# HAVERING FABIAN NEWSLETTER

May 2014

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## HAVERING FABIAN NEWSLETTER

### **VOLUME 2 EDITION 17 May 2014**

### Introduction

Welcome to the new edition of the Havering Fabian Newsletter. This issue will give a summary of the meeting in March, offer a preview of the upcoming elections, and concludes with some opinions on current political issues.

With the 2014 Council elections on the horizon, the local Labour Parties have selected candidates and are campaigning hard – keep up to date at our twitter site **@haveringfabians** for the latest news. We are affiliated to the four local Labour Parties, and will do all we can to support their campaigns.

Both Romford and the Hornchurch and Upminster Labour parties have upgraded their websites and are active on Twitter – no doubt both will be used to keep you up to date as the campaigns take shape.

Local society member Councillor Sanchia Alasia continues with her campaign to win a seat in the European Parliament and we wish her well, and with her campaign to be re-elected to Barking and Dagenham Council.

We were pleased to welcome Sam Gould, the new Labour prospective Parliamentary candidate for Romford to speak at the AGM, and wish him well in the coming campaign in Brooklands as well.

Paul McGeary, now the Labour PPC for Hornchurch and Upminster will be speaking to the Society later in the year

We look forward to working with them in the run up to the General Election.

As opinions are the lifeblood of politics, we welcome a reply to any of the articles. The Fabian Society exists to promote political debate, both within and outside the Labour Party. Progressive politics extends beyond the Labour Party and contributions from the Labour Movement as a whole are welcome.

Attendances at recent meetings have remained excellent and the quality of speakers remains exceptional. We are glad to see a number of new people attending the meetings, and have an ever increasing number of followers on Face book and Twitter.



Our Face book site is a closed group, please contact David Marshall to be added to the site or e-mail <u>Haveringfabians@outlook.com</u> and we will add you to the growing list of followers. We now have a public site as well, so follow us on whichever media suits.

### **Havering Council elections – prospects for Labour**

Havering's "natural" state is no overall control. With the Tory majority reduced at the 2010 election despite the Tory's doing well locally in the General Election, the current Labour lead of between 3 to 6% would be expected to ensure the Tories lose control, and normality is restored.

In the last Euro elections in 2009, UKIP came second in Havering, so they can be expected to perform strongly locally this time in the Europeans elections – see Luke's article below. The resident vote in the east of the Borough is unlikely to reduce. The complicating factor will be the implosion of the Romford Conservative party, with de -selections, defections to UKIP and an apparent split with their colleagues in the Hornchurch and Upminster and Dagenham and Rainham associations – the three will stand on different manifesto's.

So forecasting the outcome is very difficult. This matters – the new administration faces the worst year of funding reductions in 2015/16 and will have to take some big decisions straight away. There is little scope to put up Council tax – a referendum to do so would almost certainly be lost. So whoever forms the administration, the task will be downsizing the Council on an unparalleled scale.

It is therefore essential Labour has a clear view of what the priorities are. Every seat will count as there is a real prospect that Labour's manifesto could form the basis of how the Council makes progress over the next four years.

The priorities will be defending the key services for the vulnerable. Doing this without a majority is going to be a daunting task.

There are things that can be done.

**Havering needs more school places** – there is a need to lobby for funding for new provision. Sadly this is likely to be academies and free schools. The Council needs to take a greater scrutiny role and ensure that standards continue to improve. Bringing proper local accountability to the schools is vital in this, and is not expensive.

**Havering needs more Social Housing** – the Council can provide some of this – more if the Government lifts the borrowing cap on the Housing Revenue accoun. further provision can be made via Housing Associations and the private sector should be required to provide social housing as part of any large development.

This will make a long term difference to the quality of life in the area. Space is limited – the Borough has a lot of green belt, the south of the Borough is in the Thames Flood plain, and there will be local opposition to building almost anywhere in the Borough.

Decisions taken by the current administration to close schools (Dunningford for example) to build houses and create more demand for schools need to be avoided.

Labour in Havering has had only one term with an outright majority (1971 to 1974). The prospects of a repeat on 22 May are limited, but there are real expectations that an increased Labour vote and representation in the Council Chamber could lead to Labour having a significant influence on the Council for the first time since 2002.

# Mike Le Surf – Michael Flynn reports on the March meeting

Our March meeting was held at MyPlace, a relatively new venue on Harold Hill, which I thought provided a good backdrop to the meeting. The venue is intended to be a community centre and it seemed to have achieved that aim, with other activities going on in addition to our meeting. It felt welcoming when I walked in, though the car parking

facilities were non-existent, having to share with the sports centre, and some of the audience had difficulty finding a space.

