

INTRODUCING YOUR LOCAL CONSERVATIVE PROSPECTIVE MP

MID CORNWALL LIFE

REPRESENTING: ST AUSTELL AND NEWQUAY

STEVE DOUBLE



I
LIVE AND
WORK IN THE
CONSTITUENCY
Together we can make
Cornwall an even
better place
to live.



I WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THE ISSUES THAT MATTER MOST TO YOU

WHO IS STEVE DOUBLE?

PROUD OF CORNWALL AND BEING CORNISH

Steve Double is immensely proud of his Cornish roots, his family of three boys and his wife Anne of 27 years. Born in St. Blazey and raised in St Austell, Steve has a deep sense of connection with mid-Cornwall where he has lived all his life.

After being chosen by local people as the Parliamentary Candidate for the St Austell and Newquay seat, Steve said:

"It is an honour to have been selected as the candidate to be the next MP for my home constituency.

I've been very fortunate to have enjoyed a broad career here in mid Cornwall, from the corporate environment right through to local government, across a variety of sectors. Having experienced many work and personal challenges of my own,



Steve with his wife Anne, at the completion of their charity walk to Westminster.

STEVE DOUBLE is actively involved in the local community and working hard for the people of St Austell and Newquay

I believe I have an excellent insight into the grass-roots issues that people in Cornwall face."

After leaving school, Steve spent 10 years working in the corporate environment of Barclays Bank in St. Austell, Newquay and St. Columb.

He then worked in the Charity Sector for his local church, which included travelling to East Africa and helping to build schools and orphanages.

In 2001 he set up his first business and is now a director in three companies as well as continuing to help run two local charities.





Steve with his wife Anne, in St Austell.

Steve first entered local politics in 2009 when he was elected as a Cornwall Councillor. Soon after, in 2011 he was appointed as a member of the Cabinet at Cornwall Council with the responsibility for a budget of over £100 million.



Steve believes that his diverse experience of life here in mid-Cornwall has equipped him to identify with and represent the people of St Austell and Newquay. He said, "this area faces lots of challenges but also has some great opportunities. I believe I am the right person to represent this constituency in Westminster."

STEVE SAYS:

"I'm aware that if I am elected to represent this area as the MP, it will be the biggest challenge of my life so far."

"I'm a Cornishman first and a Conservative second. Local people will always come before party politics."

"I am not afraid of taking risks – neither am I very good at fence sitting!"

"For me, it's about always trying to do my best for local people."

"I have ridden my own roller coaster of being a small business owner for the past 13 years. I know what it feels like during the good and bad times, especially when the recession hit."

"Like many people, family has a very special place in my life. I believe that strong families are the basis of a strong society. In my view many of the problems and challenges our country faces could be improved by supporting families and this is something I am committed to do."

Finally, Steve's message is:

"I believe my broad experience of business, community and charity work, local government and raising my family here mean I will be able to effectively represent you in Westminster, but most importantly, I will not lose touch with my local roots."

For more information about what Steve Double is doing for you and for Newquay and St. Austell, visit:

www.stevedouble.org.uk

THE DOUBLE TAKE

Exclusive Interview with Steve Double



Q. HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN POLITICS?

I only got involved in local politics in 2009. I was asked by someone if I would stand for election to the newly formed Cornwall Council. I said yes and things sort of took off from there. At no point in my life before then do I ever remember thinking about being a politician so I think it is fair to say the one thing I am not is a 'career politician'. I have however always been involved in my local community and seeking ways I can work to improve things, so it did seem like a natural step when the opportunity came. It was the former Conservative Candidate Caroline Righton who was the first person to suggest I should run for Parliament,

“I am able to provide the political leadership we desperately need and speak up for this part of Cornwall.”



shortly after she fell just short of winning in 2010. It really was as a result of many local people telling me I should stand that I went for selection as the candidate to be the next MP for St Austell and Newquay.

Q. WHY DO YOU WANT TO BECOME AN MP?

I guess the first thing to say is: I am only interested in being the MP for my home constituency of St Austell and Newquay. Over the past 25 years, or so, like many local people I have watched this area struggle. We've had a decline in many of our main industries such as China Clay and mid Cornwall hasn't fared as well as it should under Liberal Democrat representation of recent

years. Tourism remains a vital part of our local economy but much of the work is seasonal and can be dependent on the weather or affected by the state of the national economy. I believe we need much stronger and more effective political leadership in order to help to attract the new inward investment we desperately need. Without this we cannot create growth in our local economy and better-paid jobs. I believe I have shown that I am able to provide the political leadership we desperately need and speak up for this part of Cornwall.



