

About your candidates

Sam Riches and Caroline Jackson with Green Party MP Caroline Lucas (centre).



Sam Riches

- Ridge Estate resident Sam Riches is standing for re-election as the Green Party candidate for Lancaster East in the County Council elections.
- Sam works part-time at Lancaster University, organising activities for the public to find out about the natural and

cultural history of the North-West.

- Sam has used her Local Member Grants to help local groups including: outreach youth work at the Dukes, Ridge Community Centre, Women's Aid, and the food bank run by the Olive Branch.
- She has worked hard to bring in the 20mph limit on residential roads. She is working with

the police, schools and the community to ensure that speed limits are kept to.

Caroline Jackson

- Caroline is your Green Party candidate in the City Council by-election. For 17 years she was a teacher in Lancaster finishing as head teacher of Hornby High School until it closed. Caroline now works hard in the local community. Among her community roles, she is a member of the Sure Start board; volunteers at the hospice; and is a senior street pastor – making sure that people are safe on Saturday nights in the city centre.

Lancaster Bulk
April 2013

Keep your **Green voices** on the county and city councils

Election special



What next for the RLI?

"It is vital that the NHS trust listens to the views of local people" say Green Party candidates Sam Riches and Caroline Jackson.

The call comes as the local Hospitals Trust is forced to make massive savings and a review of health services, called *Better care, together*, is being conducted across the Lancaster and South Cumbria area.

Green County Councillor Sam Riches said "It is essential that the Royal Lancaster Infirmary keeps

the A&E unit, Maternity and Intensive Care facilities."

Caroline Jackson, who is the Green Party's by-election candidate for Bulk ward, added "There is no doubt that this Government intends to further open up the health service to private providers. The Green Party is totally against the privatisation of services. We could soon see huge companies like Virgin Health providing local health services and putting profits before patient care."



Your Green Party candidates, Caroline Jackson and County Cllr Sam Riches.

✓ About the elections

- Voting is from 7am to 10pm on **Thursday 2nd May**
- You will have two votes – one for the County Council election and one for the City Council by-election in Bulk Ward
- Lancaster East division includes Bulk, Dukes and part of John O'Gaunt wards
- You can apply for a postal vote until 17th April and a proxy vote until 24th April (ring 582905)
- To help the Green Party or put a poster in your window, please contact Sam on 07909001432, sam_riches@hotmail.co.uk

Local news snippets

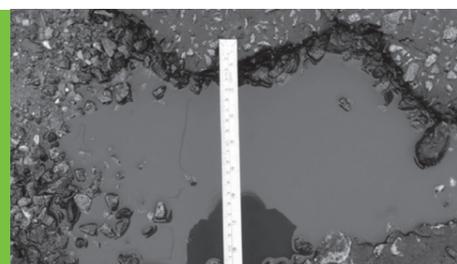
Sam has managed to persuade County Highways to improve two busy road junctions in Bulk Ward to make it safer for pedestrians to cross the road. Next, she wants to improve crossings on the one-way system!

Green activists have helped local residents to tackle litter on the canal side in Bulk on Ridge Square and on Newton Beck.

Lancaster's roads gone potty...

Green city councillor Tim Hamilton-Cox says "Potholes and cratered speed bumps are damaging vehicles and cycles and creating safety hazards for cyclists and pedestrians. Temporary repairs aren't working – the County Council needs to properly resurface roads more regularly than now." To report a pothole online go to <http://bit.ly/14GUnuV> and type in 'pothole'.

A giant pothole on Borrowdale Road . (reported by Cllr Sam Riches).



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Make your voice heard to protect the NHS

- See Facebook page **LancasterSaveOurHospitals**
- Respond to the **www.bettercaretogether.co.uk** consultation. Ring for a questionnaire 01539-715219 (We are trying to get the deadline for responding extended beyond 19th April)
- Contact your MP, Eric Ollerenshaw, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA **eric.ollerenshaw.mp@parliament.uk**
- Get more involved in the local health services or their watchdogs - such as the Hospitals Trust **www.uhmb.nhs.uk** or HealthWatch.

Keep Lancaster Special!

Two local elections take place on the same day on Thursday May 2nd in Bulk ward. Current Green Party County Councillor Sam Riches is standing for re-election to the County Council. There is also a by-election for the City Council, and former head teacher of Hornby High School, Caroline Jackson, is standing for the Green Party.

A message from your Green Party candidates, Sam and Caroline:

"Greens want Lancaster to be a thriving city with good quality services and a healthy environment – so that Lancaster is a special place to live and work."

"Excessive cuts are damaging the lives of local people. The

Conservative-controlled County Council is making more cuts than even the Government is asking for – such as the closure of Alexandra House respite centre for disabled children."

"The Green Party is against these cuts, but more than simply opposing the cuts we are working hard to protect local people from the worst impacts of them."