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GENERAL COMMAND MAY 2013

Forward Battle Group Yewtree

COMMUNIQUE # 1109 TUESDAY 21st MAY

UNITY! FREEDOM! SOCIALISM! - ONE CIVIL SERVICE UNION, ONE GLORIOUS DESTINY!

LET THE GAME COMMENCE

By Judas Iscariot

Predictably, DWP A103 was felled by a LU 3 line whip and an attack of cold feet by The Independent Left (Trotsky's Independent Traders). There wasn't much to be gleaned from the largely incoherent arguments. Some didn't like the naming & shaming. Whatever. It's been heard. Life goes on. Sadly this leaves the group with no obligation to do anything to better its negotiating skills, but some argue that competence is, in any case, a vastly over-rated requirement in modern Trade Unionism.

And by way of (further) evidence of that; at least DWP delegates knew where they stood before they got to Brighton. Not so in the MOD Group. Their negotiators, clunkier even than their DWP colleagues, had originally failed to secure any facility time at all for Conference. But at the last minute the GEC negotiating team actually succeeded in winning facility time for the 2013 Conference. Too late, though, to justify high fives. Book hotels 3 weeks before Conference, in Brighton, during a festival? You must be pissed.

Hence the record low attendance for the Group conference – a grand total of just 36 registered delegates who were embarrassingly outnumbered by the GEC and its hangers-on. They only just exceeded the 30-plus strangers visible on the fringes of the DWP bash this week. What these people do and who pays for their presence is anybody's guess. But in these times of PCS austerity and facility time restrictions, can their presence be justified at all? (and can someone who has a clue, kindly remind us how many MOD delegates showed up last year? Just for context)



Harding

Talking about MOD, BRIGADIER HARDING has been moaning again about the perennial failure of the powers that be to organise a half-decent Group social or at least a piss-up in a brewery. Instead they've arranged yet another poxy Quiz Night with a £4 entrance fee. To add insult to injury the winners are expected to donate the paltry few quid prizes to the fighting fund. But today's prize for incompetence goes to the 4TM organisers who called for

an "informal get together" at the Metropole at 6.00 pm on Sunday night, then failed to inform "supporters" that it had been brought forward to 5.30. The handful in the know had fucked off by 6 leaving Sir ROY and YAHAN LEWIS wandering around aimlessly until the penny dropped.

Elsewhere, cash-strapped delegates visiting the Pound Shop on North Street and hoping to bag some cheap personal hygiene products may be out of luck. CHARLIE SLOANE has spent his entire expenses on their range of Tango shower gels, shampoos, body wash and other similar items, and appears to be turning at least some of them into a very tasty and potent home brew. Much appreciated.



The King's Hotel, which has proved an interesting experience for delegates over the decades, normally has a lift sign which boasts "Maximum capacity: 4 Passengers". Following the recent influx of PCS delegates, however, it has been temporarily replaced with a sign offering the somewhat less ambitious "Maximum capacity: 3 Passengers".

DAVE ALSTON, the former this, that and the other, is another one in town this week to collect a gong for his life-time of treachery. ALSTON, is mainly remembered as being a "leading comrade" in the old "Society" Secret Left, who wrote a seriously unfunny "satirical" column which appeared from time to time in the "Unity" conference bulletins. Meanwhile DAVE SPAGNOL has announced that this will be his last conference as he is taking early retirement to spend more time on the road with his band COLLIBOSHER.



Mr Greenway

Ex MoJ President (most boring man in the world, 2012, runner up) KEVIN GREENWAY is worried about the consequences of leaving the MoJ in the "capable" hands of JACKIE GREEN and MIKE DERBYSHIRE during his extended absence on NEC duty. The NEC have invested in neck cushions.

Naked Cyclist NEIL McLICENSE is back in town for his annual holiday in Brighton at members' expense. The PLASTIC JOCK was concerned that NEC was supporting Motion A14 on the 30 hour week. This is approximately 29 more hours than he's used to.

Following the Battle of the Bulge – STEVE COMER v MARK BAKER in the Bristol Eastville election (PFL Monday #1108) BAKER has now been censured by Socialist Party grandees. He called his party the "Trade Union & Socialists against the Cuts" (TUSAC) and not the "Trade Union & Socialist Coalition" (TUSC). No wonder he only got 85 votes and came bottom of the poll. Fucked up the logo as well.



Mark Baker

For the record LABOUR won. With COMA now retired, the DEMOCRATS have now come out (see Monday's PCSD conference leaflet) as the rightful home of Labour supporters in PCS. They might have regretted leaving it so long, though, as rumours began to circulate that COMER's own defection to the people's party was imminent.

Apparently he had reached agreement with the Bristol Labour leadership to defect to Labour once he was safely re-elected to his Eastville seat. So, in time honoured tradition, Labour deliberately selected a useless candidate and BAKER was encouraged to stand as a spoiler to syphon off a dozen or so Labour votes. Unfortunately no one told the electorate and the Bristol big hitter was consigned to the dustbin of history. Now the Bristol Labour leadership are reconsidering whether to accept COMER's membership application as he is no longer of any further use to them. Indeed the Bristol Labour Party press office is describing him, reasonably objectively, in our experience, as a useless git and electoral liability.

In the meantime STEVE is considering a permanent move to Cyprus, where he spends half the year anyway, believing he has more chance of a new taxi driver permit there than Bristol.



Ms Ferguson

Hardline DIMMOCRATS NEC member MARY FERGUSON is set to send JOE "Le Taxi" COX into oblivion. COX has now joined Mary's branch. There's more chance of MARK BAKER getting on Bristol Council than BIG FAT GEORDIE BASTARD COX getting on her BEC.

