



# ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16

**FABIAN  
SOCIETY**

# Chair's report



*Seema Malhotra MP*  
*Chair, Fabian Society*

It's been another highly impressive year for the Fabian Society, and I want to thank all members of the executive for their support of the society. The Fabian Society has continued to lead the way on new thinking, and on extending across the country the evidence-led debate on the economy and social justice. I am proud of the contribution we continue to make.

This year the Fabian Society has achieved an incredible level of output for such a small team, and it is a tribute to the work of general secretary Andrew Harrop, Olivia Bailey and team. A huge thank you to Felicity Slater, head of partnerships and events, Ed Wallis, editorial director and senior research fellow, and Lucy Snow, editorial and communications manager, who have left this year, and a welcome to Alex Sanderson, Claire Sewell and Tobias Phibbs.

Our New Year conference as always set the agenda for the year, asking the big questions for Labour – winning the battles, the art of opposition, how does Labour win in the 2020s, rebalancing the economy and how we must tackle our housing crisis. The conference was addressed by the leader of the Labour party and attended by over 800 from across the UK and abroad. I am proud of our internationalism. After six years of Tory government, never has it been so important to make the case for Labour values. With a government turning a blind eye to growing inequality, eroding the quality of our public services and our public realm and failing to grow and share prosperity, the Fabians have been addressing the questions of where next for Britain and why we need a Labour government.

In May we saw former chair of the Fabian Society Sadiq Khan elected as the Mayor of London – a huge achievement in which many Fabians played a part campaigning in London. The Fabian summer conference a few weeks after saw former Prime Minister Gordon Brown speak alongside former Italian Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema and deliver a compelling social-democratic case for Britain's membership of the European Union. This was a hugely important conference at a key moment in Britain's history. The Fabian Society has played a big role in the debate about what Brexit means and where Britain goes next.

The publications from the Fabian Society continue to inspire new thinking and new responses to the challenges we face. The new series on the changing nature of work has examined how the world of work is being rapidly transformed by technological innovation, at a time when we see that the loss of stable employment is contributing to a growing sense of insecurity and anxiety for many families and across communities. How we think about skills, productivity and co-operation and inclusion will set the scene for the future we create. Andrew Harrop and Ed Wallis took on the big strategic question about how the left responds to a changing society – new currents on left and right of politics in *Future Left: Can the left respond to a changing society?* And Bryan Gould contributes to Labour thinking on how we tackle austerity and invest to achieve growth and stay internationally competitive in the important pamphlet *Productive Purpose: Investment, competitiveness and the new economics*.

Fabian Women have continued to grow their work and profile under the leadership of Ivana Bartoletti, who this year had a beautiful daughter Miranda. The mentoring scheme led by Christine Megson and Caroline Adams reaches new heights each year. This year I was proud to speak at the launch of *Footsteps in the Sand* by Rosie Campbell and Joni Lovenduski – a report on five years of the Fabian Women's Network Mentoring and Political Education Programme.

The Young Fabians have continued to drive debate with young Fabian members on a range of themes from foreign and defence policy, women in finance, tax reform and education. I want to thank the Young Fabians, the Fabian Women's Network, Deborah Stoate and all our local societies for helping the society reach out and enrich our debate. Particularly at a time when people feel distant and cynical about politics, the difference it makes is huge.

My thanks also to Phil Mutero and Giles Wright, to our vice-chairs Ivana Bartoletti and Sara Ibrahim, and to our treasurer David Chaplin for all their incredibly hard work and support this year. The society couldn't run without you.

# General secretary's report



*Andrew Harrop*  
General secretary, Fabian Society

The Fabian Society has always prided itself on the diversity of our members' views. We are a place for new thinking and comradely debate, not campaigning and faction-fighting. And that role came into its own this year, with the left divided on both the Labour leadership and the UK's membership of the EU.

At the start of 2015/16, the leadership contest was in full swing and we were delighted to publish essays from each of the four candidates. Then, during the rest of the year, the society provided platforms for senior figures on both sides of the divided party, with Jeremy Corbyn addressing a packed New Year conference.

Our writing and research on the future of the left featured a programme on improving diversity within the Labour party and a major book on how the left must prepare for the 2020s. We published on some of the most controversial issues splitting the party, including a pamphlet calling for more activist foreign policy. But we also worked on policy issues with the potential to bring people from across Labour together, on democratic reform and on access to justice, where we are providing the secretariat for an inquiry commissioned by the Labour frontbench.

