

Labour's NEC

Andrew Fisher and Pete Firmin, Joint Secretaries of the LRC, and John McDonnell MP, Chair of the LRC call for a vote for Susan Press and Christine Shawcroft.

Party members will shortly receive ballot papers not only for the Labour leadership election, but also for the election to the Party's National Executive Committee (NEC). The LRC is urging party members to vote for Susan Press and Christine Shawcroft. Both were chosen at a hustings held at LRC conference last year. Christine has been on the NEC for ten years and is such a thorn in the side of the Party machine that she has never been allowed to chair a session of party conference – something usually rotated on “buggin’s turn”. Susan is a town councillor and Vice Chair of the LRC, playing a leading role in building the organisation outside London.

Both are experienced labour movement activists, and both have sought parliamentary selection, despite being clearly not on the list of those favoured with the patronage of the string-pullers – and this is why we need them on the NEC: to be the voice of the grassroots at the heart of the Party.

Susan and Christine are committed to restoring democracy to the Party, making its leading bodies transparent and accountable, and to insisting that the Party campaigns and organises against the programme of the Con-Dem Coalition – not only its massive cuts in public spending and privatisation of services, but also the plans to curtail further the right to strike and to block the right of trade unions to fund political parties.

Statements from Christine and Susan can be downloaded from the LRC website at: <http://l-r-c.org.uk/news/story/back-susan-press-and-christine-shawcroft-for-the-nec1/>

Activists are encouraged to circulate them around as many party members as possible and to print them off and hand them out at meetings. We need the largest possible vote for these two sisters to show the strength of the left in the Party.