

# CAMPAIGN

## Briefing

Annual Conference 2012

Tuesday



Published by CLPD

CLPD

Today's Campaign Briefing is sponsored by:



## CLPs silenced: *Support Reference Back at 9.35am!*

For two days running CLPs have been silenced and their rights ignored.

**Delegates will again attempt to refer back the CAC report unless CLP rule changes are put on the agenda. Please get to your seats quickly to support them.**

**Vote YES to reference back. Support calls for a card vote.**

### ●LAST YEAR

Bridgend and Islington North CLP send in rule changes, to be debated on WEDNESDAY at the 2012 conference.

### ●SUNDAY

Conference debates an NEC rule change (only just agreed by the NEC). CLP delegate Maggie Dunn goes to the rostrum to warn that CAC might rule that Bridgend and Islington North's rule changes cover the same "part" of the constitution and cannot be debated after all.

●Several delegates go to the rostrum to move that CAC's report is "referred back" to CAC to reconsider. The NEC Chair ignores them and goes straight to the vote on the CAC report, which is clearly rejected on a show of hands. The Chair says the vote is "clearly carried" and ignores calls for a card vote.

●Bridgend and Islington North delegates meet CAC, who confirm they will not change their mind.

### ●MONDAY

●Maggie Dunn returns to the rostrum and says she wanted to move reference back of the CAC report, unless CAC confirm the CLP rule changes will be debated. Again the Chair ignored the request for reference back and put the CAC report to the vote. A few hands go up. The Chair asks for more. A few more go up. The Chair says the report is carried: to an outcry from delegates. The Chair then asks for votes against the CAC report. Voting is especially heavy from the Unite delegation and CLP delegates on that side of the hall, though many delegates abstained. There are more calls for a card vote. The Chair again says the report is carried, and ignores delegates shouting out that they want a card vote.

●**TODAY: Support CLP delegates moving reference back and calling for a card vote.**

### What is a "reference back"?

A reference back is a request to think again.

"Delegates have the right to challenge specific sections of the NEC and CAC reports and ask for these to be referred back."

*Delegates' Report, p. 36*

### Card votes

Delegates have the right to demand a card vote.

"Votes at Conference are normally taken as a show of hands unless a card vote is requested by a delegate."

*Delegates' Report, p. 36*

●Bridgend & Islington North rule changes are not in conflict with *Refounding Labour*.

●Their proposals were declared in order by the CAC.

●It is unfair to CLPs not to debate a proposal they made over a year ago because of an NEC decision on Sunday.

●We may have a 3 year rule – we don't have a 3 day rule!

### TSSA Gen Sec Manuel Cortes appeals to delegates

TSSA's emergency motion calls on Labour to become the "champions of rail passengers" who are being ripped off by over £150 million on refund payouts. The motion calls on Maria Eagle to press for an immediate inquiry into a "rigged" system" which amounts to "daylight robbery" of millions of passengers.

Last year, private rail companies received a total of £172 million from taxpayer funded Network Rail for late running trains. However, less than £10 million of that was paid in refunds to passengers. Frankly, this is one more reason why the next Labour Government must end the scam that rail privatisation is by bringing our railways back into public ownership. Let's send a message to passengers that we are on their side. **Please support the motion.**



### Policy Priorities Ballot

Today, 9am-4pm, in Ballot area:

**4 subjects CLPs can choose**

- Private Pensions
- Our buses and railways
- The housing crisis
- Childcare

**4 subjects already chosen by unions**

- Vocational education
- Protecting workers
- Tax avoidance: tax havens
- 21st Century NHS and social care: delivering integration

## Behind closed doors

### PERSISTENCE PAYS FOR CLP DELEGATES

Sunday evening, some 17 CLP delegates gathered in the Midland Hotel to knit together Composite 4 covering Health and Social Care (see CAC Report 2, page 9). They were joined by a chair from the CAC, together with party policy officers and Shadow Minister Jamie Reed.

