

Annual Conference 2015

MONDAY 28.09.15



Vote Gary Heather for NCC

(9am-4pm - ballot area in the West Bar beside Conference Hall)

•Gary Heather wants an NCC that ensures fairness and justice for all Party members. He has been a Party member for 25 years and Chair of his CLP for six years. He is a borough councillor and has been a parliamentary candidate. He has served on the national discipline committee of his union and believes fairness in applying the rules makes for

an effective organisation. We need a united Party to ensure Labour obstructs the Tories and ousts them at the next General Election.

On the National Constitutional Committee, Gary would insist on the just operation of our rules and ensure the Party's internal regime aids our campaign for victory.

NCC, vote: Gary Heather X

Refugees should be welcome here!

Europe is facing the biggest migration of refugees since the Second World War, with people fleeing the Middle East and Africa in large numbers. The largest group of refugees are from Syria, followed by Afghanistan and Iraq. The majority of these refugees are in one of the countries surrounding their own. For example there are 2 million refugees in Turkey and over one million in Lebanon.

Within this context, Britain is not doing enough. Britain opted out of the EU quota agreement which applied to the small number of refugees who initially reached Europe. Pledging to admit 20,000 refugees over five years is a low number in comparison with the numbers other countries are hosting — Germany has welcomed hundreds of thousands.

By Diane Abbott MP

Worryingly, in some countries such as Hungary far-right organisations are scapegoating refugees and seeking to blame them for the fall in living standards which austerity policies have led to. We must concede nothing to these arguments.

In contrast, this summer also saw events, campaigns and petitions supported by 100,000s of people across Britain to say refugees are welcome here and pressure the Government to do more. The Labour Party in Parliament played a central role in changing the tone of debate. Now we must continue to send a strong message and argue for taking a fair proportion of the refugees arriving in the EU.

Biteback

"The Trade Union Bill is really The Attack on Trade Unions Bill.... It is a nasty little Bill. UK workers will be easier to exploit. Bad bosses will be laughing. The Government's own independent advisers have dismissed it as "not fit for purpose". It has no place whatsoever in modern Britain. The opposition to this Bill must be vocal, organised and determined." Len McCluskey General Secretary, Unite, *Tribune* 25th September 2015

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Oppose Cameron's rush to yet another war

David Cameron is again proposing Parliament votes to authorise Britain to take military action in Syria. In 2013 he proposed action against the Syrian Government. This time he is saying the target is ISIS. The proposal would plough huge resources into another Middle East conflict at the behest of the US, without a serious plan for what the final outcome should be. As in Iraq and Libya this would just lead to more chaos, greater destruction, a further wave of refugees and strengthen terrorism.

There is no reason to believe Cameron understands Syria better than he did Libya. His call comes just when there are renewed efforts to restart the Geneva peace process, so now is not the time to blunder into a new war. Britain should press governments to stop supporting the armed militias in Syria.

Last week's Labour List poll showed 63% in opposition to air strikes in Syria, reflecting a wide-spread view within our Party that we should stop this rush to war.

A daily briefing for delegates at 2015 Annual Conference.

Published by CLPD



We know that Conference Chairs don't like delegates challenging CAC report. In past years, they have heard the challenges and then invited delegates to "vote for or against the CAC report". Delegates sometimes feel that voting against the CAC is inappropriate, so this keeps down the rebel vote.

The correct procedure is inviting delegates to "refer back" the part of the CAC report which the speaker has complained about.

Unfortunately, on Sunday morning only a single vote was taken on the two reference backs, rather than a vote being taken on each reference back, one by one. Fellow NEC members are now asking Chairs to take the votes one at a time. We're getting there!

Mary Turner's speeches to Conference always remind us what our Party is really for. Mary's speech yesterday was particularly powerful. Her heartfelt demand for more council housing inspired a rousing standing ovation.

Francis Prideaux, Member of the London Region Board

Jeremy Corbyn may have transformed the Labour Party but he has yet to transform party conference. In past years we have seen too many set pieces and too little time for genuine delegates and proper debate. Sunday's morning session was 1 hour 45 minutes: but only 11 minutes were taken up by delegates debating. The afternoon session was 2 hours and 45 minutes: the time spent on debate was only 37 minutes. Let's hope things get better during the week...

Campaign for Trade Union Freedom/Institute of Employment Rights: Union responses to the Trade Union Bill

12.30pm, Monday, 28th Alexandra Room, Grand Hotel Speakers include:

Len McCluskey, Gen. Sec. Unite; Angela Eagle MP, Shadow BIS Secretary; Prof Keith Ewing, CTUF; John Hendy QC, IER

Sponsored by Unite

Trident: no vote in Brighton, but a clear way forward

While Conference is not voting on the issue of Trident, we still need to continue discussing its lack of relevance to Britain's needs nowadays and how to transition a highly skilled workforce away from nuclear weapons into more socially productive employment.

The Tories are set to bring a vote on Trident replacement to the House of Commons next year, and Labour should vote against it. What is needed is a Defence Diversification Agency to develop a strategy to redeploy workers with skills to tasks that will build a

By Daniel Blaney, Labour CND

stronger country for all. This Agency should ensure a just transition for communities whose livelihoods currently rely on the defence sector and ensure that engineering and scientific skills are not lost.

This reflects the overwhelming view of CLP submissions to the National Policy Forum process last year – a process that saw the Forum unwilling to support Trident being replaced.

End austerity: the way for Labour to win

The Tories' pursuit of austerity policies has stagnated the economy and lowered the living standards of the overwhelming majority of the population. Jeremy has been elected Leader to deliver a Labour victory in 2020 – with a clear alternative plan.

Voters need to know that Labour supports the majority of the population, so we need to be seen to oppose the Tories' austerity attacks. That includes the welfare cuts and benefit cap: Labour cannot accept the scapegoating of claimants or migrants.

Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell MP is setting out a pop-

ular economic framework based on growth not austerity. A Labour Government would stimulate economic growth by borrowing to invest in infrastructure projects. Its current account should be balanced, but not by making middle or low earners or those on benefit pay for the crisis.

Labour must offer people real hope, for which we need a credible and competent economic policy that defends people's living standards, along the lines that John is setting out.

CND Fringe Meeting 6pm Monday Coast View 1, Mercure Seafront Hotel, Kings Road Speakers include Clive Lewis MP & Kate Osamor MP

Labour Assembly **Against Austerity** Opposing Austerity: mobilising members and winning voters 5.30pm, Monday, 28th Alexandra Room The Grand Hotel Chair: Katy Clark Speakers: Diane Abbott MP **Owen Jones** Richard Burgon MP Steve Turner, Unite the Union Cat Smith MP Jeremy Corbyn MP Mark Serwotka, Gen. Sec. PCS

A free press?

The Yellow Pages are produced by volunteers, When you see us tomorrow (and Wednesday) with buckets in hand, please be generous. The Yellow Pages will have a cover price of £3 for the week.

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