

## **Round & About**

## By Judas Iscariot

## *We are not doing celebrity, personality, abusive politics - we are doing ideas. This is about hope.* Jeremy Corbyn (somewhere behind Kings Cross Station August 2015)<sup>1</sup>

Hope indeed. Hope for an end to austerity and bread-line wages. Hope for a properly funded health service and education system. Hope that Labour will win the election. Hope that his keepers won't let Donald play with the Red Button. Hope is very much the watch-word of delegates on the eve of Brighton Conference this week. But whether the overwhelming and tediously inevitable victory of the left-led DEMOCRACY ALLIANCE is a harbinger of things to come in the national political arena is a horse of an entirely different feather.

Conference meets, for the first time in living memory (or, at least, ours), during the throes of a bitter general election in which the TORIES, backed by virtually all the main-stream media, expect to trounce the opposition. Things are so desperate, that, at the May Day Rally in TRAFALGAR SQUARE, even MARK SERWOTKA found himself - for the first time in decades - calling on the membership to vote LABOUR. And things are so desperate on the Labour side, they've admitted MAREK as a member. "The reason I've done that" he said, in an effort to soften his treachery, "is because what is on offer now is radically different from anything we've heard from Labour since, I think, 1983."

While it's certainly a first for him, in his role as our great and glorious leader, it is not unprecedented in the annals of PCS' predecessor CPSA<sup>PBUT</sup>. As you can read in our archives, both the late and great KEN THOMAS and the hated and not so great BARRY REAMSBOTTOM made similar appeals in their personal capacities.

Mind you, the two old CPSA leaders were, in those days, endorsing flabby centrist and Blairite leaderships while MAREK is backing the full red-meat marxist leadership of JEREMY CORBYN and JOHN McDONNELL, an old friend of many in these parts, and frequent guest at past ADCs. MARK is also in favour of PCS affiliating to LABOUR, a proposal put on hold at last year's Conference and then decisively kicked into the long grass after enough members woke up to fuel rejection by two-thirds of those branches that gave enough of a shit to take part in the consultation exercise that followed.

<sup>1</sup> https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2015/aug/07/jeremy-corbyn-interview-we-are-not-doing-celebrity-personality-or-abusive-politics

Perennial maverick DAVE VINCENT opines: "I think there are three reasons for (the

rejection). Firstly, the culture of expected civil service neutrality has quite a hold - the belief that the job of civil servants is to implement the policies of the elected government. There must also be a fear that, were PCS to align itself to any political party, we will pay for this if that party is not the government. Secondly, the treatment of civil servants by the last Labour government, which brought in office closures, benefit sanctions, thousands of job cuts, outsourcing and



privatisations. Thirdly, Corbyn isn't the Labour Party and he (and his policies) will be attacked if Labour does not win the election. Most activists would only want to be affiliated to a Corbyn-led Labour Party".

The fact that VINCENT, who came second from last in the NEC elections, made these comments in the almost equally obscure WEEKLY WANKER, shouldn't detract from the points he was making or from the emergency motion calling on PCS to recommend that members consider voting LABOUR on 8<sup>th</sup> June. After all, hope springs eternal.

Of course our national elections were a foregone conclusion. It was a virtual walk-over for the DEMOCRACY ALLIANCE – the popular front consisting of the former TROTSKYISTS in LEFT UNITY and a rag-bag of high-castes and COMMISSARS in PCS DEMOCRATS. There was no right-wing challenge – "4theMembers" collapsed long ago when HOWARD FULLERSHIT (DWP Tel Aviv) defected to PROSPECT in the mistaken belief that this would automatically make him a high-caste. 4TM's ROB BRYSON has fucked off to



Mr Megone

MANCHESTER and abandoned all national union politics rather than give up any of his precious annual leave; while WILLIE SAMUEL received a full set of NEC ballot papers even though he retired last November. OOR WULLIE said he that "*in terms of election addresses I have never read anything quite so turgid and dull*" in a FaceBook rant in which he threatened to vote for TIM MEGONE on the grounds that "It is drivel but *entertaining and well written*". (Willie was a deep cover PFL Agent for many decades) He claimed that his participation would then make the whole election invalid. But he wouldn't and it didn't and in any case MEGONE came bottom of the poll.

The only alternative slate came from the "left opposition" INDEPENDENT LEFT, a bunch of has-beens dominated by the ALLIANCE for WORKERS LIBERTY that managed to retain a seat on the new NEC.

It was, sadly and predictably, a very low poll and that tells a story in itself. The turn-out of just 8.3 per cent in the national poll was an embarrassing all-time low. In DWP it was just 7.0 per cent, which suggests that not even all the activists in the department could be arsed to take part in the Democratic Process.

Some say apathy is raging through the trade union movement and point to the similarly low 12 per cent (ish) participation in UNITE's General Secretary and EC elections in April. But there's no real comparison. UNITE's dismal poll (still nearly 50% higher than our own) can be put down to the fact that a significant section of retired members - who previously had the right to vote - were disqualified this year; and the fact that nobody (outside his IT specialist arena) knew who the fuck leftist GRASSROOTS ALLIANCE challenger for the top job – IAN ALLINSON actually was (unlike his predecessor JERRY HICKS); and the fact that many McCLUSKEY supporters sat on their hands this time because they didn't agree with

MICK putting off his long-overdue retirement (again). Nevertheless over 100,000 UNITE members voted in their elections compared to our miserable 13,618 – with the highest vote of all, 8,331. going to PCS President, JANICE GODRICH. Turn-out figures like this confirm the obvious and alarming disengagement between time-serving hacks on the Group and National Committees and the ordinary member. Doesn't bode well for the next time we need to call for strike action – which will be under the new rules.