The EU referendum formed the backdrop for the second half of our year. We held three regional EU conferences, then published public attitudes research which anticipated how 'leave' arguments would prevail, and finally welcomed Gordon Brown as our keynote speaker at a special Europe-themed summer conference in London.

In January we also launched the Changing Work Centre, a new joint research initiative with the trade union Community, which is chaired by Yvette Cooper and managed by Cameron Tait. The centre has already started to produce some fascinating reports on how the left must respond, as the world of work is transformed.

Alongside the new centre, there was a very full programme of policy-focused activity, with 17 reports and pamphlets in total covering subjects including: NHS devolution, school governance, public spending, tax reform, and rising income inequality. In the autumn we concluded a well-received policy commission on food and poverty, and in January we kicked-off a year-long taskforce

on low pay and productivity in the retail sector. I would like to thank the chairs of both inquiries – Geoff Tansey and Norman Pickavance - for their dedicated contributions.

The year ended with the society's membership at a record high, with over 7,200 members and subscribers, and a corresponding rise in member activity, particularly in the Young Fabians who ran an incredible programme of networks and events. Similarly there was a significant increase in our online engagement via the Fabian website and social media.

Having more members helped with our financial stability in uncertain political times, but the society was also successful in fundraising for projects, thanks in particular to the efforts of our new research director, Olivia Bailey. At the start of the year we had set a cautious budget, which we were able to exceed, and by June 2016 we had sufficient resources to return our staff complement to the level in place before the 2015 general election.

During the year we were joined by Caitlin Griffith Otway, Tobias Phibbs, Alex Sanderson, and Claire Sewell; and we said goodbye to Felicity Slater and Lucy Snow. As the year ended our editorial director Ed Wallis, who had been with the society for 8 years, also announced his departure and I would like to thank him for his huge contribution to our print and digital output especially the Fabian Review, which has gone from strength to strength.

The success of the Fabian Society is down to the staff team's incredible talent and devotion, as well as the enthusiasm and commitment of our fantastic volunteers, writers, committee members and members.

## MEMBERSHIP 2015-16 (as of 30 June 2016)

	2015	2016	Change
<b>Individuals</b>	6,783	7,040	257
<b>CLPs, co-ops &amp; trade unions</b>	64	52	-12
<b>Libraries</b>	116	106	-10
<b>Corporate</b>	19	17	-2
<b>TOTAL</b>	6,975	7,215	240

# Staff and executive

## FABIAN SOCIETY EXECUTIVE 2015-16

**Seema Malhotra MP** (chair)

**David Chaplin** (treasurer)

**Ade Adeyemi**, **Ivana Bartoletti** (vice-chair), **Ian Bounds** (Welsh Fabians), **Martin Edobor** (Young Fabians), **Kate Green MP**, **Sara Hyde** (Fabian Women's Network), **Sara Ibrahim** (vice-chair) **Sadiq Khan**, **Alison McGovern MP**, **Catriona Munro** (Scottish Fabians), **Reema Patel**, **Sally Prentice**, **James Roberts**, **Baroness Jan Royall**, **Sarah Sackman**, **Howard Stoaite**

## FABIAN SOCIETY STAFF 2015-16

**Andrew Harrop** (general secretary)

**Ed Wallis** (editorial director and research fellow)

**Claire Sewell** (media and communications manager)

**Lucy Snow** (former editorial and communications manager)

**Alexandra Sanderson** (head of events and partnerships)

**Felicity Slater** (former head of events and partnerships)

**Caitlin Griffith Otway** (events and office assistant)

**Olivia Bailey** (research director)

**Cameron Tait** (head of the Changing Work Centre and senior research fellow)

**Tobias Phibbs** (research and editorial assistant)

**Phil Mutero** (director of operations)

**Giles Wright** (membership officer)

**Deborah Stoaite** (local societies officer)

## YOUNG FABIAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2015-16

**Martin Edobor** (chair), **Ria Bernard** (vice-chair), **Ben West** (secretary), **Unda Chaudri** (treasurer), **Ellie Groves** (Antics editor), **Miriam Mirwitch** (partnerships officer), **Brad Marshall** (policy officer), **Andrea Campos-Vigouroux** (parliamentary officer), **Kyalo Burt-Fulcher** (regions officer), **Adebusuyi Adeyemi** (executive officer), **Babtunde Williams** (social officer), **Amrita Rose** (memberships officer), **Greg Dash** (deputy editor, Antics), **Joshua Price** (finance network chair), **Luke John Davies** (international network chair), **Joel Mullan** (education network chair), **Camilla Clarke** (communications network chair)

