



Rupert Read's e-Newsletter, January 2009

edited by Paul Roome

A message from the editor...

With barely 4 months left until E-Day [European Election Day, June 4] there is now a gradually growing sense of urgency within the campaign. By the time this e-Newsletter reaches you Rupert will have just completed his first 'tour' of the region, a ten-day trip raising awareness on issues such as sustainable living, affordable housing and Green solutions to our ailing economy.

However, there is no rest for the wicked (or in this case no rest for the Green Lead Candidate for Eastern Region!) and plans are already being made for the next trip. *If you would like Rupert to visit your local area or know of any suitable speaking engagements in the coming months I urge you to contact us with your requests/suggestions and Rupert will endeavour to fulfil as many as possible.*

In the meantime our most pressing requirements are extending our media reach and raising funds for the campaign. Therefore we would like to ask of you, our readers and supporters, that you contribute to the election campaign in one (or more!) of the following three ways:

1. Become a supporter of Rupert Read on facebook.

Such a quick and simple thing to do but as the US election showed, social networking sites are now becoming a crucial battleground in creating support and momentum:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Rupert-Read/9128762052>

2. Donate to the European Election Campaign Fund.

We need money to compete with the other main parties. More from Rupert about this on page 2.

3. Simply forward this e-Newsletter to FIVE receptive friends.

The larger our audience, the greater our chance of electing a Green to the European Parliament.

Thanks in advance for your show of support. I'll pass you over to Rupert now! Cheers,

Paul.

Can you help us offer the people of Europe a **Green New Deal** ?

Dear friend,

I am writing to you firstly to wish you a peaceful and prosperous new year. And, secondly, to talk to you about an opportunity. It's an opportunity to make a difference. Imagine a world with honest politicians, who spoke plainly and truthfully, stood up for what was clearly fair, and fought for a sustainable future for both you and your loved ones! Seems a long way off doesn't it? Well, we've already received a lot of support to get the ball rolling, and, with your help, we can get some real momentum to create a huge impact in 2009!



We in the Green Party have recently launched our campaign for the European Parliament elections, the next big electoral test which will be held in just a few months' time, in June. I am currently one of the party's 13 councillors in Norwich and I am standing for the Green Party at this election as the lead candidate for Eastern England - which means that I am at the head of the Greens' list for the European Parliament. I very much hope to be elected to join the UK's existing two Green MEPs - Jean Lambert and Caroline Lucas - who are currently serving in the European Parliament. The constituency I am standing for is one of our two national key target seats for this election.

We have a real chance of winning this seat.

What do the Greens offer you in these difficult times?

Everybody is searching for a solution to the world's current woes. Caroline Lucas, Green Party Leader, has recently set out the "**Green New Deal**" plan – a long term sustainable set of proposals to get Britain and Europe out of the dreadful mess that our governments and banks have got us into. The Green New Deal proposes to follow Franklin Roosevelt's great example in the 1930s of investing in the country's infrastructure and in jobs, so as to fight our way out of recession and preventing a possible Depression – but without damaging our environment any further and without continuing to rely so heavily on energy sources that have a limited future and are contributing to dangerous climate change. In other words: we propose to stabilise the economy and stabilise the ecosystem at the same time by investing in a **Green New Deal**, and in Green jobs. We can, indeed we must, sort out our economy while also developing the basis for the sustainable management of natural resources and reducing our carbon footprint.

please turn over...

We need your help because Britain needs more Green MEPs

The Green Party is now a strong force in Europe – the fourth largest group in the European Parliament. This group, at this critical moment in history - with our planet and our economies facing the vast threats they do - still needs to grow in size. And we badly need a stronger British Green voice. Sending another Green MEP to Brussels would add real impetus to a group that is already a significant force for good and has real achievements to its name in European politics. Green MEPs have been behind the recent European initiatives to bring air travel into the carbon trading system, to improve the efficiency of cars sold across Europe, to achieve a global ban on depleted uranium, and to improve the conditions for the transport of live animals. If I were elected I would join this group of Green MEPs who are fighting for the quality of life for everyone on this planet, and the viability of the planet itself.

