

CHAIR

HOLLIE WRIGHT

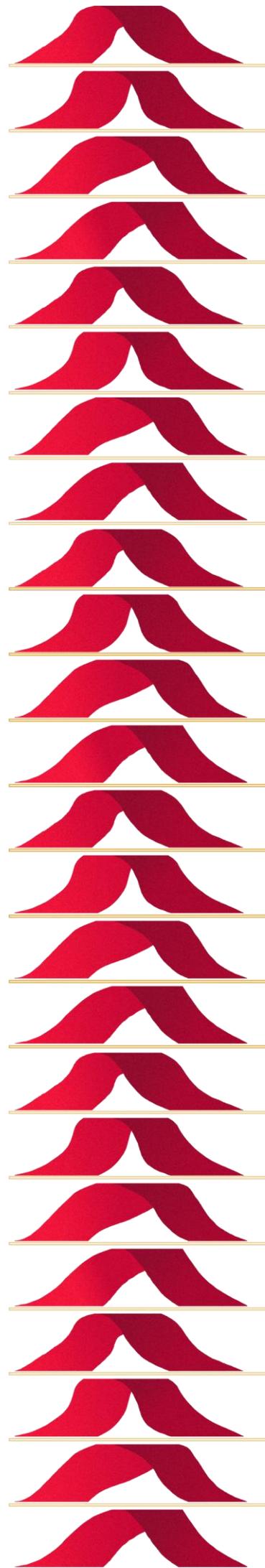
Hi, I'm Hollie, a first-year at Christ's, and I'm running to be your new co-chair. I have been a Labour member since I was 15, being significantly involved with my CLP (Swansea East) and my ward's Youth Rep. Since then, I have served two terms on the CULC exec as Class Officer, a very brief stint as LGBT Officer (lol), and then Secretary-Treasurer, organising a Liberation Social in first term to widen participation and spending the previous term managing finances – and taking on responsibilities such as chairing our Labour and Imperialism panel in exam season.

Having had an interesting and difficult couple of months here at CULC, I want to lay out a few ideas for next term:

- Return to tighter ties with the CLP, making sure at least one delegate (whether it be a rotary or sedentary position) is present at CLP meetings.
- Open executive meetings to engage freshers in the organisation of CULC and make sure we engage non-Exec members with the CLP and canvassing.
- Introduction of The CULC Policy Report, which already I have contacted and secured contributors within the Trade Union and Labour movement, including a surprise MEP candidate (I won't spill), and contributions from ACORN Tenants' Union.
- Ensuring an equal gender balance on the exec committee, as well as pledging to work closely with the Liberation Officers to have equal representation on any panel events or speakers throughout the term.
- Return of CULC stash in time for Freshers' Week to increase next year's engagement and image.
- Much closer co-operation with the Living Wage Campaign and other campaigns which reflect the interests of the Labour Party.
- Cross-Uni socials, representatives at UCL LC have expressed interest in more inter-university co-operation, especially leading up to what could be a general election.
- CULC Christmas Party to compensate for lack of Garden Party ☹️

ARRAN PARRY-DAVIES

Hi, I'm Arran, a first year student at Christ's. I've spent the last three terms as BAME Officer of CULC. Tackling the underrepresentation of students of colour in politics is one of our greatest challenges and I've done my best to make CULC as accessible as possible for students from ethnic minority backgrounds, whether that's organising our first Liberation Social for those students from our various liberation groups or drafting our statement condemning anti-Semitism in our movement. I proposed and was successful in ensuring our priority campaign would be on challenging the Government's 'hostile environment' policies and I have spent the



Easter term preparing for this campaign to take place in Michaelmas 2019, including contacting various speakers and activist groups such as the Stansted 15.

I've also been active in taking on responsibilities outside of my role within CULC such as liaising with the Cambridge CLP on our future canvassing arrangements. Beyond CULC, I have a broad range of experience with Cambridge campaigns and in the Labour Party as a whole. I helped found the Christ's College Living Wage Campaign and as Access Officer on the CUSU BME Campaign, I have set up a mentoring programme for BME freshers. Within the party, I have served as Youth Officer for my branch Labour Party. I also have substantial experience working with the Fabian Society, co-authoring a report with various Labour MPs and civil society groups on integration and immigration policy in the UK and spent a year as a contributing writer, discussing topics such as expanding trade unionism for migrant workers.

