

JOHN CLEGG

27th September 1950 - 7th November 2020



People not Profit

Thank you so much for all your emails, all the things Dad was involved with and all the people who he met throughout time is truly overwhelming and makes us all so proud of him.

Nicole and I had a very different childhood to most of our friends we were demonstrating as soon as we were old enough to walk alongside Dad carrying a flag or banner or be carried on his shoulders! , we have took uncountable steps doing leafleting, canvassing, stood outside polling stations collecting cards so they could predict the vote and knock on the doors of the people who hadn't voted yet.

So many memories as I am sure you and Norma have which in time we will all be able to share together in person when life gets a little less co vid crazy. I know he spoke to Norma on Friday about something at the Mechanics and also donations to the Immigration Aid Unit I think but Norma will know for sure? In the meantime if you can keep hold of any messages you get and we will think of a way of collecting everything together to mark his life.

He was so modest and I don't think anyone in our family had quite realised all the things he was involved with and how many people he had worked with over the years. He often said to me we only have one life Mel so make the most of it and do what you can to make the world a better place, and he sure did didn't he!

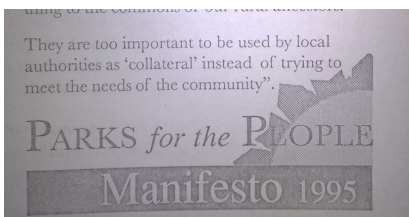
MEL CLEGG



John was a comrade and friend to many people; within his community, within his workplace, within political organisations, he campaigned side by side with people wanting a better, fairer world. He was a socialist fighting for his class.

My lasting feelings about John are that he was such a good man and always looked for ways to bring people together. He had a self-effacing manner which was deceptive because he managed to get people to do what he wanted without pressure. He was astute, saw the needs and pitfalls in any situation and took people with him through the fog to the other side.

When fighting against local authority cuts, he started Parks for People not Profits and managed to get me to protest to save pets corner in Fog Lane Park. I mention this because I have no interest in pets and hate pet corners. But it was the right thing to do.



He poured oil over troubled water in everything he was involved in.

He was full of theories and able to pick up a tit bit of news and be able to predict the next attack planned by the ruling class. He was fascinating to talk to and debate with.

John appreciated and loved his family, especially his wife Mary who he had shared his whole life with.

Having John as a friend and comrade has been a real pleasure and I will miss him.

Norma

ANNETTE

I first met John Clegg when I got involved in Manchester Trades Union Council in 2012, although I realise now that I may have voted for him in the general election in Manchester Withington in 2001. I was between addresses in that year and can't be certain. I hope I did. In 2013 I became the president of MTUC and John was vice president. We formed a really close working relationship in which he supported me and pushed me forward, but stepped in firmly behind the scenes if the secretary and I appeared to be going off in the wrong direction. His contribution to the trades council was extensive and wide ranging. He set up the Unemployed Workers Centre and he was instrumental in re-establishing the Manchester May Day Festival and the still ongoing project to return the whole of 103 Princess St to the trade union movement and open it up as a "People's Centre". He did detailed political work on the MTUC Manchester Manifesto, he organised housing conferences and meetings about local government. He worked to raise the profile of the organisation and on one occasion he took me round the Wigan Diggers Festival insisting that I have my photograph taken with various important people on the left. He didn't want to be in any of them. He did lots of very boring and mundane tasks too, without any complaint or suggestion that he had more important contributions to make. He once decided to research the cheapest way we could get furniture for the May Day Festival and found out that the best bargains could be found just around the corner from him, but not in sufficient numbers. I went round every Aldi in Manchester till he told me it was ok to stop.



John was a good friend. I am crying writing this and I have spoken to several people in the last few days, who like me, don't get upset like this very often. Well, we are now. John touched many people on a personal level through all the stages of his life and it seems not to matter much whether that was last week, or many years ago, we all still remember. He was just a lovely person, kind, generous not just with material things but with his time, his intelligence and his experience. He was also a really good laugh, and it was always enjoyable to be in his company. I will miss him very much.



When I heard that John had died, my first thought was that he deserved the epitaph that Tony Benn wanted for himself. "He encouraged us". John encouraged me. I looked up to him. He was older than me and we were both working class trade unionists and socialists. Whatever issue I was considering at the time, the chances were that he had been there, and thought about that already.

He was my leader in many ways though I never really told him so. If I had done, he would have probably advised me to discuss more important matters than that, like increasing attendance at a particularly important meeting, considering how best to achieve socialism for working class people around the world, and/or getting my round in. I put a post on Facebook after John died and the replies to it demonstrate his influence wonderfully. Among other things, he was inclusive and an ally before those words even had their present common meaning, he was incisive, supportive, introduced ground breaking policies at the council, was an incredibly hard working activist, gave a friend a microwave when she was hard up and in the last few months of his life, helped a gardening group with their admin. There are other people on the Manchester left, whose histories may be as long, but I can think of few with an influence as wide ranging. John took many steps, though parties, organisations, campaigns and roles, always guided by working class socialist politics and just a general sense of what is right. One comrade summed it up beautifully when she said. "I always knew I was in the right place when John was there." He won't be there now, but considering whether he might have been, seems like a sound rule for life to me.