## FWN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2015-16

**Seema Malhotra MP** (president), **Ivana Bartoletti** (chair), **Sara Hyde** (vice-chair), **Paulina Jakubec** (secretary), **Reema Patel** (treasurer and Fabiana coordinator), **Jayne Almond** (events coordinator), **Jos Bell** (health and wellbeing lead), **Vicki Butler** (communications lead), **Ellie Cumbo** (Fabiana coordinator), **Jessie Jacobs** (northern coordinator and fundraising lead), **Beth Knowles** (Fabiana and northern coordinator), **Christine Megson** (mentoring programme coordinator), **Abena Oppong-Asare** (policy and research coordinator), **Charlotte Proudman** (public speaking and debates coordinator), **Sarah Sackman** (legal policy lead), **Felicity Slater** (communications and policy coordinator), **Kate Talbot** (assistant mentoring programme coordinator)

## Scottish Fabians



*Catriona Monro*  
*Chair, Scottish Fabians*

Scottish Fabians continue to provide a forum for policy discussion and debate. Shortly after the 2015 Westminster election, we ran a half-day conference reflecting upon the outcome of the election and the way ahead.

Subsequently, we ran a series of events focussing on education – from early years, through schools to higher and further education.

2016 has again been dominated by the Scottish elections and the EU referendum.

The outcome of these elections again stirs up a

passionate debate about Scotland's future. Our October conference will consider these issues.

Local societies in East Lothian and Glasgow continue to thrive. We hope to run a series of informal policy discussions across the country throughout the year.

We are delighted to report that the former Scottish Convenor Daniel Johnson was elected as MSP for Edinburgh Southern in the Scottish elections in May. Daniel was instrumental in the revival of the Scottish Fabians and his contribution is missed, but he will be an asset to the Scottish parliament.

# Young Fabians



*Martin Ebodor*  
*Chair, Young Fabians*

This year the Young Fabians have experienced a huge amount of growth and increase in all areas of activity. We have delivered on our promise to create an open, transparent and outward-looking organisation that delivers for members. This year we have experienced an unprecedented amount of activity in both London and the regions thanks to our members, networks, and the executive committee.

This year we have held around 95 Young Fabian events around the country, averaging two to three events a week. Events as diverse as discussing common values and British values with Jon Cruddas MP to exploring the future of automation in the workplace and Young Fabian book clubs.

The level of activity within the Young Fabians was developed and maintained due to our Executive and Networks actively facilitating an environment which encourages members to participate and lead. Funds were also put aside to provide members where possible with financial support to help implement events, in particular outside London.

The Young Fabians have also continued to make a mark globally and we have had three delegations this year: Two delegations to America to campaign for Hillary Clinton, led by Young Fabian member Victoria Desmond and a delegation to Israel and Palestine led by Nathanael Sansom and Amrita Rose.

To add to this the revamp of our website led by our secretary, Ben West, ensured we had an online platform where our events could be listed and shared.

The Young Fabians placed the issue of women in leadership at the front and centre of our work this year. Our vice-chair, Ria Bernard led our women in leadership project which aimed to highlight the important role women are playing in a variety of sectors. The project involved a mix of skills workshops and events open to all members.

The women in leadership project have had a profound effect on our organisation, creating an environment where members feel more open about discussing the issue of equality and gender. To add to this we have found an increase in the level of engagement from our members, and the project has had the effect providing members with

a better understanding of our organisation's aims and goals. I wish to thank Ria Bernard and all those who supported her in making this project a success.

This year the Young Fabians published two important publications, the first was our impactful BAME pamphlet, edited by Young Fabian executive member Ade Adeyemi and Young Fabian finance network chair, Vikram Grewal. The BAME pamphlet highlighted the key issue of the deficit in political representation that BAME communities experience in parliament., in addition to providing key solutions for the Labour party.

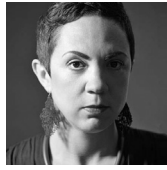
Our second publication was our much-anticipated Defence and Security review, launched at Labour party conference by then Labour shadow defence secretary Clive Lewis.

This year under the stewardship of our editor, Ellie Groves, our magazine Anticipations has led the way in producing thought-provoking and engaging articles and commentary on the Labour party and a wider political discourse. I wish to thank Ellie for providing a great platform for our members and here continued efforts in producing a great publication and encouraging members to contribute.

My year as chair of the Young Fabians has been an absolute pleasure, and I could not have wished for a better team of individuals to work with. I believe that the Young Fabians are now experiencing a resurgence at a crucial time for our political movement. Fabian ideas and thought are needed more than ever for the renewal of the Labour party and the left in Britain.

