

2015

# HAVING FABIAN

September 2015

In this edition;

Jeremy Corbyn

Message from Ivana Bartoletti

Margaret Mullane - Defeating UKIP- a view from the Ground-  
Contact, Conversation and Community

Chadwell Heath Asian Women's Network

Louise Woodall – the “jilted generation”

The next installment of our series to mark 50 years of  
Haverling in 2015 -the Haverling Council Elections 1982

GLA Campaign launch

- **Future meetings**

21<sup>st</sup> September Matthew Godwin

5<sup>th</sup> October Martin Edobor

3<sup>RD</sup> November Naushabah Khan

January – date to be confirmed - Ivana Bartoletti

5<sup>th</sup> February Wes Streeting



# HAVERING FABIAN

VOLUME 2 EDITION 24 September 2015

## Introduction

Welcome to the new edition of the Havering Fabian Newsletter. We reflect on recent meetings the impact of the election in May 2015, and the Labour leadership election.

Our presence on social media is bringing us closer to a number of new organisations, and we welcome their involvement. The next edition will include an article from Chadwell Heath Asian Women's group.

We continue the series on the Council elections in Havering since 1964, bringing you the results, the personalities and the movement in the politics of the borough. We are short on details for the earlier years (although we do have all the results) so if you can help we would be glad to hear from you.

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.

We are pleased to welcome Havering Young Labour to twitter [\*\*@ylabourhavering\*\*](#) 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 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 website address is <http://haveringfabians.org.uk>

Our main Face book site is a closed group; please contact David Marshall to be added to the site or e-mail

[Haveringfabians@outlook.com](mailto:Haveringfabians@outlook.com)

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.

## **Jeremy Corbyn**

The Labour leadership election has come to a conclusion, and I'm sure to no one's surprise, Jeremy Corbyn is the winner. The conclusive win across all categories should enable us to move on from the election and focus on what comes next.

This raises all sorts of questions.

For the Party, these are mainly about its future direction, the prospects of winning back Scotland, and can we win on a left wing agenda.

For Corbyn, these are how to lead the Party from the left. Having had very little support from within the Parliamentary Labour Party, there are bridges to build. Corbyn is probably only outflanked from the left by John McDonnell, which is an interesting place to start.

In the era of Tony Benn, there were substantial left wing figures such as Eric Heffer, Michael Meacher, Joan Maynard, and Bob Cryer among a range of well known names.

Corbyn has the less well know group of younger MPs, such as Jon Trickett. Ian Lafferty, Cat Smith and perhaps the most impressive and potential long term successor, Lisa Nandy.

This is inevitably going to mean Corbyn building alliances outside his natural support. This has potential to give a very different dynamic to the politics of the left. There needs to be whole new roadmap of how to succeed and perhaps more relevant from the left of the Party, ensure the succession of a leftist candidate as the next leader.

This will only be possible if Corbyn's leadership is a success, and establishes a clear gap between Labour and the Tories on a wave of popular and sustainable support. That's hard but possible if Labour can generate popular support around a radical anti- austerity platform.

Broad alliances will need to be built across the party beyond the natural areas of support for the left. Success will depend on the ability to turn the energy generated during the campaign in to the communities and build credibility and support, building alliances on taking on the Tories both inside and outside of parliament. This is going to require all sections of the party to combine together to oppose the Tories.

What of the defeated wing of the party? It was pleasing to see Chukka Umma and others focusing on a post Leadership agenda – they need to be included in the Shadow Cabinet.

Another issue that must be addressed – no woman spoke at the Special Conference, and an all male leadership team needs balancing by having women in senior roles.

To this extent, Corbyn will act as a catalyst for what follows. Whether a new Leader follows before or after the 2020 election, Corbyn's leadership will ultimately be judged on the result in 2020. This does not mean winning outright, but making a victory in 2025 look possible.

By 2025 Corbyn would be 76 and very unlikely still to be the leader even if victorious in 2020. So the longer term leadership is still an issue.

The strongest reason to vote for Corbyn is his honesty and integrity, which is rare in British politics. Can he deliver on his promise to have an inclusive Shadow Cabinet? If so, doom merchants amongst the Blairites could be proved wrong?

Conversely a descent into factionalism could bring about the very thing Corbyn was elected to move on from. A return to pragmatism rather than policies that would help working people.