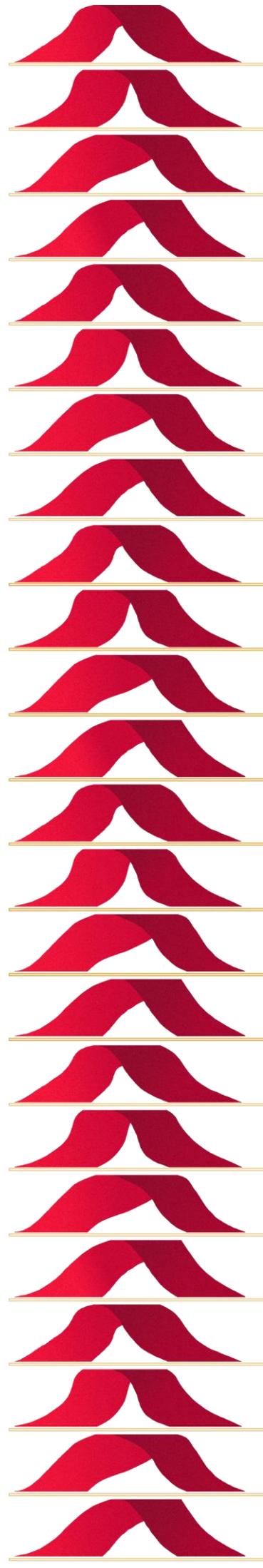
My main priority if I'm elected chair is to take the lead on the organisation of our hostile environment campaign. This will be done through the following:

1. Organising a panel event to discuss the impact of the hostile environment
2. A petition similar to the Justice Campaign to lobby Cambridge Labour MP Daniel Zeichner to actively raise the issue of the hostile environment in Parliament and lobby the other six Cambridge MPs to do the same
3. Liaise and work with CUSU BME Campaign to tackle the impact of the hostile environment at a university level and host an event specifically focused on its impact on students

Liberation at the heart of CULC!

1. More support for Liberation Officer - Having spent three terms as a liberation officer, I know it can be a challenging role with less formalised responsibilities and guidance. As co-chair, I would work personally with our various liberation officers to make sure they have the support to make the best use of their roles, particularly with help planning liberation specific events
2. Diversity of Membership - Work personally and with our various liberation officers to increase the participation and presence of particularly female / nb, and BAME members on our executive and membership
3. Engaging more closely with Cambridge Liberation Groups - CULC has made strong steps forward in this area but we must continue to engage more broadly such as through hosting collaborative events with existing Cambridge Liberation groups such as Class Act, CUSU BME Campaign and Womcam. It also means increasing our presence within the Living Wage Campaign with a representative of CULC in attendance at each meeting

My other main priority over the Summer and Michaelmas term is to organise a CULC policy report on the topic of 'Unionisation for the Many'. This will involve a number of short essays by different CULC members on how to expand, diversify and facilitate trade unionism in the UK and will culminate in a launch event in Michaelmas with a panel event on the topic. I've been in touch with the Shadow Labour Minister Laura Pidcock's office to provisionally speak at this event and hopefully to provide a foreword for it. The report can also be submitted to Labour's National Policy Forum and therefore will be a great way of demonstrating that CULC is actively participating in the increasing member-led policy debates in the Party.



EXECUTIVE X6

OWEN DOWLING

Hi comrades, I'm Owen Dowling, a first year historian at Robinson. I'm applying for a position on the CULC Exec next Michaelmas term.

I've been involved with CULC for a long time, including serving as Class Officer during Easter Term. I've also been involved in organising some of the Club's political education events, such as our 'Labour Against Empire?' Anti-Imperialism panel, and have also made arrangements with Aaron Bastani and Grace Blakely for possible future CULC events with their respective booklaunches. I've been canvassing in both the local and European elections, as well as in the Peterborough by-election. I've also attended events across the country with other CULC comrades, such as the protest against Donald Trump in London and the RMT Cuba Solidarity Gathering last week. As well as this I've represented the Labour Club in a Fitzwilliam College debate about anti-fascism, and on CamFM. I've really enjoyed my involvement with CULC this term and would really like to continue with it.

