

## THE PARTY MEETS ON THE SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

**ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME**, and we are keen to hear from anyone who may have an idea for a discussion topic or guest speaker.

Guest speakers and topics for debate are lined up for each meeting, so please come along to the Guildhall at 7.30pm on the second Monday of each month.

November's meeting was led by John Johansen-berg, who gave a fascinating presentation about his work in conflict resolution and community building in some of the world's most troubled areas. He discussed the United Africa Aid (UnAfrAid) project, aiming to channel aid to East Africa, and there was a passionate discussion about the effects of international trade on the Indian farming industry.

In January we will discuss the May election manifesto for Labour Group of city councillors. There are several policies to be reviewed, and all members are invited to attend and discuss Labour's approach to the next local elections.

The January meeting will also hold a "trigger-ballot" for the European elections. All CLPs are invited to discuss the region's two Labour MEPs (Neena Gill and Michael Cashman), and Worcester members present will be entitled to vote for or against reaffirmation of each of them.

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Christmas Fayre such a huge success.

Members did a great deal of work both behind the scenes and on the day – collected, bottles, bric-a-brac and books, donated raffle prizes, sold raffle tickets, baked cakes, ran stalls, served refreshments and washed up. As well as raising funds it lifted our spirits.



2007 marks the 90th anniversary of the formation of the Co-operative Party at Westminster Hall. Events this year have included a trip to see Downing Street in January and the annual conference at Westminster Hall in September.

Locally in Worcester, we have sponsored conferences on the Government's programme of Eco Towns at our last meeting in Redditch, and supported of CLP with another Balti Evening early in the year and donating a raffle prize.

We wish you a Co-operative New Year, and look forward to the opportunity to meet any members who are interested in our organisation. Please contact Roger Berry on 24376 or [rberry@worcester.gov.uk](mailto:rberry@worcester.gov.uk).

This is the first of what we hope will be a regular newsletter. Get in touch with us and let me know what you think of it. In the meantime the local party's website is regularly updated so you can find out what is happening by logging on to:

**[www.worcesterlabour.org.uk](http://www.worcesterlabour.org.uk)**

For more information, please contact CLP Secretary Roger Jenkins, at our Office on 25676 or [rogerjenkins@worcesterlabour.org.uk](mailto:rogerjenkins@worcesterlabour.org.uk).



Worcester CLP's four branches have regular meetings across the city.

Transport can be arranged to branch meetings, and it's a great way to have your say, find out what other members think and what the local Party is doing. **Why not join in?**

**East Branch** covers Gorse Hill, Warndon, Warndon Parish North, Warndon Parish South wards, and often meets at either of the Lyppard, Tolly, Fairfield or Warndon community centres. Contact Phil Carney on 23689  
[pcarney380@o2.co.uk](mailto:pcarney380@o2.co.uk)

**North Branch** covers Arboretum, Rainbow Hill, St Stephen and Claines wards, and often meets at the Unison office, Loves Grove. Contact Roger Jenkins on 20197 or  
[rogerjenkins@worcesterlabour.org.uk](mailto:rogerjenkins@worcesterlabour.org.uk)

**South Branch** covers Cathedral, Nunnery, Battenhall and St Peter's wards, and often meets at the Midland Road Community Centre. Contact Maggie Watson on 354579 or  
[maggie@watson12.co.uk](mailto:maggie@watson12.co.uk).

**West Branch** covers St John's, St Clements, Bedwardine wards, and often meets at the Berkeley Arms on School Road. Contact Jane Flynn on 420305 or  
[jane-flynn@worcesterlabour.org.uk](mailto:jane-flynn@worcesterlabour.org.uk).

If you are not sure which branch you live in, please contact our Office on 25676, or email the Secretary – Roger Jenkins on  
[rogerjenkins@worcesterlabour.org.uk](mailto:rogerjenkins@worcesterlabour.org.uk)



## Worcester Labour Members' Newsletter

### Chair's Message to Members

2007 was a very successful year for Worcester Constituency Labour Party (CLP). At the local elections in May, Councillor Simon Cronin was elected for Labour in Nunnery Ward, winning a seat from the Independents. In the Autumn, a by-election in St Clements Ward led to a new Labour Councillor: Jenny Barnes beat the Tories into second place.

With Jenny's win, "Worcester Woman" was back on the news, and Jenny found herself appearing in the national papers and on TV. Labour really was on the march in Worcester. I then went to Bournemouth, as Worcester's delegate to the Labour Party Conference where the Worcester connection ensured that people were desperate to speak to me. Even the Prime Minister congratulated us (though, as you can see in the photo, I was too startled to smile). **How had we done it?**



We have regular contact with the electorate, by phone, by leaflet and on the doorstep. Our Party Office is organised and efficient, and our members work hard to spread the Labour message, despite a fairly hostile media. We have worked incredibly hard in the last year, and must work even harder in the future.

This newsletter shows that there is plenty going on –

**Why not get in touch, or come along and find out?**

Please get in touch on 763929, or [chriswinwood@worcesterlabour.org.uk](mailto:chriswinwood@worcesterlabour.org.uk).

### Worcester Labour needs volunteers!

There are envelopes to stuff, leaflets to deliver, telephone calls to make, doors to be knocked.

Could you help our MP, Mike Foster, and our local councillors? **Even the odd hour every-now-and-then could make all the difference.**

Campaign Coordinator Joy Squires is keen to hear from you, on 612373 or [joysquires@worcesterlabour.org.uk](mailto:joysquires@worcesterlabour.org.uk).

**Your help really could make all the difference.**



**LIAM BYRNE MP  
Immigration Minister &  
West Midlands Minister  
is coming to Worcester  
to meet members and  
discuss expansion  
of Worcester on  
12<sup>th</sup> January.**

(See page 3 for details)

### Join the 100 Club

Draw takes place 4 times a year. **The Christmas top prize is £250.** Definitely worth taking part!

Please get in touch with **George Squires** for more information: 612373 or [george.squires@btinternet.com](mailto:george.squires@btinternet.com)

George is also interested in forming a Labour Party darts team in 2008.



If you'd like to know what might be involved, or if you're any good at darts – get in touch with him.