# **Conference Insult Standards**

The declining quality of invective has been one of the more troubling consequences of the relentless rise in the average age of delegates. We're hoping to see some significant improvements in this area during the week. Hostile comment need not be crude to have full impact. Here are some examples. See if you can improve on - or at least match - some of them:

I have neither the time nor the crayons to explain it to you. I can explain it to you but I can't understand it for you. You couldn't. pour the water out of a boot if the instructions were written on the heel Somewhere out there a tree is working very hard to replace the oxygen you consume. Now go and apologise to it. Well I would agree with you but. then we'd both be wrong.

I love how you state the obvious with such a. sense of discovery. Ah, so you're the reason we have warning labels on everything.

## PHAIC NOOSE

In a slight change to his schedule, President Trump is to include a Wicca convention as part of his nine-day tour of the Middle East and Europe where he is meeting with religious leaders.

"Once I've worked a few spells on the Islamists, the Jews and the Christians," said an embittered Trump after dismounting his new gilded besom, "I'll be talking to the Wiccas - they are great people and did you know they actually invented baskets and mistletoe?"

After cleaning up a sticky patch of green phlegm off the wall of the Oval Office, White House spokesman, Sean Spicer, confirmed that President Trump believes he is the victim of a witch-hunt and is 'sick and tired' of the 'spectral evidence' being thrown at him by the FBI and Democrats. "The President and will be able to lay a few demons to rest in his address to Wicca leaders."

However, critics say he is unlikely to gain their support with one source saying, "They don't need any more nut jobs. The President has been spouting nonsense for a very long time as well as making crazy gestures and pointing his fingers at innocent White House staff." All of which, claims Sean Spicer, 'is totally untrue - in fact, President Trump is happy to undergo a public ducking to prove it.'

The location of the Wicca convention has not been revealed but is believed to be somewhere in the Black Forest in a small clearing next to a house made of candy.

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#### ALL TRITE

This week is all about being the greatest conference ever. Already, more delegates than in the entire history of the union have voluntarily taken paid leave to come here, at their own expense, after electing the cleverest National Executive Committee we've ever seen, to take part in this festival of Working Class Democracy. Let's use this opportunity as a Springboard to Victory at the Polls in just a few more days, and work together to return the terrific Theresa May to her richly deserved position of power. As the week goes on, we're gonna give you some truly amazing advice – the best – on how we all need to vote to keep us right where we are, on the Right Track. Watch this space.

#### **PFLCPSA News**

## Apologies.

1. For not attending last year's shindig. Double booked with the Tri-Centenary of the Chipping Sodbury Morris Dancing and Cat Herding Festival.

2 For attending this year's. We'll be as quiet as we can and just sit over here in the corner gradually decaying until they send someone around to investigate the smell.

3. For Brexit. Perhaps if we had turned up in Brighton last year, we'd have inspired enough of you to get out there and tip the balance. Stranger fish have been fried...

...As we've seen over the pond. That, of course was our consolation victory after an otherwise disastrous year. The election of DONALD TRUMP marked the high point in our 40 year global campaign of Fake News. You thought we only performed at Conference? This is just the tip of the fatberg. Bush Junior was our first crude attempt at Presidential stupidity, but with Trump, we've finally ironed out the last wrinkles of irritating sanity.

Be all of which as it may, we're here now. Deal with it. You know the rules. Or else you wouldn't be reading this. Feed us the facts, we'll make up the rest. Fake or otherwise, we don't care, as long as it fills those column inches and keeps the revolutionary ball rolling. Prime placement of your poison can be obtained for as little as a tenner if you're a common person. NEC and full time officer rates remain fixed at the usual Score. T-Shirts will be printed. Eventually. But you can preview the design and pre-order the merchandise at our main stall. Price? Oh, make us an offer. For £10 or more and they're yours to take home and do with what you will. They make excellent pets. And this, year, in yet another concession to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, we're accepting donations through Bitcoin. Our address is 13AM4VW2dhxYgXeQepoHkHSQuy6NgaEb94. Don't mention the ransomware.

Did we mention dosh? Urgent donations are required to offset our print costs. The Hat is always hungry. Custodian of The Hat is the elderly gentleman who resembles Catweazle (ie, dead for a fort - night). His bite is no longer considered venomous since the vet removed his teeth.

Deep cover agents and casual onanists can mingle with us in the glories of the newly painted OLD SHITE shortly before the witching hour, or ten o-clock, whichever comes sooner. Anonymous contributions should be deposited behind the 3<sup>rd</sup> brick at <u>dropbox@pflcpsa.com</u> (available all year round, whatever the weather).

At almost no expense and very little effort, we've remembered to bring down one or two of those delightful little mementos of happier times when people still believed that true martyrdom might change the world. These treasures are not sold online, or on the high street, or anywhere else in the known Universe. Only here and only Now, for less than the price of a flying fuck, can you collect your very own Self-Immolation Starter Packs. Treat yourself. You're worth it.



Let bygones be gone. Let battle commence. Let the good times roll.

"Thou hast also taken thy fair jewels of my gold and of my silver, which I had given thee, and madest to thyself images of men, and didst commit whoredom with them" Ezekiel 16:17 Eastern Accidental Revised.