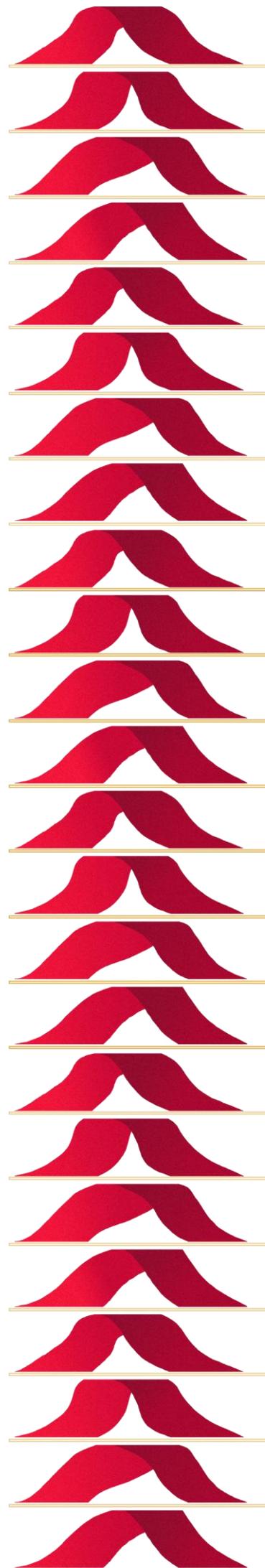
My recent attendance of Bristol Transformed and London Young Labour Political Education Day has really inspired me that building a class-conscious, politically informed and experienced youth wing in our Party is really important - and is something that CULC is starting to and must continue to do. For this reason, I'd love to apply for the Exec so that we can continue to build a radical socialist Labour voice in this University.

On the exec I'd aim to continue what I'd consider to be the great work this outgoing CULC exec has committed to this term - pursuing an explicitly socialist, anti-imperialist and internationalist agenda, and emphasising that the name of our party, if it is to mean anything at all, must represent our unwavering solidarity with the cause of labour and the working class. In this vein I'd love to invite more trade union organisers and leaders to come and speak, as well as visibly incorporating local workers struggles within and without the university into our public profile. Especially as next term will begin with Freshers Week, its crucial that we're visible to working class students, coming into this elitist space, as a social home and political representative - standing in solidarity with Cut the Rent, Living Wage and Defend Education campaigns, as well as presenting CULC as a fun and accessible place. Freshers Fair, our beginning-of-term social and our first few weeks of events will be vital to this end.

I reckon I'd enjoy serving as speakers officer on the exec, but I'd be happy to fulfil whichever role comrades think would be most useful. So yeah, basically, I'm really proud of this past term in CULC and I'd really love the opportunity to continue building upon it.

FIONA MITCHELL

I'm Fiona Mitchell, a first-year historian at Christ's. I am applying for a position on CULC's executive committee because I believe that my range of socialist experience both in and out of the Labour party and both in and out of Cambridge gives me the skills needed to fulfil this role.



As the Living Wage representative on CUSU's Ethical Affairs Committee, I have taken concrete steps towards ensuring that all university staff receive fair wages for their work. I have organised and promoted meetings between both workers and students. Moreover, I have worked to create a survey of working conditions to help determine the future direction of the campaign. Alongside working as the Living Wage rep, I have volunteered with homelessness charities such as Streetbite that aim to alleviate the effects of economic inequality across Cambridge. I am keen to join the CULC exec because I believe that my involvement in left-wing university-wide campaigns, as well as my understanding of the economic issues affecting the populations of Cambridge gives me a useful perspective that I could bring to CULC's work.

