

Rhondda

LEIGHTON ANDREWS LABOUR



Leighton Andrews has reached his political home; now he wants a better room – on the fifth floor, near Rhodri Morgan, no doubt. The co-founder of the Yes Campaign for the 1997 referendum gave a true gentleman's tribute at the count to his predecessor – Geraint Davies, Plaid, will always be remembered as the first AM for Rhondda. Mr Andrews could not stand further from traditional Valleys Labour. Not that long ago, he was standing for Parliament for the Liberal Democrats – and singing the praises of local team Gillingham as loudly as he now shouts for Cardiff. The former head of public affairs for the BBC UK is one of the sharpest brains in the Assembly.

FACTFILE

Born: August 11, 1957, Cardiff
Educated: University of Wales, Bangor; University of Sussex
Home: Tonypandy
Previous job: Head of public affairs at the BBC

ASSEMBLY OFFICE

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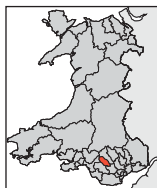
CONSTITUENCY

Rhondda has suffered badly with the decline of coal, and its largely working-class population, which has borne the brunt of valleys social deprivation, has flirted with Plaid Cymru.

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Agent: To be appointed

ELECTION 2003: LABOUR GAIN

Leighton Andrews (Lab) 14,170 (61.60%, +21.08%)
Geraint Davies (PC) 6,216 (27.02%, -21.71%)
Jeffrey Gregory (Ind) 909 (3.95%, +0.67%)
Veronica Watkins (LD) 680 (2.96%, -1.73%)
Dr KT Rajan (UK Ind) 524 (2.28%)
Paul Williams (C) 504 (2.19%, -0.59%)
Majority: 7,954 (34.58%)
Electorate: 50,463
Turnout: 23,003 (45.58%, -4.64%)
21.40% swing PC to Lab



Swansea East

VAL LLOYD LABOUR



Val Lloyd does not often get publicity. When it eventually came, it blazoned her sin – for a nurse – of smoking, as a way of getting publicity in the London press for a bid to ban smoking in Welsh public places. It may be a mark of her humanity – plus her experience of local politics in Swansea – that she is willing to suffer for the greater cause. So quiet that she is often forgotten, Mrs Lloyd is however valued for the care she takes in her contributions, “unlike some AMs who are willing to come up with any old garbage,” said a colleague. Formerly a senior lecturer in nursing and county councillor, she is a member of the Royal College of Nursing, Unison and the TGWU.

FACTFILE

Born: November 16, 1943; Swansea
Educated: Llwyn-y-Bryn High School; Westminster Hospital; University of Wales, Swansea
Home: Morriston
Previous job: Senior lecturer in nursing/health studies

ASSEMBLY OFFICE

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CONSTITUENCY

The industrial half of the constituency has most of the basic problems that derive from long-term industrial decline. Nevertheless, new industries have mitigated the worst effects.

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Secretary: Sheila Fuge

ELECTION 2003: LABOUR HOLD

Val Lloyd (Lab) 8,221 (47.22%, +1.65%)
Peter Black (LD) 4,224 (24.26%, +5.24%)
Dr Dewi Evans (PC) 2,223 (12.77%, -14.66%)
Alan Robinson (UK Ind) 1,474 (8.47%)
Peter Morris (C) 1,135 (6.52%, -1.46%)
Alan Thomson (Soc All) 133 (0.76%)
Majority: 3,997 (22.96%)
Electorate: 57,252
Turnout: 17,410 (30.41%, -5.66%)
1.80% swing Lab to LD