JOHN N

John Clegg was a lifelong working class socialist, trade unionist, tenant organiser, anti-racist and internationalist – and probably my longest labour movement comrade – and friend.

To list his involvements and achievements would only tell the half of it – he would have denied his own crucial role within campaigns and certainly never have wanted any “blue plaque” to his own memory. His anti-sectarianism and willingness to work across boundaries (geographical and political) was accompanied by sheer persistence, always trying to get a positive result by whatever means possible. And he was always happy thinking up new ideas – causing mischief on the way – while prepared to accept graciously if others thought they really were (this time) too far off the wall.

And the list is lengthy. Here are just a few:-

Anti-cuts Labour councillor (elected for Burnage in 1984) – including responsibilities for combating low pay, the **AIDS** working party, the **Anti Deportations** working party – and ensuring support for the **Viraj Mendis Defence Campaign**. Arising from this, initiation/delivery of **Manchester Gay Centre** and **Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit** (1986-89).

Anti-poll tax campaigner (1988-91).

Organiser of **South Manchester Against Cuts** (1992-95), following on from the support group for the National Union of Mineworkers.

Founder member **Greater Manchester Socialist Alliance** (1996), supporting the **Liverpool dockers**, defending the **Tameside Care Workers**, organising the “**Campaigns 1999**” Conference, supporting anti-airport expansion protests, and opposing the (New Labour) wars.

Parliamentary candidate in Withington for the Socialist Alliance (2001).

Tenants organiser in Burnage and South Manchester, including **Tenants Against Stock Transfer** (2005-7) - the campaign against the sell-off (or sell-out) of all South Manchester council housing.

Co-Organiser of the **Convention of the Left** (2008-10).

Trade unionist – active member through his working life, continuing into retirement, as Secretary of **Greater Manchester Unite Community** Branch and Vice Chair **Manchester Trades Council**.

Member of several political parties (**Labour, Socialist Alliance, Green**) sometimes more than one at the same time.....

Community campaigner – defending **Surestart children’s centres**; “**Stop G4S**”; fighting for **Access to Advice**; setting up and helping to manage **Greater Manchester Law Centre** and the accompanying **Unemployed Workers Centre**.

And seeking to bring all the initiatives together – in a “**Peoples Centre**”.

John was elected as an anti-cuts Labour councillor to Manchester City Council in 1984. He became involved in the new Equal Opportunities Committee and especially the Anti-Deportations Working Party (which sought to support all anti-deportation campaigns in the city) and as a result in the tremendous activity of the Viraj Mendis Defence Campaign (1985-1989). [He also for good measure was key to the implementation of the Manchester Gay Centre – see “Prejudice and Pride” for reference to how he saw through the bureaucracy’s attempts to prevent this – and he led the AIDS Working Party – which had to fight off the Council’s own shameless use of the law to confine an early HIV patient against their wishes in Monsall Hospital in 1985.]

Following Labour Manifesto commitments in the mid-1980s, another Council working party was devoted to establishing an Immigration Welfare Centre (later to be called by the name that has stuck ever since – Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit). John was closely involved in this – working with community campaigners, anti-deportation activists and trade unionists – and he was particularly responsible for charting its development through political and administrative channels. This was not easy. The

Labour Party in Manchester repeatedly, month after month, voted (all-but) unanimously for the proposal. The Labour Council Leadership repeatedly, month after month, took the proposal out of the budget the next day. The Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) meanwhile held a budget for voluntary groups - if two thirds (7 out of the 10 councils) voted for a proposal, then it would receive full funding from the whole AGMA organisation. The Immigration Aid Unit was supported, variously, by representatives at the AGMA meetings, of 8 of the 10 councils. But not at the same time....

John, never deterred by small setbacks, continued to struggle on behind the scenes with politicians and senior administrators. He would never have wanted to say that the Unit would not have been there without him - it was the campaigns outside and on the ground which made the difference - but the truth is that it wouldn't have.

[<https://gmiau.org/in-honour-of-john-clegg-1950-2020/>]



In fact, John has been involved in an immense range of labour movement and community organisation activity from the 1980s. As well as the establishment of Manchester Gay Centre and Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit, he fought against the give-away of South Manchester's council housing, held officer roles in Greater Manchester Unite Community Branch and Manchester Trades Union Council and started the Unemployment Workers Centre. This, together with his involvement in Access to Advice (campaign against the closure of Manchester Advice by the local Council), his defence of homeless people against Council street clearances (above) and the parallel campaign to save South Manchester Law Centre (all 2010-2014), led

directly to his joining the initial discussions to form a new law centre. John saw the law centre as both a campaign against legal aid cuts and as a way of enabling essential advice for unemployed workers and tenants.

