

Standards Not Tiers Press Release
10th October 2008

Mellor Unable to Take Mount Joy But Gives The Tory's and LibDems a run for their money

On a tiny budget and with little political experience, the SNT backed Independent, Mandy Mellor gained a highly credible 150 votes, representing 24% of the votes cast and only 5 votes behind the LibDems.

SNT believes that with a turn out similar to the last election, Mandy Mellor would have won the seat. In the 2005 election around 1200 voted in Mount Joy. This time only half as many voted and many of those were dyed in the wool LibDem and Tory supporters. Steve Stubbings of SNT said "we watched all day as car load after car load of elderly Conservative supporters were ferried to and from the polling station. Our target voters are the disaffected and those who feel ignored and deserted by the mainstream parties. Motivating them is a real struggle but we did our best. A vote for an SNT backed Independent is a vote against the establishment and the party politicians who insist that they know best regardless of what the public try in vain to tell them".

In a final effort to get people in the Ward motivated, SNT cyclists on old fashioned delivery bicycles were deployed with megaphones and "1930's style BBC accents", calling on people to "say no to party politics! Vote for a local independent candidate! Vote Mellor!"

Steve Cooper of the Labour party who also stood in the election told SNT supporters that "people came into the polling station saying that they had heard the megaphones and were responding". Chris Welsford of SNT said "our campaign is all about democracy and freedom of expression. We want to eradicate the dogma and closed mindedness of the party political scene at County Hall and despite not winning, this was a great day for us."

Ends.

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