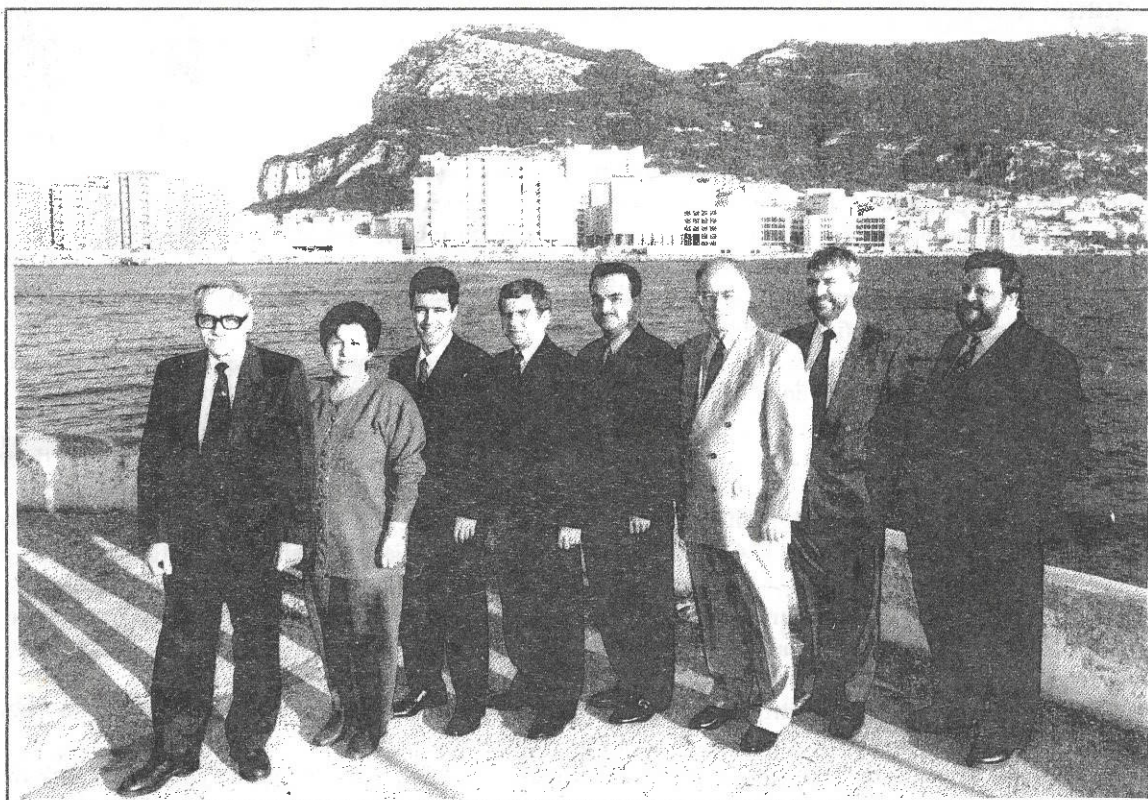




Liberal Party
Gibraltar

GSLP/Liberal

GENERAL ELECTION MANIFESTO 2000



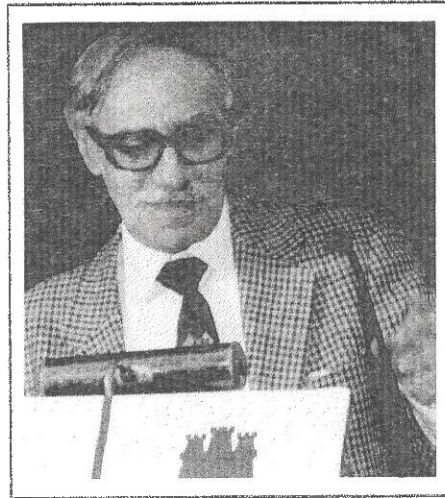
*A new deal
for Gibraltar*

We will deliver

Dear Fellow citizens,

says Joe Bossano

I have served as a Member of the House of Assembly for 28 years, 8 of them as your Chief Minister. I present myself once again this year with a joint team, an alliance of GSLP and Liberal candidates. Together we are committed to the defence of our homeland politically by continuing the rejection of the Brussels talks and the demand for our right to full self-determination and decolonisation.



I ask for your support once more for this unwavering political stand as I have done in seven previous elections.

On this occasion we are, in addition, putting forward for your support the most exciting package of improvements ever put in a general election, to provide benefits for every sector of our society.

Others say this is impossible to achieve. I can give you my personal guarantee that each and every one of the manifesto commitments will be implemented during our term of office and on the dates specified. Moreover, I will also guarantee that government Reserves will never fall below £ 14 million, the level projected by the outgoing government in their first budget in 1997.

We did not leave Gibraltar on the verge of bankruptcy in 1996 as you were being told then. Indeed, all the foreign investments we have today in Gibraltar were attracted here before 1996 and with the marketing done by the GSLP then.

Today the Gibraltar economy is the same as it was in 1996, there has been no economic growth and there are less Gibraltarians employed in the private sector today than four years ago.

Between 1992 and 1996, over £ 100 million was generated and not spent. Of this, £ 65 million was put into the reserves for the welfare of our elderly in Community Care Ltd, who have not received one single penny from the GSD administration.

To achieve the entire spending in our manifesto and to produce the reduction in rates, charges and taxes which will put more spending power in your pockets, does not require extra inward investment. We can do this with existing resources and achieve a balanced budget in each of the next four years.

Since we have already substantial interest of new inward investments ready to come in, as we had in 1988 and 1992, we are very confident that our projections can be comfortably exceeded.