John continued to develop campaigning and liaison with tenants and trade unions throughout his time as a Trustee of Greater Manchester Law Centre (2015-19) – especially emphasising opposition to the benefit sanctions and inhumane Universal Credit which affected so many people in need. This contrasted with the growth of foodbanks and similar “charity” approaches, which he felt were no challenge to the government’s policies of poverty, racism and homelessness – yet he was always willing to seek links with local people and organisations who were doing something on the ground. Ideally John would have liked to see the “Peoples Centre” for Manchester arise out of all this.

John’s willingness to work to bring a wide range of people together was evident in everything he did. His practical contribution to committee discussions, his promotion of the law centre to other groups, the breadth and depth of his campaigning history and experience, and most of all his personal friendship will be sadly missed, by the law centre and all the community organisations to which he gave so much.

[<https://www.gmlaw.org.uk/2020/11/09/tribute-to-john-clegg/>]

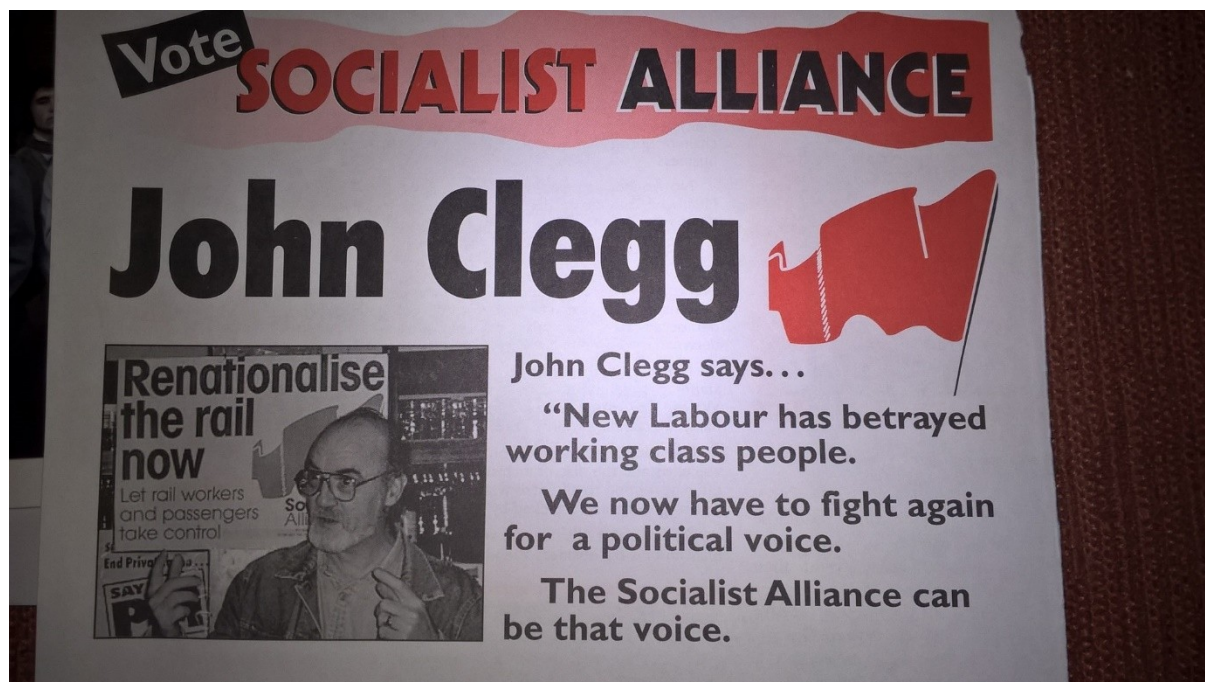
Yet, once again, the successful outcomes of his community campaigning only tell one side of a much larger story. Interwoven with these were his labour movement and trade union political activities – inside the Labour Party and Council, and then fighting against the Council and (from in and out) the Labour Party as well. Always based on the experience of his local community and the council house tenants who he was first elected to represent, John argued for public not private, for homes fit for people to live in not property geared solely for profit, for “people not profit”. Faced with this consistent principled approach, the powers-that-be were often non-plussed, or underestimated the tactical and technical detail that John brought to bear in support of his arguments. And although his background might have seemed to be that of a traditional working class Mancunian, his willingness to take up anti-discrimination struggles and make the connections with his own class politics was unlimited.

This meant that once the Labour Party in Manchester had deserted both its anti-cuts position and its professed support for liberation campaigns, their leadership was going to seek to jettison those such as John. The Labour Party saw it as “offences”, when he visited anti-poll tax prisoners in Liverpool (was the problem that they were in *Liverpool..?*) and when he debated *against* the SWP position at Chorlton Library – John was arguing that people should *stay* in the Labour Party (he was generally felt to have “won” the meeting at the time) – it meant he was accused by Labour of “supporting candidates for other parties” and “sharing a platform” with them, and disciplined accordingly.