So interesting times ahead. It is critical for party holds together, and to focus on the real enemy - Cameron and the Tories

Havering's parliamentary seats remain on the outer limits of what is achievable in terms of electoral success. As argued before in previous editions of the newsletter, the seats are far more winnable than the statistics suggest than seats such as Basingstoke and Chingford which are needed to secure a Labour victory if judged on swing alone.

If Labour is able to reach out to people that have not voted Labour before, then victory is possible. However if Labour can appeal to former Labour voters who in Havering voted for the Conservatives or UKIP then victory in both seats is possible.

Locally we need to build on the surge of membership within the Local Parties and the Fabian society, and turn this into electoral support. No one said this will be easy. The energy created by Corbyn's victory needs to be captured and channelled into street stalls and community involvement, building a broader base, with support within the community.

We in Havering Fabians will play a role in taking this forward. Please get in touch if you feel you can help in anyway.

## **Message from Ivana Bartoletti**

I am absolutely delighted to have been selected as Havering and Redbridge's Labour candidate for the London Assembly! I look forward to all the campaigning ahead and to meeting members, organisations, residents and businesses from the two boroughs.

The Havering Fabians have a key role to play in the months ahead and I would like to encourage you all to get in touch with me if you interested in joining the campaign. As Vice-Chair of the Fabian Society, I know how important it is to have a space for supporters and friends of the wider Labour movement to discuss politics and flesh out new ideas and policies. The Mayoral election next year will be an important milestone, coming in the year after our painful General Election defeat, and following the

election of a new leader. Therefore, it is crucial that we work hard in London, and particularly in areas like Havering and Redbridge.

As Fabians, we know that hard work is key but ideas are also very important! In London, we have to put forward a solid offer that people can trust. Our capital city is changing in both the centre and the suburbs. Central London is being hollowed out by the extortionate costs of housing. Prices have skyrocketed and it is impossible for younger people to get a foot on the housing ladder.

At the same time, London is moving east – new build flats have been built in Havering and Redbridge but the infrastructure still isn't there, and this is a problem. Commuting is hard and expensive for too many: tube and bus fares have gone up and the pricing system does not recognise the flexibility workers need.

Havering and Redbridge is a vast constituency and presents a variety of challenges – that is why I am counting on the support and help of fellow Fabians to scope out a plan of action, which I am sure will form a fantastic basis for the 2018 local elections too. I am confident that some parts of Havering can return to Labour, and I am here to play my part.

Housing, transport, skills for Londoners, air pollution... These are some of the issues I am very passionate about. If you feel you can contribute knowledge, ideas, energy or all three, please do get in touch. I look forward to hearing from you.

***Ivana Bartoletti***

***Havering and Redbridge Labour Candidate for the London Assembly***

Mobile: 07931959521

Twitter: @IvanaBartoletti

Email: [ivana@ivanabartoletti.co.uk](mailto:ivana@ivanabartoletti.co.uk)

Website: [www.ivanabartoletti.co.uk](http://www.ivanabartoletti.co.uk)

## **Margaret Mullane - Defeating UKIP- a view from the Ground- Contact, Conversation and Community**

One of my happiest times in politics was in 2010 when I became an elected Labour Councillor in Village Ward Dagenham, beating the BNP, who had held the seat before me. Local people frequently complained they could never reach this Councillor before me and said "What was the point?" So at that point I was optimistic we had seen off the politics of fear and extremism in my home town, but I was wrong.

In 2014 Phil, Lee Waker and I would be facing UKIP in our ward. Nationally they were appearing on the ascendancy and there was a national sense of cynicism about the traditional parties. Lee, who is a well-known and respected local politician, was very unwell so the battle fell to Phil and I. (Lee is recovered as I am writing thank goodness).

The UKIP candidate standing in our Ward was and is a local businessman and lived in the Ward. He had the local media backing him. Many local people reading this would not be surprised at the assertion that our local newspaper is far from unbiased. Additionally, at the time there had been a very bitter local struggle by some candidates in the Barking Labour Party, which meant some former Labour Councillors defected to UKIP. This seemed to give an impetus to UKIP. Indeed they would often come and help UKIP in our Ward.