I am going to ask you to vote for me and the seven candidates of the Alliance so that we can get on with the job of getting Gibraltar going again to bring you the many improvements spelled out in our New Deal.

We are committed after the election to extend the hand of friendship to all sectors, and work together for the benefit of our country. Gibraltar's capacity to grow and produce benefits for its people has been totally under utilised. Many hundreds of thousands of pounds of our money has been spent in publicity stunts to impress the electorate, but with zero returns. The finance centre, paraded as a success story, has not seen a single new bank and many of those we attracted are leaving or have left. On tourism earnings, no information is available since April 1997, and that showed a huge drop compared to 1996.

If you want to see real improvements, give us your support and we shall start delivering our electoral commitments within a month of the general election.

MINISTERS SALARIES

A GSLP/Liberal government commits itself to lower the salaries of government ministers back to what they were previously. An independent review will be carried out by a House of Commons Commissioner to determine what the level of salaries should be.

"We will make the money now and spend it now"

□ Community Care

In 1996, the GSLP gave an undertaking to give an annual grant of £15 million to Community Care. The GSD also committed themselves to continue funding Community Care and have not honoured this pledge. A GSLP/Liberal government will resume the annual funding of £ 15 million to Community Care. This means that we will be giving £ 60 million to Community Care in a four year term. In addition, we are committed to make payments to catch up with the £ 60 million that should have been paid from 1996 onwards. These payments will be done in stages. There will be three £ 5 million payments to Community Care on 1 April, 1 August and 1 December 2000. This will ensure that our senior citizens, who have given a lifetime of service to Gibraltar, will be looked after in their old age.

The reserves of Community Care should have reached £67 million by June 1996, they are now considerably below that level. With the extra funding all the extra expenditure will be met and Community Care will end up with £100 million before the next elections.

□ Increased National Day Bonus

The restoration in payments to Community Care will be linked to improvements in payments to eligible persons. The National Day bonus, which was introduced in 1995, has never been increased.

In September this year, the bonus payment will be £ 300, and this will increase by £ 50 every year from now on. In order to cover for the period when there have been no increases, this year the bonus will be supplemented by a £ 700 payment. This means that every eligible senior citizen in Gibraltar will receive £ 1000 this coming National Day with the election of a GSLP/Liberal government.

□ Incomplete social insurance contributions

There are still many persons with incomplete social insurance contributions who have been prevented from making backdated payments on the last occasion. The GSD has refused repeatedly to re-open the scheme.

A GSLP/Liberal government will give every pensioner the opportunity to make up the payments and collect a full pension. Arrangements will be made to assist people who have difficulty in meeting the payments.

□ More money for Community Care Officers

The social wage has had very small increases over the last four years. This will be corrected in the next review.

A new deal for senior citizens

A new deal

□ Tax slashed for pensioners

At present pensioners pay tax at the normal rate on all their income outside their social security pension and Community Care payments. As from 1 July 2000, tax for retired pensioners will be slashed to 5%.

□ Free telephone rentals

All pensioners will be given rental free telephone lines. This will also provide for the same number of free calls as at present on paid lines.

□ Free transport

A GSLP/Liberal government will put in place arrangements to ensure that there is unlimited free travel for our senior citizens on buses.

□ Free TV Licences

Pensioners will receive free television licences from a GSLP/Liberal government.

***All eligible senior citizens
will receive £ 1000 this
National Day 2000***

A new deal for our youth

☐ ***Expansion of the college***

A GSLP/Liberal government will expand and upgrade the Gibraltar College of Further Education.

The entire move will be carried out in close cooperation with the professionals in the field and with all interested parties which would benefit from and be affected by this move.

The courses offered by the college will be expanded.

☐ ***Subsidised meals for school children***

School hours will be altered to provide a one-hour lunch break. Parents will then have the option of their children staying at school for supervised lunch. The government will provide subsidised meals with appropriately balanced diets.

Consultations on changes for hours will be carried out taking into account the needs of working parents and of traffic.

☐ ***End of parental contribution***

Parental contributions for student grants will be discontinued. There will only be one maintenance grant for all students - the present maximum. This will ensure that students are better off, since any help they get from their parents will be over and above the grant.

☐ ***Summer jobs for all students***

All students studying in Britain returning to Gibraltar for the summer will be guaranteed eight weeks employment with the government. As well as the review of the level of allowances, all students will have an opportunity of earning additional income during the summer. The period of employment will be for eight weeks and students will be contacted directly so that they can express a preference within the period June-September.

☐ ***Grants for vocational training***

School leavers who do not go to University or Colleges of Further Education in the UK will have the option of vocational training in Gibraltar and will receive a Government Grant during their period of training.

☐ ***Automatic grant for post-graduate study***

Those students who are undergoing further study in Britain, and who wish to continue with post-graduate studies will receive mandatory awards from now on. This will not be means tested and there will be no parental contribution.

☐ ***Employment guarantee for graduates***

If a graduate does not wish to continue with further studies, then an offer of employment as a research assistant with the Gibraltar Development Corporation for three years will be extended to them. The salary rates will be at parity level with the respective rates of pay in the United Kingdom for the same job.

"A new sports and leisure complex for our youth"

☐ ***Sportscity complex***

A GSLP/Liberal government will honour the commitment to build the Sportscity complex.

☐ ***Leisure centre***

A leisure centre will be constructed in the area of King's Bastion. The development will be sensitive to heritage considerations.

A new deal for employment

The strategy of a GSLP/Liberal government is to make the economy self-sufficient, based predominantly on resident labour, creating a minimum dependence on frontier workers, many of whom are illegal.