By this time (early 1990s) John was moving politically towards thinking of a different political formation. He assisted an independent candidate in a by-election in Burnage, he organised anti-cuts campaigning (arising out of miners support work) and he enthusiastically reported developments in Scotland (where the anti-poll tax movement had led to the Scottish Socialist Alliance). Mirrored on this, John entered enthusiastically into the foundation of the Greater Manchester Socialist Alliance – developing activities of campaigns locally and also linking up with similar alliances elsewhere, and organising the Campaigns 99 conference which sought to cross-

fertilise environmental and socialist, peace and public service issues in unity. He also campaigned against the (New Labour) introduction of even more draconian anti-terrorism legislation and was on the other end of the GMSA banner when the police attacked (and broke) it in Cross St in 2000.

It was totally appropriate that John would then help identify Withington as the target for the first electoral challenge by the GMSA, and would naturally become the candidate for the 2001 election. This was against former councillor Keith Bradley, who had famously stood (and won) in 1987, on the commitment to “save Withington hospital”, and had immediately abandoned this pledge once elected. Disappointingly, especially given John’s own environmental support and the long-running local tactical discussions with the Manchester Green Party, the latter put up a paper candidate from somewhere down south who only appeared at weekends in the constituency – but undoubtedly took away much of the possible protest vote. Notwithstanding John’s own disinterest in the numerical election result, we still got one of the best Socialist Alliance results that day and undoubtedly made all the running on the streets. (John was also on the “substitutes bench” for Ken Loach’s parliamentary tv broadcast.)



New Labour hadn’t finished however. PFI and selling off council house estates (or just plain bribing housing associations to take them) presented John with essential political analysis – of housing, homelessness, debt – and practical work to do to defend local tenants. The local Labour council exceeded even the national in its desire to offload – there used to be 30,000 people working for the Town Hall in the 1980s, now there are fewer than 5000. And everyone was pretty much in a union – now probably only half are. So John also joined in the campaigns against privatisation generally – notably Stop G4S (which we *did* stop, in Israel, and in the Labour Party; the Party were forced to stop using G4S for their own ridiculous unnecessary security at conferences, which were unfortunately held over and over again in Manchester, requiring us all to leaflet these suited-and-tied “new” delegates, in the rain.....). No-one who was there will forget the way he and Norma held up the Council’s own Scrutiny Committee, when they sought to get the Council to adopt an “ethical procurement” policy (ie, to exclude G4S from Council contracts). Indeed, the Council even bizarrely decided to take that particular committee on that particular day as its first in-house internet-based tv programme!

During these years John was not untypical in seeking a vehicle in alternative parties – following the gathering together of the Convention of the Left, and subsequent attempts at eco-socialist projects, the “green left” incorporated many who had left Labour but wanted the Greens to be better – and many went back into Labour when Corbyn was unexpectedly elected to their leadership in 2015.

On the ground however there was still a need for continuing pressure – outside more than was possible inside the party. John’s activities during 2010-20 included defending children’s centres (Surestart was only a pilot project introduced by New Labour but was so needed that it became widespread – an early target for reverse by the Tories, with next to no fight by Manchester’s Labour Council – who tried to instruct staff to block parents protesting) and campaigning against the “devo Manc” deal between the retiring Chancellor Osborne and the ten scabby leaders of the councils in Greater Manchester (a deal rightly described by one Andy Burnham in Parliament as simply devolving the NHS cuts to hard pressed local authorities; that is, before he stood to become the Mayor that people in Manchester had voted not to have).

But, just like the 1980s, John wasn’t just campaigning against cuts. He was also always seeking new initiatives. And having worked with those trying to stop the Council closing “Manchester Advice”, and defending South Manchester Law Centre against what now looks to have been an inevitable closure (hard fought for over 4 years including two successful judicial reviews of the state, nationally and locally), John went on to form both the Unemployed Workers Centre and the Greater Manchester Law Centre. “Fighting Together for Free Access to Justice” was a motto which he might have thought up himself (if someone else close to him hadn’t narrowly done it first). Gaining support for these was also one strand of his work in the Greater Manchester Unite the Union Community Branch, and his more detailed work as Vice Chair of the Manchester Trades Union Council. For the latter, John and Chris Jones provided huge support to Annette as President, in continuing an outward-looking, campaigning orientation, which sought to put the trades council more firmly on the wider political stage, at the same time as building it more firmly throughout the union branches in the city. The May Day events were particular successes – though really it shouldn’t have been John humping tents and chairs around all day. Just like the week-long Convention of the Left in Friends Meeting House in 2008, John helped us all to establish a way of working together, which was practical and political – making the tea and moving the chairs as well as making the political points, no more “top-down” platforms but rather enabling wider participation of all.

Finding records, let alone photos, of John during any or all of this has proved hard. It is a mark of how he never promoted himself. Maybe that is the real tribute to him. He was there – and we were all privileged if we were there with him.