You can help us win in Eastern England

In an election in which proportional representation operates, the Green Party in Britain needs to increase its vote to reach the 'threshold' in any Region where we hope to win. Gains are most likely for the Greens here in Eastern Region (and in the North West): For here in the Eastern Region we need only 10 per cent of the vote to reach the 'threshold' and so for me to be elected (as lead candidate, I get the 'first' Green seat). We need to start the process NOW to gain the necessary momentum for a surge of support in early June.

If just one in ten voters in Eastern England vote Green next June then I will be elected as Eastern England's first Green MEP, enabling me to bring Eastern regional issues (nuclear power stations, Stansted etc) onto the agenda in the European Parliament.

Please give us *your* support

To have a good chance of winning, we need an enthusiastic and committed team and a well funded campaign fighting fund. I am hoping you might be able to help me: we plan to raise £100,000 to support the campaign. This is what we need, if we are going to begin to compete on a level playing field with the other Parties. As a grassroots party we mostly rely on small individual contributions to raise the money we need to get our message across.

We have already raised £25,000, which we have made go a long way – we are grateful for all those so far who want change and have given generously -- but we need to reach our target in order to mount a strong Eastern Region campaign – a campaign strong enough to win! **Any donation, no matter how small, will help the campaign - but contributions of £50 and over will make a really substantial difference.**

I very much hope you will be able to help – see below for details of how to make your contribution. I will be writing in person to anyone making a contribution of £50 or more.

You know how desperately urgent the climate change agenda is. You know we need a Green voice in government, now more than ever. We have the words, we just need your help to turn up the volume, and together we can make sure everybody gets the green message.

Thanks so much for your time and attention...

My best wishes and thanking you in anticipation of your support! And let's make this a happy a peaceful new year for everyone.

Rupert J Read

Cllr. Rupert Read, prospective Green Party MEP for Eastern England.
www.eastern.greenparty.org.uk

Give to the European Parliament fighting fund, and make a difference to our planet, and our society

YES! I want to make a financial contribution to help elect the first Green MEP from Eastern England

Give online now (via paypal)! <http://tinyurl.com/6k98kn>

Or: Please complete the relevant section below and return to Graham White, 3 Mazoe Close, Bishops Stortford Herts, CM23 3JU]

PLEASE TICK THE AMOUNT YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE

£1,000 _____ £500 _____ £100 _____ £50 _____ OTHER £ _____

TO DONATE BY CHEQUE

I enclose a cheque or postal order, payable to the Eastern Region Green Party, for £ _____

Your name _____

Your address _____

Postcode _____

TO DONATE BY CREDIT CARD

Please deduct £ _____ from my card numbered _____ Switch/solo issue number _____

Valid from ____ / ____ Valid to ____ / ____ Signature _____

Or you can donate now by credit card by phoning Marcus Hemsley on 01603 449522 or 07763 626687

All details will be kept in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Please return to Eastern Region Green Party Treasurer Graham White, 3 Mazoe Close, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM23 3JU.

THANK YOU!!

Learn more about the Green New Deal at
www.eastern.greenparty.org.uk

Recent Blog and Media Activity

A great way to access all of Rupert's media is through his exiting new portal:

<http://www.rupertread.net/>

All-New Campaign Videos:

Look out for all of Rupert's videos on his youtube channel: <http://uk.youtube.com/rupertread>

Solidarity with the shoe-thrower:

<http://tinyurl.com/82tq8n>

First Campaign Video:

<http://tinyurl.com/83xusr>

Rupert's Podcasts:

Radio interview on the Euro Election and PR:

<http://tinyurl.com/btstj4>

Brown's handling of the economy:

<http://tinyurl.com/brfgc7>

Highlights from the Blog:

A Green New Deal (first appeared in Red Pepper)

Rupert Read say the UK needs a 'Green New Deal' to tackle the 'triple crunch' of credit, oil prices and climate change:

In the 1930s, the world endured a grim economic depression. In the US, F D Roosevelt pioneered the way out with the New Deal, which helped stabilise the financial system and refloated the economy. We face the same kind of economic problems today but with added ecological threats. The age of cheap, plentiful oil is ending and we cannot simply invest in polluting factories, massive dams, boondoggle transport projects as FDR's government did then. If there is to be a new New Deal, it has to be a Green New Deal...