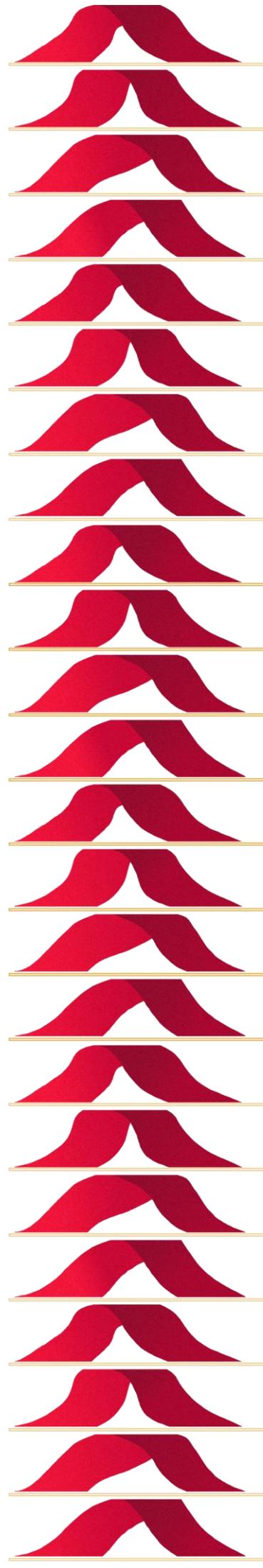
I am proud of my work at CUSU, Streetbite and at other university societies such as Oxfam Cambridge University. Yet I have always believed that the Labour Party is vital in helping to tackle the social and economic issues which the country, and an unequal city like Cambridge in particular, suffer from. Back home in London I joined the Labour Party at 14 years old and got involved in canvassing and organising for London Young Labour. I'd love to combine my experience of activism within Cambridge with my long-standing involvement with the Labour Party by taking up a role on the CULC exec.

JACOB SCHAFHEUTLE-EVANS

Dear friends, peers and fellow CULC members, my name is Jacob Schafheutle-Evans, and I am standing for a position on the CULC Exec, as well as for the role of Grad Officer. I am half-German, half Welsh (perhaps easily guessed from my surname), have lived in Greater Manchester for most of my life (less easily guessed from my surname), and have just graduated from an English degree at Queens'. I will be returning to Cambridge in Michaelmas as an MPhil student.

At Queens', I served as the JCR's Accommodation and Environment Officer – a turbulent and eventful year, in which my campaign to reform the undergraduate accommodation system drove an embattled committee to frequently clash with the College on issues of rent, and the infamous Queens' room ballot. During a period of heightened tension, I was labelled a "self-righteous prick" by our Senior Bursar (though sadly not to my face) – a badge of honour so great, so hard-earned, that I only worry about matching this past achievement during my time in CULC. But I can't wait to start.

More seriously, I first joined Labour at 17 – inspired to sign up, to vote and be heard, by Jeremy Corbyn's initial campaign for the leadership – and stayed to vote for him once more in 2016. During my second year in Cambridge, however, I allowed my party membership to lapse. The only candidate to vote against the Tories' punitive Welfare Bill in 2015, the candidate for whom I first joined the Labour party, had, it seemed to me, made an awful error. At a time when the U.K. needs a Labour government more desperately than it has for several decades, and with a slate of domestic policies that are so easy to rally behind (see, only this weekend, John McDonnell's proposal to relocate large sections of the Treasury in a devolved unit up North), the leadership's equivocating stance on Brexit has challenged both my views on Labour and my idea of what it means to be a member of a political party.



Tom Watson recently remarked that he would never leave the Labour party, but that “sometimes I wonder whether the Labour party is leaving me.” I believe the leadership’s stance on Brexit has left many Labour supporters, members and voters feeling the same. If elected to the CULC Exec, participation will be my primary focus: encouraging those who should be involved, but haven’t yet taken the leap, either through their own personal reticence or a feeling that the Labour party has started to leave them behind. I will also encourage a participation based around passionate campaigning: standing up for social and political causes within the University, canvassing for local Labour candidates in the city and, more generally, acting as an unambiguous advocate of the U.K.’s place within the European Union.

When I return in Michaelmas, it will be as a member of Trinity College. My application was made several months prior to their decision to exit the USS, and I have been grappling with this new reality over the past few weeks. This seems as good a place as any to begin campaigning next year – and, with any luck, I can endear myself to another Senior Bursar.