I wish everyone the best in the next few years and look forward to experiencing the continued growth of the Young Fabians. Every member has a role in moving the Young Fabians forward and I look forward to also playing my part in the future.

# Fabian Women's Network



*Ivana Bartoletti*  
Chair, FWN

We, at the Fabian Women's Network, are proud of the work we have done this year. We have led pivotal work on women and Europe – in the year that has seen Britain voting to leave the EU. We held an event at the Fabian New Year conference and, during the referendum campaign, FWN women were amongst the few women voices. Our fringe at Labour party conference – as well as the programme of work which will follow – is seeing the participation of many women leaders to discuss how we can protect women's rights in the Brexit negotiations.

Together with the Labour Women's Network, we have organised the women's leadership hustings with both Jeremy Corbyn and Owen Smith attending.

We've also led pivotal work on women and devolution. Once again, we have been amongst the few women voices in a very male-dominated debate.

We've continued our work on how women grow the economy, and grow in the economy with a particular focus on innovation, tech and medical science. We've focused on violence against women, cuts to public services and representation of company boards. Fabian women members have contributed to various high level publications on how feminism can contribute to mainstream politics, and online for the *New Statesman*, *Guardian* and *LabourList*. We have spoken at seminars and conferences and with the media both in the UK and internationally.

We have continued to produce our *Fabiana* magazine (edited by Ellie Cumbo with support from Reema Patel and Beth Knowles). The latest issue was entirely dedicated to the issues of Britain in the world and the future of foreign policy, whilst the previous one was focused on devolution.

President of FWN, Seema Malhotra MP was appointed shadow chief secretary to the Treasury and we've worked with her whilst she was in office, focusing on issues related to the economy.

Our annual fundraising dinner was one of the most successful events of the year. Held at a very difficult moment for the Labour movement in Britain, the dinner provided a fantastic opportunity for people to gather. Angela Eagle, Wes Streeting, Seema Malhotra, Jess Phillips, Alice Hood from the TUC and Johanna Baxter spoke.

We have continued to cooperate with Labour MPs

and MEPs as well as with many organisations in the wider Labour movement.

Thanks to all committee members for the hard work, and to Unison and all our sponsors for contributing to our work.

The public speaking and debating club continues to go from strength to strength, with more and more Fabian Women attending each event. This year, FWN held an event attended by 80 women on how to stand out as a charismatic speaker in a man's world by Deborah Frances-White, comedian. Cerys Bradley, a debating expert joined our club to deliver a session on the rules of British parliamentary debating. The club has also provided debating sessions where Fabian women have had the opportunity to improve their public speaking skills in a supportive, and encouraging environment.

With the launch of cohort six in September 2016, 150 women will have been on the FWN mentoring programme with annual applications exceeding 100. In January we launched the second evaluation report, *Footsteps in the Sand* produced by Birkbeck and published with support from Unison. This report reflects how the programme is achieving its aims of supporting women into politics and public life. Mentees have gone on to be elected to their local councils, have been selected to stand in forthcoming local elections and the majority of the mentees have gained promotion in their professional lives.

We held an event each month this year. The visit to Brussels where we were caught up in the terrorist attack symbolized the group's attitude as the following day they appeared in the media urging people not to vote Brexit as a reaction.

Across our 150 women, we have expertise in most sectors which we can draw on. Regional groups are beginning to emerge in Scotland, Wales, the NE and NW. This incredible network with the powerful peer to peer support as its strongest feature is leading to massive social and intellectual capital which we draw on regularly to support events, publications and policy development. It is not only the experience of going through the programme that binds these women, it's the shared Fabian values that connect them for life.

# Local Fabian societies



*Deborah Stoate*  
*Local Societies Officer*

Local Fabian societies were proposed to the Fabian Society executive committee by Annie Besant in 1887, three years after the formation of the Fabian Society itself. Their purpose, 129 years later, remains the same: to promote political education and discussion by providing a programme of meetings and debates where tolerant political education can take place within a socialist framework, providing a unique localised forum. The local societies are indeed unique. No other think-tank has a local membership which meets regularly from Birmingham to Bournemouth, Colchester to Cumbria to say nothing of the thriving organisation in Australia. In any given month, across Britain, hundreds of Fabians are meeting in their local societies to discuss political issues and ideas. This makes the Fabian society a vibrant and vital part of the labour movement, and contributes to the democratic life of the country. Local societies are not branches of the Fabian Society but self-governing bodies with their own officers and executives which, subject to the rules of the society, run their own affairs.