Village Ward in Dagenham has one of the highest numbers of Resident Associations in the Borough. I would call the people that run these on a voluntary basis, the "movers and shakers" of the Ward. All three of us attend each meeting, to gauge local needs and concerns. Furthermore we would try to work with the Tenants Associations to gain funding, fund projects and further the cause of Estate Renewal. Accessibility as a councillor is crucial. All three of us print our mobile phone numbers and can be reached at any time. These relationships are not forged overnight but residents see we strive for them and we share in their victories and successes.

Housing availability and conditions are a pressing need with our residents. Philip was the Cabinet Member for Housing and was passionate about Social Housing. All three of us advocate for more Council housing and I can say, hand on heart, Phil's work in housing was inspirational. I believe as an elected Councillor, there is an informal

contract that occurs. You will gain residents' trust and yes their votes but only if you genuinely strive to help those Communities. This cannot and should not be a year before an election, as quite rightly residents will say "what do you do for us?"

We also knocked on thousands of doors to build and keep that relationship. When we did, loud and clear a message was coming through; Housing was an ever pressing concern." My child/grandchild doesn't qualify for housing? They don't earn enough to buy. Will they ever get a home? "

The Council then devised the Working Persons Option. Essentially this requires a slightly more expensive rent than social renting, (council rents) but provides a route into renting a home.

Vividly I remember knocking on a young person's door. He couldn't have looked more puzzled if an alien had knocked at his door. I gave my introduction and it emerged I was known to the family as I had helped the family in another way. He was very frustrated with being in his late twenties still living at home and yet working hard. We suggested the Working Person's Option to him. Sceptically he went on the list and this May 2015 he moved into his flat. He later asked me, "What can I do to thank-you?" "Vote Labour your whole life", I replied. "That's a given", he said. He later told a young canvasser this flat had changed his life. I have no doubt that had we been unable to offer any hope, our vote and that of his families would be lost to UKIP.

So why UKIP? Unlike others I don't condemn people who turn to UKIP. UKIP (EU Referendum aside) is the place of "lost hope". A UKIP vote tells me all faith in the political system is lost and the ability to offer any hope or solutions to voters has faded. The national media's thirst for stories against Politicians helps feed this cynicism for any-one or anything political. If the door remains open for long enough during an angry door canvass exchange, it will emerge that beneath the anger is a story of Zero hour contracts and extortionate rents. People are angry their benefits are diminishing. Meanwhile their local Hospital in special measures and a three week wait for a GP appointment is becoming the norm.

I truly believe when Communities voice their concerns about immigration, we have survived electorally because we listen and engage with their genuine concerns, not rush to judgement. Disparaging their

views won't change the opinion and many times, communities are voicing real concerns regarding a lack of infrastructure and planning.

I remember when the Gordon Brown Story broke of his disdain for a member of the electorate complaining about immigration. It struck me then, that if he had come to canvass with us, we could have taught the seasoned politician a better way forward.

I am not saying racism in any form is acceptable or should be tolerated, but rather, many times the discussion is about so much more. What looks like a knee jerk reaction can often really be worries about housing or provision of local services. UKIP manage to identify people's fears and exploit this at every chance. As Tom Watson said at a recent event, we need to understand *why* people are listening to Nigel Farage. Nigel Farage may have a raft of right wing policies, but to his credit he has developed a dialogue and a conversation with the electorate, that other parties have failed to do. Our doorstep engagement and availability to listen and respond here in Dagenham Village ward, is proof it can be done and should be replicated nationally.

Over the last eight years I have also worked for Jon Cruddas MP. As well as being an inspiring politician. Jon has advocated Community Politics for many years. Caroline Badley too, is a real inspiration to me as a proponent of community politics. Jon in his time as an MP has always connected with churches of all denominations and other groups. In recent years, building on this, he has set up his Volunteer Network.

With falling numbers joining political parties (recent months aside), constituents are surveyed on what concerns them. They receive regular updates of news in their communities. With this approach the beginning of a dialogue is happening and this forms the start of reengaging politically.

In the local elections of 2010 I was the lead for our campaign and had got to know a lot of the volunteers in Village Ward. When approached, they were happy to help us canvass, leaflet and on Election Day, stood at polling stations. Sometimes they may be Church leaders or Head of Resident Associations.

