

# LETTERS

## Honor Balfour I

Helen Langley's excellent article on Honor Balfour (*Journal of Liberal History* 78, spring 2013) mentions that at the 1943 by-election in Darwen which she fought – and lost by only 70 votes – the local newspaper refused to publicise her campaign because she had dared to break the wartime electoral truce agreed between the major parties.

Even though her Conservative opponent, Stanley Prescott, was the same age, Honor thought that he was a callow youth and she complained that she 'was not only fighting the press boycott but was also fighting the boy Prescott'!

Prescott remained as MP for Darwen until retiring at the 1951 election. He later committed suicide in June 1962 at the age of 50.

*Michael Meadowcroft*

## Honor Balfour II

In her article 'Honor Balfour and the Liberal Party', Helen Langley notes in footnote 44, in relation to Aubrey Herbert, that 'it has proved difficult to establish more about Herbert other than he was a journalist'. I do not blame her for this, but surely her editor should have put her right about Aubrey Herbert OBE (1905–81), Chief Agent of the Liberal Party for a time after 1945, a Liberal parliamentary candidate in seven elections between 1929 and 1966 – nearly winning Chester in 1929, and contesting Westmorland (now Tim Farron's seat) in 1964 and Berwick-upon-Tweed (now Alan Beith's seat) in 1966 – and a real, dedicated Liberal at a time when there were far too few such people around.

*Hugh Pagan*

## Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman

### A Scottish Life and UK Politics 1836–1908

by Dr Alexander (Sandy) S. Waugh, BSc(Econ), BD, PhD, ASSC, FSA Scot

It is expected that this new biography of The Rt Hon. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, GCB (Liberal Prime Minister in 1905–08) will be published in 2014, the year of the 115th anniversary of his election to the Liberal Leadership in the House of Commons.

Early Notes of Interest will be appreciated to give the author an optimum contact list for circulating publication details when available.

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# LIBERAL HISTORY QUIZ 2012

In the last issue, *Journal of Liberal History* 78, we published the questions in our annual history quiz at the Liberal Democrat conference in Brighton in September last year. The winner was David Maddox, with an impressive 19½ marks out of 20. Below we reprint the answers.

1. Lady Megan Lloyd George
2. Shirley Williams
3. Jo Swinson
4. The Campaign for Gender Balance
5. 1921
6. Birmingham Hodge Hill
7. 1886
8. Argyll and Bute
9. Mary
10. *Winston Churchill as I Knew Him*
11. Enid Lakeman
12. Lynne Featherstone
13. Rabbit
14. Trinidad
15. Southport
16. First four women to be Liberal parliamentary candidates, at the 1918 general election
17. Nancy Seear
18. Darwen, Lancashire
19. Sutton Courtenay churchyard, Oxfordshire
20. First two women Lib Dems to be elected to the Scottish Parliament