

Welcome to our first edition of your local Reform newsletter!

Produced on a shoe string budget with a wing and prayer from the garden shed, but nevertheless probably subject to a fact check from some anti-Reformer with attention to detail worthy of a NASA scientist.

So rest assured, we do not aspire to 'never let the facts get in the way of a good story'. Here at Newsletter HQ we have good stories that come with the glorious facts.

And here is one of the best facts of all:

Reform is now the FASTEST growing Party in Tunbridge Wells. Our registered members/supporters have grown from 376 in November 2024 to well over 1,100. A 3-fold increase in less than a year. Your help and support is making that happen, so well done and thank you every one of you. This is **your** Reform, so do join us to come to our monthly meetings and take part in the discussions.

St John's By-election

The main takeaway from the St John's by-election was the total collapse of Conservative support. They finished fifth, with fewer than 100 votes.

It is now clear that Reform UK is the only credible voice for voters on the Right in Tunbridge Wells.

Reform ARE KCC

As you probably know Reform won in KCC with 57 of the 81 seats. On 1st May we ended three decades of Conservative control. Here's what the Reform Councillors have achieved in the last 6 months:



Cutting Councillor allowances!

One of the Reform Councillors' first actions was to vote to reduce their personal allowances by 5%. The money saved was reallocated to divisional grants for local spending. Out of their pockets and into yours. Have you ever heard of such a thing? It is unprecedented!! So, if you bump into one of our Councillors in the pub – the drinks are on you.



Halt! Who Goes There? Not ANOTHER Solar Farm!

Reform have put a stop to proposed solar farms totalling 75mw capacity. They would have covered over 340 acres of land with solar panels and battery storage warehouses. Just to give you an easy visual, that's around 2,057 tennis courts. Crucially, that amount of land could produce either 5,000 tons of apples or 1,000 tons of wheat. Alternatively grazing for 500 cows or 1,500 sheep.



We need food security. Solar farms hurt the environment and they reduce food security in Kent, our beautiful farming county.

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So, where's all the money going?

Our DOGE team have gone through the spending of the previous administration and checked in the biscuit tin. They've found the most appalling level of waste with clearly scant regard for taxpayers' money. Amongst other wasteful items their report found that KCC had spent over £24,000 on entertainment and leisure for asylum seekers and illegal migrants, including trips to trampoline parks, bowling alleys, and cinemas. We're wondering what film they were taken to see. Any amusing suggestions? £24,000 may seem a small sum in the overall budget, but there are many parents in our area that can't afford such treats for their children.



A Message from the Chair, Reform UK Tunbridge Wells Branch

As a proud Englishman who was schooled here in Kent, I know how special our county is. After many years working abroad in Africa, I returned home to find a Britain I barely recognised. Our young families in Tunbridge Wells are struggling to find affordable housing, while both legal and illegal immigration drive demand and prices ever higher. Too often, local people are pushed aside - that is simply unfair. The strain is evident everywhere. Our NHS is under pressure, with long waits for GP appointments and overcrowded hospitals. At the same time, free speech - the very foundation of our democracy - is under assault. Too many are now afraid to voice their opinions. People are arrested for tweets and hurty words whilst crimes like shoplifting and robbery are often no longer even reported to the police.

Crowborough Army Camp

We will be actively supporting the local Reform branch's protest against plans to house around 540 male migrants at the Crowborough Army Base. Reform UK stands with our local residents.

Family • Community • Country

Rob Grindley

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Savings - News from the Reform led Kent County Council



£32 million over four years

By cancelling planned property modifications under the Council's net zero renewable energy programme.



£7.5 million by 2030

From ending the transition of the Council's vehicle fleet to electric models.



£14 million

By remaining in the existing County Hall instead of refurbishing and relocating to Invicta House.



£1.5 million over two years

Achieved by bringing some children's care homes back in-house and purchasing four new properties to avoid private sector price volatility.



£16 million in debt reduction

Leading to ongoing daily interest savings of £2,000.

This is common sense politics working for you!



Street Canvassing

Reform don't hide behind leaflets and newspapers! We give the public the opportunity for face to face engagement to discuss policies or just to show support.

Come and say hello!

We regularly street canvass by the clock tower.

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**BRITAIN NEEDS
REFORM**