Another example of how community politics can ignite political engagement, involves three young women from a Residents' Group I had helped. They manned a polling station all day for the first time then went to the school gates and encouraged all the mums into the polling station. It was their status as local people, who could vouch for the hard work of

the candidates for local people that achieved this. They increased turnout in that polling district to a record high. They came to our thank-you party and helped Jon Cruddas this year on Election Day.

They told us that the UKIP candidate was perplexed and asked, “Why bother with Margaret, Phil and Lee? “The three women’s response was that we had been there for them. We can’t always deliver what is needed but they understood we will try within our power to do all we can to improve life for our constituents. As local politicians who engage with the community we are not irrelevant .We are part of the community.

The UKIP candidate bemoaned his lot to Jon Cruddas at the election count and said he had lost because he faced an army. Perhaps rather, he faced a real Community which included Margaret Phil and Lee.

***Margaret Mullane is a Dagenham Councillor***  
***Office Manager Jon Cruddas MP***  
***Dagenham & Rainham CLP Secretary***  
***Member of Unite & GMB Union***

## **Community focus**

We welcome the opportunity for some of our followers on social media to contribute to the newsletter and help us publise their activities. As we are affiliated to Dagenham and Rainham Labour Party, this edition we invited Nusrat Zamir from Chadwell Heath Asian Women’s Network to write about their organisation. If your community group would like to write about your activities, please get in touch!

## **Chadwell Heath Asian Women’s Network.**

There is a lot of diversity within the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. I have lived in the area for seven years and in that time I have seen the community change so much. We have a lot of ethnic minorities moving in and with these sections of the community are issues that maybe other mainstream organisations might not fully understand.

I am a young Asian woman born and brought up in England, but being born and bought up in a *free country* did not translate into me having a free life. My family were reluctant to let me have an education. I had to fight to get to secondary school and then again to do A levels. When it came to university I was told I would be murdered if I went on to get a degree. I was taken abroad aged nineteen and married to a relative who

beat me for many years until I found the courage to seek help and leave. The community which always claimed to have my best interests at heart abandoned me in my time of need. I was then a single mother to a young child, it was then I found the strength to take my freedom.

These experiences never left me. I went on to university and graduated BA Hons in English literature I then went on to the GDL (Graduate Diploma in Law) and the LPC (Legal Practice Course). Although I had taken my freedom to choose my way in life from my community, I still saw many Asian women and girls going through what I had. I felt that women needed to be equipped with the skills to deal with these issues and tackle them. Not just the young girls but the mothers needed to be aware that domestic violence shouldn't be tolerated or accepted. Keeping a daughter hidden away from social services so she wouldn't have to attend high school was illegal and forced arranged marriages were also wrong. I had my experiences in the Midlands, but if you look at any area with a concentration of the Asian community you will recognise a pattern emerging.

Last year I decided to set up the Chadwell Heath Asian Women's Network. We opened our doors to the community on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2014. Based at Chadwell Heath Community Centre, we are in a great location, nestled in between schools, easy for our local Asian ladies to get to after dropping the children off.

The primary motivation of this network is to empower Asian women. Equip them with confidence, skills and knowledge that will enable them to make their own decisions, defend their daughters and ensure that the next generation of the Asian community are not affected by the issues that have plagued us for so long.

The three main Buzz Words of our group are Empower, Network and Socialise. All three concepts are fundamental to the well being of the women. Women need to be empowered so they can hold their own, they need to have a network so they are not alone and isolated and socialisation will alleviate loneliness and depression.

Last year we held coffee mornings once a week at the Chadwell Heath Community Centre and steadily saw numbers of attendees rise. We began with three women and within a couple of months we had well in excess of twenty women attending. We now have around sixty members who are kept up to date with our activities.

We also held monthly workshops encouraging women to be more active members of the society. We encouraged women to register to vote who had never voted in their life. We talked through the registration process and assisted those who were not computer literate.

We held workshops on domestic violence and counselling. We have had our local police coming in to do workshops on keeping our homes and belongings safe. We also did fun things like a personal styling workshop and a makeup workshop.

We encourage our ladies to promote their talents and their small businesses all of this helps to empower them and enable them to network with other women who can assist them.

We have restarted the coffee mornings after the summer break and now introduced aerobics and yoga as a part of the sessions.