Speaking of BFGBs, KEVIN McHUGH is finally *considering* taking his own expanding girth more seriously. Someone came up to him on Monday and asked him how his taxi business was going.

There's clearly a bit of a LUNITY related cat fight going on in m'lady JANICE'S own branch – DWP Glasgow. "nests of vipers" have been mentioned, along with "rebellion" and mutterings about the primacy of their pursuit of an Independent Socialist Scotland. The almost interesting scum rising to the surface appears in the form of inappropriate tweeting from people's poet GERRY McMAHON, relating, apparently to the life cycle of the supporters of a local Scottish Third Division football club. If our sources can reveal the content of said tweet, this might turn into a story worth reading...

NERD CORNER

NEC 2013 ELECTION ANALYSIS

(Rounded up, down, in and out to 14 decimal places.)

By Seth O'Logy

This year's NEC election results make interesting reading for the impartial. Honestly. However, they're a bit of a disaster for all those taking part in the game - especially the faction bosses. Democracy Alliance's widely anticipated near clean sweep was achieved with the derisory turnout we mentioned only yesterday. 9.5 miserable percent. (Still 1% higher than the dismal DWP showing. "Best Organised Group" my arse.)

One minor contribution to the debacle might be the self-inflicted confusion caused by having elections for group Presidents and VPs instead of the traditional furniture based titles. Obviously, some activists have delusions of grandeur and, as a consequence, at least a proportion of the members have been reported to have wrongly assumed the group president voting envelope to be duplicates of the National equivalents and simply binned them. That's blowback that is.

Any road up, these statistics reveal that the wildly politically representative Janice Godrich, President of PCS, and one of the few representatives of the toiling classes who still has the balls to call for a General Strike, was elected by 49.5% of those bothering to return a ballot paper and just 4.71% of the union membership. Her election performance, and this is for the real nerds, thus falls below the level of what normally qualifies as "statistical significance". It implies we might have achieved similar election results just by throwing dice a few thousand times.

It is almost as interesting that Janice is normally one of the few candidates to make it over 50% voter approval but has failed, like every other candidate, to do so this year.

Her nearest rival, Diane Breen (4themembers), netted 29.7% of the vote and 2.82% of the membership. Perennial failure Christine Hulme of the "Independent left" convinced 15.6% of those putting a proper cross in the box that she was Presidential material (or at least, that she wasn't one of the other two candidates) and a full 1.67% of the members. (There was no Independent Socialist candidate at National to split this token support as there was in say DWP Group.)

(en passant, it is of some concern, even mystery, that 3.19% of those voting managed to spoil their ballot paper in the simple matter of choosing one of three candidates for President.)

LUNITY clearly appears to work much harder for their support than do the other factions. Janice was nominated by 156 Branches making each nomination worth 72 votes. Diane's campaigners only persuaded 8 Branches to nominate her but were rewarded with 870 votes per nomination. Christine's 14 nominations are equivalent to 294 vpn. The "average" elected Democracy Alliance NEC member, here represented by Adam Khalif, pulled 140 nominations at a rate of 59 vpn .

We can also, at last, calculate the approximate benefit which belonging to a slate confers on a candidate; in this case the LUNITY list. Ian (PIA) Crossland neglected to submit an election address and is known only to a miniscule clique outside his own branch, yet still gathered 6,954 votes, courtesy of the LU banner. We can thus reasonably describe this is the number of votes a lesser primate would have received, had it stood for election on the LU Slate. (Other factions are available)

Finally, at least, Dave Vincent can take some comfort from the fact that he didn't come bottom of the poll this time round. On the other hand the Independent Tim Megone's vote of 2,635 suggests there is still a niche market those who actually care about what's in the election addresses. Let's hear it for the General Strike!

PFLCPSA NEWS

The proper conference for grown-ups starts today; before we're even properly warmed up, so don't expect any record-breaking performances. Somehow we're going to cram 2½ days of pulsating action into just 2. Try not to get too excited in the process. If you fail, please clean up the mess.

Need to unburden yourself of a painful truth, shallow tittle or penetrating tattle? You've come to the right place. Our one-to-one Imam consultations will leave you feeling vindicated, mildly triumphalist and only a little poorer. They leave us a lot wiser. Face to face consultations are available whenever conference is in session and for an hour or so before chucking up time in the OLDE SHIPPE. Outside these times, asynchronous virtual sessions are available using the channel of your choice. If you can write, and know how to send an email, you're the sort of geek we're looking for. You may use dropbox@pflcpsa.com. Those of you who already have will note that we've made careful use of your information. Keep it coming comrades. But again, please clean up the mess. Deep Throats, of course, don't need me to tell you how to suck eggs.

Now, if you're not one of those who comprise our constant data-stream, chances are that you are one of those who have no idea what's going on all around you and you collect our communiques in the vain hope that we'll shed some light on it. And I'm sure, one day, we will. Isn't that worth investing in? You know the rest... dig deep, there's plenty of room in the bucket.

One little mistake and they make you stand in the corner talking to Steve Richardson for an hour. The fucking **Austerity T** fucking **SHIRTS** are only ten fucking pounds, that's two whole fucking pounds cheaper than I said yesterday. O fucking K? Am I fucking forgiven now? C***



*I also gave them over to statutes that were not good and laws they could not live by; I let them become defiled through their gifts—the sacrifice of every firstborn—that I might fill them with horror so they would know that I am the LORD
Ezekiel 20:25-26 Blessed Oxydental*