

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Your round-up of all things Labour from across  
Canterbury, Whitstable and the villages



Happy Groundhog Day.

As we prepare for the local elections in May we have a lot of opportunities for members to help out. If you would be prepared to deliver some leaflets in your ward (or a neighbouring ward) and haven't done so before, please reach out to our campaign co-ordinator Teresa Pearce by emailing her at: [campaigns@canterburylabour.email](mailto:campaigns@canterburylabour.email) - we have a February / March leaflet going out in all our target wards, so we really do need extra hands to volunteer to deliver some of these (and doing some helps you get some spring steps in!)

We also have lots of door-knocking and street stalls this month and members are welcome to come to any of these sessions - I know the candidates would be thrilled to see you supporting them and it is a fun chance to get involved and hear directly from the public on what matters most to them.

But first we kick off this month with a reminder that this Sunday there is a Labour Party games evening - members and guests are most welcome. The free fun kicks off at 7pm at The Foundry, 77 Stour Street, Canterbury, CT1 2NR. Lots of different games to be played and, of course, a raffle. RSVP by clicking this button:

[Yes! I'm Coming to Games Night!](#)

I hope you are enjoying your monthly newsletters. Let me know of anything from the local Labour world that you'd like covered in the March edition.

Best wishes,

**Charlotte Cornell**

Vice Chair, Membership

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Vice Chair, Membership



## Canterbury City Council Local Election Launch

Thank you to everyone who came to our local election launch at the Whitstable Labour Club on 21st January. We had a great turn out and the mood was positive. After the excellent team photo (above) and speeches from the Leader of the Labour Group Alan Baldock and other councillors, groups of members hit the streets of Whitstable to knock on doors and speak to residents about their concerns.

Overall, the teams spoke to 100+ people that morning and delivered lots of leaflets to those who were out. Lots of the concerns raised by residents were the same ones that Labour responded to in our councillors' excellent response to the proposed local plan. You can read that response by clicking and downloading from the button below.

[Labour's Response to the Canterbury District Local Plan](#)

# SAVE OUR CHILDREN'S CENTRES



Save Our Children's Centres

Kent County Council want to close 38 children's centres across Kent, with East Kent taking the brunt of the proposed cuts.

We oppose these cuts. We believe children's centres should be embedded in communities within walking distance for most families, not a 30 minute unaffordable bus journey away.

I wrote [on my own blog](#) about the impact these cuts will have and how much these centres have meant to me and other parents like me in this area. The Labour Group on Kent County Council, including our own Councillors Alister Brady and Mel Dawkins have been campaigning hard to prevent these cuts up at County Hall in Maidstone.

Councillor Chris Cornell in Gorrell Ward and other local parents have started a petition in Whitstable to save the Joy Lane and Swalecliffe children's centres. It already has over 500 signatures. Please sign and share if you haven't already.

[Sign the Petition to Save Whitstable's Children's Centres](#)

There is also a petition to save the Canterbury children's centres. Set up by Cllr Mel Dawkins, it is on the official KCC petition platform. You can sign this one by clicking below:

[Sign the Petition to Save Canterbury's Children's Centres](#)

We also have two street stalls over the next few weeks taking place to get more awareness of these proposed cuts and the impact they will have on local families.

The first street stall will take place this Saturday, 4th February at 10am on Whitstable High Street (corner of Gladstone Road). The second will take place next Saturday on Canterbury High Street (outside the old Debenhams building). Please try and join one of these to help us spread the word and try to save these centres.

