

# Focus

# on Rodborough

EDITOR

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**including Lightpill, Kingscourt, Dudbridge and Rodborough Common**

## WATER DUE TO ENTER THE CANAL!

A lot has been happening on the canal front. As *Focus* went to press, we heard that the Stroud Brewery Bridge area would imminently be filling up with water.

The *Focus* Team is concerned by proposals that the temporary road at Wallbridge be retained, so that it joins with the new bridge to form a huge roundabout. Pedestrian access from Rodborough to town is ghastly at the moment. We need the area of the temporary road for people coming to Stroud on foot and by bicycle - and we *must* have an appealing entrance to the town for canal users!

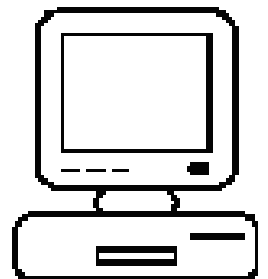
Work is in hand on an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the phase to connect our canal to the national network at Saul, which would mean access for narrowboats from the rest of England, and thus a welcome boost to tourism locally.

Questions remain: why is the new bridge running *so* late? The very cold weather before Christmas was obviously going to delay completion, but it would have been reasonable to expect the work to have caught up by Easter. It would appear that the original timetable was unrealistic, and an initial design problem compounded the problem. You would think that the County Council could commission roadworks - even as complicated as this - to a sensible timetable by now, but apparently not.



[www.chps.co.uk/c11r.htm](http://www.chps.co.uk/c11r.htm) ...

Christine's website has a lot of information on local issues, including links to many other websites - like the Stroud Against Gyrotory e-petition, the Capel Mill proposals and the Cotswold Canals. The last four issues of *Focus* are there as well.



If you don't have internet access, Christine is also happy to update you over the phone.

... 01453 756771

## Local action

### 24 Hillclose

The appeal against the District Council's refusal of planning permission last autumn for two houses on this site has been refused. There are links at [chps.co.uk/c11r.htm](http://chps.co.uk/c11r.htm) to the planning inspector's decision and to Christine Headley's speech to the Development Control Committee, which she sent to the inspector for his consideration.

The site already has planning permission for one house following the line of the houses on that side of Hillclose.

### DOG FOULING IS UNPLEASANT AND DANGEROUS

Residents in several areas have complained of dogs fouling their front gardens. Just because they are close to the pavement doesn't mean that dogs can mess in them!

This is not only unpleasant but (if the dog is not wormed up to date) dangerous. Adults who dispose of dog dirt and children who play near it need to wash their hands without delay, as it can carry nasty diseases.



### COALITION MAKES GOOD NEWS FOR PENSIONERS

Last year's LibDem manifesto promise to boost the state pension by immediately restoring the link with earnings growth has borne fruit.

The Coalition Agreement's words on a 'triple lock system' have turned into action – from now on the state pension will rise in line with earnings, inflation or 2.5%, whichever is the highest.

This means that a person retiring now on a basic state pension will receive, on average, £ 15,000 more over the course of their lifetime than they did under Labour.

# Grumbles? Let us know!

Please write to us at 2 Montserrat Cottages, Butterrow, Stroud GL5 2NJ - telephone 01453 756771 or e-mail [libdems@chps.co.uk](mailto:libdems@chps.co.uk)

## Can you help?

There are several ways you can help the Liberal Democrat *Focus* team. Please tick the box if you can:

- Help deliver *Focus*
- Make a small donation towards production costs
- Let us know about issues you are concerned about and want action on (see *Grumbles*)
- Put up a poster at election time

Name: .....

Address: .....

..... Phone number:.....

