

# FOCUS on Southdown

from Angela  
Godfrey, Paul  
Crossley and  
Gine Romero

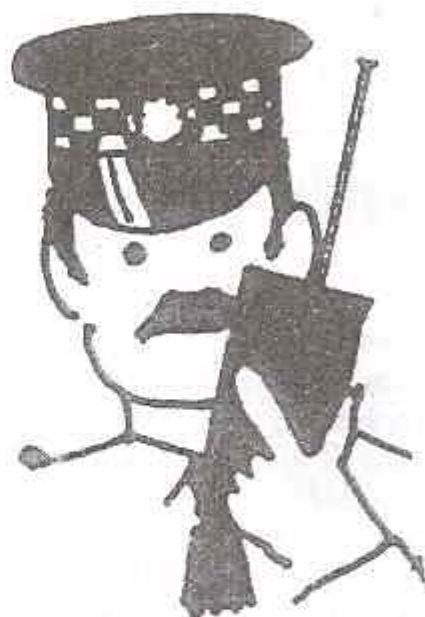
January 2003



## Community Wardens to fight crime in Whiteway?

Local Councillors working with the Southdown and Twerton Community Safety Action groups are putting together a bid to attract funding to provide up to 2 community wardens for the Whiteway area. This will be to support the funding that the Liberal Democrats put into the budget to start up a community warden scheme. The money would come from Regeneration funds recently won for the Whiteway-Twerton area.

Councillor Paul Crossley said 'crime reduction is the number one issue for residents in Southdown. If we can get this scheme approved it will mean community wardens just for our area and we would have secure funding for 3 years. They will be a valuable addition to the work of the police.'



### New elderly homes



Liberal Democrat Councillors have decided to replace all our ageing care homes with new homes that will be a model of best care in the whole country. They will provide extra care facilities including flats to allow people to live independently with support. One of these new homes will be based in Twerton and include a complete refurbishment of the Carrswood centre for those with learning difficulties.

Dine Romero said 'this is great news for our area. Not only will we be providing top quality care for our elderly residents but, I am very excited that we will also be refurbishing the centre for those with learning difficulties.'

Councillor Angela Godfrey added 'I am proud of this decision but saddened that the Labour and Conservative councillors have both adopted a line against this plan preferring it all to be done by the private sector. We do not want that here - just look at the closures in Tory controlled North Somerset. Our elderly deserve choice and this is the only plan to provide any benefit for those with special needs.'

## Working all year round



# Markets come to Bath **ACTION**

Many people keep saying where are all the basic needs shops in Bath. The problem has been that as more and more of us shop at supermarkets it has been hard for city centre traders to keep in business in areas such as fruit and veg and butcher trade. The Liberal Democrats have responded to this by setting up markets around the authority. There are very good food stalls selling at cheap market rates.

Councillor Paul Crossley, who now does his weekly food shop at the market said 'I have met several Southdown residents in the market and they all seem pleased with it. However markets take time to establish themselves and the first few months will be difficult. I hope this trial works well and becomes a permanent fixture'

In addition the Liberal Democrats have just held their second hugely successful Christmas market in the town centre. 200,000 visitors from all over the country visited Bath for this market. Many Southdown residents work in retail and tourist related jobs and this has provided a tremendous boost for the whole of Bath.

## Thank you for survey response

Thank you for the massive response we received from our autumn survey. We are currently dealing with lots of the issues you have raised. The number one concern by a long way is the problem of crime and disorder. The Focus team is working with all agencies to tackle this problem - see elsewhere for news on the Community Wardens bid. We are looking at the use of Anti-Social Behaviour orders and also a new scheme called Acceptable Behaviour Contracts. Litter hot spots are being regularly reported. You can do this directly by calling Actionline on 394041.

The 'Don't KO the PO' petition has proved very popular and we will be presenting a petition from across Bath to our MP Don Foster in the new year.