New low 10% tax rate

There will be a new low starting rate of income tax of only 10%. This means that the starting rate would be cut by half from 20% to 10%.

This will be followed by a restructure of the tax system which will involve the introduction of an allowance that will bring the effective marginal rate down from 50% to 40% for the middle income taxpayer.

□ *Minimum wage*

The union has claimed a minimum wage of £3.60 which is currently under consideration in the Conditions of Employment Board. A GSLP/Liberal government will give effect to the recommendations of the Board, or take a decision for itself if there is no agreement. In setting a minimum wage for the private sector, consideration will be given to assisting small businesses to ensure their viability.

□ *No social insurance for persons under 18*

A GSLP/Liberal government will abolish social security payments for persons under 18.

□ *Free nurseries for working mothers*

A GSLP/Liberal government will encourage those women who want to enter the labour market to do so. The government will provide nursery education for free for the children of working mothers. This will cover both government and private nurseries, which in future will be paid by the government, not the working mother. This will further assist the benefits of changing school hours.

□ *Industrial relations*

A GSLP/Liberal government would act in consultation and partnership with the trade union movement. We take very seriously concern expressed by the Union at the delay in addressing claims put to the GSD government. This is unacceptable.

Government Employees

□ *The civil service*

A GSLP/Liberal government gives a firm commitment that there will be no change in the structure, employment, pay and conditions of the civil service. Vacant posts will be filled. The public administration will be run by the Heads of Department and all promotions will be maintained.

□ *Improvements for government workers*

Industrial workers will be given an opportunity to have higher earnings through incentive schemes and overtime agreements.

□ *Recruitment of manual workers*

A GSLP/Liberal government will recruit additional manual workers, in consultation with the staff and their union.

□ *Single Status*

A single status agreement will be negotiated between a GSLP/Liberal government and the trade unions, concerning hours of work, pension rights, leave and other conditions. This means that industrial workers will be able to retire at 60 if they so wish. The opportunity for early retirement will be fully harmonised.

□ *Employees in government companies*

The harmonisation of conditions in the government service, including pension rights with years of service since 1996 taken into account, will be extended to all the employees of JBS, Community Projects, the Gibraltar Development Corporation, and the Elderly Care Agency, including former Mount Alvernia employees.

□ *No contractorisation*

Government work and services will be carried out by direct labour which includes employees in related entities on government conditions and pay. There will be no privatisation or contractorisation of any work, all of which will be undertaken in-house.

A new deal for business

Tax loss back credit

The best way to help companies who may be going through a difficult trading period is to permit a loss in one tax year to be carried backwards and offset against a previous profit, and not only forward against future profits as is the case now. The new GSLP/Liberal government will introduce legislation with effect from 1 July 2000 to make this possible. This will have an immediate impact on companies that are facing previous years tax bills and because of poor trading conditions, have difficulty in meeting the liability.

☐ *Double taxation abolished*

Steps will be taken to eliminate the anomaly that arises in the first and second year of trading for new businesses with respect to double taxation.

☐ *Protection of local market*

Measures will be put in place to give priority of work to local businesses.

☐ *Loan guarantee scheme*

A GSLP/Liberal would ensure that provision is made for viable commercial lending to be made through a loan guarantee scheme.

☐ *Small Business Board*

A Small Business Development Board will be set up. This will be chaired by the relevant Minister and will include the Gibraltar Federation of Small Businesses and the relevant government departments. This will facilitate the concerns of the business community over issues like red-tape.

☐ *Telephone charges down*

A GSLP/Liberal government is committed to lower the cost of international telephone calls. The cost of such calls from Gibraltar is out of line with the reductions in the rest of Europe. Business line rental will be reduced to residential level and the same free calls allowance given.

☐ *Review of social insurance*

The present social insurance structure will be reviewed in order to enable pro-rata contributions to be made for part-time employees.

☐ *Rates Restructure*

A GSLP/Liberal government is committed to conduct a complete review of the structure of the rating system, in consultation with the business community. The payment of rates on unoccupied premises will be abolished.

☐ *Economic Coordination Council with La Linea*

Immediately after the election, an approach will be made to the new administration in La Linea, being the nearest town to set up an Economic Coordination Council. The aim of the Council will be to explore ways in which we can cooperate to attract outside investment to Gibraltar. This will also serve to improve the climate and foster good relations with our neighbours.

☐ *Tavern license reduction*

Tavern Licenses will be cut from £ 400 to £ 25.

☐ *Tender system*

All government work that is not done in-house will be contracted out for competitive tendering with priority given to local firms.

☐ *Business start-up schemes*

A GSLP/Liberal government will make further investments in small workshops and business units to help and encourage the setting up of new businesses.

☐ *Self-employed & partnerships*

A GSLP/Liberal government is prepared to move in the direction of treating self-employed persons and companies in the same way as small businesses for tax purposes. This would require a restructure of the small business tax system.



**Liberal
Party
Gibraltar**

ELECTION 2000

A new deal

which benefits YOU

☐ **AS A HOME-OWNER**

Because your first time buyer's allowance will increase to £14,000, so your tax burden is reduced, and your rates will go down and the cost of water, electricity and telephone calls are frozen.

☐ **AS A GOVERNMENT TENANT**

Because your rates go down, your rent is frozen, your property is refurbished and properly maintained and, where appropriate, lifts are fitted and the cost of water, electricity and telephone calls are frozen.

☐ **AS A STUDENT**

Because you will be entitled to a post-graduate grant and a job in the GDC as a researcher, if you so wish.