There are over 50 local societies throughout Britain. They are all affiliated to their regional Labour parties and many societies are affiliate to their local CLPs under the socialist societies section. This affiliation is ratified annually by the F and GP committee. Local Societies have an average membership of 40 and meet on average, six times a year. Each new member of the national society is put in touch with their nearest local society secretary. Many people have expressed an interest in starting new local Fabian societies and six are in the process of forming at the moment. Hopefully this time next year, they will all be up and running.

On 4 February we held a meeting for local society secretaries. 26 secretaries from as far afield as East Lothian attended a very interesting day of sharing ideas and good practice and clarifying rules. It was an extremely useful exercise and I hope that all those who attended found it helpful.

The annual south west regional conference took place at the Miramar Hotel in Bournemouth on 14 November and was entitled 'A new Beginning. Labour's Way Forward'. Speakers included Lord Roger Liddle, Reema Patel, Dr Howard Stoate, Mel Semple, Clare Moody MEP, Cllr Simon Letts, Cllr

Sally Prentice and John Mann MP. An audience of 60 Fabians from all over Britain attended and I should like to thank Ian Taylor, secretary of Bournemouth and District Fabian Society for his invaluable help in organising this conference.

The annual House of Commons meeting and House of Lords Tea took place on Tuesday 12 July with 120 Fabian members attending. The meeting, 'Where does Britain go next?' was chaired by Ivana Bartoletti and Keir Starmer MP, Alison McGovern MP, Seema Malhotra MP and Polly Toynbee spoke. The tea was held in the Cholmondeley Room in the House of Lords and members were welcomed by Baroness Dianne Hayter and Andrew Harrop and Baroness Jan Royall addressed members. My thanks to Baroness Hayter who sponsored the event and without her help and support, the event would not be possible.

I should also like to thank all the members of Local Society Executive committees who work so hard – and voluntarily – to keep the local societies running so efficiently. Particular thanks go to the secretaries who organise speakers and venues. Without them, the local societies would not function. I should also mention the sad death of Pat Haynes, Islington councillor, former Fabian executive member and secretary of Islington Fabian Society for many years.

As Sidney Webb said 'the work of the Fabian Society consists of the work of individual Fabians'. And how to define that work? Pamphlets in the 1980s carried this statement and it holds true today, particularly in the context of Local Societies. The Fabian Society exists to further socialist education and research. It is affiliated to the Labour party, and embraces all shades of opinion within its ranks. Since 1884 the Fabian Society has enrolled thoughtful socialists who are prepared to discuss the essential questions of democratic socialism and to relate them to practical plans for building socialism in a changing world. The society's members are active in their Labour parties, trade unions and co-operatives. They are representatives of the labour movement, practical people concerned to study and discuss problems that matter.

The local societies surely embody that principle.

# 2015 in review

## July

The society leads the debate on Labour's general election defeat, with the publication of *Never Again*, a report written by defeated candidates from marginal seats, on why the party failed to win in the communities they sought to represent. The society also publishes one of the first analyses of emerging plans for NHS devolution and a collection of proposals for major tax reform.

## August

With the leadership election in full swing, the Fabians publish *Leading Labour*, a pamphlet with an essay from each of the candidates: Andy Burnham, Yvette Cooper MP, Jeremy Corbyn MP and Liz Kendall MP. Members of the society are eligible to vote in the election, as 'affiliated supporters'.

## September

A full programme of fringe meetings and policy roundtables at the Labour conference in Brighton includes emotional discussions on the state of the Labour party and policy debates on the plans of the new Conservative government. A series of meetings on public spending in an ageing society accompany a new report, *The Generation Game*, which is published jointly by the Fabians, Centre Forum and Bright Blue. The society also publishes proposals for school governance and community accountability.

## October

*Hungry for Change* is published, as the final report of a year-long commission on food and poverty in the UK. The commission of non-political experts calls for action to improve the food ecosystem and improve living standards so that no one needs to use a foodbank.

## November

In advance of a spending review with a new round of public service cuts, the TUC and the Fabians publish a joint report *Making the case for public spending* setting out the social and economic benefits of government expenditure.

## December

Our new pamphlet *Outward to the world* is covered on the front page of the Guardian, with a passionate defence of international engagement from Hilary Benn MP. It also features a powerful essay on humanitarian intervention by Jo Cox MP who was senselessly murdered six months later. New reports on widening income inequality, attitudes to taxation and women's representation in the Labour party also receive considerable media attention.

