Interested? Get in contact for a chat, click the button below.

[**I'm interested in becoming a candidate**](#)

Local Party News

Annual General Meeting: We will be holding our 2023 Annual General Meeting over Zoom on Wednesday 22nd November at 7:30pm, Invitations to attend have gone to members and supporters, only full members can vote or stand for a position. If you have not received an invite but would like to attend, *Click the button to request an invite, members and registered supporters only.*

[**Request Invite**](#)



Cllr Anne Simpson Awarded Honourary Fellowship at NESCol: Cllr. Simpson, local party Chair, pictured accepting her Fellowship, said: *“The honorary fellowship is an honour I feel very humbled to receive and it has been my pleasure to be part of the college’s work over a number of years. NESCol has a special place in the hearts of all those who are part of the college community and as a fellow I hope I can play my part in helping it go from strength to strength.”*

Burns Supper, following last year’s successful dinner at the White horse Inn, Strichen, we are planning to hold this coming year’s event on the 20th January. If you’re interested click the button opposite to request more information.

[Count me in](#)

Autumn Conference 2023, 4th November Edinburgh

Some 230 members from across Scotland attended the conference, held in the Royal College of Physicians. This was a new venue to the party and was a very modern and highly stylized building.

There were a wide range of motions and exhibitions.

An innovation being trialed were the mini motions .These are short debates prompted by members and given an airing with a view to the party agreeing to look further into the topic with the aim of introducing policy through fully developed motions.

The aim is to test members opinion and as such are a great way of engaging with members,



Guest Speakers: Nazanin and Richard Radcliffe

One of the most moving sessions was an interview, hosted by Christine Jardine, with Nazanin Zaghari Ratcliffe and Richard Ratcliffe. Christine said she still has the blue flower Richard gave her when she went to visit him outside the Iranian Embassy when he was on hunger strike during Nazanin’s six year imprisonment in Iran.



Click [here](#) for the full article.

Nazanin and Richard want British citizens to have a right to consular protection after the Foreign Office was so slow to help her. At the moment, the commitment is dependent on ministerial whim, and, if ministers are reshuffled, you have to build the relationship up all over again.

[Extract from The Liberal Voice article by Caron Lindsay]

Leaders' Speech

Alex Cole-Hamilton delivered what will probably be the last leader's speech before the next General Election.

In this Alex laid out the path for the Liberal Democrats in Scotland as we move toward an election which many expect to see the party grow in Scotland.



Conference Motions Passed



Click Images above for details on motions

Scottish Liberal Democrat Campaigns



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