☐ **AS A PARENT**

Because your parental contribution for students disappears, subsidised meals are provided for your schoolchildren and free crèche and nursery facilities for working parents.

☐ **AS A PENSIONER**

Because you will have the right to free doctors' house calls, free public transport, free telephone line rental, free television licences, £1,000 on 10 September 2000 and £350 (increasing by £50 every year) from 10 September 2001.

☐ **AS A TAXPAYER**

Because the bottom rate of tax halves from 20% to 10% and further tax reductions follow.

☐ **AS A VEHICLE OWNER**

Because clamping is immediately abolished, road tax is scrapped, MOT tests will be required only once every two years and traffic chaos will be resolved with new and resurfaced roads.

☐ **AS A BUSINESSMAN**

Because telephone charges go down, rates are reviewed, a loan guarantee scheme is introduced, a small business development board is established, government contracts will go out to tender, double taxation in the first year disappears and the social insurance system is reviewed and a tax loss back credit system is introduced.

☐ **AS A SPORTS PERSON**

Because we commit ourselves to present plans for Bayside Sports Complex and to upgrade the facilities that we will be offered there in consultation with you.

☐ **AS A YOUNG PERSON**

Because we commit ourselves to start work **WITHIN 4 WEEKS** on a leisure centre that includes bowling, multi-screen cinemas, an ice skating rink and more amenities in a modern facility you can enjoy and be proud of.

☐ **AS A CITIZEN**

Because Gibraltar gets a hi-tech, purpose-built hospital (not a refurbished fiasco) – & the **GSLP/Liberals** get **GIBRALTAR GOING**.

We Will Deliver



VOTE GSLP / LIBERAL

A new hospital for Gibraltar

A new deal

A GSLP/Liberal government is committed to building a new hospital for Gibraltar and to start the project soon after we come into office. There will be a substantial increase in funding for the health service, but there will be no increase in the contributions that people pay.

□ Works start on 2 May 2000

A GSLP/Liberal government is committed to commence work on the new purpose built St Bernard's Community Hospital site within three months of coming into office, on 2 May 2000.

The new hospital will be located in the area of the Regal House Car Park. This is centrally located, easily accessible (both by the Ambulance and the public) and in an area that caters for the population shift that has occurred since the reclamation with the consequent rehousing of many families to Westside and Europort.

□ 220 plus bed hospital

The present St Bernard's Hospital does not provide sufficient beds to cater for the present and future needs of our community. In the past year there have been instances of patients being turned away as a result of a shortage of beds. As a result of this, we have concluded that a made to measure, purpose built hospital, which immediately provides a larger number of beds and with room for expansion in the future, is the only answer to this important problem. Adapting an existing building not designed as a hospital is NOT a viable or workable option.

□ State of the art high-tech hospital

State of the art facilities at the new hospital will include a dialysis unit and a scanner, which are presently not available in Gibraltar, and which many in our community urgently need. Two operating theatres are also planned to cut waiting time for operations and in this way ensure better facilities and an improved service to the public.

□ New casualty department

There will be a new, upgraded casualty department. Accident and emergency facilities, with quick, easy access are an integral part of the new St Bernard's Community Hospital.

□ Parking facilities

Traffic and parking at the present St Bernard's Hospital is a nightmare. This will change in the new hospital. A large underground car park will provide for 100 staff, 150 visitors and 100 mopeds.

□ Green areas and garden

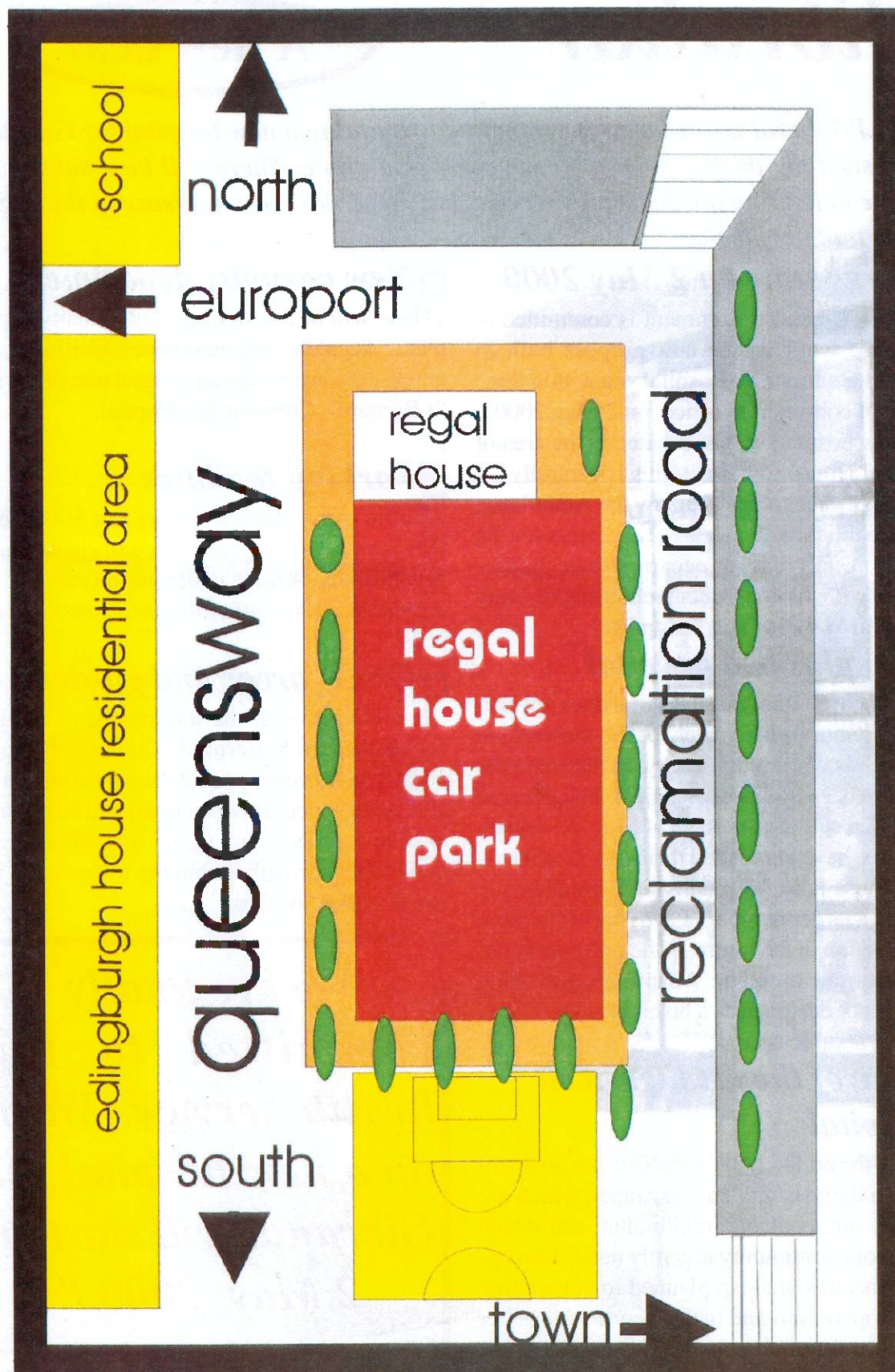
In addition to all the improvements outlined above, the new St Bernard's Community Hospital will have green areas. A large rooftop garden area (which includes a cafeteria) will be provided to enable patients and guests to walk and relax in the open air without having to leave the precincts of the hospital.