Our speaker was Mike Le-Surf, a Brentwood councillor (one of only two for Labour), and Labour's PPC for S Basildon and E Thurrock. Mike works for Mencap, and is interested in providing opportunities for people with disabilities, be they physical or mental, which fits in with the broader aim of giving everyone equal opportunities for full participation in society.

Mike started this kind of work at Jackson's Cafe in Romford High St, which provides work for people with disabilities, and he noticed that opportunities for evening activities were limited for these people. Mike said that from 1997 attitudes to this group of people changed, and he cited the 2001 report "Valuing People" as a turning point. Institutions closed and group homes were built for this section of society. This created a new atmosphere so their activities were not confined to the day-time.

His particular interest in this was in providing toilets suitable for people who need support. If people can go out and not have to worry about where they can use a suitable toilet this can transform their lives, as otherwise they may only be able to go out for a couple of hours before having to think about returning home. The campaign is called "Changing Places". No funding is received from government but despite this there are now 600 changing places in the UK. Mike wanted to see the Building Regulations stipulate that all public buildings should provide such a facility. This hasn't happened yet, though I think that if he is successful in his bid for parliament we may hear more of this.

He illustrated the situation of those with disabilities with a chart (Circles of Support) comprised of four circles inside one another, a bit like a dartboard. Those in the outermost circle were people paid to provide support for the individual. In the next circle were participants, people you might meet casually at work or socially, for instance people you might see at a Fabian meeting. In the next circle were friends, people with whom you might strike up some form of relationship, and in the middle circle were those closest to you, perhaps family or a few close friends. Most people will have the inner three circles populated, and probably not many in the outer circle, maybe just a GP and dentist, those sorts of professionals who provide support generally. For those with disabilities the position may be reversed, with most of the people they come into contact with being paid to provide care. If their opportunities for participating in the wider society are limited, then their inner circles of

support will be similarly lacking. Should the funding for their support be restricted or taken away (something that's happening now with the restrictions on welfare spending), then they are left with no support and few friends to fall back on.

The closure of Remploy and of some schools for special needs meant that people had to travel further to get education and work.

Mike's concern for those with disabilities is part of a wider belief in equal opportunities. He spoke on the need for more people who worked in manual occupations to be elected to parliament, and also stated his support for all-women short lists. He commented on the way that young people may go straight from university to political assistant and adviser, then, knowing the system, find it easier to get selected to stand for political position. In the discussion that followed, several people pointed out that someone who came from a middle class background, and worked on the fringes of politics before entering parliament, could still represent the interests of working people.

It seems to me that if Mike supports all women short lists and also more working class people as MPs then it would be just as logical to support short lists of candidates only from working class backgrounds. This won't happen, of course, as there would be endless debate as to what exactly was a qualifying occupation, and would rule out anyone that didn't have a job, but at least it would be consistent. Similarly, if those in the audience who thought that someone who's privileged background has eased their entry into parliament can do a good job of representing "the workers" (and they may be correct) then, equally it may be true that men can do a good job of representing women's interests.

Either way, once you start down the road of reserving positions for various groups in order to ensure representation it's difficult to know where to end. The Labour party has begun and ended with all women short lists, but it's worth considering that a more rational approach to making the composition of parliament more in keeping with the characteristics of the general population would be to have different types of short lists. All of this is in the context of first past the post, single entity constituencies; it doesn't matter what type of short list you have, if the candidate is unattractive to the general voter then their chances of success will be diminished.

### Austerity and ethnicity Jennette Arnold OBE AM

London is one of the most diverse cities in the world, a fact that we should celebrate. As a London Assembly Member, I represent the constituency of North East London, covering the boroughs of Hackney, Islington and Waltham Forest. This part of London is one of the most diverse areas of the most diverse city in our great country.

People from all corners of the world – including me – have arrived and now call North East London their home. They've brought with them their own cultures, religions, and ways of life and, together with those already living there, have made it the vibrant and exciting place it is today. From the large Vietnamese contingency that inhabits Hackney, to the Turkish community across Islington and Hackney, and the large Black Caribbean population in Waltham Forest and Hackney, North East London is *the* home of diversity.

