

Since the last issue of Redlands Matters in the autumn, your Labour Team has been out and about checking on things around the ward. We have reported the following to the council.

- 3 street lights that had failed in **Lydford Road**
- Fly tipping in **Cardigan Road**
- A dumped, non-licensed car in **Cardigan Road**
- Twisted road sign light in **Blenheim Gardens**
- 'No right turn' sign facing wrong the direction in **Lydford Road**
- Expired Council temporary signs in **Alexandra Road** and **Lydford Road**
- Belisha beacon light failures in **Upper Redlands Road, Addington Road** and **Erleigh Road.**
- Conflicting 'waiting restriction' signs in the front of the parade of shops at the junction of **Erleigh and Addington Road** – one says 30 minutes and one says 2 hours!!
- Fly tipping in **Bamburgh Close**



Jan finding, reporting and sorting fly tipping

### Get involved in your community — Join the Labour Party

Check up on what **Jan Gavin** has been doing in Redlands and find out about local campaigns.

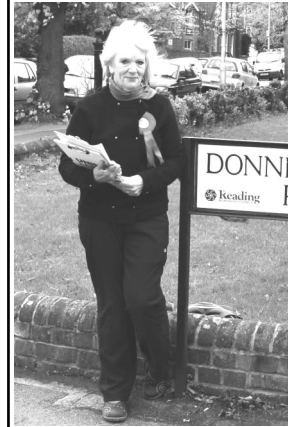
**www.jangavin.com**

Contact Jan for help on a local issue or campaign .. No job is too small!

Phone: **0797 967 1215** or email: **jan@redlandslabour.org.uk**



## Jan gives your views on house conversions to Council Cabinet



Many of you will have met Jan over the last few weeks as she and the Redland's Labour Team have been talking to residents about the local Tory/LibDem Council's unwillingness to use its powers to control the number of houses that are being converted from family homes to houses in multiple occupation. We collected 230 signatures on the petition which Jan presented to the Cabinet on the 17 January. Their response was to thank the residents of Redlands for the petition and a promise to bring a report to Cabinet in the summer of 2011 to consider the issue. We promise to keep the pressure up!

## Stop The Funding Cuts To South Reading Schools

The Whitley Excellence Cluster [WEC] was set up under the last Labour Government and Labour Council to target additional educational support and funding to some of the most deprived areas of Reading.

WEC has been a great success - performance and progress at all the schools in South Reading has improved markedly over the last few years. WEC has also been able to support many individual children and families and so improve their life chances. The cut of £473,666 to this spending by the local Tory/LibDem coalition is a really short-sighted and unfair cut. It is very bad news for children and young people in South Reading.



Jan campaigning outside George Palmer

Sign the online petition at: <http://www.gopetition.com/petition/41495.html>

## Kerb Parking Ban - Plot Thickens!

You will recall that we reported in the autumn Redlands Matters that the Tory/LibDem Council was going to introduce fines for anyone caught with their car wheels on the pavement, but that some roads would be exempt, only no-one knew which roads.



"In terms of public interest, and transparency, it is not considered that the public interest is best served through publishing an incomplete list of recommended roads or comments received from Councillors seeking clarification of the process being followed. Such a publication would likely to be misunderstood, and could cause unnecessary public confusion and anxiety, which would not be in the public interest."

Jan put in a freedom of information request to find out which roads had been suggested for exemption in Redlands, but was told it was not in the 'public interest' to reveal which ones were being discussed. Jan was appalled by this lack of transparency and appealed the decision. Read what they said opposite.

Jan was promised in the same letter from the Head of Central Administration that a report would be discussed at the Council Cabinet Meeting on the 17 January, but guess what, it wasn't even on the agenda. What are they trying to hide? **STOP PRESS: Proposal will now be presented to Cabinet in February!!**



## George Palmer Primary School Jan to be Community Governor

**Jan Gavin** has been appointed a Community Governor at George Palmer Primary School.

Jan is looking forward to working with the Governors, Head, teachers, parents and the whole community that are part of the George Palmer family.

Jan would also like to hear your ideas about how the community could get more involved in the life of the school.



## Deep, Damaging Social Care Cuts

Conservative and Liberal Democrat councillors in Reading are preparing to remove Council care services from as many as two-thirds of the elderly and vulnerable people who currently use them.

Under their plans, anyone who uses these services will be re-assessed next year. Some people will have their services provided by a charity, others will no longer be eligible to receive any services. The plans will affect thousands of care service users and their families. Services will be transferred to the voluntary sector and family carers will be expected to do more without any additional financial support.

The Council is consulting on these plans. You can find out more and make your views known at:

<http://www.reading.gov.uk/adultsocialcareconsultation>.

It is important that the Tory/LibDem council understand how vital these services are to local people. The consultation runs until 27 February, but surely that is after they will have set next years budget.

Vulnerable people who need these services may not have access to the internet. If you have any relatives who receive care from the council but don't use the internet please let them know what is happening. Get in touch with Jan to her know if you are going to be affected by these cuts.

## 23 Coalition Broken Promises

- No frontline cuts
- Protecting the NHS budget
- 3,000 more police officers
- Keeping VAT at 17.5%
- Keeping the Future Jobs Fund
- Keeping Education Maintenance Allowances
- Preserving tax credits for middle earners
- Removing the "couple penalty"
- Scrapping tuition fees
- No bonuses for bank directors
- 3,000 more midwives
- Three more army battalions
- Pupil Premium additional to the schools budget
- Keeping Child Benefit universal
- Stopping A&E and maternity closures
- A Post Office Bank
- No new nuclear power stations
- Removing high marginal tax rates
- No cuts to the Royal Navy
- Automatic prison sentence for carrying a knife
- Cutting rail fares each year
- Keeping the Child Trust Fund
- No more top down NHS reorganisations



[www.jangavin.com](http://www.jangavin.com)

Speaking-up for local people

