

# HAVERING **FABIAN** SOCIETY

## HAVERING FABIAN

Volume 2 Edition 39 June – 2019

### **Havering Fabian Society**

Covering...unintended  
consequences, Carole  
Beth visits the War  
Graves, recent  
meetings with  
Fiona Twycross,  
Jannike Wachowiak,  
Charles Seaford  
the European  
Elections, Brexit  
, and  
details of future  
meetings

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# HAVERING FABIAN

VOLUME 2 EDITION 39 June 2019

## Introduction

Welcome to the new edition of the Havering Fabian Newsletter.

This edition contains a review of recent meetings with Jannike Wachowiak Fiona Twycross and Charles Seaford.

There are articles on the recent European elections, Brexit (because we have to not because we want to), and how unintended consequences have added to the pressure mounting on Local Government Finances.

Carole Beth feeds back on her visit last November to the war graves in Belgium.

We now have over 1,198 followers on twitter. Keep up to date at our twitter site @haveringfabians for the latest news.

We have a blog now as well as our website <https://haveringfabians.org/posts/>

You will need to follow us to get updates.

We are affiliated to the four local Labour Parties, and will do all we can to support their campaigns. Havering and Dagenham Young Labour are on twitter @HavAndDagYL and hope they reflect a growing interest in Labour politics in Havering.

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 good 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 Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter.



Our website address is <http://haveringfabians.org> - a little different from the previous one so please update your Favourites. As you are no doubt aware GDPR means we need to keep our mailing list up to date. If you are not on our mailing list (we use MAILCHIMP – please check your spam folders!) contact us via the website and we will add you in.

## Unintended consequences

Politics is, or should be, about achieving what is possible and making (informed) choices. Policies that appear at first glance to be non-controversial can often be anything but once fully understood.

The Children's Act is one example. The Act was intended to increase parental influence over the assistance given to children with High Needs. This is a motherhood and apple pie policy, that no one is going to be against.

Until it becomes apparent that the consequences are to drive a significant number of councils into even more dire financial problems than they have had after nine years of austerity<sup>1</sup>.

The legislation has brought more children into the system, in addition to the growing number resulting from population increasing. Given the choice of care packages, what parent would not select the one that provides most support, even if the child could manage with less.

So surprise, the cost of support has shot up nationally. Councils that have not unreasonably sought to balance care with cost have been taken to court and lost

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<sup>1</sup> For example see [https://www.thlabour.org/news/2019/06/17/send\\_funding-2/](https://www.thlabour.org/news/2019/06/17/send_funding-2/) or <https://www.local.gov.uk/about/campaigns/bright-futures/bright-futures-childrens-services/bright-futures-send-funding>  
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judicial reviews, meaning more cost and leaving high cost packages in place. There is some extra funding to allow the Government to make the claim it is dealing with the problem, but it is nowhere near enough.

None of this would matter if the Government had respected the principle that if central government creates extra responsibilities for local government the funding it provides should be adjusted accordingly. This was known as the New Burdens rule, and was introduced by the coalition government in 2010.

However, this only applies where there is a direct link. The element of parental choice complicates this as Government will argue that they have not caused the costs to increase, it is the parents.

All this may be of secondary importance if Councils had a way of raising sufficient revenue each year to meet the additional costs. Guess what, they don't. The capping of increase in Council by central government nine years of budget reductions and demographic changes all make the position harder to deal with.

The law allows administrative decisions to be subject to Judicial review. Nothing unreasonable about that. So should a council not satisfy a parents wishes, the matter can go to court. Again wholly reasonable. Should the court find in the parent's favour, the council will need to provide a higher standard of care, and cost is not a consideration. To add to the budget pressure, precedents are set and similar cases have to be treated in the same way. So costs go up further. Councils across the country therefore face increasing costs as an unintended consequence of a policy change, on a spiralling scale into the millions.

There is no way out short of government recognition that the change in legislation has resulted in the additional cost and that this needs funding. Ten years of austerity have squeezed out efficiency savings, councils cannot increase council tax - so this has to fall back to Government as they instituted the legislation that caused the financial shortfall.

Do you think this is going to happen anytime soon?