Out of the 700,000 or so people who live in the three boroughs that make up my constituency, over 300,000 are from black and minority ethnic (BME) groups – almost 43% of the total population<sup>1</sup> – and this diversity is something I celebrate without reservation.

As with the vast majority of Londoners, the people who live in my constituency rely so much on public services to keep them safe, to keep them healthy, to travel around, and to gain skills and an education.

Within North East London alone, there are hundreds of schools, colleges and universities, four acute hospitals and three local authorities – all with dedicated and fantastic public sector workers.

But, as we all know, public services across my constituency, across London, and across the UK have been cut back; budgets have been decimated; hundreds of thousands of people have lost their jobs; and millions of people are losing help and assistance from public services. As an ex-NHS nurse, it breaks my heart that public servants are having their pay, rights and jobs cut back at a detrimentally-fast rate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ONS (2012) <u>2011 Census - Ethnicity</u>

They are also being implemented in a grossly unfair manner, and impacting disproportionately on ethnic minority communities. Before the 2010 General Election, over 20% of black working-age men and over 40% of black working-age women worked in the public sector<sup>2</sup>. Millions of public sector workers have lost their jobs and livelihoods since then<sup>3</sup>, and there are hundreds of thousands that will follow in the years running up to the next General Election. Given the vast proportion of black people who worked in the public sector, especially compared with the ethnic spread across the wider UK population, the impact these losses have had, and will continue to have on members of the black community – particularly black women – is disgraceful.

At the same time as reductions in jobs and pay are going ahead – thousands of third sector organisations that focus on helping people from BME groups are, as a direct result of budget cuts, losing contracts from public sector bodies (contracts that they relied upon in order to stay solvent). Add to the mix the fact that the Government has decimated the independent body – the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) – that is there to protect the rights of minority groups and fight their corner when they're treated unfairly by government. By 2015, the EHRC will have had an overall reduction of 60% in its total budget compare with levels in 2007<sup>4</sup>.

BME people - through no fault of their own - are losing their jobs, losing their livelihoods and losing the support of organisations that, in the past, have helped fight their corner.

Over the decades, together with like-minded comrades from other communities in the UK, BME men and women have fought too long and too hard to make our country a fairer place. And, while there is more work to be done on this (which I know all too well from my work at City Hall scrutinising the Mayor and the Metropolitan Police Service), I think the progress we've made to enable BME men and women – together with people from all walks of life – to live in a more equal society is something to celebrate; even more so when we compare the UK with other nations across the globe.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Runnymede Trust (March 2011) Potential Impact of Government Cuts on Ethnic Minorities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> ONS (September 2013) <u>The percentage of people in employment who work in the public sector is at the lowest since records began</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Runnymede Trust (March 2011) Potential Impact of Government Cuts on Ethnic Minorities.

In my role as Equalities spokesperson in the Labour Group at the London Assembly, I am concerned about the impact the Government's cuts will have on equality and diversity within our country in the long term.

Public sector cuts are, of course, affecting people from all groups in society, but the disproportionate impact they are having on the livelihoods of ethnic minorities is unacceptable. Why should BME people be the ones that bear the brunt of Government cuts that – despite what they say in Downing Street – are fuelled by an ideological obsession with abolishing the public sector, and moving services and money into the pockets of their wealthy friends and paymasters in the private sector?

We see the impact of the Tories' policy of economic austerity everywhere we look.

In my own patch of London, I have fought long and hard to stop the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, from making savage cuts to police and fire services. These services are hugely important in making Londoners feel safe and secure, yet Mayor Johnson has closed fire stations across the city and cut the number of police officers in the Metropolitan Police Service by thousands.

Just like his friends in Downing Street, Mayor Johnson has argued that making these cuts to public services will help make "significant strides in growing our economy". Data continues to suggest otherwise. After all, our economic recovery remains far below that of our peers across Europe and America who, in general, rather than cutting public services have invested in them.

And this is the thing that really upsets me. We know there is a better and fairer alternative to cuts. At national level our taxation system needs to change to make the richest people in our country pay more, and make international businesses pay their fair share of taxes in our country. And, in London, my colleagues and I in the Assembly's Labour Group produced an alternative budget to Boris's one of austerity and cuts. In it, we demonstrated that by freezing council tax (rather than cutting it, as Boris did) and re-allocating funds, it was possible to save jobs and services. In fact, we also proved that it would be possible to reduce Boris' hike in travel fares on the Transport for London network<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> City Hall Labour (2013) <u>Report to the Assembly on the Mayor's Draft Consolidated Budget for 2013-</u> <u>14</u>

Our bottom-line figure was the same as in Boris' budget, but we placed those who rely on public services at the centre of our approach to budgeting, and proved that services can be protected, that the jobs of dedicated public servants can be saved, and that local government can deliver fairness even in tough times.

