

YELLOW PAGES

Annual Conference 2018

MONDAY 24.09.18



ASLEF
the train drivers' union

This bulletin is sponsored by ASLEF

POLICIES FOR A LABOUR GOVERNMENT

Labour's anti-austerity agenda is a vote winner

Today Conference will discuss Jeremy Corbyn's transformative economic policy which offers a massive opportunity to improve the living standards of the overwhelming majority of society by substantially increasing public investment.

Tens of millions of people are inspired by Labour's commitment to end 8 years of brutal Tory austerity. This anti-austerity agenda has put Labour on the front foot to win the next General Election. The popularity of Corbyn's Labour contrasts starkly with the declining electoral fortunes of our sister social democratic parties across Europe. It turns out that embracing austerity is a path that leads to electoral oblivion.

We'll be debating the "An Economy for the Many" motion and hearing from our Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell MP. It's an opportunity to reaffirm and develop Labour's plan to ensure the economy grows, public services receive investment and living standards are raised.

Monday, 24 Sep, 6.30pm
Quaker Meeting House,
22 School Lane, L1 3BT

CLGA Round Table

Your chance to question CLGA supported reps on national committees including Jean Crocker and Teresa Clarke (Women's Conference CAC) plus reps from NEC/CAC/NPF/NCC
Chair: Claudia Webbe
NEC member

Daily briefing for delegates published by:

CLPD
**Campaign for
Labour Party
Democracy**

Save our schools!

Today we will have the opportunity to call on our Party to develop a more robust and bold schools policy that will address the growing crisis in our education system.

Our schools are at breaking point through a combination of cuts, academisation, testing and failures by successive governments to listen to educators. Today we must agree to bring all schools in England back under local democratic control, abolishing Academy Trusts; and to become stronger in our opposition to the continuing academisation of schools. Support the motion from the Socialist Educational Association and CLPs to improve accountability of schools.

We must also support Colne Valley CLP in their reference back of the relevant section of the Policy Report on local accountability. After last year's reference back and the widespread consultation on the National Education Service, we might have expected much better from the NPF report. This is not the time for prevarication: we must have a bold education policy that can save our schools and win the support of parents, teachers and the wider community.

● Stop press: report of Brexit composite meeting

It's already being described as "the five hour saga" (or, as Jeremy might call it, "Please Please Me"). Keir Starmer, speaking on behalf of the leadership, urged the meeting to agree a single composite that the Party could unite behind. Unfortunately, this eminently sensible proposal took rather a long time for some to grasp. The final composite was agreed by consensus and leaves all options on the table. The waiting *Guardian* journalists, with their ears pressed to the door, were ridden with angst as the composite was crafted.

Tories are pricing people off rail

by MICK WHELAN,
General Secretary of ASLEF,
the train drivers' union

There are some strange people around. Take James Price of the right-wing think tank the TaxPayers' Alliance. When the Labour Party, last month, called for a freeze in fares to help hard-pressed families, he said that, as a hard-nosed free marketeer, he reckons it's right to try to price people off trains.

"It would be wrong to announce any kind of fares freeze, as it would hurt rail users, as well as taxpayers, who subsidise rail in the UK whether or not they use trains. Taxpayers would be subsidising rail users to the tune of more than £1 billion over a Parliament if fares were frozen, and rail users would suffer a worse experience from more crowded trains and more delays. Instead, the trade union-caused bloated wage bill should be addressed."

That's factually wrong, of course, but that has never stopped the weird people on the extreme right. Office of Rail and Road figures show that train operators' total costs are £12.6 billion – of which staff costs are just £2.9 billion (23%).

That's morally wrong too. Government statistics reveal that passenger journeys are down from 1,729 million in 2016-2017 to 1,705 million in 2017-2018 – while season ticket sales have plummeted 9.2%.

The Tories would have you believe this is due to the changing nature of work. They're right, to the extent that zero hours con-

Continued on back page

Tories are pricing people off rail

Continued from front page

tracts, faux self-employment and job insecurity make people reluctant to buy a season ticket. But the brutal truth is that passengers are being priced off our railways.