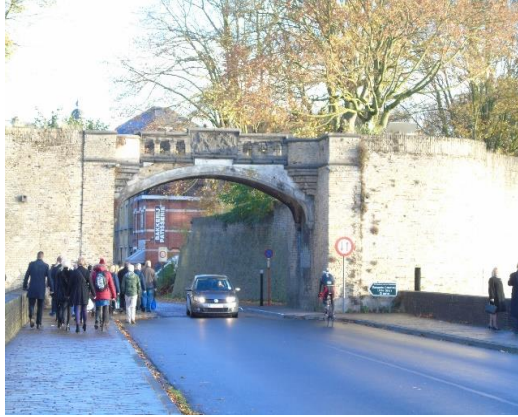
## Carole Beth – visit to the War Graves, November 2018

We intended to publish this in article in a previous edition but Tele's article on knife crime was included due to the horrific events in Harold Hill. Carole provides a reflection on her visit to the war graves in Belgium to mark the 100-year anniversary of the end of World War 1. We thank her for some excellent photographs.

Last year I was lucky to be able spend a very special weekend in Belgium at a special place from history, I was there for the hundredth anniversary of the day the guns fell silent at the end of the first world war, 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918. Whilst there I visited some of the areas, museums and cemeteries, I took my 14yr old granddaughter with me and travelled by coach, on the first day we visited Tynecott cemetery said to be the largest site of war graves in the world, my granddaughter couldn't believe how many white stones there are, and said that this must never happen again, we spent the second day in Ypres and had a very good look round this beautiful city that had to be virtually rebuilt after the war, one of the local churches St George's church which was almost completely covered in poppies and of course the In Flanders Fields museum, we stayed all day so we could watch the "last post" ceremony this is a ceremony which happens every evening at 6pm all year round, we returned on Sunday to attend the parade and silence at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month, when we all remembered those who never returned, the service takes place at the Menin gate, very similar in appearance to London's marble arch, just one difference the hundreds of names carved into this magnificent monument of those who have no known grave. I was able to lay a wreath from the people of Havering and whilst Tynecott may be the largest cemetery sadly it is just one of many.







## **Fiona Twycross, Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience for GLA.**

Dr Fiona Twycross is London's first Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience and was appointed to this role, by the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, in April 2018. Prior to this, she was Chair of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority (LFEPA) from May 2016 until its abolition in 2018 and was Vice-Chair of the Authority from 2013 until 2016. She has been Chair of the London Resilience Forum since 2016.

Fiona is the Labour Lead on fire at the Local Government Association (LGA), Vice-Chair of the LGA Fire Services Management Committee and a member of the LGA Fire Commission. She is also a member of the Firefighters' Pension Scheme Advisory Board and on the National Joint Council for Local Authority Fire and Rescue Services.

Dr Twycross has been on the London Assembly as a London-wide member since May 2012 and was re-elected in 2016. She is a member of the Assembly's Economy Committee and the Education Panel. She is Deputy Leader and Whip of the London Assembly Labour Group. Fiona led Labour's London-wide campaign, *999 SOS* against the cuts to the emergency services.





*Figure 1 Fiona starts the meeting Keith Darvill in the Chair.*

Prior to addressing Fire & Resilience, Fiona raised two concerns in Greater London.

1. The housing crisis / homelessness / affordable housing.
2. London's failure to make a credible case for Remain.

Resilience was dealing with major emergencies such as Croydon tram accident & Grenfell Tower fire. In effect, an emergency planning service, but regretfully Brexit and planning for a possible No Deal had dominated time and resources ~ making our communities less resilient. There needs to be a balanced approach and community resilience is easier in smaller towns / districts than Greater London.

Grenfell fire had focus more attention to Building Regulations and the need to embrace a wider range of buildings ~ lower buildings are also a risk. Fire safety should be given more attention at the planning application stage.

A skill shortage was a problem, including the expertise on fire safety ~ which has suffered from the monetary cuts. The problem is endemic

throughout London; similar cladding having been used in many buildings.



*Figure 2 Fiona responds to questions*

The question / answer & discussion session included concern regards lack of sprinklers in schools & colleges, deregulation in private sector and concerns regards social housing being less safe.

## **German politics and the decline of the SPD – Jannike Wachowiak**

The April meeting was planned to be the first after Britain had left the European Union. So we thought it appropriate to arrange a speaker on European matters as it had been some time since we had discussed international issues. We were pleased to be joined by **Jannike Wachowiak**, from the German think tank Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)

Jannike had written an article on this subject for a recent Fabian review and the talk gave her a chance to expand on some of the issues.

The SPD had been in Government in the 70s and 80s, with a membership in excess of a million. This declined during the 1990s and now stood at about 440,000, near to the current labour membership.