Boris refused to budge, but the lesson is clear: continue to challenge the austerity of the Government. They want us to think that there is no other way, but, just like we did with our alternative budget, we need to make the case for creative, fair and progressive solutions to the cuts being handed down by MPs in Whitehall.

Let me give you an example where this sort of thinking <u>has</u> worked: the London Living Wage (LLW), which is a non-statutory hourly rate that exceeds the minimum wage and is based on what people need to earn in order to live comfortably in their lives. In London, this stands at £8.80 per hour and in the rest of the UK it's set at £7.45 (compared with the minimum wage of £6.31 per hour)<sup>6</sup>.

In London, we've worked hard to get more organisations signed up to it. The former Mayor of London, Ken Livingstone, did great work in championing it across London, and forced home the message that not only does the Living Wage benefit its recipients, but it boosts the economy by having more money in circulation. It also undermines businesses whose model is based on low wages and exploitative labour practices.

As a result of Ken's work, Mayor Boris Johnson – to his credit – picked up the mantle left by the former Mayor and now extols the economic benefit of having the Living Wage in London.

This only happened, though, through hard work from the former Mayor and his team. And it gives a great lesson for all progressives and Labour Party members about how the Left can mainstream its ideas by marshalling powerful arguments, engaging in vigorous debate, and making not merely a moral argument in favour of fair, left-wing policy, but one rooted in sound economics. That's not to say, of course, that we've won the argument on the living wage across the capital, but we've made significant gains in a short space of time.

<sup>6</sup> http://www.livingwage.org.uk/

Similar battles have been fought and won. We now have a weekend, sick pay, annual leave, maternity and paternity pay, the minimum wage, and equality in the workplace. None of these things were given. We fought, we won, and now they're mainstream policies accepted by most, practiced by law, and reaping benefits for all, especially marginalised and vulnerable people in our society. Amidst the gloom of austerity, there are real opportunities to make inroads into a political situation currently dominated by right-wing policy and cuts.

I spend a lot of time on the doorstep and at community meetings in my constituency, and people of all political persuasions – including many from BME communities – are worried about losing their jobs, worried about losing their local emergency services, and worried about whether there'll be enough school places for them to send their children to. My message to them is simple.

The attacks the Government is making on society and, particularly, vulnerable people in our country might seem unrelenting, and the attacks the Government is making are pushing us back to the darker days of rising unemployment and higher levels of inequality, which is particularly impacting on ethnic minorities. But I tell my constituents this:

The people in Downing Street and the Mayor of London's office have underestimated one thing: the power of people who want to come together to fight back. One thing the Bullingdon Boys have never had to do is to work hard – and I mean **work hard** – to get what they've got. They'll never understand what it's like to fight for what you've got; to fly in the face of discrimination and to keep pushing and pushing for economic, social and political justice. And I truly believe that this is what will bring about their downfall.

It might not seem like it at the moment – and I know it doesn't change the fact that millions of people have lost their jobs and livelihoods already – but the Bullingdon Boys will have their comeuppance. We've come too far and worked too hard to get to where we are today to lie down, and I for one will keep fighting to champion hard-working public sector workers, particularly those from BME communities.

So, when you're out canvassing or talking with people down your local shop or pub, go with a message of hope. A message that, if we come together, to fight together, backed up by real and fair alternatives to austerity, we can defeat austerity, defeat this Government and return to a society where people are valued and respected, no matter what colour their skin is. As the late, great black, female writer and Civil Rights activist, June Jordan, once wrote, "we're the ones we've been waiting for".



# Luke Jones writes on the prospects for the European Elections

UKIP, one of the biggest political stories since their triumph in last year's local elections, may be on the brink of yet another tremendous success. Victory this May would make UKIP the first party other than the Conservatives or Labour to win a national election since the First World War.

This irresistible narrative has encouraged unprecedented attention for the upcoming European polls, and the live debates between Clegg and Farage have only added to the noise. Underlying all of this is the tangible unease about the now interrelated issues of immigration and the EU.

This week, Labour will launch their European election campaign. If Ed Milliband is to appear like a leader in waiting, then the campaign must establish Labour's voice in this political battlefield.