"We are totally committed to the health service. Work on a new hospital for Gibraltar will start on 2 May 2000."

an artist's impression of

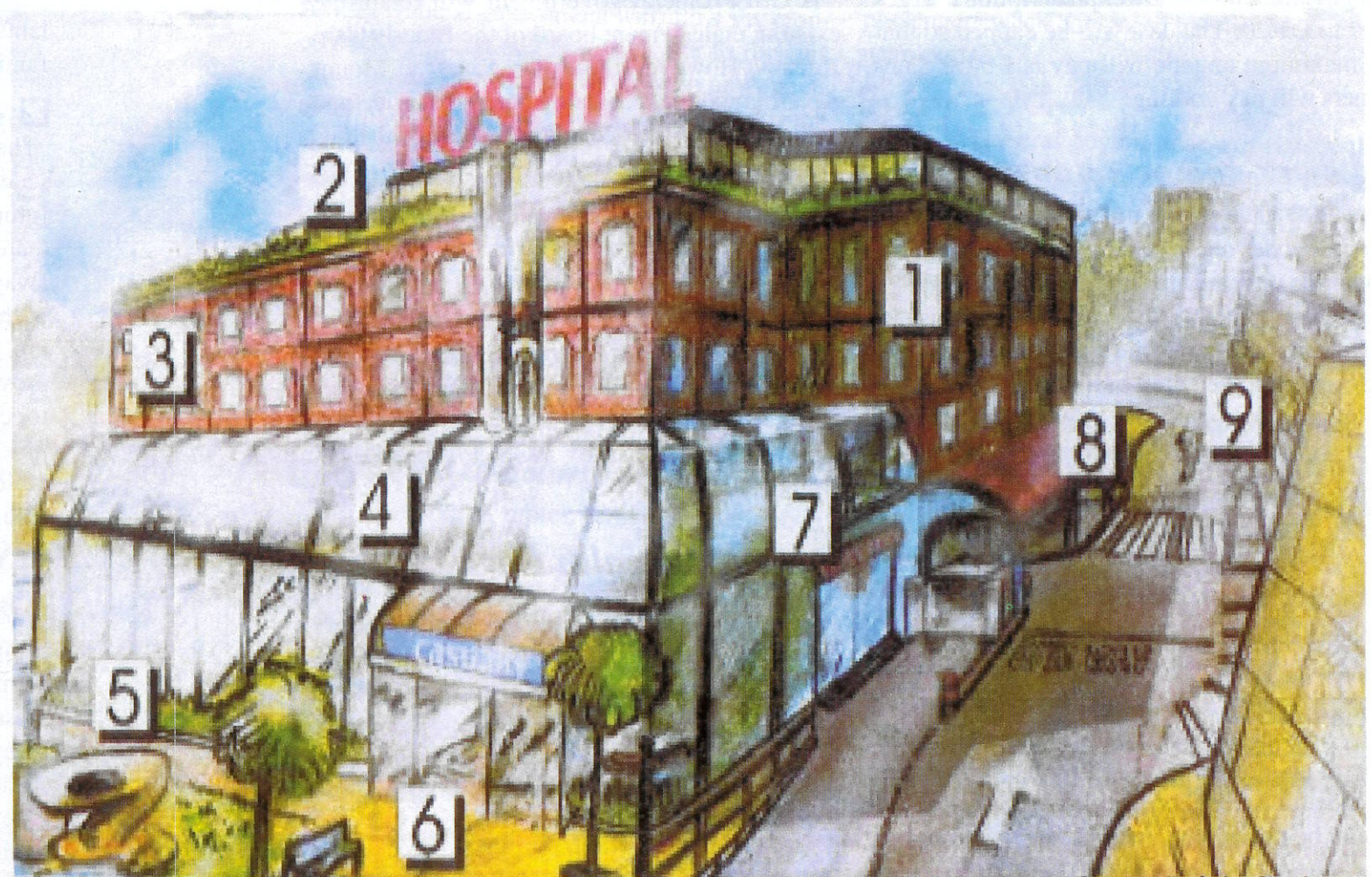
the **NEW** hospital

at reclamation road next to regal house



key points

- 1 220 beds
- 2 roof garden
- 3 two operating theatres
- 4 walk way
- 5 dialysis and scanner units
- 6 accident and emergency
- 7 ambulance bay
- 8 main visitors entrance
- 9 250 car parking spaces + 100 mopeds spaces
(100 staff and 150 visitors)
- 10 green areas