MARGARET MANNING



John Clegg - my memories

John was a good shop steward, socialist, community activist, friend and comrade.

I remember him as a shop steward at Bentwood's textile company on Moss Lane East, from where he organised support for Nurses at the MRI who were in dispute. He was also very active in supporting the Miners' Strike.

In later years he became a shop steward at the Childrens' Centre where he worked and fought for decent conditions for staff and top class childcare.

I got to know him much better when I was elected to Manchester City Council in May 1991 and joined the group of rebel Labour Councillors, of which John was a leading member. A few months later he and I were both suspended from the Labour Party together for appearing on a Poll Tax protest outside a police cells in Liverpool where Poll Tax non payers were being held. He was always heavily involved in anti-cuts campaigns.

I know he was involved in many more campaigns but those I particularly remember are Parks for People Not Profit, anti deportations, the Poll Tax, for tenants rights, decent council housing for all who need or want it and against G4S.

I worked alongside him in the Socialist Alliance where he stood for parliament and the Council in exciting and innovative campaigns. He used his artistic talents to create some memorable props.

I will miss him as will so many, his family, friends and comrades.

SAM DARBY

I didn't realize but I have a two inch stack of documents about our campaign Tenants Against Stock Transfer which lasted for about eighteen months from late in 2005 to early in 2007.

John was the secretary and I was the convenor. We got together on this as soon as the Burnage South Tenants Association was told about the proposal to transfer 6,200 council homes stretching from Burnage to Chorlton, to a housing association being set up by Manchester Council.

The Council had already undermined the Federation of Associations on Manchester Estates (FAME) and created a compliant Manchester Residents Association run by an owner occupier, which paid lip service to informing and consulting with tenants. Then the Council set up a steering group for the transfer of the Council stock in South Manchester where tenant representatives were outnumbered by housing officers, New Labour councillors and owner occupier representatives. It was argued that the stock needed modernising and that the borrowing needed to do this could only be obtained by the half private housing associations, as the Council would breach public spending rules, which the Blair government refused to allow.

The Council set up three show homes, Chorlton, Nell Lane and Burnage at a cost of £30,000 each, a mobile kitchen showroom and sent glossy brochures to every tenant each month. While we had only enough funds at first to hire community centers and church halls in Burnage, Withington, Nell lane and Chorlton for public meetings. Until Unison gave us £2,500 we did not have money for leaflets.

The tenants association was given no choice in the proposal to hold a referendum of the tenants. The circumstances of the result of the ballot were changed because while originally abstentions were to be counted as voting no to the transfer, as had been the case in previous ballots, the Chair of the Housing Committee, Eddy Newman, decided two months before the vote that abstentions would not count as no votes. This no longer met the Governments criteria that a majority of tenants had to be in favour of a transfer. If abstentions had counted as no votes they would have been 3,812 and the yes votes 2,904. It's possible that many tenants decided in ignorance that they didn't need to vote, since abstentions would do it for them. 1,785 tenants abstained.

John spoke at many of our public meetings and had letters calling for a no vote in the South Manchester Reporter and delivered many leaflets. He was a prominent in the forefront of the campaign.

Going through the papers brought back a lot of memories.

Pressure group to fight council house transfer

A PRESSURE group has been formed by south Manchester tenants to oppose Manchester City Council's plans to transfer council housing to not-for-profit social landlords.

Tenants Against Stock Transfer was created by Burnage residents as a forum for those who oppose the council's proposals to transfer the housing stock to the newly-formed Southway Housing Trust.

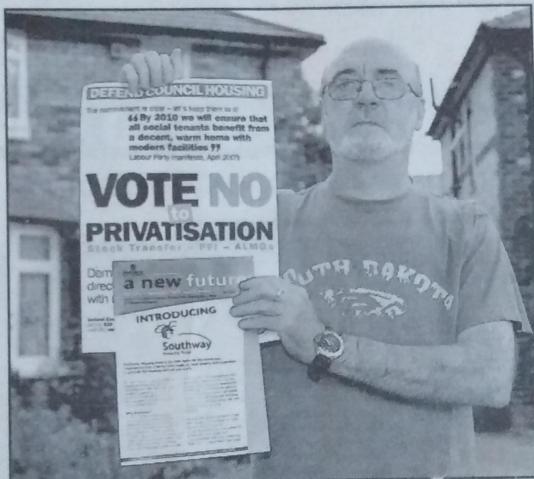
The council says it does not have enough money to bring all 6,000 local authority flats and houses in Burnage, Didsbury, Chorlton Park and Withington, up to minimum Government standards.

It estimates that each house could benefit from between £12,000 and £15,000 worth of improvements, including new kitchens, bathrooms and double glazing, under the new proposals.

But John Clegg, secretary of Tenants Against Stock Transfer, is concerned that tenants are being railroaded into approving the proposals, without knowing all the facts, during a vote planned for February next year, with transfer as soon as next autumn.

