



Delivering action on the doorstep

West Ruislip: Marina with the Association Chairman

With three council by-elections taking place in London, Marina Yannakoudakis has been getting out on the doorsteps, persuading people to vote for their Conservative candidates.

She joined the campaign to get Stephen Philips elected for Hampstead Town ward of Camden Council.

Meanwhile she was also helping John Riley in his battle to win West Ruislip ward on Hillingdon council – that election takes place on October 2.

And she is delighted to be helping David Douglas, known to many activists as the call centre guru at Conservative HQ, who is finally standing for election himself in Alexandra Ward on Haringey council. Polling day is October 9.

Marina said: "The interesting thing is all the candidates live in the wards where they are standing which shows they have an excellent understanding of the area."



Campaign trail: Marina with Hampstead activists

EU LAW IS A THREAT TO BRITISH JUSTICE

Marina Yannakoudakis has vowed to fight a new EU law which would see Britons automatically extradited if convicted in their absence by foreign courts.

The law has been passed by the European Parliament and looks certain to be ratified by the Council of Ministers.

It means even a traffic violation could lead to extradition and immediate incarceration in a foreign jail.

At present British courts can stop some extraditions.

Even former East European countries such as Bulgaria and Romania, where the EU has expressed concerns about the fairness of trials, could lock up Britons

without them having the chance to defend themselves in court.

Marina said: "This puts habeas corpus, the foundation of our British legal system, under threat.

"In theory the accused could have the right to appeal or have a re-trial in the foreign court, but I wonder how fair this would really be.

"If elected I would fight to defend our basic freedom and the right to defend oneself, which is the cornerstone of our British legal system.

"It is important that we protect of freedom and do not allow other jurisdictions to overrule ours."

Tackling the epidemic of London knife crime

Youth representative Gabriel Alamu and Marina Yannakoudakis discussed ways of tackling London's knife crime epidemic when they met during Barnet Week of Peace.

Gabriel believes the key is a better understanding of young people's views.

Marina was one of several elected representatives at the meeting at Jesus House worship centre in Brent Cross. Also there were Theresa Villiers MP for Chipping Barnet and Cllr Matthew Offord prospective Conservative candidate for Hendon.

The part played by the family was seen as vital in



Peace Week: Marina with Gabriel Alamu at Jesus House, Brent Cross

helping deal with the problem. Marina said: "The family is the backbone of society, along with friends and the wider community."

Save Britain's fishing fleet

Britain's Conservative Euro MPs are opposing EU moves to further reduce our fishing fleet.

The EU wants to downsize the European fishing fleet by 40 per cent because stocks of fish are dangerously low.

But Conservative Fisheries Spokesman Struan Stevenson MEP said Britain has already done its bit by reducing our whitefish fleet by 60 per cent over the past five years.

Mr Stevenson said: "There is no doubt that savage cuts in the size of the EU fleet are now necessary.

"However, the UK whitefish fleet has already seen its capacity reduced by 60 per cent in the past five years. We've cut our fleet to the bare bones. We've done our bit. Now it is the turn of the other fishing nations who stood back and watched while we suffered." He blames the EU's "disastrous" Common Fisheries

See you at Conservative Party Conference 2008

Marina will be among the hundreds of delegates at this year's conference in Birmingham from September 28th to October 1st. Stand by for an update in the next newsletter.

Fighting for our work time opt-out

The Conservatives in the European Parliament and Marina Yannakoudakis will be fighting to keep Britain's opt-out from the EU Working Time Directive.

It means people can work more than 48 hours a week if they wish. The Labour Party conference overwhelmingly voted in favour of scrapping the opt-out.

Marina's 23 years of

experience as a financial director means she understands the effect of this directive.

She said: "It will be another nail in the coffin for small businesses. In today's economic climate businesses need freedom to adapt their working methods. If we lose the opt-out clause it will result in many companies fighting to keep afloat."

Marina out and about



Lunch: Marina with Ellie Harmer, Chairman of Bromley Conservatives, and John Esler, Chairman of Orpington

Marina Yannakoudakis has been touring the capital meeting London Conservatives and learning their concerns about the EU.

She was guest speaker at Orpington Conservative Association's September lunch.

Marina said: "I went to school nearby in Beckenham, so it was a real pleasure to go back to my old stomping ground. The event also gave me an opportunity to meet members and exchange ideas on the EU. I see one of my main roles as working with and understanding the needs of the associations."

On the same day Marina addressed the London Western AGM at Conservative HQ in Millbank. She talked about the strategy for the European Elections next June. Marina told them: "Please put me to work on any canvassing you need, in any by-elections and for any fundraising events."