WORKS START ON SITE 2 MAY 2000

A new deal for medical services

□ A new dialysis unit

The new hospital will be fully equipped with a dialysis unit.

□ A new scanner unit

The new hospital will have a fully functional scanner unit so that our people do not have to go abroad for this kind of emergency service.

□ Lower prescription charges

The GSD doubled the cost of prescription charges. This move affected some of the most vulnerable members of our society who are ill and in need of medicine.

In order to address this injustice, a GSLP/Liberal government will lower prescription charges back to £ 1.20. The cost will be capped so that the maximum anyone will pay is £ 7.50. Pensioners will pay nothing.

□ Lower doctor's house calls

The GSD have also doubled the cost of having a doctor visit your home in an emergency. This move was unwarranted and unnecessary.

In keeping with our pledge to reverse this unwarranted increase in charges, house calls paid to doctors will be cut in half back to £ 5.00. To ensure that doctors do not lose out, the government will make up the difference in the cost of house calls to them. Pensioners will be entitled to free house calls.

□ Generic medicine

The GSD's decision to insist on generic medicine being prescribed, as opposed to branded items, has caused problems and confusion for many people, particularly the elderly. A GSLP/Liberal government will allow the doctor, being the professional, to decide whether a patient should be placed on generic medicine or not.

New dialysis and scanner units

□ Nurses recruitment

Vacancies for nurses will be open to all without discrimination. It is obvious that persons with degrees, GCSEs and other qualifications will stand a better chance of success, but those without such academic qualifications will not be automatically deprived from seeking employment as a nurse.

□ Mount Alvernia

A GSLP/Liberal government will retain the existing management board of the Elderly Care Agency. However, the existing staff at Mount Alvernia will be integrated on civil service pay and conditions, the same as the staff of the Gibraltar Health Authority.

□ Sponsored Patients

Many persons going to Britain for medical treatment as sponsored patients, and their accompanying adult are suffering serious hardship. The means testing formula used to calculate the allowance given to such persons will be revised to a more realistic level by a GSLP/Liberal government.

□ Mental Health Care

The services provided at the KG-5 hospital require investment and refurbishment, to which a GSLP/Liberal government is totally committed.

The works required in this hospital will also be assessed and undertaken during our term of office.

A new deal for tourism

□ *Economic expansion*

Tourism is an area for economic growth for Gibraltar which needs to be improved. It is clear from the results and the figures that more could be done to create wealth and employment in this field. The last tourist expenditure survey which was published in 1997, showed that tourist expenditure in Gibraltar was down. No survey has been published since. Our objective is to encourage higher spending by the tourists who come to Gibraltar.

□ *Tourism budget retained*

The existing budget on tourism will be retained. The money will be more effectively targetted and linked to results by working closely with the private sector operators in the industry.

□ *Ferry links*

The on-going fiasco over ferry links with Morocco must be satisfactorily resolved with the provision of an adequate vessel for such a route. A GSLP/Liberal government will allow any properly licensed and equipped operator to run this route. Backing will also be given to any operator who wishes to place a ferry service between Gibraltar and Algeciras, so that the Spanish refusal to grant a license, which is contrary to EU law, can be tested.

□ *New air routes for Gibraltar*

Since 1996, Gibraltar has lost direct flights with London Heathrow, Manchester, Marakesh and Tangier, in a severe reduction in air routes. A GSLP/Liberal government will encourage new airlines to fly new routes to and from Gibraltar.

We have already established contact with a third airline which is ready to provide an air service to a regional airport in Britain to start later this year.

□ *Beautification of Gibraltar*

A GSLP/Liberal government will continue to beautify Gibraltar. The Main Street pedestrianisation was planned for before 1996.

□ *Cruise strategy*

The cruise liner terminal, which was planned and built with European Union funding obtained before 1996, will be the centre-piece of our strategy to attract more cruise visitors to Gibraltar. We are lagging behind the rate of growth by passengers when compared to other Mediterranean ports.

□ *The Port*

A GSLP/Liberal government will pursue the development of the Port in consultation with the staff. It will remain as a government department.

A new deal for vehicle owners

□ *Road tax abolished*

A GSLP/Liberal government will abolish road tax within our first term of office.

□ *An end to clamping*

The clamping of motor vehicles in the public highway will be abolished.

□ *MOT test every two years*

The MOT test for vehicles which at present takes place every year, will instead take place every two years, as per the European Union requirement. This would put an end to the present absurd situation where the existing centre cannot cope with the demand.

□ *An end to traffic chaos*

Motorists are suffering from severe traffic jams due to GSD changes to the flow of traffic. New traffic flow arrangements will be introduced, on the basis of consultation with the Traffic Commission and all other interested parties, to ease traffic jams.

□ *Investment in roads*

A GSLP/Liberal government will make substantial investment to open new roads to ease congestion. Existing roads will be surfaced, especially in severely eroded areas.

