



Dear Newsletter Reader,

Become involved in Elections

The general election is over but the next one may be closer than we think. The latest opinion poll shows Cons 42%, Lab 36%, Liberals 15%, others 7%. Since the Election Labour and Tories have advanced at the expense of the Liberals and others. If this trend continues Cameron might ditch the Liberals and call an election in October or spring 2011.

It is time for us to address several important areas which will concentrate our minds for the year ahead. These include:

- The Labour leadership election
- Local elections in 2011

Firstly the leadership election.....

Those of you who have email will know that I contacted you on July 2nd as I had been rung by a member of David Milliband's team asking if we would host a house meeting where a team member would address us about David's vision for the party. For those of you without email we are asking how many members would be interested in attending such a meeting. **Please let us know by Thursday 8th July by 'phone** if you are interested in coming to this event at Les Tillbrooks's house next week or we may ask if they can come to our regular meeting on Wednesday 14th July. **It is clear that it is much easier for us to contact members if we are given your email address.** Please be assured that this information will always be confidential and never given to anyone outside the branch without your permission. It also helps to keep our costs down so that we can spend more on our campaigning. It would be great if we could hold our own 'hustings' if the Milliband team do not visit. Come to the next meeting and present a case for your favourite candidate.

Peter Mitchell, Secretary

The Local Elections... and the future of our town

It is clear that arguments are starting between the Libdems and Conservative members of the coalition and at a local level in the Observer and the Flyer insults have been 'flying' between Conservative and Libdem councillors. Our ex-mayor seems to think that Labour is invisible in Stortford and Sawbridgeworth so it is important that we are a force to be reckoned with.

There are several local issues in Stortford that are causing considerable concern to residents, notably the development of the Causeway whilst many shops lie empty at the South Street end of town. In addition the plans for the relocation of two Stortford schools which we have opposed are in the news again. There is the serious need for an integrated plan where all of these changes are seen as linked as there are huge implications for the infrastructure of the town and pressure on parking spaces not helped by the woeful lack of an efficient bus service. What kind of town do we want to live in? What type of shops and services do we need here? Do we want the unique character of our town, which has made it a safe and friendly place to grow up in, to change simply to give us more frock shops?

We are determined to show the majority Conservative council that we mean business. We plan to fight at least 10 wards in the local elections in 2011. The CLP has proposed that there should be training for candidates and we will all have a script to work from. We want to have a stall in town where candidates can talk to the public and we will work on our own wards. What are the concerns of our Sawbridgeworth members?

Let us know if you wish to stand. The key work will start after the summer so come to the meeting in September.

Linda Mitchell, Campaign Co-ordinator



GRAND SUMMER DRAW

Every member has been sent two books of tickets for this summer's major fund raising event. Please sell your tickets and put a cheque made payable to Hertford and Stortford CLP with the counterfoils into the envelope provided. Add a stamp and post to Shirley Wood to arrive by Friday 16th July at the latest for the draw to take place on Monday 19th July.

Do not return any unsold books

Dates for the Diary

The next Branch Meeting will be held at Pearse House, Parsonage Lane, Bishop's Stortford on Wednesday July 14th at 8.00 pm.

IMPORTANT *The next CLP Meeting will be held at Pearse House on Monday 19th July at 8.00 pm. All welcome.**

Your Newsletter, Your Say

Not getting your views heard? Ring a Branch officer or email the Secretary on mitpeter1@ntlworld.com

The deadline for items for the next newsletter is: **July 26th**

Local Labour Party Officers /Contacts

Les Tillbrook 01279 655628
Vice Chair

Peter Mitchell 01279 654190
Secretary

Madge Tillbrook 01279 655628
Membership Secretary

John Battersby 01279 305256
Treasurer

Linda Mitchell 01279 654190
Campaign Co-ordinator

Constituency Delegates:

J Battersby, D Mitchell, L Mitchell, L. Tillbrook, S Tripp, P Tripp

100 Club

Nothing to announce this month

The 100 Club raises funds for fighting elections. If you would like to join the 100 Club, please call: Peter Wood on 01992 584398 for a form.