Dine Romero and Paul Crossley outside a closing Post office in Twerton.

## Regeneration money won

We are very pleased that during the summer the South West area of Bath won £1.6 million pounds from the Government for regeneration schemes over the next 3 years. Each scheme has to be approved and needs to raise additional support funding. Local activist Dine Romero said 'this is great news for our community and its success owes a lot to the way our local Liberal Democrat Councillors worked with a large number of community interests to provide a community based bid to win support from the Regional Development Agency.'

# Your Liberal Democrat team



# Around Southdown



Dine Romero at a vandalised bus stop at Haycombe Drive.

## Mount Road bus stops

The bus stops were fitted in the early part of the year and subjected to much vandalism. We persevered in getting them repaired and now they are well accepted and providing a useful service to bus passengers.

## No 5 Bus

During the Autumn this bus service was subjected to repeated incidents of stone throwing. Councillors Crossley and Godfrey worked together with the police and First bus to solve this problem by identifying the people involved and alerting everyone to the risk of the service being lost. It now seems secure again and Firstbus have promised to put on more evening and weekend services.

## Elliston Road lights

Dine Romero has got several lights repaired around the ward including two in Elliston Drive. If a street light is out of action or set to the wrong time please call Dine (number on back page). Dine says 'good street lighting is essential for safety reasons both for people walking as well as car drivers.'



## Graffiti

The Liberal Democrats are tackling graffiti around the town. The Council operates a scheme to remove graffiti at reduced rates and then promises to remove any that reappear at a cleaned site, free of charge for 3 months. Please call Councillor Angela Godfrey to report any graffiti that you want cleaned and for details of the scheme.



Dine Romero at one of the street lights that has recently been repaired.

To contact  
**DON FOSTER MP**  
Write to  
31, James Street  
West, Bath BA1 2BT  
or telephone  
01225 338973

## Haycombe Drive

We are pleased to see that the new areas of plastic grass to fix area of verge that are heavily parked has been installed. This was a major issue in last years survey and so Councillors Crossley and Godfrey got some money into the Liberal Democrat budget to extend the scheme. The new plastic is thought by many to be an improvement on the former grasscrete scheme. What do you think? Would you like more of it around Haycombe Drive?

Also we have received a request from residents to prevent cars parking on the grass crescent opposite the entrance to Roseworn Close. What do you think? Would you like to see some fencing there to prevent this patch of grass being used for parking?

# working for Southdown





# Roundhill play area

Local Campaigner Dine Romero has welcomed the refurbishment of this small play area as part of the Liberal Democrat's commitment to invest in play areas across the authority.

**ACTION**

Dine said 'play areas are an important facility for young people. This refurbishment is proceeding after consultation with both the YMCA and young people.' The work is expected to be completed before the end of March.



Dine Romero tries out the newly refurbished park next to the YMCA with her two girls.

[www.libdems.org.uk](http://www.libdems.org.uk)

*Please contact us if you have a problem.*

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# New housing at Haycombe Flats site



Angela Godfrey and Paul Crossley outside the flats before they were demolished.

Somer Housing have now presented their outline ideas for a mix of housing on the site of the old Haycombe flats. The scheme has been widely welcomed as it will provide a mix of housing on this site and will provide some much needed affordable housing both for Somer Trust and for private Bath residents. Dine Romero said 'there is a great need for housing in Bath that Bath people can afford to buy and rent. I think that Somer have listened well to the wishes of the local community and think the outline proposals form a good basis for an application. It will also ensure that this area does not get misused. Community Safety was a big factor amongst the concerns raised when Somer did their consultation.'

**Have a problem - then let us know!**

*Please return to:*

**Dine Romero  
7 Elliston Drive  
BATH  
BA2 1LU**



**I would like to help by:**

- ☐ Delivering Focus along my road
- ☐ Displaying a poster during elections
- ☐ Joining the local Lib Dems

Name .....

Address .....