*Figure 3 Jannike prior to the meeting*

When Gerard Schroder has won the election in 1998, the SPD had secured 40.9% of the vote. By 2017, the share of the vote barely reached 20.5%. The SPD had lost ten million voters. Polls showed that the support was now at 16/17%.

The European elections would be a test - in 2014, the SPD had secured 27% of the vote. In forthcoming votes in the state parliament, four areas vote, of which three are in East Germany. The SPD faces an uphill struggle, with a vote share of 10/12%, and the far right AFD polling second.<sup>2</sup>

There are three main reasons for this

1. The long term fallout from labour market reforms under Schroder
2. The straight jacket of being in an electoral coalition with Merkel.

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<sup>2</sup> The article was written before the elections – The SPD polled 15%, deepening the crisis.  
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3. The lack of a left progressive alliance as a realistic alternative to the right.

On the first, the SPD was held responsible for new-liberal reforms and had not been forgiven by the core vote. This had led to protests on the streets and ran deep.

The alliance between the SPD and the trade unions had weakened and unions often opposed the SPD. Schroder had alienated the core voters.

The SPD had split to the left with a new party “*Die Linke*” - literally the left. Schroder was personally unpopular and had lost the election in 2005 to Merkel.

The neo liberal reforms were seen as the beginning of the end and the SPD were held responsible. The party was divided and many thought an apology was thought necessary.

The backlash from the coalition was significant. The German election system meant that no party had a majority, and while a coalition was inevitable, Merkel dwarfed her opponents. The SPD was the junior coalition partner and was having to make constant compromises.

The SPD had an uncertain profile going into the 2017 election. The ‘third way’ approach had taken the party to the centre, an area occupied by Merkel. She is quite liberal in social terms, which left little room for the SPD to occupy.

Any policy initiatives driven by the SPD arm of the coalition would be appropriated by Merkel e.g. a ban on nuclear energy, originated by the SPD and originally opposed by Merkel was introduced after the Fukushima accident in Japan. This was a strategic dilemma for the party-how to attack a government of which they were a part.

Merkel has remained composed, pragmatic and willing to wait and see on policy issues. This left little room for debate. She answered questions in parliament only three times a year, giving little scope for the parliament to hold her to account.



The 2017 election had reinforced her position. The SPD had been led by Martin Schultz who had been president of the European Parliament. He had been ahead in the polls, with support similar to Corby mania. However, this did not last. Why had been harder to explain. Schultz was an outsider and could critique the government. He was a proponent of social justice and outwardly socially mobile, coming from a more working class background than Merkel who has a Physics Doctorate of physics. Schultz had not been to high school.

The TV debates showed the SPD to be light on policy. Schultz had taken over eight months before the election and his popularity was on the wane by the election.

The SPD defeat led to a report “Learning from our mistakes”., it concluded that the leader had lacked substance, and the SPD were looking for direction.

The Party went into opposition and began soul searching. The CDU\, Green\FDP (Liberal) coalition had broken down and the choice was a new election or another grand coalition.

There was a risk that the far right AfD would benefit. This led to a lot of discussion in the party, with very different views. The youth wing were against a coalition, fearing a loss of the remaining bit of trust. A ballot led to a 66% vote in favour of a grand coalition, a hesitant yes but...

It is hard for the party to renew in government. The SPD could not go on as if nothing had happened. Merkel is in her last term and the next election will be different. The SPD remains in crisis with no left opposition to a grand coalition. The vote share shows a multi-party coalition is inevitable

CDU 29%

Green 20%

SPD 17%

AfD 12%

FDP 9%

Die Leife 8%.

The Greens had moved from being a radical to a younger urban middle class party. Between 1998 to 2005 the Greens had been in coalition with the SPD but are not so much on the left now. A coalition between the SPD Green and Die Leife parties has been discussed but dismissed, the Die Leife and SPD parties have much bad blood. The SPD views Die Leife as opportunistic, and there are different views on defence and foreign policy, and is opposed to NATO. With a difference of opinion on military on deployment overseas, there is little common ground. Die Leife also has some former East German communist, so has little trust in the Western states. Die Leife governed in some states but never at a federal level.

The SPD has begun to restructure to address these issues.

A new welfare state concept has been floated leaving current reforms behind. A minimum wage policy is proposed, with pension reform. This added 4% in the polls, and drawn criticism from the CDU, so showing some different between the two.