The Chadwell Heath Asian Women's Network is all about nurturing women, equipping them with the information skills and support they need to lead holistic, fulfilling and safe lives.

Our coffee mornings are held from 9am till 11am every Monday at the Chadwell Heath Community Centre. All ethnic minority women welcome. Preschool aged children also welcome.

***Nusrat Zamir***

## **Louise Woodall – the “Jilted generation”**

It was fitting that a Youth Club (The Royals in Rainham) had been chosen as the venue for a talk on "Youth Issues" by Louie Woodall - a member of the Young Fabians' Executive. Despite such initiative, no youths appeared - yet this meeting had been actively "plugged" among them. Indeed only one chair was occupied by someone under 41 in an otherwise reasonable turnout.

Our guest speaker commenced by explaining the role, constitution, aims, activities and future of the Young Fabians. He turned his attention to analysing voting patterns among the young at the May 2015 General Election, and also advanced reasons why many from this age group failed to participate. It was pointed out that a reduction to 16 years in Scotland's

2015 Referendum had seen high numbers involved.

Louie, professionally a financial journalist, spoke with passion regards the "jilted generation ". Neither Louie or some members of the audience were at all happy with the term " Jilted " but there was no doubt younger voters are not catered for by many politicians who know the older generations are more likely to vote than the disenchanting / disfranchised younger potential voter. Louie gave the statistics: 43% of the 18 - 25 age group vote compared to 76% of the over 55 age group.

There was much discussion on how to get younger people voting for their first time. It was noted that despite the venue chosen being a youth club / cybercafe and the speaker a young Fabian talking about the disadvantaged young voter, the youngest in the audience was 41! Would it help to follow Scotland's move to voting from 16+ ?

In a reduced question time, as our speaker was on a tight schedule, it was stated from the floor that young people supported all major demonstrations in tens-of-thousands...yet this age group were few on membership lists of all political parties - from right-to-left! An attendee with a passionate interest in Education brought the meeting's attention to failings in Education policies of both major Parties, which had affected the learning of young persons. With an absence of youths, questions and responses tended to drift towards general matters and Labour's failure in May's Election. Although few further references were made to youth issues, this seemed to go down better with a mature audience, before an early ending to our meeting.

In conclusion, many younger potential voters don't register to vote but it is not due to a Russell Brand following! It is more to do with younger voters responding to the Internet rather than meetings. Media discussions and leafleting. Time for a change in how to communicate with potential voters

**David Marshall, Dave Ainsworth**

## **1982 Election – the more things change...**

The 1982 Council elections in Havering look very uneventful, with little change from 1978 Labour retained 12 seats on the Council. However the journey from 1978 could not have been more eventful.

The 1978 Council elections left Labour on the back foot in Havering going into the 1979 General Election- there was next to no chance in Romford and Upminster, but Alan Lee Williams had a majority of around 6,500 in Hornchurch so there was some prospect of holding on.

Election night shattered that illusion, and slowly as a recount delayed the result, Robin Squire winning the seat by 739 votes, on a swing greater than the national trend. Nationally, Margaret Thatcher had a majority of 44 seats, with Labour stuck on 36.85% of the vote (well above its share in 2010 and 2015). Labour retained Thurrock, but lost Ilford South, and in Newham North East, Tory defector Reg Prentice was defeated. In Paddington, Arthur Latham was narrowly defeated by 106 votes.

The first European elections followed a month after the General Election and Labour did very badly – hardly a surprise in the wake of an election defeat, and the Conservative Alan Tyrell had a big majority in London East, which covered Havering, Redbridge, Newham and Barking and Dagenham.

Labour began a civil war\ challenging debate (delete as appropriate) around the selection of Leader and Deputy; with the dividing line defined by views on Europe, although sometimes blurred – this was not the case with those about to leave and form the SDP, whose common bond was being pro Europe.

Locally there was an impact, with some leaving to join the SDP – including Alan Lee Williams, sitting Councillor Tom Mitchell and Hornchurch Agent Harry Rivers. Although no longer in the area former GLC Member Serge Lourie also defected.