[Yes, I can come to the Whitstable Street Stall](#)

[Yes, I can come to the Canterbury Street Stall](#)

**ROSIE DUFFIELD MP**  
CANTERBURY | ROSIEDUFFIELDMP.CO.UK

# **COST OF LIVING EVENT**

**FRIDAY**  
**17TH FEB**  
10 AM - 2 PM

**CANTERBURY  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

**FOOD BANK**  
CANTERBURY & DISTRICT

**citizens advice** Canterbury District

**Canterbury age UK**

**RED ZEBRA**

**ADVICE - INFORMATION - REFRESHMENTS - SUPPORT**

## **Cost of Living Events**

Our MP, Rosie Duffield and her team have been working with local councillors to bring cost-of-living events to Canterbury and Whitstable. These two events will be a roadshow style event, with stalls hosted by different community partners, charities and utility providers. It is hoped these events can be a one-stop shop for people seeking advice, help and support during these tough times. Please spread the word.

The events are:

**Wednesday 15th February, 10am-2pm, Whitstable Umbrella Centre**

**Friday 17th February, 10am-2pm, Canterbury Baptist Church**



## **Councillor Alan Baldock returns as Leader of the Labour Group**

Many members will already know Alan, but we welcome him back as Leader of the Labour Group on Canterbury City Council. Alan is councillor for Northgate, where he has served since 2015. Alan is a lifelong Canterbury resident, an engineer, married to Di and completely committed to bringing a Labour-led council to this city. Alan sits

on the Governance Committee, Planning Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny sub-committee. You can find him on Twitter at @ngwred

On a lighter note, his favourite cake is Lemon Drizzle, he prefers coffee to tea, if he were drinking something stronger it would be a pale ale. His dream holiday would be to the Lake District and the historical figure he'd most like to have dinner with would be Nye Bevin and finally, his favourite current Labour party politician (he was not allowed to choose a fellow local councillor or Rosie) is Lisa Nandy.

We hope you all know Alan a bit better now.



## Labour opposing cuts proposed in the Community Policing Review

Labour candidates Dan Allen and Simon Warley have been joining councillors spreading the word to local traders about the proposed changes to community policing that are outlined in the Community Policing Review. Over Kent, Police Community Support Officers are being cut by half at the same time as Kent residents are being asked to pay [an average of £15 more per year](#) for policing.

Dan and Simon have been joining local councillors alerting traders in Whitstable and Herne Bay about the proposed changes to policing coverage which would allocated officers to larger beats, jeopardising the Town Centre Constable Model which businesses in both towns depend on.

There is an [open letter on this](#) which Whitstable-based business owners are being encouraged to sign. Please do share with local business owners.



## Dates for the Diary

**We have lots of canvassing (door-knocking) teams going out this month. New canvassers always welcome - we will 'buddy' you up at first if you wish with a more experienced canvasser. Just turn up at the meeting point at the start times given below. You can join whichever one you can/want - it is always nice to explore new parts of the district and meet members from other areas.**



**Thursday 2nd February (TONIGHT)**, 7pm, Training on how to use the Doorstep app. A short session to help those who already door-knock or who would like to get more involved, Whitstable Labour Club, Belmont Road.

**Saturday 4th February**, 10am, Women's Coffee Morning, The Veg Box, Canterbury.

**Saturday 4th February**, 10am, [Save Our Children's Centres Street Stall in Whitstable.](#) Corner of High Street and Gladstone Road.

**Saturday 4th February**, 10am, [Regular Herne Bay street stall.](#) Meet outside Greensteds restaurant.

**Sunday 5th February**, 7pm, [Social Games Night for Members & Friends.](#) The Foundry, Stour Street, Canterbury.

**Monday 6th February**, 7.30pm, Whitstable Branch AGM followed by ordinary meeting. Whitstable Labour Club, Belmont Road, Whitstable.

**Wednesday 8th February**, 10am, Door-knocking in Heron ward, Herne Bay. Meet corner of Station Road and Western Avenue.

**Wednesday 8th February**, 3pm. Wincheap door-knocking session. Come and join our candidates speaking to voters. Meet on the corner of Victoria Road and Wincheap near the lighting shop.

