

South East Green Party Activists' Day Programme

Saturday July 18th , 9.30am – 5.30pm

Reading International Solidarity Centre, 35-39 London St, Reading

9.30	Registration	Lobby
10.00	Key Note Speech from Caroline Lucas MP, "The Next Five Years" . Building our five year strategy for Greens in the South East? (Jonathan Essex, Chair)	Main hall
11.00 & 12.00	Building to Win Locally – Breakout Sessions	
	Target to Win Elections (Chris Williams, West Midlands Regional Coordinator)	<u>Main Hall</u>
	Thinking of Standing to be a Councillor – Meet a South East Councillor (Cllr Jonathan Essex from Redhill, Cllr Alex Phillips from Brighton, Cllr Joanna Carter from Lewes and Cllr Josh Williams from Reading)	Room 1
	Winning and Keeping Members (Louise Venn, Local Party Support co-ordinator Matthew Ledbury, Oxford Greens)	<u>Room 3</u>
	#Green Surge – How to be a Comms ★ (Matthew Butcher, Press Officer for Caroline Lucas MP)	Room 2
13.00	Lunch and Networking with other Local Parties (pre-order in advance or bring your own)	
14.15	PM Session: Syria, Europe, Song Writing and Engaging Racial Diversity	
	'Europe – The EU Referendum Campaign (Amelia Womack, Green Party Deputy Leader)	Main Hall
	Green Politics and the Kurds (Derek Wall, Green Party International Coordinator)	Bicycle Kitchen
	Green Activists' walk around Reading (double session)	Meet in Lobby
15.30	It's the Environment Stupid! How do we Campaign on Climate Change and other the Big Issues in the South East (Vicky Elcoate, SE Greens Coordinator)	Main Hall
	Crafts and Song Writing (Emily Blyth, SE Local Party Support)	Bicycle Kitchen
	Engaging Racial Diversity in the Party , Manishta Sunnia	Meeting Room
	Open Space	Meeting Room
16.45	Closing session: What do you want from the South East Green Party? (Jonathan Essex, SE Chair) Closing Speech (Amelia Womack, Deputy Leader, Green Party)	
17.30	Close	
19.00	Curry Supper (optional!) at the Royal Tandoori in Reading	

- Main Venue: RISC, 35-39 London Street, Reading, RG1 4PS, www.risc.org.uk
- Reading Quaker Meeting House (turn left, cross road and few mins down Church Street on the right) within a couple of minutes' walk
- Reading Bicycle Kitchen (turn right and walk down to corner of High Street/Kings Road. Jacksons Corner in front of you to the right.

Session Details

<p>1. Targeting to win Green Council seats - Led by Green Councillor & West Midlands Local Party Support Worker Chris Williams <i>Chris will run introductory level training on the Green Party's national strategy used to win local elections.</i> Target audience: <i>Everyone, & particularly campaigns managers, party officers & those considering standing as a candidate.</i></p>
<p>2. 'I'm thinking of standing as a councillor – help!' - Led by Surrey County Councillor Jonathan Essex <i>We've increased our membership and vote share – the next step is to win more council seats by targeting to win. We now need more Greens to put themselves forward as candidates – this session will be a chance to hear from Councillors across the South East region about what it's like to be a councillor.</i> Target audience: <i>Anyone who might consider standing as a council candidate – or those who'd just like to know what it involves.</i></p>
<p>3. 'How do we keep our activists active and our new members on board?' - Led by Senior Local Party Development Officer Louise Venn & Oxford Campaigns Manager Matthew Ledbury <i>Over the last year, our membership has soared, and the elections have also given us a huge focus. It's now time to ensure that we stay active, and mobilize our members, old and new, as there's plenty of work to do, particularly under a Conservative Government. Come along to hear how we can do this.</i></p>
<p>4. #Greensurge – how to be a comms star –Led by Matthew Butcher, press officer to Caroline Lucas MP <i>Following our surge in membership and vote share, we now need to build our team of press officers in the South East so they can be taking our messages to local press. Come along to learn what makes a good news story, how to get articles published in local papers, and key tips on do's and don'ts.</i> Target audience: <i>Local party press officers, those interested in becoming a local party press officer & those wanting to know more.</i></p>
<p>5. Walk – A Green Activist's Tour of Reading - Geoff Sawers will share his knowledge of local history and wildlife in gentle walk around Reading.</p>
<p>6. EU referendum: carrying out an EU campaign locally - Led by Green Party Deputy Leader Amelia Womack. An opportunity to share ideas about how we will campaign ahead of the EU referendum. Hear from Amelia Womack about the referendum campaign plan, and bring your thoughts on how your local area is affected by the EU and how we can bring the EU campaign to a local level.</p>
<p>7. Green politics and the Kurds - Led by Green Party International Coordinator Derek Wall <i>Derek Wall will look at how local Green Parties in the South East can work with Kurdish and Turkish communities. The Kurdish community have been increasingly embracing green politics, and have been working to promote grassroots democracy, feminism and ecological thinking. In Northern Syria, despite the conflict with ISIS, the Kurds & their allies have created an ecological republic known as Rojava. In Turkey, the Green Party has joined the Kurdish political party the HDP, who won 80 seats in the recent General Election. The HDP have united LGBT campaigners, feminists, greens and the left providing a positive alternative. 59% of Turkish voters in the UK voted for the HDP.</i></p>
<p>8. Crafts & song-writing - Led by community musician and Local Party Support Officer Emily Blyth A relaxed session - a chance to spend time with other greens and get in touch with your creative side.</p>
<p>9. It's the Environment, stupid! How do we campaign effectively on climate change and the other Big Issues? Led by Senior Local Party Development Officer Louise Venn & Regional Campaigns Coordinator Vicki Elcoate. <i>A chance to discuss how we can continue to campaign effectively at the local level upwards for action on climate change, and other key issues. Issues to include: aviation expansion; oil drilling and fracking; energy conservation and renewables; waste; air pollution.</i></p>
<p>10. Engaging racial diversity in the Green Party - Led by Greens of Colour's Manishta Sunnia <i>Manishta will talk about how we as a party can engage racial diversity from the local level upwards.</i></p>