Steve Double welcoming the Prime Minister to Newquay Airport.

Q. YOU SAY YOU WANT TO SUPPORT FAMILIES. WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE BIGGEST ISSUE FOR LOCAL FAMILIES?

We have the privilege, in Cornwall, of raising our children in one of the most idyllic parts of the country. I grew up in this area and I'm proud to have raised my own children here with my wife Anne. But living in this part of the country also brings with it lots of challenges. The distance from the rest of the country and issues such as low wages and seasonal work can create pressure on households. This often means that too many of our young people have to move away from Cornwall, after leaving school, to find good employment, just as my own boys have done. Families become fragmented with the knock on effects that brings. Creating more local job

“ I am only interested in being the MP for my home constituency of St Austell and Newquay. ”

opportunities, so families have the choice to stay together is where I would start.

Q. HOW CAN YOU HELP LOCAL BUSINESS GROW?

As a local businessman myself, I have strong connections in

our business community. I also understand, first hand, the everyday challenges faced in running a business so it means I can confidently represent the needs of local business. I also believe there are a number of new opportunities, arising from superfast broadband links, to attract new business to this area especially in IT and the communications market. As well as doing all I can to support our existing local businesses I would actively aim to persuade national companies to come and invest, because we need to attract new types of business that will create better-paid, secure jobs.

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SUPPORTING HARDWORKING FAMILIES

Anne and I have raised our sons, who are now young men, and know the joys and challenges family life brings. I often talk to parents who share my concerns about issues such as child care, education, community safety and future employment prospects. I believe that the best place to start in addressing many of the issues our society faces is by helping families. I am

committed to doing all I can to support families, especially those that want to work hard, be responsible and give our children the very best start in life. As a school governor for over 18 years I am also aware of the challenges our local schools face and will continue to support them to ensure they are able to deliver the best education possible for our children.



Steve with the Chancellor George Osborne at St Austell Brewery.

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS AND JOB CREATION

As a local businessman, who has started and runs my own companies here in Cornwall, I know first-hand the challenges we face. Small businesses are the backbone of our national economy, and this is as true in Cornwall as anywhere. The Government needs to do all it can to support all types of business, especially small and medium size businesses. This Government has made a good start, but I believe more should be done including cutting taxes and national

insurance further, reducing business rates (I will be pressing for a review), cutting red tape and supporting businesses to create jobs. I believe here in Cornwall we need to attract new businesses who will invest in our local economy, create jobs that are better paid and provide career opportunities for our young people. This will be one of my main priorities if I am elected to be your MP.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

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Steve with his family on Carlyon Bay Beach.



PROTECTING OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

We are privileged to live in what I consider to be the best part of the UK, but we need to protect and treasure our natural environment for the present and future generations. Whilst I agree that we need to do all we can to produce our energy from renewable sources, I share the concerns of many local residents who contact me expressing their views that we are building too many wind turbines in this part of Cornwall. I am pleased that the Conservative Party have pledged to cut the subsidies for onshore wind turbines. There has to be a better way to meet our renewable energy needs than covering our beautiful county in huge white windmills. I want to see more money spent on developing geo-thermal power and research into tidal power, rather than continuing to subsidise inefficient wind turbines. I am also concerned that the housing targets set by Cornwall Council are too high and will cause the population of Cornwall to continue to grow rapidly, putting more pressure on our infrastructure and services.



THE EU REFERENDUM



Steve with the Prime Minister David Cameron



Steve showing Ashley Fox MEP around St Austell Brewery



Steve visiting Imerys at Fowey Docks



It is clear that Britain's relationship with the EU isn't working and has to change. I am committed to an EU In/Out Referendum that will allow the people of this country to have their say.

The EU needs to reform and Britain's interests need to be protected to meet the challenges of economic competitiveness and greater democratic legitimacy.

I support David Cameron as he seeks to renegotiate our relationship with Europe and repatriate key powers to the UK. I am particularly concerned that we should recover control of our borders so we decide who is allowed to come to our country, and that business is freed from the over regulation of Europe.

Our current coalition partners do not share our commitment to allowing the people of Britain to have their say on Europe. Only a Conservative Government will deliver an In/Out Referendum on our membership of the EU.

For more information on the European Elections please visit:
www.conservatives.com/europe

Stevedouble.org.uk



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