**NEVER  
AGAIN**



**LEADING  
LABOUR**

The Fabian essays

**ME THE C  
THE GEN  
GENERAT  
GAME TH**



**OUTWARD TO  
THE WORLD**

HOW THE LEFT'S FOREIGN POLICY  
CAN FACE THE FUTURE



# 2016 in review

## January

The new leader of the Labour party, Jeremy Corbyn MP, is the keynote speaker at a packed Fabian New Year conference. 1,000 delegates debate how the Labour party can renew for the coming decades, with speakers from across the left. Later in the month, the Fabians launch the Changing Work Centre, a new joint research initiative with the trade union Community, chaired by Yvette Cooper MP.



## February

With the EU referendum approaching, the Fabians organise three conferences on the theme 'Europe for us all?' in Cardiff, Manchester and Brighton. The events are an early opportunity to hear the perspectives of 'leave' and 'remain' campaigners within the centre left. Throughout the referendum the society is neutral, reflecting its constitutional stipulations, but provides platforms for all sides.



## March

The society commissions an influential opinion poll which demonstrates that the arguments of the 'leave' campaign are more emotionally persuasive than those of 'remain'. The research is published in the report *Argument or Organisation?* which warns that a leave victory is likely without a strong campaign from the Labour party.



## April

A new book of essays, *Future Left*, examines the major social trends reshaping society and asks how the left should respond. Contributors include Lisa Nandy MP, Dan Jarvis MP and Keir Starmer MP. The society also publishes *Productive Purpose* by Bryan Gould, setting out an alternative economic strategy for investment and competitiveness.



## May

The Fabian summer conference comes a few weeks before the EU referendum vote and features a rousing keynote speech from former prime minister Gordon Brown and a well-received contribution from former Italian premier Massimo D'Alema. Earlier in the month, Sadiq Khan, a leading member of the Fabian executive, is elected Mayor of London.



## June

*A Unique Contribution* by Nick Donovan presents proposals for a one-off tax on the global wealth on the super-rich resident in the UK. Later in the month, the EU referendum leads to profound soul searching across the left, and the Fabians rapidly organise reaction articles and events.

# Local society listings

## **Birmingham**

Luke John Davies, bhamfabians@gmail.com  
259 Cartland Road, Stirchley, Birmingham, B30 2RD

## **Bournemouth**

Ian A. Taylor, taylorbournemouth@gmail.com  
71 Shaftesbury Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH8 8SU

## **Brighton & Hove**

Ralph Bayley, ralphbayley@gmail.com

## **Bristol**

Gerald Rosenberg, grosenberg@churchside.me.uk  
Churchside, Church Road, Bristol, BS16 1NB

## **Cardiff**

Jonathan Evans, wynneevans@phonecoop.coop  
52 Marguerites Way, St Fagans, Cardiff, CF5 4QW

## **Central London**

Martin Kennon, martinkk@aol.com  
61 Petty France, London, SW1H 9EU

## **Chiswick & West London**

Alison Baker, a.m.baker@blueyonder.co.uk  
32 Duke Road, Chiswick, London, W4 2DD

## **Colchester**

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## **County Durham**

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## **Croydon and Sutton**

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## **Cumbria and North Lancashire**

Robin Cope, robincope@waitrose.com  
317 Sand Aire House, Stramongate, Kendal, LA9 4UA

## **Dartford & Gravesend**

Deborah Stoate, debstoate@hotmail.com  
36 Heathclose Road, Dartford, DA1 2PU

## **Derby**

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## **East Lothian**

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5 Hope Park, Haddington, East Lothian, EH41 3AH

## **Finchley**

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35 Lyndhurst Gardens, Finchley, London, N3 1TA

## **Glasgow**

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48 Archers Avenue, Stirling, FK7 7RJ

## **Gloucester**

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## **Grimsby**

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## **Harrow**

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## **Hastings**

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## **Havering**

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## **Hertfordshire**

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24 Grace Way, Stevenage, Herts., SG1 5AA

## **Hull**

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27 Chesnut Avenue, Queens Road, Hull, HU5 2RH

## **Leeds**

John Bracken, leedsfabians@gmail.com  
10 Priesthorpe Road, Farsley, Pudsey, LS28 5JX

## **Manchester**

David Meller, david.meller@me.com

## **Merseyside**

James Roberts, jamesroberts1986@googlemail.com  
Apt 167, 6 Royal Quay, Liverpool, L3 4EX