Much of this can be achieved by simply broadcasting Labour's current positions on some of the key European questions. By affirming Britain's interest in staying 'in', while recognising the need for a series of reforms, Labour can position themselves in the middle of a debate that has increasingly become structured between two poles; in or out.

Labour have often been criticised for being incoherent on Europe, yet they have many prescriptions for the EU. For example the shadow team appear committed to a reduction in the EU budget alongside a reconsideration of the budget priorities. They suggest that less weight should be placed on the Common Agricultural Policy to allow more funding for research and entrepreneurialism. Yet most critically Labour has suggested that the free movement directive should allow sovereign

countries more flexibility if their services and infrastructure are demonstrably strained.

All of these positions, among others, have the potential to draw some attention. Yet Labour must go much further if they are to truly capture the initiative and finish ahead of UKIP.

Part of UKIP's success so far is that their case is, in some ways, emotive and apparently informed by clear principles. On the flip side the pro-EU case has too often made the mistake of appealing to the status quo and relying too much on ineffective smears against UKIP. Labour need to supersede these arguments with principles of their own. We should not be in favour in staying in Europe because businesses are anxious about a breakup. Instead, we should be in favour of staying connected to Europe because we are one world and one people. We increasingly have to work together to face global challenges such as climate change; that's why severing our ties is not an option.

On top of utilising more emotive angles, Labour's reformist agenda needs to be more radical. Labour has outlined many areas of reform, yet the democratic deficit within the EU is a conspicuous blind spot. This is an issue that has only become more charged since the Euro crisis and the top-down treatment of the few anaemic southern states. An unelected commission governs the EU. It is accountable to the European parliament in some ways, yet the members of that parliament have an incredibly weak mandate. At least in the UK, they are elected on a very low turnout and unlike MP's MEPs are selected by their party, not the people.

Inexplicably only UKIP and Tory backbenchers consistently express concern about these legitimate issues. As the European Union grows and its influence becomes stronger, the more it could benefit from being more transparent and democratic. Given Labour's progressive values, a push for more democracy in Europe would fit naturally in their campaign message. If we want the EU to do more for ordinary people across the UK, then they need to have a stronger voice in Brussels. Aside from that objective, it can offer some protection against damaging charges from both Farage and Cameron. Labour's reluctance to offer an 'in/out' referendum will not necessarily pigeonhole Labour with the Liberal Democrats as a party who does not trust the people if they are offering greater input to the electorate elsewhere.

Labour should not wait until the general election to be bold when there is so much at stake in the coming weeks. Especially considering the local elections on the same day – contingents of UKIP voters can threaten Labour's grip on many councils, including Barking & Dagenham. A complacent campaign will do nothing to inspire confidence in Milliband and Labour, who have struggled to secure a comfortable lead over the Conservatives in the polls. To snatch victory next month with a spirited and progressive campaign will lead the way to 2015 by establishing Labour as a bold and agenda setting force.



# **Question Time on the Environment organised by Havering Friends of the Earth.**

In a first for Havering, on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April at Fairkytes Arts Centre in Hornchurch, a panel of five local politicians, chaired by Rosina Purnell, gave their views on environment issues

First question was regards protection of green belt / green spaces and problems associated with gravel extraction in Wennington. The Local Authority Councillors felt this was a matter for the LONDON PLAN and any opposition from the local council would be likely to lead to an appeal.

Second question was on London City Airport expansion and aircraft stacking leading into the third question about Havering's Air Quality and especially NOX from vehicle exhausts. The issue of whether we purchase the cheaper or more environmentally friendly fuel at the pump was raised. It was felt much of the air pollution problems were *site specific* and **idling of cars** near schools and elsewhere should be discouraged and any means of improving traffic flow be considered, including removing the toll for the Dartford Crossing.

The question on human induced climate changed polarised the panel with some expressing the view it was no more than a hoax! One panel member indicated their concern regarding an unsustainable global population growth, which in itself must exacerbate most environmental problems. The matter of energy efficiency / conservation and carbon recapture via more tree planting was put forward.

Clearly all panel members had conscientiously researched the issues and this well attended meeting was guided very ably through the evenings programme by the chair.

The contribution to political debate in our borough by **Havering Friends** of the Earth is most welcome.



### **Future Meetings**

There will be **no meetings in May** as there are Council and European elections to win. We will have another Newsletter before the elections which we hope will contain articles from Local Labour candidates

We recommence meetings on 10th June with **Christian Wolmar**, so far the only declared Labour candidate for Mayor in 2016. Christian is a well known transport journalist, and this should be an interesting meeting. The venue will be Saffron House, South Street Romford, home of Romford Labour Party. The meeting will start at **8pm**.

