

LIBERAL/LIBERAL DEMOCRAT CANDIDATES in the WEST MIDLAND REGION 1945-2019

CONSTITUENCIES within the COUNTIES of HEREFORDSHIRE, SHROPSHIRE,
STAFFORDSHIRE, WARWICKSHIRE and WORCESTERSHIRE

INCLUDING SDP CANDIDATES in the GENERAL ELECTIONS of 1983 and 1987

PREFACE

As a party member since 1959, based in the West Midlands and a parliamentary candidate and member of the WMLF/WMRP Executive for much of that time, I have been in the privileged position of having met on many occasions, known well and/or worked closely with a significant number of the individuals whose names appear in the Index which follows. Whenever my memory has failed me, I have drawn on the recollections of others or sought information from extant records. Seven decades have passed since the General Election of 1945 and there are few people now living with personal recollections of candidates who fought so long ago. I have drawn heavily upon recollections of conversations with older Liberal personalities in the West Midland Region who I knew in my early days with the party. I was conscious when I began work, twenty years ago, that much of this information would be lost forever were it not committed promptly to print.

The Liberal challenge was weak in the West Midland Region over the period 1945 to 1959 in common with most regions of Britain. The number of constituencies fought fluctuated wildly; 1945, 21; 1950, 31; 1951, 3; 1955, 4. The number of parliamentary constituencies in the region averaged just short of 60, a large proportion urban in character. Over 1951-55 only one Birmingham constituency was fought, virtually none in the adjoining Black Country conurbation. There was an encouraging increase in the number fought in 1959, 1964 and 1966. There were few by-elections locally over the immediate post-war decade, the Liberals always standing aside until Frank Owen fought Hereford in 1956. The record at by-elections improved dramatically from 1960 but occasional by-elections in the region went unfought until the 1970s. The front narrowed again in the General Election of 1970.

After a record showing in February 1974, the party fought every constituency in the region for the first time at the General Election in the following October. The front narrowed in 1979 when an electoral set back was anticipated after the Thorpe affair and the controversial Lib-Lab agreement of 1977-78. In 1983 and 1987 the Liberal Party and the SDP fought all the constituencies on a shared basis. Since the merger of 1988, the Liberal Democrats have contested virtually every constituency in the West Midland Region at by-elections and at the

General Elections of 1992-2015. Exceptions were at West Bromwich West in 1997, where, by convention, the main parties did not nominate a candidate to oppose the Speaker and at Wyre Forest in 2001 and 2005, where the Liberal Democrats declined to oppose the Independent, Richard Taylor, who represented that constituency 2001-10 under the designation Health Concern, closely associating himself with the Liberal Democrat Parliamentary party and many of its policies in the Commons.

By prior agreement with the Green Party at the General Election of 2019, the Liberal Democrats did not nominate a candidate for the Cannock Chase constituency.

THE MARTELL PLAN

The Martell Plan, mentioned in passing throughout the regional directories was the electoral strategy adopted by the Liberal Party for the General Election of 1950. It was first named after Edward Martell qv (Greater London), a party 'grandee' of the immediate post-war years who advocated the nomination of over 150 additional candidates in constituencies which had little or no Liberal organization nor history of Liberal activity in recent years. Most were adopted less than two months before nomination day, many at the eleventh hour, Martell's objective being to increase the Liberal challenge to a level at which the party would be enabled to form a government, presuming enough MPs were elected.