New Opportunities for the economy

The key to economic growth is to promote inward investment. In the last four years, the only tangible investment has been the setting up of a wine factory by a company that was already in Gibraltar and planning to set up in that area. The level of economic activity in 2000 is no different to what it was in 1996. Attracting inward investment to Gibraltar will be given an impetus by channelling resources for this purpose through the Gibraltar Development Corporation.

□ Gibraltar Development Corporation

The terms of reference of the Gibraltar Development Corporation are to secure the regeneration and economic expansion of Gibraltar. The Corporation already employs 126 persons dealing in the fields of tourism and employment.

There are many employed in the Gibraltar Development Corporation who have the necessary skills and expertise to take on this kind of task, and they will be reinforced by those graduates who wish to take up employment there as research assistants, on three year research projects.

The Board of Directors of the Gibraltar Development Corporation will include a number of local successful businessmen and outside investors with an interest in Gibraltar. The idea has been very favourably received by the business community in Gibraltar.

□ Investors come in

While in Opposition, the GSLP/Liberals have been looking at a number of projects with interested parties, with ideas for developments in Gibraltar. Immediately after the changes to the Gibraltar Development Corporation, the projects will be considered so that they come on line within the first year of a GSLP/Liberal government.

Information technology and the internet

The development of technology and the growth of e-commerce generally is an area in which Gibraltar is being left behind. In the first year of a GSLP/Liberal government there will be the necessary capital investment in this field. This will enable the existing Internet Service Providers (ISPs) in Gibraltar to have at their disposal the latest state of the art technology which will dramatically reduce the cost and increase the capacity and speed of internet connections. The investment that a GSLP/Liberal government will make will put Gibraltar in a very competitive position to attract new business.

The future of financial services

It is clear that at present there is a serious contraction in the size of the banking sector in Gibraltar. Not only have there been no new licenses, but there are no applicants, and a number of those banks licensed before 1996 have left Gibraltar or are leaving.

Two banks have already left, and a third, which holds three banking licenses is leaving also. Another two banks are expected to leave by the end of the year, making it a total of seven banking licenses handed back.

This decline is accompanied by a dramatic drop in the level of bank deposits.

□ Internet and banking

The delays in introducing passporting means that this field is severely limited. A new impetus to attract banks to Gibraltar must be given through the concept of internet banking. The aim of a GSLP/Liberal government is to make Gibraltar the most competitive internet location in Europe, and the future is clearly linked to internet and the development of new technology.

A new deal on housing

❑ Rates reduction for all

A GSLP/Liberal government will introduce a 20% discount in rates for rates paid on time for residential premises. This discount will apply to both rented and to owner-occupied accommodation. The discount would also be back-dated to 1998, when the same benefit was given to the business community.

From 1 January 2000, the reduced poundage which was given to businesses, will also apply to all residential premises in Gibraltar.

❑ Edinburgh House rents will come down

The GSD has treated Edinburgh House as if they were new buildings and the rent they have set for these flats is too high. Moreover, the buildings were passed on to the Gibraltar government for free by the Ministry of Defence. A GSLP/Liberal government will lower the rents in Edinburgh House in line with the rentals in other buildings of a similar age in Gibraltar, such as Laguna Estate.

❑ Government rents frozen

There will be no increase in the cost of government rented housing over the next term of office.

❑ Lift installation

There will be a programme of lift installation in all suitable government owned buildings.

❑ Home owners tax relief up

The purchase of property is currently subject to a £ 10,000 tax deduction. A GSLP/Liberal government will increase this by £ 1000 per year over the next four years until it reaches £ 14,000. This will apply to new purchasers, as well as to those home owners who have already exhausted or are still claiming the benefit of the original relief of £ 10,000.

❑ Resale limits removed

The restriction on resale prices in 50/50 co-ownership schemes will be removed.

A new deal

500 new housing units

❑ 50/50 to be re-introduced

Immediately on coming into office, a new GSLP/Liberal government will programme the construction of 500 new housing units. Most of these will be for sale on available 50/50 finance, without means testing.

Special facilities, in the form of a 100% interest free mortgage will be provided for those who want to buy and cannot obtain a commercial mortgage.

❑ Flats for government rental

Flats for rental will be built for the elderly and for those who are unable to buy their own home. This will be within the total of 500 flats being built.

❑ Sale of flats to government tenants

The government will give sympathetic consideration to any request for the sale of a government flat to existing tenants.

❑ Elderly and disabled care

As has happened in the past, in the construction phase of the new housing there will be provisions made to ensure that the elderly and the disabled are catered for in the access and facility to the new houses.

❑ Maintenance programme

A GSLP/Liberal government will introduce an on-going programme for maintenance, refurbishment and beautification of all Government rented properties.

❑ Cost of utilities will be frozen

The cost of water and electricity will be frozen. This means that there will be no increase in the next four year term.

A new deal on foreign affairs

The GSLP and Liberal Party Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs have been working on a common position on the external relations of Gibraltar, the Spanish dimension, our status within the European Union, the Constitution, decolonisation and self-determination.

The common ground was there to start with and both parties have been campaigning from the same position of rejecting the Brussels negotiating process which makes Gibraltar's decolonisation a bilateral issue between Britain and Spain. This united position is well-known and remains unchanged.

We will campaign in the United Kingdom, in the European Union and the United Nations for full recognition of our right to self-determination as the only route to decolonisation. This will include the following.

□ Treaty of Utrecht

Seeking the reference of the Treaty of Utrecht to the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion.

□ Brussels Agreement

Campaigning to terminate the Brussels negotiating process.