We welcome back a (not too) old friend on Friday July 4<sup>th</sup> when **Dr.** Carole Tongue will return for another visit. The topic will be "Our Europe not theirs" which is the title of a recent book, and no doubt we will have a chance to review the lessons of the European Elections. The venue will be the ever interesting Havering Museum, with a **7.30pm** start.



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If you go to the Bekash in Romford mention you are a Havering Fabian and get 10% discount off your food bill.



The Society invites speakers on a range of subjects; if you would like us to invite speakers on a particular subject let us know and we will try to oblige.

The Society has a policy of rotating meetings around the Borough; if you need or can offer a lift or if you know of any suitable venues we could use, contact David Marshall.

### **Local Fabian Society Contacts**

Chair Councillor Keith Darvill	Secretary David Marshall	Contact David Marshall
<b>Membership Secretary</b>		31 Vicarage Road Hornchurch RM12 4AS 01708 441189 david.c.marshall@talk21com
Vice Chair Mike Flynn Committee Members	Treasurer Dave Baldock	
Cecile Duerinckx	Ed Glasson	Sanchia Alesha
Wilf Mills	Ian Carnochan	

### **Future Editions**

The next edition will be published in July and focus on the Borough and European election results and their implications. We will also provide a summary of the Jennette Arnold meeting on Education, where one member who was around at the formation of the Society praised the input from the floor as among the best he had heard.

Contributions to the newsletter are always welcome. The Fabian Society exists to promote progressive ideas from within and outside of the Labour movement.

As such we are happy to publish articles in keeping with this broad ethos, but reserve the right not to include all of part of any material which falls outside of this parameter.

### Links

The following links should be useful in keeping up with the debate in the Labour movement

National Fabian Society <u>www.fabian-society.org.uk</u>

The Labour Party www.labour.org.uk

Jon Cruddas MP for Dagenham <u>www.joncruddas.org.uk</u> **Twitter @joncrudasmp** 

Barking Labour Party <a href="www.barkinglabour.org.uk/">www.barkinglabour.org.uk/</a>
<a href="www.barkinglabour.org.uk/">Twitter @barkinglabour</a>

Romford Labour Party <u>www.romford-labour-party.org.uk/</u> **Twitter @romforlabour** 

Hornchurch and Upminster Labour Party
Website <a href="http://hornchurchandupminsterlabour.org.uk/">http://hornchurchandupminsterlabour.org.uk/</a>
Facebook Hornchurch-Upminster-Constituency-Labour-Party
Twitter @HULabour

Tribune www.tribunemagazine.org
Twitter @Tribunemagazine

Hope not Hate <u>www.hopenothate.org.uk</u> **Twitter @hopenothate** 

Thames Chase Community Forest

Twitter @Thames Chase

 $\underline{http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/recreation.nsf/LUWebDocsByKey/EnglandEssexNoFores}\\ \underline{tThamesChaseCommunityForestTheThamesChaseForestCentre}$ 

John Biggs GLA Member for City and East London john.biggs@london.gov.uk or join his mailing list biggsnews@london.gov.uk
His website is www.johnbiggs.org.uk
Twitter @JohnBiggsAM

### **Havering Fabian Society is affiliated to**

- National Fabian Society
- Dagenham and Rainham Labour Party
- Romford Labour Party
- Upminster and Hornchurch Labour Party
- Barking Labour Party



### **Havering Fabian Membership**

To join Havering Fabian Society, please complete the following and send to David Marshall. You can also join the Society nationally, David has more details. You do not have to be a member of the Labour Party to join Havering Fabians, but you will need to be a Labour Party member to take part in Labour Party selections and elections.



This is the 17th edition of the newsletter. Previous editions are available, please get on touch if you want a copy; all are available via e-mail.

### **Havering Fabian Society**

Founded in 1974, the Society promotes progressive political thought in Havering and beyond. Membership of the Society is not necessary to attend meetings, and neither is membership of the Labour Party.

However, to participate in nominations to the Local Labour Parties or in selection conferences, membership of both is required. The Society meets regularly throughout the year, apart from the summer and during election campaigns. Local Membership is currently £10 waged, £5 unwaged.

I\ we wish to join Havering Fabians

Name

Address

postcode

E-mail

Phone number

Waged (£10) unwaged £5