Martell and his supporters, among them many younger party members including Jeremy Thorpe, Isaac Hyam qqv, believed that a steadily growing number of adoptions being announced in the media would create a momentum of its own in the minds of the electorate. The majority of the constituencies involved were in urban areas of Greater London, the North West, South East, Scotland and the West Midland Regions, though other regions were involved to lesser degree. Quixotically, a considerable number of largely rural constituencies went uncontested where a Liberal candidate might have fared reasonably well, judging upon results obtained at the 1945 General Election. The final national tally of candidates, a fair proportion of them of dubious Liberal pedigree, was over 450. The party lost over 300 deposits, though without contemporary records of Liberal associations, or regional parties, covering the period, it is now impossible to differentiate technically between a 'Martell Plan Candidate' and a candidate, albeit in an unpromising constituency, adopted following more formal procedures, well in advance of nomination day. An enormous percentage of the Martell Plan candidates were among those to lose their deposits of £150, then set at 12 1/2% of votes cast. Fortunately provision had been made for some measure of insurance cover with Lloyds in the City of London against this contingency.

The goal of fighting every mainland constituency in the UK was finally achieved 25 years later under the leadership of Jeremy Thorpe at the General Election of October 1974. The broad front was reduced, marginally, at the following election of 1979. In both 1983 and 1987 the Liberals and their allies, the SDP, each contested roughly 50% of the UK parliamentary constituencies,

avoiding contests against each other save in a handful of cases. Since 1992 the Liberal Democrats have contested every constituency in mainland UK, save for that held by The Speaker and a handful of other instances, at every successive general election. In recent times party nominees who are nominated at the last minute in unpromising constituencies, simply to show the flag, have come to be termed ‘paper candidates.’ Virtually every candidate at recent general elections, however, has been approved by the party’s parliamentary candidates’ committee and adopted according to formal procedure. By prior agreement with the Green Party, the Liberal Democrats decided not to contest the Cannock Chase constituency at the General Election of 2019.

The scale of defeat for the Liberal Party in the 1950 General Election, in which nine Liberal MPs were elected, was eclipsed by the debacle of 2015 when only eight of the previously held 57 constituencies returned a Liberal Democrat MP. No less than 340 of 631 deposits were forfeited, £170,000, at the current rate of £500, with the threshold at 5% of votes cast. No deposits had been lost by the party at the General Election of 2010. The Liberal Democrats lost 375 deposits totaling £187,500 at the General Election of 2017, once again contesting virtually every constituency in England, Scotland and Wales. In the General Election of 2019 with several local constituencies being left unfought, by agreement with Green Party and the Welsh Nationalists, the Liberal Democrats lost 136 deposits amounting to £68,000.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

It is impossible to list every source of information or reference work consulted over the 20-year period of the compilation of these Indices. Many sources of reference particularly biographies and autobiographies are noted throughout the text. Major authorities consulted are listed below.

The Times Guide to the House of Commons 1945, 1950, 1951, 1955, 1959, 1964, 1966, 1970, 1974 Feb, 1974 Oct, 1979, 1983, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2001, 2005, 2010 (pub Times Guides)

Dictionary of Liberal Biography (Politico’s Publishing, London 1998)

Dictionary of National Biography

Dods Parliamentary Companion

Journal of Liberal History (pub Liberal Democrat History Group)

Obituary columns of *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Guardian*, *The Independent*.

Who’s Who in the Liberal Democrats (editions 1-7 pub PCA Books, Worcs DY12 2 DX)

Who's Who in West Midland Liberal Democrats (edition 1 2015 pub PCA Books, Worcs DY12 2DX)

Liberal News, Lib Democrat News, Liberator

Newspaper files of Birmingham Central Reference Library, incl *The Birmingham Post, The Birmingham Mail, The Wolverhampton Express & Star*

Warwickshire Public Libraries, Leamington and Warwick

Whitaker's Almanack

Wikipedia

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

This key omits commonly used abbreviations.

appt	appointment/appointed
b h s	boys high school
comp s	comprehensive school
elem	elementary school
g s	grammar school
g h s	girls high school
g-t	grammar-tech
h s	high school
j s	junior school
s s	schools
sec s	secondary school
sen s	senior school
u s	upper school
FE	Further Education
HE	Higher Education