There are also plans for 4,600 tenants in Fallowfield, Whalley Range, Moss Side and Hulme to vote on the transfer issue next July.

He also fears eventually the transfer could mean rent increases for tenants by more than inflation, a less secure tenancy agreement, bureaucrats making housing policy instead of



John Clegg: Fears transfer will lead to rent increases

elected councillors, who will also have less power to sort out people's housing issues, and that it will be the first step to privatisation of housing stock.

John, of Kingsway, said: "The council say it's up to the tenants no one's had a vote yet, but Southways has already been set-up."

"The leaflets are implying it's a foregone conclusion but that's not a democratic process as far as we're concerned."

More than 100 local authorities across the country have rejected the idea of housing transfers to social landlords.

However, 16 areas around Manchester have already voted overwhelmingly in favour of the proposals.

Labour Party delegates are due to vote on the future of housing stock transfer at its conference later this month.

It is thought they may reject the policy and Mr

Clegg is concerned that the council is continuing its plans, despite a possible change in Government policy, where more money may be made available for local authorities to improve their own housing.

Councillor Eddy Newman, executive member for housing, refuted the claims and said: "What this process does is allow the council to offer the tenants of south Manchester the opportunity of having major improvements to their home and local environment on the estates but at the same time keep their basic rights of affordable rents and security of tenure."

"The council doesn't have the resources available to do the major renovation work."

For more information of Tenants Against Stock Transfer contact John Clegg on: 0161 2867679, or Sam Derby on: 4324496.

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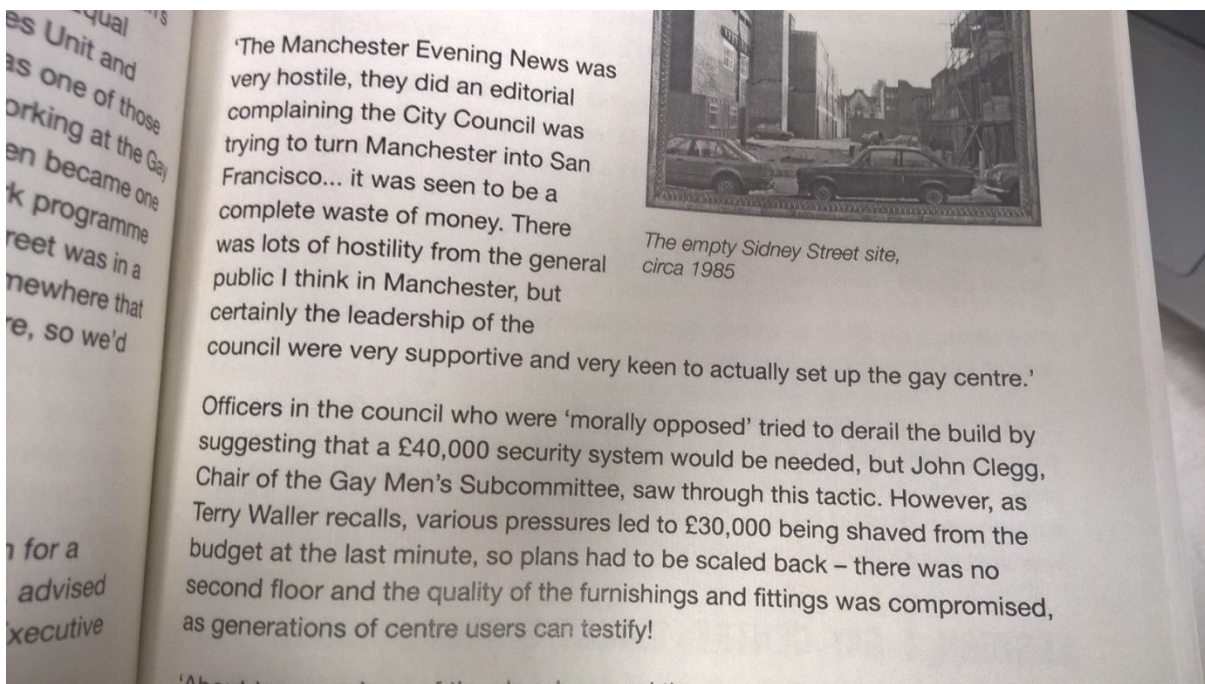
DAVID MOTTRAM

We had a conversation recently remembering the Gay Centre. John talked about how Manchester Labour politics was changed after 1979 by the influx of young people as activists who were new to the party, and how important that had been. This was typical. One of the things about John - such a stalwart, Manchester working class socialist - was his generosity in acknowledging the contribution of other people of quite different backgrounds, when he gave so much himself.

When John had his spell as a member of the Green Party and I was the secretary, and at the point he was dying, John S told me that I could always place absolute trust in John.

I surprise myself at how upset I am to hear about his death. But it's right that we should be, isn't it?