Havering Fabian stalwart Alan Thake did not join the SDP, but briefly left the Party (Eirlys Thake remained a member). With the SDP founded in 1980, they had not established a presence by 1981 ahead of the GLC elections – by this point, the Thatcher Government was loathed, and Labour confidently expected to win the Hornchurch seat, which Alan Williams duly did, with a comfortable majority of 2,889. Jack Hoepelman was the defeated candidate in Romford, losing to Bernard

Brooke Partridge by a respectable 3,012 votes, while Graham Allen came second in Upminster , 2,158 behind Anthony Bays.

Labour won the GLC taking 50 of the 92 seats – subsequent defections reduced the majority further, and Ken Livingstone rose to power as the visible face of opposition to Thatcher. The GLC Labour group had some big names – future sports minister Tony Banks, future MP and Ambassador to South Africa Paul Boetang, Audit Commission Chair Steve Bundred and future MP Valarie Wise. John McDonnell was Deputy Leader, and is now a rather influential figure.

So ahead of the 1982 elections, Labour could anticipate gains. However the SDP gained traction, and rose in the polls gathering support from the Labour right and disaffected Tories.

In February 1982 Argentina invaded the Falklands and in the pre election period, TV screens were filled with the drama of the campaign as Britain retook the islands. This was not a backdrop where the opposition could expect to make ground and the Labour vote slipped back from 38% to 22%, although no seats were lost.

The Labour candidates just held on in Airfield, where Jack Hoepleman, Rosina Purnell and Ray Emmett replaced Steve Clark, Sid Jack and Tom Mitchell (who stood again as an SDP candidate and lost). The gap to the Tories was 35 votes.

In Rainham, the Liberals broke through led by Paul Long and Mary Bell, defeating the residents, who lost the seat for the first time. The Liberals also won both Chase Cross seats to achieve an all time high of 5 seats. The Conservatives gained two seats in South Hornchurch. The Labour group had three women, with Rosina Purnell joined by Bessie Whitworth and Margaret Latham

Labour was well adrift across the Borough, as the SDP vote was sufficient to dent the Labour vote but not much more. Havering remained Conservative controlled. Labour missed out in South Hornchurch by around 100 votes in a three way split. Fabian Chair Keith Darvill came 9<sup>th</sup>, but was only 160 short of top spot, while in Elm Park; Labour trailed the Tory's by 250, with an SDP vote of 1,100.

In Harold Wood, the seat previously needed to gain control, Labour were in third place, some 1,200 votes behind the Conservatives with the SDP\Liberal Alliance second

Arthur Latham was at this point Chair of the London Labour Party, which allowed him to maintain a political profile (with Local Trade Unionist Bert Fry the Treasurer).

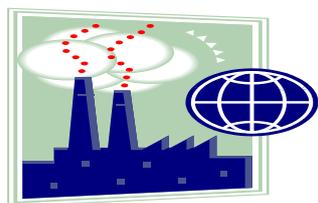
Ron Whitworth led a group of 12, and Labour looked a long way from ever being in control again. The Romford and Upminster seats looked unattainable in General Elections, while the small majority in Hornchurch gave some hope of future influence.

The optimism of the 1981 GLC win soon faded, and the SDP now in an established alliance with the Liberals, with the 1983 General Election in mind. Just how bad could this get?

## 1982 Result

Party	Councillors	% vote
Labour	12	22.1
Conservative	37	44.2
Resident /other	9	12.7
Liberal	5	21.0
<b>Total</b> <b>Turnout 44.4%</b>	<b>63</b>	

Next in the series - 1986. The first steps on the long road back



## GLA Campaign Launch

Join the recently announced Labour Candidate Sadiq Khan, MPs, Councillors, members and supporters from across London to celebrate the launch of the Ivana Bartoletti for Havering and Redbridge GLA campaign!

On Friday 2 October 2015, at 8pm, at the Ilford Catholic Club, 324 High Rd, Ilford, Greater London IG1 1QP, we are launching the campaign of

Ivana Bartoletti, Labour Candidate for Havering and Redbridge at the GLA elections in May.

There will be food, drinks, speeches (we promise to keep these short!) and a raffle, and we will be asking for a small donation to the campaign of £10 per ticket.

Havering and Redbridge will be vitally important next May, and with your help and support we can ensure that we have a Labour GLA member representing us next year.