Fares across all operators are now 20% higher in real terms than they were before privatisation. We care because, industrially, we want a thriving, successful railway that works for everyone in this country. And we care politically – because we want a socialist society in which everyone has a fair chance.

The government has ordered a review of the rail industry. Well, we know the problem. And the solution. The franchise system isn't just flawed, it has failed, and is broken beyond repair. It's time to bring Britain's railways back into public ownership.

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

Women's Conference 2018 – a strong move towards democracy

For the first time in many years, women's conference voted on motions. Women members spoke passionately and often personally on childcare, abortion, women's health and safety and the terrible consequences of austerity. The motion on this last topic, Women and the Economy, was voted as the one to go through to Labour Party Conference, with a powerful debate on the Women's Conference floor yesterday underlining the value of this development.

Women's Conference gave a rousing ovation to speeches from Dawn Butler MP and Jeremy Corbyn MP – with huge cheers for Diane Abbott MP when she appeared briefly in a video.

A lively CLPD fringe discussed a century of women's organisation in the Labour Party (and often its marginalisation); the work of Labour Women Leading; and the tireless and important work done by the CLPD-supported reps on the Women's Conference Arrange-

Two key votes on Housing Policy

●Delegates should support the housing composite. Policies to address the housing crisis are not only urgently needed but also hugely popular with the electorate.

●Delegates should also support reference back on page 79 of the Housing, Local Government and Transport NPF report, which says nothing at all about the Right to Buy and totally ignores policy previously passed by conference on balloting residents before regeneration.

**Tonight: CLPD Youth Social
Join us at 6pm at
The Baltic Fleet pub.**

This is a good chance to meet Young Labour members who support Jeremy Corbyn and democratising Young Labour. We will be discussing the Democracy Review as it relates to Young Labour and much more. After, we will be heading to Labourist Karaoke for the evening.

We have big plans for the future: organising for youth conferences and working to democratise Young Labour and Labour Student structures. Join us via the CLPD website (it's only £3 a year) and be part of the movement!

ments Committee, Teresa Clark and Jean Crocker.

Jean and Teresa would like feedback on Women's Conference and ideas for the 2019 Women's Conference, which will take place in five months' time in Telford. Contact them on:

- jean.crocker.jc@googlemail.com
- teresamaryclark@live.co.uk

NEC recommendations on our Labour women's structures come to Annual Conference in 2019, and we must work hard to make sure they are what we need. For Telford, then, it is important that there is support from the NEC for there to be two delegates per CLP rather than one (with at least one of the delegates coming from an under-represented group); for CLPs and affiliates to be able to send motions or potential rule changes; and for more input from grassroots members, e.g. the leading of workshops.

This year's Conference represented a decisive move in the right direction.

Tonight,
5.30pm

54 St James
Street, L1
0AB



**Jewish Voice for Labour
Fringe Meeting
"Palestine/Israel: Anti-semitism"**

Tonight,
6.30pm
The Garden
Room,
The Bluecoat



**Sinn Fein Fringe Meeting
"20 years on - Defending the
Good Friday Agreement"**

**Labour CND
at
Conference
2018**



Mon 24th 3.45-4.15pm
Tue 25th 1-1.30pm
Come to a meet-up session in
the Conference Hall Coffee Bar
(next to Stand 32).

Meet us at World Transformed
(Hinterland Cafe,
after CND meeting)
Monday 24th, 2.45-3.15.

Text or give us a call:
Carol - 07930 160280
Sonia - 07957 429270.

Tuesday, 25 Sep, 6.30pm
Quaker Meeting House 22 School
Lane, Liverpool L1 3BT

**CLPD's Review of
2018 Conference**

**See the CLPD/Momentum
Guide to Conference on:
www.clpd.co.uk**

Yellow Pages is produced as a service to delegates by CLPD. Visit us during Conference at the "CLPD table" near the Google stall in the Exhibition Centre.