LSE	London School of Economics
TTC	teacher training college
UMIST	University of Manchester Institute of Technology.
asst	assistant
bus	business
comm/s	committee/s
comp	computer
cons	consultant/consultancy
corr	correspondent
dir	director
eng	engineer/engineering
ind	industry
ins	insurance
IT	Information Technology
man	managing, managerial or manager
m'ment	management
mark	marketing
ALTU	Association of Liberal Trade Unionists
AM	Member of the Welsh Assembly (up to 2020)
APNI	Alliance Party of Northern Ireland
BALF	Birmingham Area Liberal Federation
BLO	Birmingham Liberal Organisation
CAB	Citizens' Advice Bureau
ELD	European Liberal Democrats
L A/L D A	Liberal/Liberal Democrat Association

LDN	Liberal Democrat News
LDV	Lib Dem Voice
LGBTQ+	lesbian gay bisexual transgender queer and others
Lib Int	Liberal International
MS	Member of the Welsh Parliament (Senedd Cymru) (from 2020)
MSP	Member of the Scottish Parliament
NAS	National Association of Schoolmasters
NATFHE	National Association of Teachers in Further/Higher Education
PCA	Parliamentary Candidates Association
SDP	Social Democratic Party
ULS	Union of Liberal Students
WLD	Women Lib Dems
WM	West Midland
WMLF	West Midland(s) Liberal Federation
WMRP	West Midland Regional Party
YLS/YLDs	Young Liberals/Liberal Democrats.

Party refers to Liberal/Liberal Democratic Party, unless otherwise stated.

Parliamentary elections fought by a candidate in the Index of any individual region appear in bold type thus: **Kidderminster 1979**. Constituencies fought by a candidate in other regions appear in standard type. The names of constituencies have changed over the years as a result of parliamentary boundary changes.

BIOGRAPHICAL DIRECTORY OF CANDIDATES

ADAM, Louis, b Leamington, ed Coventry U; structural engineer; seeks more sustainable health/social care system; improved mental health provision; Stratford-upon Avon DC; **Warwick & Leamington 2019**

ADAMS, Elizabeth, b Solihull 1987, ed City T'nology Coll, Kingshurst, Wolverhampton U, currently studying Law, Gloucester U; joined party 2009, active with Solihull & Meriden LDA; born and raised in disadvantaged Chelmsley Wood area; a former victim of domestic violence, she gained wider notice proposing a resolution on this subject at the Federal Assembly 2013, later adopted as party policy; again attracted attention in Sept 2015, calling for greatly increased funding for youth services; fought Solihull MBC elections; other interests incl the environment and local transport; mbr NLYLS, Lib Dem Mental Health Assn, Rainforest Foundation; incisive voice; one of the most promising younger women candts in the party; lives Henley-in-Arden; **Stratford-upon-Avon 2015, 2017**

ADAMS, Garratt, b 1922? ed Birmingham U; owner of road haulage firm; fought local elections; chair of an elderly peoples' trust; **Kidderminster 1979**

ADEYEMO, Ade, b 1966, London, of Ghanaian background ed King Williams Coll, Isle of Man, U of Dundee; Ch Eng; risk man professional with Zurich Ins; has lived locally 20 years; volunteer with New Style, local radio station with wide following of African-Caribbean listeners; fine public speaking voice; presenter Radio Sandwell; Chair Solihull & Meriden LDA; Solihull MBC from 2016; a campaigner for more ethnic minority candts in winnable seats; a man with ambitions in politics; his percentage of poll in 2017 was the highest in the West Midlands; Euro cand 2019; **Meriden 2015, Solihull 2017, 2019.**

AFZAL, Qassim (Kas) b 1960 Manchester, of Muslim background, Salford U, M.A. later read for PhD; TV presenter, journalist, lect; joined party 1998, Manchester MBC from 1998; Euro cand 2004, 2009 (Northwest Region); interests incl building bridges between faiths; mbr LPO Federal Exec and of numerous party comms; **Birmingham, Sparkbrook 2001**, Manchester, Gorton, (Northwest Region) 2005, 2010.