## **Future Meetings**

### **21<sup>st</sup> September 7.30pm Hornchurch Library**

**Matthew Godwin** speaking on " Solid Ground and Shifting Sands: Israel and the Middle East".

Matt a PhD candidate in Public Policy at UCL London & the School of Oriental and African Studies and a research and political assistant to Labour peer Lord Jon Mendelsohn Previously, Mr. Godwin worked for numerous Canadian NDP (Labour) Members of Parliament and has worked with the Jewish community in Canada and the United Kingdom in various capacities for more than a decade.

### **5<sup>th</sup> October , 7:30pm Saffron House South Street Romford - joint meeting with Havering Young Labour.**

**Dr .Martin Edobor**, vice chair of Young Fabians, will be talking on the next generation and their role in the political process “Democratic Socialism, Social Democracy ~ where now for the left?”

Martin Edobor is a NHS Doctor and Vice-Chair of the Young Fabians. He has served on the national executive since 2012 and has previously held the role of Treasurer.

He is the founding chair of the Young Fabian Health Network, where he co-edited the publication "Irreversible? Health and social care policy in a post-coalition Landscape", exploring ways to tackle the health and social care crisis. He remains an active member of the steering group.

He is also a member of the International Network steering group, and previously led a Young Fabian delegation to Sweden for the 2014 general elections. He will be returning to Sweden with the International Network in August 2015 as the Social Democratic Youth League host the Young Fabians at their annual congress.

Martin is a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and is an active member of both Labour and the Co-operative party. He is also a co-founder of Labour Campaign to End Homelessness.

### **3<sup>RD</sup> November 7.30 pm Saffron House South Street Romford**

Medway Labour Councillor **Naushabah Khan**, who sits for Gillingham South Ward will be our speaker in November. The topic will be : "Fighting UKIP & fighting a high profile election" . Naushabah was the candidate in the Rochester and Stroud by-election and also at the subsequent General Election. She is highly regarded, and spoke at the Fabian New Year conference in January this year.

### **5<sup>th</sup> February 2016, 7:30pm Fairkytes Studio Billet Lane Hornchurch**

AGM followed by guest speaker Wes **Streeting MP** Ilford North. Wes is former president of the National Union of Students and the former deputy leader of Redbridge Council. Wes was elected with a swing large enough to have put Labour in majority if replicated elsewhere – and Ilford North Labour Party had the highest level of voter contact in the Country.



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



## **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@talk21.com">david.c.marshall@talk21.com</a>
<b>Vice Chair</b> Mike Flynn	<b>Treasurer</b> Dave Baldock	
<b>Committee Members</b>		
Cecile Duerinckx	Ed Glasson	Sanchia Alasia
Sam Gould	Ian Carnochan	

## **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.

## Links

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

National Fabian Society [www.fabian-society.org.uk](http://www.fabian-society.org.uk)

The Labour Party [www.labour.org.uk](http://www.labour.org.uk)

Jon Cruddas MP for Dagenham [www.joncruddas.org.uk](http://www.joncruddas.org.uk)

**Twitter @joncrudasmp**

Barking Labour Party [www.barkinglabour.org.uk/](http://www.barkinglabour.org.uk/)

**Twitter @barkinglabour**

Romford Labour Party [www.romford-labour-party.org.uk/](http://www.romford-labour-party.org.uk/)

**Twitter @romforlabour**

Hornchurch and Upminster Labour Party

Website <http://hornchurchandupminsterlabour.org.uk/>

Facebook Hornchurch-Upminster-Constituency-Labour-Party

**Twitter @HULabour**

Tribune [www.tribunemagazine.org](http://www.tribunemagazine.org)

**Twitter @Tribunemagazine**

Hope not Hate [www.hopenothate.org.uk](http://www.hopenothate.org.uk)

**Twitter @hopenothate**

Thames Chase Community Forest

**Twitter @Thames\_Chase**

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/website/recreation.nsf/LUWebDocsByKey/EnglandEssexNoForestsThamesChaseCommunityForestTheThamesChaseForestCentre>

John Biggs GLA Member for City and East London

[john.biggs@london.gov.uk](mailto:john.biggs@london.gov.uk) or join his mailing list

[biggsnews@london.gov.uk](mailto:biggsnews@london.gov.uk)

His website is [www.johnbiggs.org.uk](http://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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 .....