

YELLOW PAGES

Annual Conference 2019 **WEDNESDAY 25.09.19**

A free press?

Yellow Pages is produced by volunteers - who are out today with our collecting buckets. Please be generous.

Yellow Pages has a cover price of £3 for the week.

£3

for the week

The trade union link is fundamental to Labour

In recent weeks, various media stories have sought to portray a big chasm between individual members of the Labour Party and trade unions.

However the debates and votes on two key issues discussed this week – Brexit and the Green New Deal – showed that this is not the case. The majority of affiliate and CLP delegates shared similar positions on these matters, and also backed the party leadership.

In 2015 it was an alliance between constituency members and trade union affiliates that secured Jeremy Corbyn's election as Leader. And since then Labour's enemies have sought to weaken – and ultimately split – this alliance.

Trade union involvement in Labour is crucial to all aspects of the Party, from policy making through to election campaigning. The stronger that trade union link, the stronger is the Party.

Defend All-Women Shortlists

Vauxhall CLP has not been able to choose its own parliamentary candidate for 36 years. In July this year, after Kate Hoey MP's announcement that she was standing down, the CLP's GM delegates voted unanimously for an AWS.

There are strong and experienced local women, of different ethnicities and from across the political spectrum, who have indicated their interest in standing. Despite the CLP's decision, the NEC has decided Vauxhall will have an open shortlist. This is the first time ever that a CLP has unanimously voted for an AWS, and yet for some unknown reason the NEC refused to accept what grassroots members wanted.

Earlier this week an emergency resolution to Conference challenging the NEC and holding the NEC to account at this Conference was rejected by the CAC and referred to the NEC!! Vauxhall is not the only CLP to suffer this fate recently. If a CLP chooses to select with an AWS that should be respected by the NEC, end of story!

70% of Labour members say scrap Trident

A YouGov poll published on the eve of Labour conference showed a clear majority of Labour Party members want to get rid of Britain's nuclear weapons. Of the 1,185 party members sampled, 70% wanted to scrap Trident.

Just think what an anti-austerity Corbyn-led government could do with the £205 billion saved.

Jeremy's proposal for a Shadow Defence Diversification Agency to protect defence workers jobs is supported by the TUC and a growing number of parties and affiliates. There is no time like the present to get on with that job.

Put the date of CLPD's AGM in your diary

**Saturday 14th
March 2020**

Starting at 11.30 am

**Council House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B1 1BB**

All Labour Party members welcome
Only CLPD members can vote

Immigration: Support Composite 20

The Tories' "hostile environment" was originally called "really hostile environment" when Theresa May was Home Secretary. Our Party will introduce a fair immigration system.

Labour's Green New Deal

There was an electrifying atmosphere on Conference floor yesterday as leaders of the Youth Climate Strike took to the stage to kick off a vital debate on what Labour should do to stop the climate emergency. Rebecca Long-Bailey unveiled Labour's radical green policies in her conference speech.

As the FBU's Matt Wrack put it "capitalism is destroying the world" and bold action is needed to save humanity.

A speaker from ASLEF said that "for this challenge, we can only face it if we are united."

Next step in delivering a radical, socialist Green New Deal? Electing the country's greenest ever PM - let's get Corbyn into Number 10.

Daily briefing for delegates published by:

CLPD
**Campaign for
Labour Party
Democracy**

Thanet's Summer Kitchen

Many politicians have woken up to the fact that huge numbers of children go hungry during the school holidays – often thanks to the twin evils of Universal Credit and poverty pay. Activists in Kent decided that's unacceptable – as is making the "needy" queue up for charity. We developed a caring alternative: our "Summer Kitchen".

Schools do not have to be locked up and empty over the summer. Two schools gave us their buildings for free, though we covered fuel cost.

Why does so much fruit & veg go to waste just because they don't meet supermarket standards? We found gleaners who, with volunteers, picked cherries that provided puddings, two

tonnes of spuds and veg the children used to make piccalilli.

We found volunteer musicians, conjurers, singers, games leaders and others to provide fun. We found others who generously provided goods and services – including a barber and advice/support services worker.

The homeless who dropped in were made welcome and ate well. Collection boxes were scattered around for voluntary donations. "To each according to their need -- from each according to their ability" (Jeremy Corbyn speaking at Islington North Christmas Party*).

Sharon Goodyer

Our Kitchen (CIC) [Ramsgate]

Councillor Barry Lewis [Margate]

*PS: for the stupid media, that is a joke.

CLP contributions to Monday's Brexit debate

The debate was, of course, reported inaccurately in the hostile press. Conference was at its best; articulating the strong arguments for Jeremy's insistence that we should not totally ignore the views of half of this country's population.

Alan Gibbons (Liverpool Walton) moved composite 14 pointing out that whether you voted leave or remain, you need a Labour government to rebuild public services. Sion Rickard (Aberconwy) seconded, highlighting respect for different Brexit positions. Cllr Sophie Wilson (Sheffield Hallam) warned against a hard Brexit. We need to bring the country together against poverty and greed, and the leadership's policy is straightforward and sensible.

Jean Roberts (Brent Central) said we need to bring as many leave voters as possible to supporting our transformational policies. Chelley Ryan (East Worthing and Shoreham) felt the Leadership's position can hold disparate Brexit positions together. Zoe Goodman (Bristol South) said Bristol was split down middle in referendum, and we shouldn't push a definite line on the doorstep.

Noah Tucker (Tottenham) said we cannot credibly negotiate a sensible Brexit deal if we are committed to opposing it. Joe Tweg (Chipping Barnet) went on the big Remain march, but also stated that charlatans have divided the country into two warring tribes. He supported Composite 14. Samuel East from Liverpool urged support for Composite 14, insisting we must respect the voices of everyone, no matter how they voted.

Lest we forget...

- Schools and colleges in England have suffered the worst fall in spending since at least the 1970s – *Institute for Fiscal Studies*
- The top 20% of earners in the UK earn 12 times as much as the poorest 20% - *Guardian*, 9th September
- In local government, cuts shrank spending by 21% between 2009-10 and 2019-20 – *Institute for Fiscal Studies*

CLPD – not just for Conference!

Puppies are not just for Christmas, and CLPD is not just for Conference. Join CLPD and receive regular bulletins and newsletters explaining the mysteries of Labour Party procedures and advance news of what's going on. You can't afford to remain on the sidelines!

To join the Campaign for Labour Party Democracy please fill in the form below and return it with a cheque payable to CLPD to:

CLPD Treasurer, 157 North Street, Luton LU2 7QH
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CLP TU

Annual rates: £20 individuals, £5 unwaged and low waged (under £8k); £3 under 27; £25 couples (£6 unwaged and low waged); £25 national and regional organisations; £15 CLPs, trade unions and Co-op parties; £5 CLP branches.

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