## **Newham**

Unmesh Desai, unmeshdesai\_per@yahoo.com

## **Norfolk**

Stephen McNair, stephen.mcnair1@btinternet.com  
Swallow Cottage, 14 The Street, St James, Coltishall,  
Norwich, NR12 7AW

# Local society listings

## North East London

Ibrahim Dogus, Ibrahimdogus@gmail.com  
30 Berkeley Gardens, London, N21 2BA

## Northumbria Area

Pat Hobson, pat.hobson@hotmail.com  
The Holm, 14a Wallace Terrace, Ryton, NE40 3PL

## Nottinghamshire

Lee Garland, secretary@nottsfabians.org.uk  
8 Mayfield Avenue, Burton Joyce, Nottingham, NG14 5FH

## Oxford

Michael Weatherburn, OxfordFabians@gmail.com  
21 Portland Road, Oxford, OX2 7EZ

## Peterborough

Brian Keegan, brian@briankeegan.demon.co.uk  
8 Glamis Gardens, Peterborough, PE3 9PQ

## Portsmouth

Juanita Cary, dewicary@yahoo.co.uk

## Reading & District

Tony Skuse, tony@skuse.net  
Westcroft, 16 Croft Road, Wokingham, RG40 3HU

## Scottish

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## Sheffield

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# Fabians remembered



## *The Jenny Jeger Prize*

The Jenny Jeger Prize was organised to commemorate Jenny Jeger, life-long fabian and chair of the society in 1984.

The 2015 prize for the best Fabian publication of the year was awarded to Richard Brooks for his pamphlet *Out of Sight*.

## *In Memoriam*

David Baker  
Don Billcliff  
David Bosworth  
Rita Brent  
Walter Burley  
Alan Davies  
Susan de Mont  
Peter Draper  
John Evans  
Matthew Evans  
Dan Filson  
Sally Garrington  
J. Goldberg  
Pat Haynes  
Peter Hazelwood  
Denis Healey  
Maurice Allen Hewitt  
Geoff Hinchley  
Edward John Iggulden  
Leonard Jacobs  
Sham Singh Jassar  
Lavinia Jenkins  
Margaret John  
Norman T. Jones  
Margaret Joseph  
Lisl Klein  
Ian Leslie  
Isabel Maisey

Michael Meacher  
Gareth John Morgan  
Margaret Ogden  
Eddie O'Hara  
Maurice Peston  
Mark A. Preston  
Ken Purchase  
Margaret Raff  
Patricia B. Robinson  
John Roper  
David Russell  
Alan Scutt  
John Richard Stanford  
Michael Sterne  
Joyce Struthers  
Eirlys Thake  
Jonathan Thomas  
Ruth Thompson  
Leonard Tippen  
Anthony Upton  
Fred Varley  
Irene Wagner  
Ewan Wainwright  
David Wardle  
Darren Webber  
Margaret Whiteley  
Peter Williams

We also remember Jo Cox MP, who wrote one of the chapters in the Fabian pamphlet *Outward To The World*, which was published in December 2015.

# Treasurer's report



*David Chaplin*  
*Treasurer*

I am pleased to report that the Fabian Society ends its 2015/16 financial year with a well-balanced set of accounts and a strong track record of income generation over the past twelve months.

We have eliminated the need for long-term borrowing to contribute to our running costs. Furthermore, we have ended the year with a small but important net surplus, and a healthy and manageable cash-flow. As I reported last year, these three priorities remain the executive committee's stated financial objectives, and we will continue to focus on building a lasting financial reserve for the society in the future.

Over the past year our team of staff at Petty France have done an excellent job in pursuing new income streams in extremely challenging political circumstances, and their hard work is evident in the stability of our accounts. I'd like to thank Andrew Harrop our general secretary, Phil Mutero, our director of operations, Olivia Bailey, our research director, and the whole staff team on behalf of the members and the executive committee for their commitment and dedication to the society and its work.

The grassroots of our movement also remains healthy, and the Society's membership income increased by nearly 9 per cent compared to this point last year. This growth in membership numbers is a welcome reversal of the worrying reduction over recent years, particularly in the Young Fabian section where I am pleased to report a return to growth for the membership overall. I'd like to thank this year's Young Fabian executive chaired by Martin Edobor for all their hard work in turning this short-lived trend around.

Our ambition is to continue that growth in membership over the coming year, and to ensure that newly joining members remain with the society for longer periods of time. This will both financially support our work and ensure our local societies remain vibrant and politically diverse.