BLANE JONES

I’m Blane, a first year studying English at Robinson College. Despite the little bumps here and there, my experience on this term’s executive committee has made me confident that CULC is taking positive steps forward to being a more vibrant and successful society, something which I want to help maintain if elected for next term. One of the ways in which I hope to do this is through leading the campaign to raise awareness of the miners’ pension scandal. This is a campaign which we unanimously agreed to hold at the last TGM but have yet to follow through on due to the restrictions of exam term. In being the person who forwarded the motion to hold the campaign, I feel it is very much unfinished business of mine to not only ensure the campaign goes ahead, but also, if elected, implement all of the recommendations which were outlined in my motion.

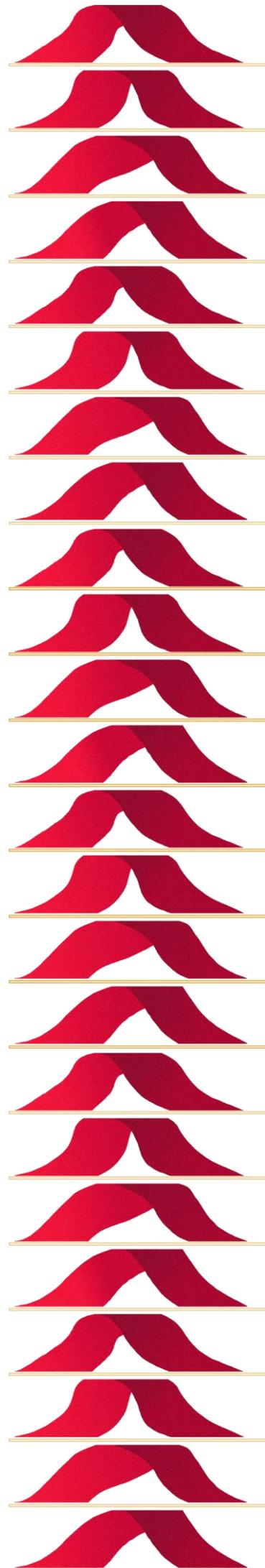
In addition to this, if elected I will also push for greater working-class representation at CULC, both in terms of the society and the speakers we invite. Though we’ve undoubtedly progressed as a society on this front, my aim is to push for at least one trade unionist speaker to attend CULC next term as well as greater collaboration with other societies who offer working class spaces such as Class Act. This will hopefully make CULC an even better place for working class students to feel welcomed and have their voices heard.

A link to the petition calling for the UK Government to review the Mineworkers’ Pension Scheme is below. Please sign!

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/mineworker-pension-fight?fbclid=IwAR2SivnpblR9GID7ySry5Schf2Ayy1A8sn5dH0QTie9Uy5vYeHkMU88CoA>

TOM MAYER

Friends, brothers, sisters – comrades, if you’ll allow – my name is Tom Mayer, I’ve just graduated from Queens’ and I’m looking forward to grad study at Downing next year. I’m a proud member of the Welsh diaspora in England, I’ve lived in Cambridge (and the



surrounding area) since birth and I am standing for a position on the CULC Exec.

Me, Myself and Labour

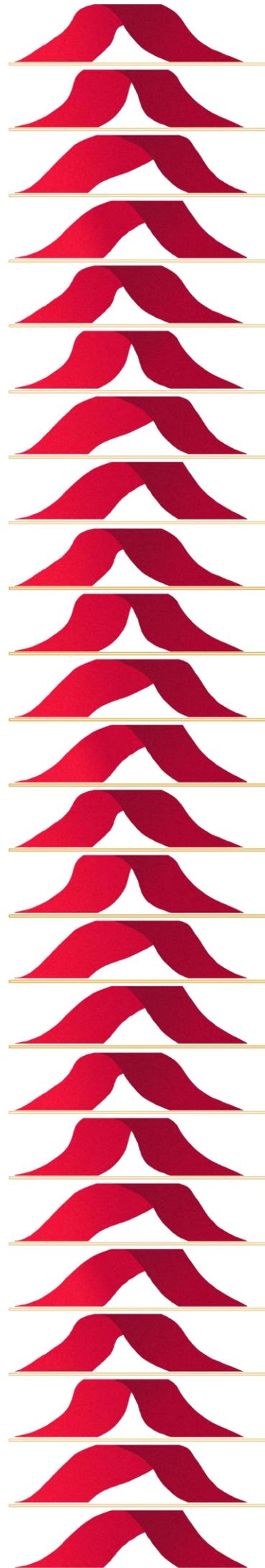
- I was on Queens' JCR for two years, first as Disabilities Officer, then as Vice-President and, briefly, acting President. For two years, I have also been Labour Rep at Queens'.
- In 2018, I was the local Labour candidate in my home village of Swavesey. This campaign drew me to a passion for strong, localist political organisation.
- I joined Labour at a CULC event in second year, having been inspired by the energy of the 2017 general election campaign. I'm now proud to be a member of our party in this city where our message resonates with citizens of all backgrounds.