In line with usual practice, the officers produced a draft composite. These drafts are rarely politically neutral and this was the case on Sunday. The office draft left out the key proposal that the next Labour Government would stop saddling the NHS with extortionate PFI charges. The delegates stood united and insisted this was not good enough. There was an adjournment and then the office returned with a redraft. Again the delegates stood firm and resisted the entreaties

from policy wonks and MPs. There was another adjournment and yet another redraft presented. After further argument the delegates refused to sign off the composite until they were satisfied with the wording. An object lesson in how to handle a compositing meeting!

### UNITE SUPPORTS CLPS

In Sunday's Contemporary Motions Priorities Ballot, we saw how union and CLP choices overlap. Today's ballot for the NPF "priorities of the year" is likely to follow exactly the same procedure as on Sunday. To ensure that the maximum of 8 priorities are chosen, the Unite delegation has suggested that only the CLPs vote on Tuesday, with the unions then choosing different subjects on Wednesday. What a good idea! If it is not adopted this year, CLPD will press for it next year.

## Fringe Listing – Tuesday

### Unite the Union: "Progressive policy on Palestine"

Speakers pitch their case for progressive party on Palestine – in just 5 minutes!

Chair: Len McCluskey

Speakers: Fadwa Barghouti (lawyer, wife of political prisoner Marwan Barghouti), Dr Nabil Sha'ath (Fath Commissioner for Foreign Relations), Prof. Manuel Hassassian (Palestinian ambassador), Richard Burden MP, Jeremy Corbyn MP, Alex Cunningham MP, Richard Howitt MEP, Lisa Nandy MP.

Refreshments and goody bag"

Visit the PSC stand (no. 2) for more information on Palestine.

### Conference Assessment and the way forward for Labour

6 pm, Wednesday, 3rd October  
Purity Bar (formerly Bar 38: upstairs), Peter Street (adjacent to the secure area).

Entry £2 (conc 50p)

Chair: Peter Willsman (CLPD)  
Tony Benn; Ann Black (NEC); John Cryer MP; Billy Hayes CWU; Kelvin Hopkins MP; Martin Mayer (NEC); Michael Meacher MP; Kate Osamor (CLPD); Christine Shawcroft (NEC); Cat Smith (Next Generation Labour)

### A free press?

*Campaign Briefing* is produced by volunteers, When you see us tomorrow (and Thursday) with buckets in hand, please be generous. *Campaign Briefing* will have a cover price of £2 for the week.

Campaign Briefing is produced as a service to delegates by:

CLPD, Left Futures and

*Labour Briefing* (the magazine of the Labour Briefing Co-operative).

For regular updates on conference news, visit: [www.leffutures.org](http://www.leffutures.org)

For instant news, follow CLPD on Twitter: @CLPD\_Labour

Contact us at Conference:

email [campaignbriefing@gmail.com](mailto:campaignbriefing@gmail.com)  
tel. 077977-566 519.



## Defend the badgers!

Thousands of badgers, the majority of them healthy, are about to be killed needlessly and cruelly in a misguided attempt to control the spread of bovine TB. Please sign the petition calling for the government to stop the cull and implement a humane solution such as a vaccination programme for badgers and cattle.

Go to the Badger Trust Site

[www.badger.org.uk](http://www.badger.org.uk) to sign the Brian May petition against the cull which has so far reached 140,000. They are now endeavouring to get a debate in Parliament in the hope of stopping what could be the slaughter of the vast majority of badgers in this country.

Why not visit the Labour Animal Welfare Society Stand no. 14?

Wally Burley, Chair



## Biteback

"Stop calling me 'Two Jags'," said John Prescott, Labour's candidate for Humberside Police Commissioner, speaking to the Campaign Briefing team yesterday. "You should call me 'Two Pandas' now."

"I suspect Labour's new online policy hub is a brilliant way for the party leadership to ignore the membership in bulk, instead of ignoring it one-by-one, as previously", observed Simon Hoggart of *The Guardian*.

We often hear our Blairite comrades arguing that Labour activists don't represent "ordinary Labour voters". At the Winning Labour meeting last night, ASLEF Vice President Tosh McDonald said how good it was that the Chair of Conference picked so many younger delegates. But how strange it was, he added, that they all seemed to comb their hair neatly and look like slightly younger versions of the sort of Labour MPs we have these days. "Shouldn't some of them have piercings and brightly coloured hair?" he asked.