



*****THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN, WHAT DID THEY SAY?*****

Dear Newsletter Reader,

We Live to Fight another Day!

As I write the final result of the General Election is uncertain. We have a 'hung' Parliament with the Tories as the largest party by just under fifty seats. Which party(s) will form the Government is yet to be decided. Particularly if we have a minority Conservative government we **must** start planning today for the next General Election and local elections in 2011.

If you are disappointed by the result remember the job of any political party is to ensure survival with its organisation intact and with sufficient resources. It also needs enough elected representatives to exert power in our Parliament. All this has been achieved. This did not always look possible over a very long election campaign. The prospect of achieving an historic 4th term with an overall majority was always going to be difficult to achieve. If the swings in our region and in Yorkshire had been repeated nationwide Labour would have returned less than 200 MPs.

Locally Labour's vote fell from holding second to third place in Hertford and Stortford - 7,620 compared 11,977 in 2005. There did seem to be a bit of a 'Clegg bounce' here but our campaign had a very low profile and some of our supporters may have voted tactically. The performance in Hertford and Stortford was similar to that in Hertfordshire North East. Discussion and more analysis of the election results is an agenda item for the OGM on Wednesday 14th.

Peter Mitchell, Secretary

Results in our region

Hertford and Stortford

Mark Prisk (Con)	29,810
Andrew Lewin (LD)	14,373
Steve Terry (L)	7,620
Maj.	15,437
Turnout	70.6

Harlow

Robert Halfon (Con)	19,691
Bill Rammell (L)	14,766
David White (LD)	5,990
Maj.	4,925
Turnout	65.1

Hertfordshire North East

Oliver Heald (Con)	26,995
Hugh Annand (LD)	11,801
David Kirkman (L)	8,291
Maj.	15,194
Turnout	69.8

Saffron Walden

Alan Haselhurst (Con)	30,155
Peter Wilcock (LD)	14,913
Barbara Light (L)	5,288
Maj.	15,242
Turnout	71.6

Stevenage

Stephen McPartland(Con)	18,491
Sharon Taylor (L)	14,913
Julia Davies (LD)	7,432
Maj.	3,578
Turnout	64.8

The only model of the way that the monopoly Conservative Party run things in this area is the East Herts and Hertfordshire County Council which is not very impressive. Mark Prisk has said in his election literature that he is "a real champion for our community, locally and at Westminster" It is up to us to hold him to account.