The SPD has moved to the left, which the membership favour. Building alliances is still difficult. The new party leader is not part of the government allowing space to make criticism. The party has become more diverse, and has a greater female presence and improved digital offer.

The SPD need a clear alternative and a clear vision to succeed and this will take time to achieve.

Jannike then answered several questions, including what would happen when Merkel moves on. Her nominated replacement as Chancellor Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer (“AKK”) is similar to Merkel politically, although has been moving to the right to build support. An issue for all German political parties will be halting the rise of the AfD,

So, another meeting where we left knowing more than when we arrived and we thank Jannike for an excellent talk.

## **Charles Seaford – Why Capitalists need Communists – the politics of Flourishing**

Charles began his talk welcoming the victory of the opposition in Turkey against the right wing populist government. Were the conditions emerging in Britain that could see the same thing happen here. The Turkish opposition had triumphed with a campaign based on “Radical Love”, based on the politics of caring.



*Figure 4 Charles is introduced by Keith Darvill*

Politics in Britain has been stuck for three years with Brexit discussions dominating the governmental agenda. There was little time spent on key issues such as client change and automation, issues that would have significant and lasting impact on people’s lives. There was a need to build support for policies to address these issues.

As part of the research for his book, Charles had interviewed fifty people from a range of backgrounds. The ‘Capitalists’ who ran business and the ‘Communists’ who consumed it (not literally communists, more community members- a snappy title was important).

Surprisingly it was the capitalists who had much to say about a broken political system. Capitalism had been hijacked by the management class, who pursued an agenda that served their own interest.

Charles thought that this echoed what had happened in the past, and there were many historical parallels with the period before major changes occurred. Elements of the ruling elite lose faith with the system and move to support those leading the call for change, historically via revolution in some cases (France and Russia for example). The elite are no longer homogeneous and united. As their class consciousness is perhaps the strongest of any element of society, this points to a breakdown in the way the country is run.

This has happened before in Britain. Trade Unions had changed labour laws in the 19th century, with support from the middle class Fabians. The Attlee government in 1945 was supported by many of the ruling elite who recognised the need for change. The Labour election slogan of the time “Let’s win the Peace” had a resonance with the voters, reflecting a can do mentality, aligning with the post war optimism.



*Figure 5 Charles in full flow*



There has been other occasion where this happened. In the early 1960s the country had become gloomy with the establishment driving the country down (the legacy of Suez, the Perfumo scandal and the decline of MacMillan). Brooks published at the time included “The Stagnant Society”<sup>3</sup> and “Suicide of a Nation”<sup>4</sup>. This changed with the Wilson government, the white heat of technology, the Beatles and the World Cup win.

There was also a similar change in the late 1970’s (although not wholly positive). The IMF loan, winter of discontent and inflation meant the country was not in a good place. Thatcher brought. New energy and vision - and a lot of changes that ruined communities across the nation.

There had been turning points in 1945, 1964 and 1979 - was the country about to change again? How would this come about and what sort of change would it be?

The big issues are housing, inequality, climate change, automation. These were big and fundamental issues that would not be changed by tinkering with the market - the problems were too big and structural for example it will take big changes to reduce fossil fuel use.

Automation presents a risk to 30/40 per cent of jobs. There needs to be a major change in approach to deal with this and fresh thinking. Government has to be involved and help plan the change, helping to shape the market.

Planning when it had occurred had been top down - there was scope to be more inclusive and democratic. This will inevitably involve business, which is a problem. In discussions with a former minister, it was suggested that business and government do not co-operate and relations are as bad as they have been since the 1980s, reflecting both the self-serving elite issue set out above and the breakdown in the elite being of one mind. Changes to the way capitalism operated had seen self-serving managerial capitalism replace shareholder capitalism.

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<sup>3</sup> Michael Stranks penguin 1962.

<sup>4</sup> Edited by Arthur Koestler 1963

This creates a group that have a shared political purpose - the alienated elite, the discontent and progressives have the chance to coalesce and set the political agenda. This was relevant in Turkey, where the opposition was broad and not based on ethnic identity, which may have been the case in the past.

Labour had initially increased working class living standards. By the time Blair came to power class divisions were less stark. Policy was based on the greatest good for the greatest number. However, the system is now beginning to fail

Markets can deliver solutions to some issues - we are a market based economy, so this is no surprise- but are com8gnup short on the really big issues and are not the solution to everything.