[from "Prejudice and Pride"]



KEV ALLSOP

Bolton Trades Council

We spoke briefly on Thursday.....

He was in light spirits and we shared a laugh and laid plans for future mischief!



I got to know John during my time working at the Greater Manchester Law Centre where he was a trustee. John was incredibly generous with his support for other struggles and he would always take time to listen but one would also have much to learn from him too.

While this is a great loss to the communities and the socialist left in Greater Manchester, the best tribute we can pay to John is to continue to amplify the struggle that he had so courageously waged for many years.

Tanzil Chowdhury, former Development worker at the Greater Manchester Law Centre





Really sad to learn of the death of John Clegg, someone for whom the phrase "stalwart of the labour movement" could have been invented. I mainly knew him through the Manchester trades council, of which he was Vice President for a time, but he was involved in (and often a major motive force in) innumerable campaigns, organisations and political initiatives. As well as being hard working he was friendly and easy to work with - undervalued qualities which lubricate the movement. Gone, missed, but not forgotten.

IAN ALLINSON



(Unusually?) in a suit and tie - the unveiling of art commissioned by the NW TUC for the TUC 150th anniversary. The unveiling was at Manchester Art Gallery. The prints are now at the Mechanics. It's the ones by Hazel Roberts here <https://www.tuc.org.uk/blogs/celebrating-150-years-tuc>.

STOP - G4S - PETITION

G4S provides security systems to Israeli prisons and detention centres where Palestinians including children are detained and tortured after being illegally transferred from the occupied territories . Jimmy Mubenga, an Angolan man, was “unlawfully killed” while being “restrained” by G4S guards during deportation. G4S runs Manchester Council services, including security for parks, libraries, Town Hall, art galleries, and cash collection. Sign our petition asking Manchester Council to stop all future G4S contracts:

"G4S is a security company alleged to be involved in human rights abuses.

We call upon the Council to introduce an ethical commissioning and procurement policy which provides guidance on the exercise of discretion to exclude tenderers on the grounds of grave misconduct including human rights abuses, anti trade union practices, tax avoidance and fraud. Any supplier which has committed a breach of the ethical policy should be considered to have committed an act of grave misconduct in the course of its business and should be excluded from tendering unless and until it can demonstrate that it has taken appropriate remedial steps. Any exclusion must be appropriate to the scale and nature of the offence or misconduct."

> To: jc8020210@gmail.com

> CC: noturn3@hotmail.com; k.hines@manchester.gov.uk

> Subject: Invite to Finance Scrutiny Committee - Thursday 3 September 2015 (Petition: Stop G4S)

> Date: Wed, 5 Aug 2015 11:00:43 +0100

> From: petitions@manchester.gov.uk

>

> **Dear Mr Clegg**

>

> Thank you for sending your petition. You are invited to attend the meeting
> of the Finance Scrutiny Committee at 10am on Thursday 3 September 2015
> where your petition is due to be discussed.....

>MORNING STAR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2015 - 19:11

RELENTLESS ACTIVISTS....

**Relentless
activists
welcome
council's
ethical pledge
Relentless
activists
welcome
council's
ethical pledge**

Campaigners hailed a small victory yesterday following Manchester council's decision to draw up a "robust" ethical procurement policy which could spell the end of its contracts with disgraced security firm G4S. Ms Turner said the nationwide campaign against G4S would continue.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014 - 18:41

Campaign pleads for Labour to shun G4S

Campaigners in Manchester are calling on Labour not to use disgraced firm G4S to provide security at its annual conference in the city. Manchester Stop G4S campaigners will stage a demonstration outside the conference venue from noon to 2pm on Sunday and are also running a petition demanding Greater Manchester Council stop employing the firm.

John Nicholson said: "Our personal security and the security of public spaces cannot and should not be protected by a company that fails to uphold standards of ethical provision in this country and across the world." **In 1980 the city employed 30,000 people to run its services. Now the figure is 5,000 as services have been handed to private firms like G4S."**

Was this what led to the Windrush Scandal...?



From: Sukhdeep Singh <sukhdeep@gmiau.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 7:22:55 PM

Subject: RE: Was this what led to windrush scandal....

Very good - I was in coventry at that time and this was actually the first campaign issue I ran as the immigration worker the Coventry law centre - memories eh!

From: George Brown [mailto:G.Brown@kenworthys.co.uk]
Sent: 12 November 2020 17:43

Subject: Re: Was this what led to windrush scandal....

Good spot.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)



George Brown
Barrister At La
w
Kenworthy's Chambers
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e: G.Brown@kenworthys.co.uk
secure email: george.brown@kenworthys.cjsm.net
w: www.kenworthysbarristers.co.uk



.....
.....
and WATCH HERE -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mxTPnEdEsg

Viraj Mendis Defence Campaign video (John is at around 9 minutes in)

PAUL KELLY

A fine honest man of great integrity and principle and honesty i am glad to have known and worked with john clegg a life well lived farewell.