**Saturday 11th February**, 10am. Heron Ward, Herne Bay, door-knocking. Meet corner of Dering Road / Spenser Road.

**Saturday 11th February**, 11am. [Save Our Children's Centres Street Stall in Canterbury.](#) Outside the former Debenhams building in the High Street.

**Saturday 11th February**, 2pm, Women's Group Talk: Kate Westgarth former British diplomat with specialist expertise on Eastern and Central Asia. Discussing women in politics and the diplomatic services. Whitstable Labour Club, Belmont Road (a Gorrell canvass will follow for those who wish).

**Saturday 11th February**, 2pm, Barton ward canvassing. Meet outside Waitrose, St. George's Place, CT1 1UL.

**Saturday 11th February**, 3.30pm, [Gorrell ward canvassing.](#) Meet outside the Labour Club on Belmont Road.

**Monday 13th February**, 7.30pm, Canterbury Branch Meeting. Friends Meeting House, The Friars, Canterbury.

**Wednesday 15th February**, 3pm. Wincheap door-knocking session. Come and join our candidates speaking to voters. Meet corner of Wincheap and Victoria Road.

**Thursday 16th February**, 10am, [Gorrell door-knocking session.](#) Come and join our candidates speaking to voters. Meet outside 5 Regency Close.

**Saturday 18th February**, 10am, Heron Ward, Herne Bay door-knocking. Meet corner of Carlton Hill and Central Avenue.

**Saturday 18th February**, 10.30, St Stephen's ward door knocking. Meet corner of Roper Road & Berverley Road.

**Saturday 18th February**, 2pm, Young Members' Coffee Afternoon, Garage Coffee, 17 Sun Street, Canterbury. For those aged 16-25.

**Saturday 18th February**, 3pm, [Gorrell door-knocking session](#), Meet outside the gate to the Football Club on Grimshill Road

**Tuesday 21st February**, 2.30pm, St Stephen's ward canvass. Meet at junction of Farliegh Road and Headcorn Drive.

**Wednesday 22nd February**, 3pm. Wincheap door-knocking. Come and join our candidates speaking to voters. Meet corner of Victoria Road and Wincheap.

**Thursday 23rd February**, 10am, [Gorrell door-knocking](#). Come and join our candidates speaking to voters. Meet by the gate to the Football Club on Grimshill Road.

**Saturday 25th February**, 10.30am, [Westgate ward door-knocking](#). Meet at the corner of Mill Lane / Prioress Road - just off London Road roundabout.

**Saturday 25th February**, 3pm, [Tankerton door-knocking](#). Come and join our candidate speaking to voters. Meet outside the Ice Cream shop on Tankerton Circus.

**Tuesday 28th February**, 2.30pm, St Stephen's ward canvass. Meet at junction of Tenterden Drive and Godden Road.



## Join the Canterbury '200' Club and/or Donate to North Thanet Labour Party

We are *still* looking for more members for Canterbury's '200' club'. This is a fun way to donate to the Labour Party with a chance of winning cash prizes every quarter. For £3 a month (or multiples of £3 if you want more than one of the 200 numbers available in the draw) you are entered into a quarterly draw for cash prizes. The only other people in the draw are all people supporting Labour's work in Canterbury, Whitstable, the villages...and of course, in Herne Bay when it comes to the district elections.

To join in (please do!) simply follow the donate button link below. Choose a £3, £6, or £9 etc donation recurring per month and complete the donation form. Once you've done that email the treasurer - [treasurer@canterburylabour.email](mailto:treasurer@canterburylabour.email) saying that you have completed the donation form for Canterbury CLP for a monthly amount of £X and would like to join the 200 club.

As this email is being sent out during our preparations for local elections, it goes to Herne Bay members too. If, you prefer to donate as a one-off to the North Thanet Labour Party then the second button takes you through to make a special one-off donation that can be used to fund campaigns in Herne Bay, Margate, Birchington and the villages.

[Join Canterbury's 200 Club by donating £3 per month](#)  
[Donate to North Thanet Labour Party.](#)



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