Politicians exist to improve people's life chances and help people to contribute to this themselves. Relationship issues are at the centre of this. Society will flourish when there are good relationships within families, friends and society and a positive approach.

This can form the centre of a political agenda based on reduced inequality, stable employment, reduced insecurity and good relationships. A public morality that unites people offers a real alternative to the populist right both of Farage and Erdogan.

Charles leads the Power and Institutions programme at Demos. In addition to his work at Demos he is a Co-Investigator at the Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity, an ESRC funded research consortium and a Director of Represent Us, a campaigning group. His book 'Why Capitalist need Communists: the politics of flourishing' will be published by Palgrave in March. He was formerly Head of the Centre for Wellbeing at the New Economics Foundation, where he led projects on wellbeing, housing, industrial policy and indicators, an advisor at the UK government Sustainable Development Commission and an organisational change consultant. He co-founded Prospect magazine and has an MBA from London Business School and a BA from Oxford.

Charles based his talk on his recent book Why Capitalists need Communists – the Politics of Flourishing.

<https://www.palgrave.com/gb/book/9783319987545>

You will get a 30% discount by entering the discount code Seaford2019

## European Elections

These were elections that were not supposed to happen. With the country divided around leave and remain, it was not a surprise that the single issue Brexit party were the winners. As ever with Brexit, nothing is simple or straightforward and the Remain parties all did well.

The Conservatives got us into the current quagmire and were duly punished by the electorate, with an all-time low and fifth place nationally.

Labour have many problems. While the policy of trying to appease both remain and leave voter paid dividends in the 2017 general election. It was always necessary to clarify what Labour would do - this is not easy, but as Labour could reasonably be the government in six weeks' time, continuing ambiguity would eventually cause damage.

The campaign since the referendum has repeatedly shown how poor the Remain campaign was. Project fear was half baked and superficial. The damage is at much more detailed level than was set out - the Tory led campaign concentrated on the economic impact whereas the potential leave voters were more attracted by the emotional pull of "taking back control" - a concept that assumes that we ever had control in the first place - and as has been suggested, for the economically deprived, their position is already bad and any change had attractions.

Labour did well in 2017 by convincing remain voters it was on their side despite a manifesto that promised to respect the vote. This may still be true, but is no longer the voters view. It's why a number of Labour members appear to have voted for someone else (the author can confirm he voted Labour); as a discussion point, how many Party members voted for Ken Livingstone rather than Frank Dobson in the first London

Mayoral election? There was a definite don't ask don't tell approach at the time.

Labour did badly as it was not trusted enough by remain voters or those committed to leave. While 2017 could be explained in part by Labour by appealing to both leave and remain voters, the 2019 vote appeared to show the opposite. There appeared to be no lasting boost from the student vote, core Labour areas voted for other parties. Inevitably, the overall result was muddled with the Brexit party showing there was strong support for leave, the performance of the Liberals and Greens showing strong support for remain. The decline in the two main parties vote back to or even beyond their core vote meant both sides had a reasonable argument that their position was enhanced.

This leaves the position as confused after the election as it was before. At the time of writing, Boris Johnson seems set to become Prime Minister, so a hard Brexit remains a strong possibility.

The moral of the story? Binary referendums on complex issues are not an idea that should ever be repeated.

## **Brexit**

Ed Miliband called the Brexit vote before the referendum was announced. The country had always had a degree of euro scepticism. Referendums can rarely be confined to the issue on the ballot paper and for complex issues, a straight yes no is far too simplified.

Right on all counts.

The campaign did not help. The Remain case was primarily led by a complacent Prime Minister, and concentrating on the negatives left a big hole which the Leave campaign moved into.

The campaigns concentrated on rubbishing the other side, and seemed to miss the key point that for those who had nothing, or perceived themselves in this position, project fear offered to take from them what they did not have anyway.



The outcome was a clear but relatively small majority to Leave. The country was divided. Neither side had an absolute majority. People's motivation for voting was varied as the Leave campaign avoided detail about what form of Brexit it favoured.

Their tactic was to focus on winning the vote, sorting the details later; it worked. The consequences took time to emerge. People voted for Brexit for a variety of reasons. There was for example, very little in common between the UKIP and Labour Leave campaign, beyond wanting to leave. UKIP favoured leaving to "Take back control"; the left campaign to leave was about building a socialist Europe (and variations in between).

The campaign left many issues unclear. The £350 million on the side of a bus was bit one example of untruths with consequences many months later.