In the coming year we will once again face uncertainty at the top of the Labour party which will inevitably have implications for the society's financial and operational plans. We have prepared for a range of scenarios and continue to tread cautiously when preparing our budget for the forthcoming 2016/17

financial year.

Throughout this uncertain political period the executive committee is especially grateful to Fabian Society members for their continued generosity in terms of regular giving, legacies, and other donations to help fund our work.

I'd like to draw members particular attention to the importance of our headline conferences and events over the year to ensuring our financial growth and stability. Without strong attendance and ticket sales at our New Year conference and other events we risk losing income, so I'd encourage as many members as possible to buy tickets for our forthcoming events and help to ensure they are both a political and financial success.

Many thanks for your continued support, and please do get in touch if you have any questions or comments about the society's finance and operations.

# Income & expenditure

## For the year ended 30 June 2016

The Fabian Society's financial year runs from July 1st 2015 to June 30 2016 and the financial information in this report covers that period. This report is sent to all members in the September mailing and presented to the AGM which takes place on Saturday 19 November 2016.

### Financial Statements

The accounts presented in this report are an extract from the financial statements and may not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of the society. For further information the full financial statements and auditor's report should be consulted. Copies of these can be obtained from the Fabian Society, 61 Petty France, London SW1H 9EU.

### Auditors Statement

We have audited the financial statements of the Fabian Society for the year ended 30th June 2016 which consists of a balance sheet, income and expenditure account and notes to the accounts. These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of freehold property and on the basis of the accounting policies set out therein. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities effective January 2015 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice for Smaller Entities).

In our opinion the Financial Statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with The Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities effective January 2015 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice for Smaller Entities), of the state of the Fabian Society's affairs at 30 June 2016 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

Knox Cropper  
Chartered Accountants  
8/9 Well Court  
London  
EC4M 9DN

Registered Auditors

	2016	2015
	(£)	(£)
<b>INCOME</b>		
Individual members	225,097	205,604
Institutional affiliations and subscriptions	6,320	6,320
Donations and legacies	9,466	7,377
Publication sales	2,663	3,751
Conference and events	140,109	242,057
Publication sponsorship and advertisements	47,509	54,650
Research projects	243,910	176,500
Rents	16,873	15,593
Bank interest, royalties and miscellaneous	770	599
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>692,717</b>	<b>712,451</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Research projects	54,953	38,236
Staff costs	362,626	387,687
Printing and distribution	84,869	71,636
Conference and events	65,374	87,947
Promotion	5,842	6,628
Affiliation fees	5,421	5,244
Postage, phone and fax	10,623	12,082
Depreciation	16,898	17,873
Travel	533	2,121
Other	6,148	5,873
Stationary and copying	6,545	9,073
Legal and professional	5,194	5,680
Irrecoverable VAT	333	422
Premises costs	52,598	53,083
Information systems	7,952	8,080
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>685,909</b>	<b>711,629</b>
Surplus/(Deficit) before tax and returns	6,808	822
Transfers from reserves	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) before taxation	6,808	822
Corporation tax	-	-
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>6,808</b>	<b>822</b>

# Balance sheet

*As at 30 June 2016*

	2016 (£)	2015 (£)
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	<b>1,237,559</b>	<b>1,253,716</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Stock	4,515	2,120
Debtors and prepayments	133,503	98,077
Bank and cash	9,575	487
	<u>147,593</u>	<u>100,684</u>
<b>CREDITORS-AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>		
Creditors and accruals	(105,808)	(81,864)
Net current assets	<u>41,785</u>	<u>18,820</u>
	<u><b>1,279,344</b></u>	<u><b>1,272,536</b></u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
General fund	1,273,069	1,266,261
Restricted fund	6,275	6,275
	<u>1,279,344</u>	<u>1,272,536</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><b>1,279,344</b></u>	<u><b>1,272,536</b></u>

## Funders & partners

### **Research and Editorial**

DST, FES, Lord Falconer, Groundwork, Independent Age, JRF, JRRT, Landscape Institute, John Mills, RNIB, RSPB, Sanofi, Shelter, TUC, Trust for London, Woodlands Trust, Webb Memorial Trust

### **Conferences, Receptions, Lectures & Seminars**

Age UK, British Wind, Deloitte, EEF, European Commission, Electoral Reform Society, Heathrow, ICAEW, NSC Trust, Sanofi, Scope

### **Trade Unions**

Community, CWU, FBU, GMB, TSSA, TUC, UNISON, USDAW

### **Partner Organisations**

Bright Blue, Centre Forum, Compass, FEPS, Labour List, Progress, Reform

**FABIAN SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16**

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