ED GARNER

The world and our working class and people's movement is the poorer for John's passing. John was always there to help everyone. He was kind and gentle and his tenacity with keeping the dreams of Unemployed Workers Centre, People's Centre and other Projects alive will be remembered. I found John to be supportive when I was MTUC Vice-President and Acting President for a while. He helped so many people. Sorely missed.

JOHN CATTERALL

We were friends for a number of years and worked on a number of Trade Union and Community projects and campaigns.

During that time I always knew I could go to John for non sectarian advice , help , and ideas . He was always an active member of our Unite Community Branch when we set it up a few years ago and when he was elected the Branch Secretary always went that extra mile to help the membership and his fellow officers

Condolances to Johns family , all who knew him , worked with him , were friends with him , Farewell John you will be sadly missed . Your name will go onto the working class scroll of fighters for your class. in the spirit of Joe Hill

<https://manchestertuc.org.uk/johnclegg/>

Jimmy Thornton

A sad and big loss,, I first met John shortly before he joined the then TGWU branch in Manchester, now unite, we were involved in many a campaign and I and branch colleagues will miss him dearly. A honest, reliable dedicated and passionate man also funny, I would love to share our conversation we once had on a train to Liverpool discussing my cat and one John and the family once had,, I am laughing with tears now.

John was also previously the chair of our branch and the movement will be a lesser place without John and his like, I am sure we will all meet again one day somewhere

Geoff Brown

John's strength, comradeship and determination has helped so many of us over the years. He would want us all to keep organising. As it says on the banner he and Jimmy are carrying, May Day 2013,

'Our fight continues'



Sarah Kavanagh

As a child in the 80s I would often find John sat in our kitchen plotting away with my parents. The prominent campaigns for the left in Manchester at that time were the **miners strike**, the **poll tax**, the boycott of goods from **South Africa**, the big rally to defend

Viraj Mendis and the **Stop Clause 28** demonstration.

On all of these campaigns and more, I imagine that John was at the heart of the battle. Now time has lapsed, history has vindicated him.

John was one of Burnage's finest - an admirable man who will be missed.



ANDY WALSH

In every walk of life there are people who talk a good fight and there are people like John who put up a good fight.

John was a stalwart of the Socialist and Trade Union movement who fought against the injustices we see around us every day. He believed that a better world was possible and refused to accept that individual suffering was inevitable or acceptable. His political and practical focus was on improving the lives of his fellow citizens and changing society.

John made a difference; he didn't just hope that things could be better he dedicated his life to fighting to make things better.

SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

Newspaper of the Greater Manchester Socialist Alliance

Issue One, Spring 2001

WHO RUNS OUR CITIES?

- Sero
- Amec
- Tarmac
- Sodhezo
- McDonalds
- Manchester Airport

In Greater Manchester these companies are already running everything from leisure facilities and education to health services, building contracts and prisons.

These companies and others are looking forward to massive profits from the 2002 Commonwealth Games. Amazingly they are guaranteed not to make a loss. Any losses will be covered by increased council taxes or cuts in services. Already swimming services are under threat. Where will the axe fall next?



GMSA launch our election campaign.

Who runs the country?

The New Labour government is stuffed with the representatives of big business. Many are unelected Lords, like Lord Sainsbury, former chairman of the supermarket chain or Lord Simon, former chairman of BP. New Labour is proud to be the 'party of business'.

No wonder companies in Britain enjoy the lowest taxes in the developed world. Meanwhile the tax burden has continued to move from rich to poor. In Blair's first three years personal taxes rose by 8p in the pound to fund tax cuts for business.

Build a socialist alternative

In the Socialist Alliance, we believe that local and national government should be run to benefit ordinary people, not big business. That sets us apart from all the major parties. Our candidates are ordinary workers: train drivers, nurses, and community workers.

Professional politicians have let us down too many times before.

We will bring services back under public control. They will stay public, but under the democratic control of those who work in and use them and they will get the funding they need. Instead of being

"business friendly" we will tax the rich to fund the NHS, education and give pensioners a decent earnings linked pension.

We will nationalise corporations which try to sack their workers, renationalise the railways, and reverse all privatisations

including Air Traffic Control.

We will wage war on poverty. We will combat racism, sexism and homophobia.

Join us in building a socialist alternative.

Vote Socialist Alliance - a Real Choice

Blackley



Karen Reissmann

Karen Reissmann has worked for 20 years as a community nurse in north Manchester. She is active in her trades union, UNISON, and has actively supported NHS and other workers who have fought back against the Tories and New Labour.

Withington



John Clegg

John Clegg is a well known local campaigner, who fought to stop the closure of Withington Hospital and against the Poll Tax. John is currently involved in the campaign against closure of the local housing offices.

Salford



Peter Grant

Peter Grant is a train driver, working from central Manchester. He is a leading campaigner for the renationalisation of the railways and longstanding trades union activist. Peter is chair of his ASLEF union branch.