□ Matutes Proposals

Campaigning for a rejection of the Matutes proposals.

□ Airport agreement

Lobbying for the termination of the 1987 Airport Agreement.

□ European Union rights

Ensuring that the United Kingdom protects the interests of Gibraltar in the European Union. This includes our right to free movement through the Gibraltar/Spain frontier. The right to vote in elections to the European Parliament, and the recognition of Gibraltar's competent authorities and separate jurisdiction.

□ International lobbying

The international lobbying at the United Nations which was initiated by the GSLP in 1992 will continue, as will the European lobbying which the Liberals have been conducting.

□ Relations with Britain

A GSLP/Liberal Government wants good relations with Britain. A key factor in the protection of our rights in the European Union and elsewhere is the position of the United Kingdom. The Foreign Office in London have a shameful record of failing to stand up for the interests of Gibraltar, and our wishes are often placed behind those of Spain. We have to campaign in the United Kingdom to ensure that Britain protects Gibraltar's interests.

□ Normal relations with Spain

A GSLP/Liberal Government wants normal relations with Spain. Dialogue with Spain is only possible if Madrid accepts a new forum which has to be tripartite and with no pre-conditions.

□ Constitutional reform

The position of a GSLP/Liberal Government is that a new Constitution must decolonise Gibraltar by removing us from the United Nations list of colonies. We will seek to decolonise Gibraltar in keeping with the agenda and the timetable set out by the United Nations.

We believe that the position of the United Kingdom should be made public, as this is a fundamental issue and everyone has the right to know where London stands on the issue. Any change must be ratified by the people in a Referendum.

You will be better off under a GSLP/Liberal government

says Joseph Garcia

On 10 February, when you go to cast your vote, the main consideration that you should bear in mind is the programme that you are voting for.

There is no doubt, that the New Deal offered by the GSLP/Liberal Alliance is the best and most coherent political programme that Gibraltar has ever known. This should come as no surprise. It is the product of the joint work of the two parties over the last few years. Every item has been carefully costed and the result is a prudent and balanced document which spreads economic wealth amongst our people, bearing in mind those who need it most.

That is why we have targetted our senior citizens, our students and young people, our tenants and home owners, vehicle owners and the small business community. The basis of the New Deal is the redistribution of wealth, which is an important part of both Socialist and Liberal philosophy. The New Deal makes each and every member of our society better off - so you should ask yourself why is it that the GSD want you to reject it? They are copying our ideas, but giving you less.

Do not believe the scaremongering and the dirty political campaign being conducted by our rivals. On 10 February vote for the New Deal, it is the best deal for Gibraltar and the best deal for you.



A new deal

A new quality of life

☐ *Direct democracy*

There will be a system of direct democracy, whereby the Chief Minister will appear on television once a quarter to answer questions from the electorate.

Helping those in need

As part of the commitment of a GSLP/Liberal government to the disabled, the eligibility for quarterly household cost allowance payments will be extended to persons in receipt of social assistance and unable to undertake work. This will include disabled persons.

☐ *Protecting the environment*

A GSLP/Liberal government is firmly committed to protecting the environment. Environmental matters will be discussed with the experts in the field. This includes a commitment to nature protection and to the creation of green areas for recreational purposes.

☐ *Maintaining our heritage*

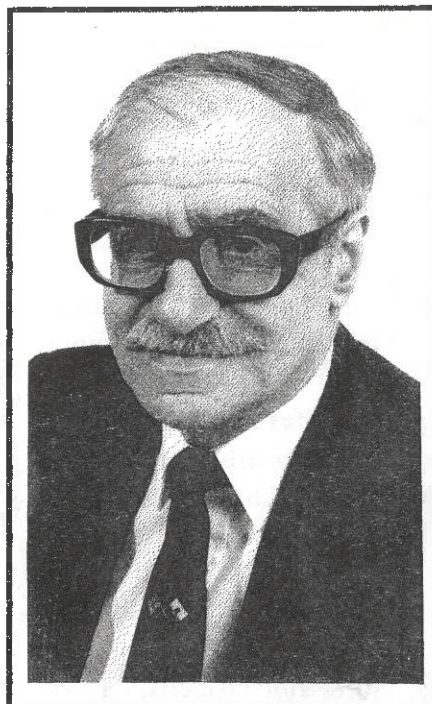
A GSLP/Liberal government would give priority and importance to heritage considerations and would act in consultation with the experts in the field.

☐ *Law and order*

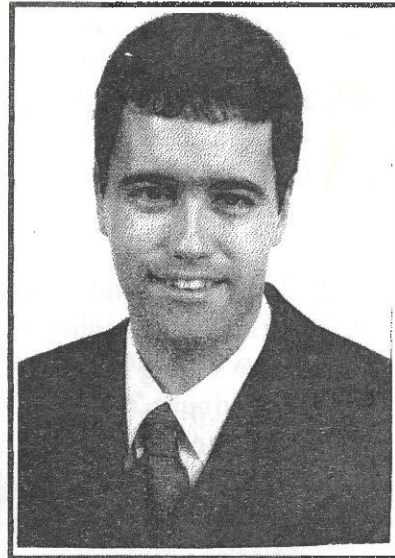
A GSLP/Liberal government will support our law enforcement agencies to ensure that Gibraltar remains a safe and peaceful place to live in. There must be no political interference with the police, with the appointment of judges or with the judiciary in general. We pledge that there will be no return to the fast launch activity.



BALDACHINO



BOSSANO



GARCIA



MONTEGRIFFO

***VOTE
GSLP/
LIBERAL***



DARYANANI



PEREZ



VALARINO



LINARES, Steven