

NEC ELECTIONS: VOTE FOR CANDIDATES SUPPORTED BY THE CENTRE-LEFT GRASSROOTS ALLIANCE

Soon members will again have the opportunity to elect rank-and-file representatives to the constituency section of the National Executive Committee. Since 1998 the Centre-Left Grassroots Alliance (CLGA), a body of democratic socialist groups and newspapers across the centre and left of the Labour Party, has promoted candidates who stand up for the rights of ordinary members. Please vote for all the candidates below, so that members have the strongest voice on the NEC.

Ballot papers will be distributed around 25 May along with other ballot papers, including for the National Policy Forum. Please circulate this leaflet to branches and members. The deadline for voting and the return of ballot papers is currently 13 June.

• Ann Black

In twelve years on the NEC and the National Policy Forum I have taken members' views to the highest level, consulted widely and reported back faithfully. My record is at www.labourblogs.com/pulicblog/annblack. I have talked with thousands of members from every region and nation, from Tory shires, northern strongholds, key marginals, Scotland and Wales, all facing different challenges. The Tories and their right-wing media friends are setting the unemployed against the working poor, public service against private industry, Britain against the rest of Europe. Their cuts are hardest on women, the young, the ill, the disabled, the elderly. Labour must reject the politics of division, unite around policies which are principled and practical, and campaign all-out from now to 2015. Please mail annblack50@btinternet.com or call 07956 637958 and tell me how Labour can win again,



Background:

Secretary, Oxford East CLP, member of UNISON's National Political Committee
Party number A353890

• Kate Osamor

I support core Labour values of peace, social justice and public ownership, particularly of the NHS and other public services. The Tory-led coalition's deficit reduction strategy is unfair; disproportionately hitting those on low incomes. We need to save public sector jobs. I encourage more involvement of party members. As CLP women's officers I have organised meetings on getting more women to stand for office. I believe I am accountable as I report back. I reach out to the local community; being involved in local campaigns such as opposing closure of local Hospital A&E. I am also an active member of Unite the Union.



Experience:

CLP Women's Officer; GC Delegate, LGC delegate
Chair of Governors at local primary school
Unite: Branch LE/524 Equalities Officer; Regional
Community Workers & Not for Profit Regional BAME.
Member: Co-operative Party
Labour Membership no. L0121033 Tottenham CLP

• Peter Willsman

Since 1981 I have uniquely served on all four of our Party's National committees. In the face of the government's vicious attacks Labour needs to defend and speak up for our diverse communities. This means stressing investment to create jobs and to build affordable homes and not listening to the false prophets of austerity. Cancelling Trident, tackling tax avoidance/evasion and economic growth would sort out the deficit. We need to resist timidity and be bold. An effective NEC is a vital link between the unions, party and parliamentary leadership. It should play a strategic role in confronting the challenges ahead. My record proves I have the necessary energy, enthusiasm and commitment to play a full part in the NEC's fight back.



Labour and Co-op Movement experience:

NEC: 1998-1999 and July 2005-2010
National Policy Forum 1998-1999 and 2002-2010
Conference Arrangements Cttee 1981-1994
National Constitutional Cttee 1995-1998
London Region Board 2002-2005
Constituency GC/EC 1975-2012
Co-op Group (CWS) Area Cttee/Party Council 1988-2010
Research Officer NUPE/UNISON 1979-1994
Branch Secretary APEX/GMB 1980-1998
Membership No A071448 (Oxford East CLP)

• Ken Livingstone

I am seeking re-election because I believe my experience of public office and campaigning against the Tories strengthens Labour's team. With Ed Miliband as Leader the party has made significant progress, however we still face considerable challenges. The Tories are slowing the economy and making people worse off, when the priority should be to restore growth. Local members are the backbone of campaigns so the views from constituency parties need to have influence in determining the direction Labour policy takes.



Previous positions:

Member of National Executive Committee:
1987-1989, 1997-1998 and 2010-2012
Leader of the Greater London Council 1981-1986
Member of Parliament for Brent East 1987-2001
Mayor of London 2000 - 2008
Membership No. A080227 CLP: Brent Central

• Darren Williams

With Con-Dem policies jeopardising our welfare state, public services and any chance of economic recovery, Labour needs to provide a clear alternative, based on equality and social justice. This means making the break with failed 'New Labour' policies that the present leadership has promised but not yet delivered, as well as strengthening party democracy and accountability. If elected, I would make the case for such an approach. I would highlight the experience of Wales, where Labour remains in office after rejecting market-based policies. I would provide regular consistent feedback to members and party units.



Background:

Active party member for 23 years
Branch officer & GC Delegate for most of that time
NPF of Welsh Labour Grassroots, the centre-left group in Wales, I work as Wales Campaigns officer for PCS.
Membership no. A024240 CLP: Cardiff West.

• Christine Shawcroft

I have represented members on the NEC for 13 years, I opposed the stitch-ups of Ken Livingstone and Rhodri Morgan, spoke up against the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, warned about the "targets" culture imposed on public services (shortly before Estelle Morris had to resign), opposed ruinous PFI schemes (which even the Tories admit were financial disasters) and campaigned against the overturning of democratically selected candidates all over the country. My reward for having been right about all these issues was to be treated like a pariah on the NEC. Luckily, I'm not easily intimidated. I am a strong, independent voice on the NEC, doing my best to raise the concerns of rank and file members. I can't be cajoled into going along with dodgy decisions and I try and hold the leadership to account. I will carry on fighting for greater democracy in the party, and a policy making process which reflects our ideals.



Experience:

A Party member for over 20 years, I am a branch and CLP secretary and an LGC delegate. I have been a regional board member, I was a councillor for 13 years, and a parliamentary candidate in 2001. I am a member of CND, the co-op party and the NUT. I am on the executives of CLPD and the LRC.
CLP: Nottingham South. Membership number A490373

National Constitutional Committee (CLP Section) Voting by delegates at Conference: Please mandate your delegates to vote for Mark James

The above candidates are supported by the Centre-Left Grassroots Alliance, which when established in 1998 was welcomed by Tribune's editorial as an initiative to challenge the forces within the party 'who wish to further downgrade internal democracy and to ensure that the left and centre-left wins as large a presence as possible within the NEC'.

For recommended National Policy Forum candidates and for copies of this leaflet visit: www.grassrootslabour.net or phone 01865 244459

For further information contact the Centre-Left Grassroots Alliance (CLGA) 185A Iffley Road, Oxford OX4 1EL - Tel: 01865 244459

DONT JUNK IT! Your ballot papers may arrive with other Labour Party material-dont throw them away before you have voted