Me, CULC and Labour in Cambridge

- I've been on the periphery of CULC since freshers and have particularly enjoyed gaining confidence to canvass which is an intimidating thing to set out to do. Finals and the pace of undergraduate term time meant that I was an absent figure during the last year – something I'd like to reverse as a grad.
- For me, Labour is the Party of the People. This necessarily means that we cannot see politics as a spectator sport. Politics can still be fun – it should be! – but the fun should come from engaging with the substance of social life rather than observing MPs. I've sat out for too long and I can't wait to get more involved through CULC next year.
- I hold a civil but clear dislike of the Cambridge Liberal Democrats. The leaflets distributed telling students that Cambridge politics are "a different colour" show how this party aims to appeal to Tory voters. To say that "Cambridge is a Liberal city" is an exceptionalist reflection of the 'Cambridge bubble' rather than the reality of the lives lived by many people here. We need a strong, appropriate Cambridge Labour voice that seeks to oppose the obscuration of what the Lib Dems stand and work for.

My Plans for CULC Exec

- CULC are doing fantastic things, especially in the fields of political education and campaigning for social justice in and beyond Cambridge. I'd like to follow the example set by the Club and help make discussions at the society thrive as we students come to terms with our own politics and thinking. I'm particularly excited by growing attention on the libertarian socialist thought of Murray Bookchin and what such thought may have to offer Labour discussions in the post-2008 world.
- In the likely event of a general election and/or a referendum on EU membership, I want to be a part of a Labour Club that articulates a distinct, resonant message in favour of EU membership on our own terms, as a counter to the Europhilia/Euronationalism dragged out by the Lib Dems. Winning the argument on the EU would be nice, but it's as, if not more, important that we make the argument properly and with principle to be able to see where we go from here.



WORKING-CLASS OFFICER

SEAN GORAL

I am running for the position of Class Officer on the Cambridge University Labour Club committee for the Michaelmas term. I am proudly working-class, and the new Campaign's Officer on the Class Act CUSU Liberation Campaign, and would seek to improve the position of working-class people both in the university and in the wider city. I'm also an EU immigrant (from Ireland and Germany), and so am distinctly aware of the concerns both internationals and working-class people have at this difficult time in our country's path. As Class Officer I would therefore aim to increase CULC's role within the wider community of the city, as well as engaging with the student population in a more effective way to end an image of a small radical bubble out of touch with the material needs of students and locals alike. That would mean more actively engaging with the Cambridge CLP, including through more practical means such as canvassing, as well as reaching out to those who have become disenfranchised with the Labour Party as they feel a lack of control over the direction it is taking. Whether on the left, centre or right of the party, I firmly believe the working-class and our interests must be at the very forefront of what CULC is aiming to achieve.

Full list of candidates (excl. Re-Open Nominations) :

Chair:

- Hollie Wright
- Arran Parry-Davie

Committee:

- Owen Dowling
- Fiona Mitchell
- Jacob Schafheutle-Evans
- Blane Jones
- Sam O'Bree
- Poppy Coburn
- Tom Mayer

Graduate Officer:

- Ed McNally
- Jacob Schafheutle-Evans

Working-class Officer

- Sean Goral

Women's Officer

- Lucy Nolan

BME Officer

- Yusuf Uddin

