

# Focus on

Issue 157

# Whickham North & Swalwell

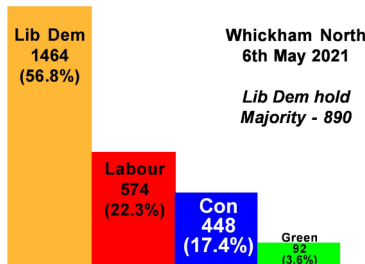
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## Thank You!

Cllr. Sonya Hawkins has been re-elected as a councillor for Whickham North and Swalwell in the local elections in May, with a majority of 890.

Sonya said "Can I take this opportunity to thank the people of Whickham and Swalwell for their continued support."

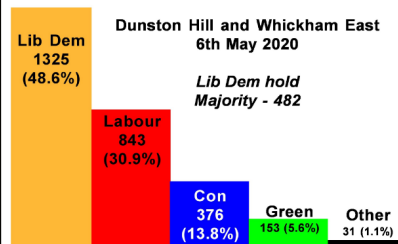
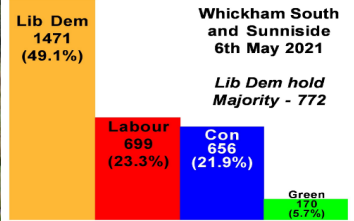
"I am delighted to be able to continue representing Whickham North ward together with my ward colleagues, Peter Craig and Chris Ord."



"Together, we are a strong team of active councillors fighting for our area and will continue to keep residents up to date with issues via our all year round Focus."

## Other Election News

In the two other Whickham wards, Lib Dem councillors were both elected; Peter Maughan for Dunston Hill & Whickham East and Jonathan Mohammed for Whickham South & Sunnyside.



Across Gateshead as a whole, the Lib Dems gained one seat from the Independents, bringing the total of Lib Dem councillors to 13.

We also came close to winning Saltwell and Birtley wards from Labour.

## All year round action from your local Lib Dem Focus Team

We are hoping that Lockdown will end soon, meaning restrictions will be lessened and we can start our usual indoor surgeries again.

But in the mean time, your ward councillors are busy putting together a programme of ward walks, street surgeries and surveys, so that they can contact as many residents as possible about things that are on their mind at the moment.

"Of course we have had on-line surgeries and we have been able to ring and email residents but it is not the same as being able to speak to people face to face." said Cllr. Peter Craig.

"We also hope that we will be able to restart some community events soon." said Cllr. Sonya Hawkins.

Cllr. Chris Ord added "Please turn over to see what we have planned for the next few months."



## Street Surgeries planned



**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June @ 09:00 am**  
Swalwell Community Centre car park  
**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June @ 10:30 am**  
Front of Whickham Library

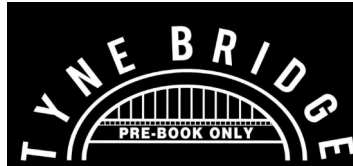
## Ward Walks

Look out for the team in the Swalwell Terraces and the Glebe Estate in the next few weeks and contact them if you have anything that you would like to be looked at during the ward walks.

## Christmas Fundraising

As active members of Lighting up Whickham & Swalwell Community Group, Peter, Sonya and Chris will be helping to fundraise to provide Christmas trees.

In Swalwell, they have made a great start. Tyne Bridge Taxis have donated £250 towards the Swalwell Christmas Tree. Thank you!



**BOOK VIA OUR APP  
OR BY CALLING  
0191 4383838**

## Upcoming Events



**We've been in and out of lockdown for the past 15 months and community activities have been restricted, but gradually things are starting to change. In the next few weeks and months, the Focus Team will be:**

- restarting street surgeries and ward walks in Swalwell and Whickham.
- continuing to meet regularly with fellow Friends of Chase Park trustees to look after our park and make sure that the park continues to have a bowling green.
- as Trustees, working to fully reopen Swalwell Community Centre as soon as it is safe to do so.
- helping to fundraise for our community Christmas trees (see opposite).
- helping out at the flower planting sessions planned for our community.
- as Trustees of Whickham Volunteer Library Association, working to restore all services in the library when it becomes possible.
- representing residents at the upcoming Hearing for Banktop, Whickham by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

### Surgeries:

Your local Lib Dem councillors are also running virtual surgeries until lockdown ends.

Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month

10am - 11am

Join via Google Hangouts:

[meet.google.com/ynm-zpue-rar](https://meet.google.com/ynm-zpue-rar)

or by phone:

020 3937 1322 PIN: 282 579 909#

If you need help to log in just give one of the team a call.



**“Between the three of us, we have 55 years experience of being a ward councillor. We are always here to help if you need us.”**

## Lib Dem Focus Team

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