The dishonesties by both sides aimed to win the campaign but complicated the aftermath. Project fear unravelled initially when the economic blip forecast failed to materialise. The potential benefits from exit are still hard to see three years later, still being unmeasurable issues such as "taking back control". Of what, and to whose benefit are still unclear.

What has happened is that parliament has become preoccupied with one issue, very little other legislation is being discussed and major issues are not being addressed.

A second referendum might settle the issue. That would mean another divisive campaign, and a strong possibility of another close result. Polls have not shown a significant change in views and another vote for leave would mean we have to go and anger among the leave vote around the delay.

A narrow remain vote would also cause anger, and claims of a fix.

We got here by default. Cameron has a lot to answer for. The positive benefits of membership were never discussed. There was not enough pressure on the EU to deal with the lack of democratic accountability.

This is a Europe wide issue and is key to the long term sustainability of the EU. The dominance of the German economy causes real harm to the weaker European economies and the debate on this issue will come.

Pressures on Greece, Ireland, Italy Portugal have nearly proved terminal to the stability of their respective economies and the euro. The next crisis could break the community and its heads in the sand all round.

Prominent economists Joseph Stiglitz, Thomas Pikety and former Greek finance minister Yanis Varoufakis have all written on the problems that face the EU with or without Britain as a member. The institution is not stable. Britain will not be part of it, and will have to deal with the consequences.

We will however be a divided country. There is next to no common ground between leave and remain support. The ramifications will last a generation, and leave Britain politically unstable. When the dust eventually settles, the Union itself will be on borrowed time as Scotland will almost certainly seek independence.

David Cameron has a lot to answer for.

## **Future Speakers**

Louise Haigh MP shadow Policing Minister has offered to attend following the recent cancellation, watch for a new date later in the year.



*Figure 6 Louise Haigh, who may visit later in the year*

**11th July Claire Ainsley of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation**

**7.30pm Saffron House 7.30pm 273 South Street Romford**



The talk is ‘The New Working Class: how to win hearts, minds and votes,’ which is based on the book Claire published last year <http://newworkingclass.uk/>

This article from Labour List on how Labour needs to understand the new working class in order to win power again may be useful reading <https://labourlist.org/2019/02/to-win-power-labour-must-understand-the-new-working-class/>

## **Tolpuddle Martyrs Festival Sunday 21st July 2019**

Barking, Dagenham and Havering Trades Council have extended an invitation to join their coach for a return trip to the premier Trades Union Summer Festival. Featuring live music on the main stage and in the marquee. Beer tent and the Martyrs Arms. Numerous food stalls catering for all tastes and pockets. Speeches from the great and the good. Take part in the traditional March of the Banners. Learn about the Tolpuddle Martyrs struggle to form a union.

**Coach Leaves: Barking Town Centre** from Loading Bay North Street London Road Junction (at the side of Asda) IG11 8LA at **7.30am**

**Dagenham Rainham Road North** RM10 7BN (at the side of Dagenham Civic Centre/Coventry University Campus) site **8.00am**

**Coach departing** at the end of **the Festival at 6.00pm**. Seats can be booked for a **£5.00 returnable deposit**.

This year's coach has only been possible due to a generous donation from the NEU. Your Trade Union Branches or Associations are invited to make a donation to keep future trips affordable.

Cheques made payable to "Barking, Dagenham and Havering Trades Council" or by bank transfer to A/C No. 59020028 Sort Code No. 08-90-04

## **We value your input!**

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

<b>Chair</b> Councillor Keith Darvill	<b>Secretary</b> David Marshall	<b>Contact</b> David Marshall
<b>Membership Secretary</b>		31 Vicarage Road Hornchurch RM12 4AS 01708 441189 <a href="mailto:david.c.marshall@talk21com">david.c.marshall@talk21com</a>
<b>Vice Chair</b> Sam Gould	<b>Treasurer</b> Dave Baldock	
<b>Committee Members</b>		
Cecile Duerinckx	Graham Lane	Sanchia Alasia
Mike Flynn	Ed Glasson	Hannah Dixon
Ian Rusha	John Reid	



*Chair Keith Darvill reports ...*

## Future Editions

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 or part of any material which falls outside of this parameter. Our next edition will be in September

2019, and given the speed with which politics changes at present, topical issues could cover any subject.

### **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 and Dagenham Young Labour

### **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.



## **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 .....