

Focus on

Whickham North & Swalwell



Focus 150!

We have been keeping you up to date in Whickham North ward now since 1985 and now we have reached our 150th edition of Focus. To mark the occasion, we've produced a new colour format and we hope you enjoy reading the new style Focus!



• Sonya, Peter and Chris with some of the Focuses that have been produced over the last 34 years.

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Christmas is Coming!

“Thank you”

Cllr. Chris Ord has been re-elected as a councillor for Whickham North and Swalwell with an increased majority of 1113.

Chris said “I am delighted to be able to continue representing Whickham North ward and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people of Whickham and Swalwell for their continued support.

We need a strong team of active councillors fighting for our area and with the Lib Dem Focus team, residents know they will get that. We will continue to keep residents up to date with local issues through our all year round Focus.

PCC Election Result

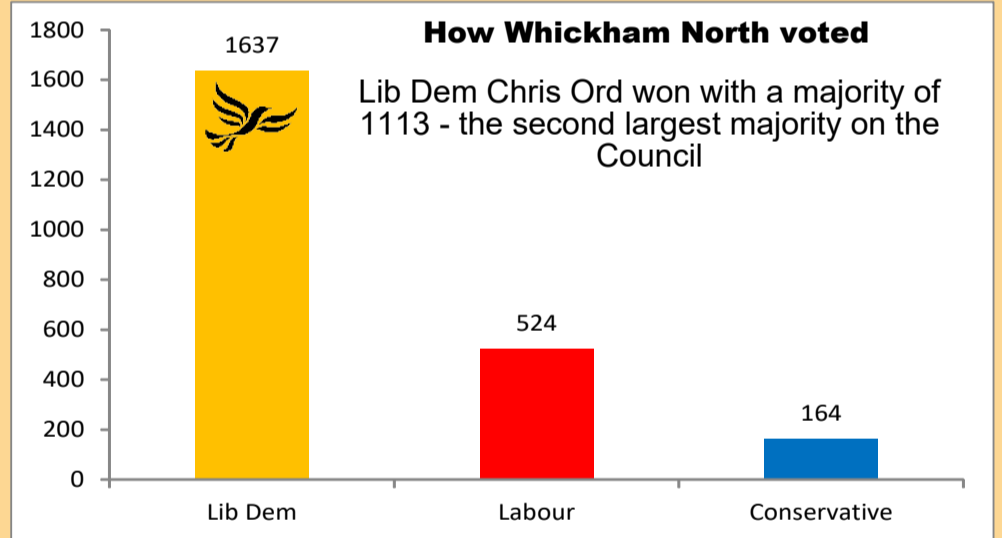


• Cllr. Jonathan Wallace who stood in the Police Commissioner elections - and called for the position to be abolished to save taxpayers money.

Labour's Kim McGuinness has been elected as PCC for Northumbria. The role became vacant when Vera Baird left the role, despite having another 11 months to serve.

Lib Dems chose Cllr. Jonathan Wallace, as their candidate, who campaigned to abolish the post.

“The PCC role is an expensive experiment that has failed,” said Jonathan. “Instead of paying someone £85,000 a year, and splashing out a shocking £2.5 million on a by-election to fill an 11 month vacancy, that money could have been used on community policing which has been slashed by Labour's PCC.



• Peter, Sonya and Chris are delighted that Chris was re-elected to the Council in May with over 70% of the vote.

Whickham North & Swalwell Focus Team - working for you, all year round

Post Office Updates

We are delighted to announce that we have been informed by Post Office Ltd. that following the temporary closure of Whickham Post Office they will be re-opening the branch on Tuesday 17th September. This will be in a new location Whickham News, 13 St. Mary's Green, NE16 4DN.

The opening hours will be:

Mon - Fri	07:00 to 17:30
Sat	07:00 to 16:00
Sun	07:30 to 12:00



There is more good news in Swalwell, where a Post Office branch will be opened at Lifestyle Food & Wine, 23-25 Clavering Road, NE16 3EX, also on Tuesday 17th September 2019.

The opening hours will be : **Mon – Sun 07:00 to 21:30**



Christmas is Coming!

And we're busy working hard to fundraise for our trees this year!

In Swalwell:



07860 376 433
www.pkmotorsnortheast.co.uk

Swalwell Community Group, who raise the funding for the tree are very grateful to local businesses such as PK Motors who are very kindly stepping forward to donate towards the cause.

And the group has also set up a Just Giving Page for this year's Christmas Tree. The target is £1,400 and if you would like to donate, please donate via the following link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/swalwell-communitygroup>

In Whickham:

Lighting up Whickham raise the funding for Whickham tree and the group held their Summer Fayre in July.

It was very successful and many of the Whickham councillors went along to help with the event.



Changes to Bus Services Announced



- 97** 97 has been revised to operate every 15 minutes between Newcastle, Gateshead, Lobley Hill, Whickham, Swalwell and Metrocentre on the current route. From Metrocentre, the 97 has been extended to Newcastle via Dunston Riverside and Teams creating a circular route which is running in both directions.
- 97A** has been withdrawn
- 643** The 643 has been taken out of service by Nexus. This service has been replaced in 2 parts by changes to the 6 and M8.
- M8** M8 is now going to Metro Centre via Whickham Front Street, Duckpool Lane and Lambton Avenue instead of Swalwell Bank, covering part of Nexus service 643.
- 6** 6 is now only operating half hourly between Newcastle, Metrocentre, Whickham and Sunnyside with one service an hour continuing to Stanley. The journeys which terminate in Sunnyside are now serving the Watergate Estate, covering the other part of 643 route.
- X30** The X30 has been extended to run later in the evening with the last bus leaving Eldon Square at 23:25 Monday to Saturday. Sunday's timetable has remained the same. The X30 continues to run half hourly to Stanley with one of the journeys extended to Consett via Annfield Plain.
- M6** M6 is now running half hourly with the service being extended to Lanchester once an hour via Quaking Houses, Burnhope and Maiden Law. The other service terminates at Quaking Houses once an hour.
- M7** Service has been withdrawn.

New 197 Whickham Circular

Following feedback from your ward councillors and residents, Go North East have introduced a new off-peak local service around Whickham to maintain local connections, serving Front Street, Rectory Lane, Whaggs Lane, Broadway, Parkway and Front Street. The service operates clockwise providing a connection to the shops every 20 minutes between 910 and 1410 Monday to Saturday (St Mary's Green times).

This new service will be reviewed by Go North East after 12/18 months so residents need to use it or risk losing it.

How to get more local news

As well as this regular newsletter, Lib Dem councillors now provide a regular email newsletter full of up to the moment local news. If you would like to receive it, please let one of us know by contacting us using the details below left.



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