

# Highfields Anti Poll Tax News

No 7 April/May 91

## NON PAYMENT WINS!

The Poll Tax is to be abolished because of mass non payment - and that's official! After only two years in Scotland and less than one year in England and Wales the Tory's "flagship" is sinking fast. John Major told M.P.s that the Poll Tax had to go because it's uncollectable and Hesselatine has said the same. Our determination not to pay this tax together with our demonstrations, mass court appearances and other protests has paid off. There is now almost no political support for keeping the tax.

We have to recognise however that there is still a long fight ahead of us before we can celebrate complete victory. The Poll Tax is due to stay for another two to three years under the Tory's plans. The council is still taking people to court and threatening them with the bailiffs and we have to make sure that the replacement to the Poll Tax isn't just as bad. We have to continue our fight, encouraged by seeing our enemies in retreat. We must continue to fight the courts, the council and the bailiffs.

Local authority Treasurers are worried that the system will collapse now that it's days are numbered. We have to make sure their nightmare comes true. Our struggle works. It has forced the Tories to back down and to cut bills. If we continue our fight we can win other demands. We say: WE'RE STILL NOT PAYING! SCRAP THE POLL TAX NOW! AMNESTY FOR NON PAYERS! AMNESTY FOR POLL TAX DEFENDANTS AND PRISONERS!

### Girl (12) beats Bailiffs

The City Council recently passed the names of 20 non payers on to the bailiffs and they have had their first set back - they were turned away by a 12 year old girl! The thugs from Gaults visited while her parents were out and when they knocked she spoke to them through the letter box. They tried to insist that she had to let

them in but she kept on saying "no I don't!". Eventually they gave in and left. The message is clear: if the bailiffs call don't open the door and don't let them in. If a 12 year old can turn them away so can we! If the bailiffs get in touch with you make sure you call us.

Pete/Nici 553440 Ralph 551075

### Summonses

There are new summonses being sent out in Highfields. If you get a summons get in touch with us and we'll fill you in on what happens then. Make sure you use your right to go to court as the reason it's taking so long to summons everyone is that there just isn't enough court time!

### City Council Elections - Thursday May 2nd

On May 2nd the City Council is up for election. In Highfields the Tories and Liberals will be heavily defeated and the Labour Party will almost certainly win all the seats. Some Labour Councillors have stood with us and refused to pay their Poll Tax. These are: Malik Salim, Paul Gosling and Joe Allan. Other Councillors have not! The Labour Party will be canvass-

ing for our votes in the month ahead and we should demand from them their commitment to our demands. The City Council should immediately stop prosecuting non payers, they should call off the bailiffs and refuse to collect the tax. We strongly advise people not to vote Tory as they are responsible for the Poll Tax in the first place. Some Labour

candidates deserve our recommendation and we've named them. Others should be asked where they stand on our demands and told that we elect them to protect us not prosecute us!

**HAPTU meetings: Thurs April 4th Thurs May 9th  
at the Community House 69, Chandos St. 7.30**