Read the full article here: <http://rupertsread.blogspot.com/2009/01/green-new-deal.html>

A Hunger For Peace (First appeared <http://oneworldcolumn.blogspot.com> and the EDP)

Rupert compares the peace process in Gaza with the struggle for peace in Northern Ireland:

The recent critically-acclaimed film Hunger brought home powerfully to many of us the brutality of the regime that faced republican hunger-strikers in Northern Irish prisons back in 1981. Fast forward a generation: who in the early 1980s would have thought that Northern Ireland would now (in 2009) be at peace?

I was a witness to one small part of the earliest stages of that real-life drama, the drama of the Northern Irish peace process...

Read the full article here: <http://rupertsread.blogspot.com/2009/01/hunger-for-peace.html>

January/February Diary Highlights:

*** Start of Ten Day Regional Tour ***

Jan 16 th (AM)	Diss	Campaigning for small businesses.
Jan 16 th (PM)	Mid-Suffolk	Green jobs and affordable housing.
Jan 19 th	St Albans	Campaign visit.
Jan 21 st	Cambridge, Hitchin, Bury St. Edmond's	Discuss economic downturn with local leaders.
Jan 22 nd	Norwich	Joint Highways Committee Meeting.
Jan 23 rd	Welwyn Garden	Campaigning.
Jan 24 th	Wivenhoe	Regional Meeting + Leafleting.
Jan 25 th	Ipswich	Doorknocking.
Jan 25 th	Beccles	Address public meeting.

*** End of January Tour ***

Jan 27 th	Norwich	City Council full Council meeting.
Jan 31 st	Southend	'Euro-Saturday'.
Feb 4 th	Eastern Region	4 MONTHS UNTIL E-DAY!
Feb. 5 th	Friends House Norwich	Public meeting on Gaza.
Feb 6 th	Witham Essex	Essex Green Party quiz night.
Feb 7 th	Norfolk Farmers Markets	Meeting with farmers and shoppers.
Feb 17 th	Bishops Stortford	Leafleting.
Feb 19 th	LSE, London	Guest speaker, 'Provocations' series of Lectures: http://tinyurl.com/ads4r6
Feb 20	Norwich.	Women's Institute Euro-hustings.
Feb 24	Stansted	Joining with protesters at the pre-meeting for the public inquiry into a 2 nd runway.
Feb. 28	Brentwood, Chelmsford	Media events, meeting members of the public and a Green jumble sale.

Please get in touch if you would like to help out at any of these events.

Green Party Breaking News: Tony Juniper (Former Director, Friends Of the Earth) Selected As Parliamentary Candidate For Cambridge

Read the full story on the Green Party website here: <http://tinyurl.com/ble6ks>

TAKE ACTION
VOTE
GREEN

ONE WORLD. ONE CHANCE.
Vote Green Party

Join the Mailing List

If you have been forwarded this e-Newsletter and would like adding to the monthly recipient list, please send an email to easterngreenparty@mac.com with 'Subscribe' in the subject bar.

Green Links:

Social Networking

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Rupert-Read/9128762052>

http://www.myspace.com/rupert_read

Our experiment in green blogging, 'Green Home'! Check it out:

<http://greenpartyblogs.org.uk/>

Thank you for taking the time to read this e-Newsletter! Rupert and the other 6 list candidates – *Peter Lynn, James Abbott, Marc Scheimann, Angela Thompson, Andrew Stringer and Amy Drayson* - are working hard to achieve Green success in this crucial election, and get a Green candidate elected in Easter Region. For more on what Greens including the other Euro-candidates are doing across the Region, go to <http://eastern.greenparty.org.uk/> .

Regards,



Feedback/Contact Details:

All of your feedback is hugely welcome so please feel free to contact us to comment about the newsletter and/or any of Rupert's other campaign work.

Email: rupertread@fastmail.co.uk

Tel: 01603 219294

[*Would you rather not receive this e-newsletter in future? To 'unsubscribe', please send an email saying simply 'Unsubscribe' to paul_roome@mac.com*]

[[Note: this newsletter is put out in Rupert Read's name and does not necessarily represent the opinion of Eastern Region Green Party.]]

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GREEN**

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