

# Surrey Heath OBSERVER

Con  
22401

Lib  
Dem  
11582

Surrey Heath  
General  
Election  
Result

Lab 9640

Labour are out of the race here in Surrey Heath.  
Only the Liberal Democrats can beat the  
Conservatives here.

**ALSO  
IN THIS  
ISSUE**



**Lib Dems  
Become  
Official  
Opposition**



**Campaign To  
Save Local  
Post  
Offices**

# New Threat To Local Libraries

**A** new threat has arisen to the future of local library services just three years after a storm of protest saved them from the possibility of closure.

Conservative run Surrey County Council has decided to quadruple the charge for reserving a book at community libraries from 20p to 80p in September. Protest letters are already appearing in local papers about this staggering increase!

Windlesham Parish Councillor Meurig Williams condemned the charge increase saying, "This staggering increase is one more nail in the coffin of the libraries we all fought so hard to save in 1999. We were promised improvements in our libraries. Instead we get this. It will start a spiral of decline and a new closure threat."

The 20p charge was introduced in 1999 because small libraries have a limited choice of books on site and the lower charge was designed to increase and encourage use of local libraries.

## Make Your Views Known

Local Liberal Democrat Councillors have begun a campaign to reverse this price increase. They are urging local people to write in to the County Council to complain.

West End Councillor George Bright said, "This price increase will clearly deter users like the very young, those on state benefits, pensions and those without transport from using the library. Is this the first step towards reducing the number of users so a closure can be proposed in the near future?"

**Please send your objections to:**

Cllr Sealy, Surrey County Council, County Hall,  
Penrhyn Road, Kingston-on-Thames KT1 2DN.



● Cllr Meurig Williams outside Bagshot Library, with the latest Surrey Heath Villages FOCUS leaflet, campaigning to reverse the price increase. The Library was one of the village libraries under threat of closure in 1999.

## MEP Warns Of Abandoned Car Boom



Chris Huhne MEP

**L**ocal MEP Chris Huhne is warning of a huge rise in the number of old cars abandoned on the roadside. This follows a government decision that the last owner of every vehicle must pay for new scrapping and recycling costs.

The decision has already been described by the British Metals Recycling Association as an

"environmental disaster and a blight on local communities."

Chris Huhne said, "From 2007 it will be the responsibility of the vehicle manufacturers to foot the bill for disposing of cars. The Government has now decided that owners will have pay the estimated bill of £100 each vehicle."

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