ALDERSON, Jacqueline (Jackie), b Birmingham, ed Liverpool Inst of HE; manages own marketing cons, Droitwich; officer of WMRP Exec 2009-10; **Worcester 2010.**

ALDRIDGE, John, b 1944 ed Moseley g s; ins broker/cons, later ran canal boat building firm, man of security firm; fought Birmingham MBC elections 1970s to 80s; served on Regional Parliamentary Candts Selection Comm etc; a highly capable election organiser, agent and campaigner; excellent judge of character and motivation; remembered for his incisive debating style, strong opinions, shrewd grasp of electioneering techniques and dry sense of humour; his premature exit, for business reasons, from political activity in the late 1980s, when the party was making its long-awaited break-through in Birmingham, was widely regretted; one time Treasurer,

Birmingham Regional Party; d 2010? **Birmingham, Yardley 1974 Feb, Oct, Aldridge-Brownhills 1979**

ALI, Dr Zulfiqar, b 1964, Mirpur, Kashmir, of Muslim background; ed Royal Coll of Physicians, Ireland MBBS, MRCPI; hospital cons cardiologist; joined party 2006; Stoke MDC, dpty grp ldr; strong defender of NHS; supports calls for vastly increased provision for mental health care; lives Tunstall, Stoke; **Stoke-on-Trent South 2010, Stoke-on-Trent Central 2015, by-e 2017**

ALLANACH, Richard, of Scottish ancestry; Southampton MBC 1983; later local activist in Rugby, fighting local elections; campaigned for Better Together in Aberdeenshire during the Scottish Referendum; interested in defence matters; regular contributor Lib Dem Voice; **Rugby 2005.**

ANDERSON, Iona, b Leamington Spa; long assn with Coventry; of African-Caribbean background; ed Tile Hill Co; worked for Royal Mail for 20 years, later ran her own internet business advice website; **Coventry North West 2005.**

ANDERSON, Susan (Sue), b Cheshire 1945; originally teacher in Birmingham; long-serving Birmingham MBC, WMCC, Lord Mayor 1999-2000; busy with council commitments, she could not be prevailed upon to fight further parliamentary elections; represented in turn both an inner and later, outer Birmingham ward; remembered for her energy and sincerity; **Birmingham, Yardley 1979**

ANDRAS, Peter, b Rumania 1971, ed Bolyai U; degrees in Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, Neural Networks; lect Newcastle-upon Tyne U, later Prof of Computer Science and Maths, U of Keele; helped launch University spin-off companies in biot'nology; joined party 2000; active with LDAs in Gateshead, Newcastle-upon Tyne, Newcastle-upon-Tyne MBC, cand for local Police Commissioner; sports an impressive beard; Washington & Sunderland West (Northeast Region) 2010, **Stoke-on-Trent South 2015, Stoke-on-Trent Central 2017, Stoke-on-Trent North 2019**

ARIF, Haseeb, of Muslim background; b/raised Leamington, ed Cubbington C of E p s, North Leamington s, Royal Holloway Coll, London U; a biochemist who has lately taken up medical studies; strong debater; joined Party at school; **Warwick & Leamington 2015**

ARMSTRONG, Anthony, b 1956, ed Salisbury jun h s, London; comp specialist; Coventry LDA Treasurer; **Coventry South East 1992.**

ASGHAR, Ali, of Muslim background; **Nuneaton 2005, Leicester (East Midlands Region) 2010**

ASHALL, Michael R., b 1944, ed Tividale comp s, Dudley Coll of T'nology; sales eng; party activist in Redditch; **Birmingham, Northfield 1997, Redditch 2001.**

ASMAL, Mohammed Hanif, of Muslim background; **Walsall South 2005.**

BADGER, David, b 1939 ed King Edward's g s, Birmingham, LSE; teacher; reportedly entered education admin later; active with Birmingham YLs, during a brief flirtation with the party; remembered for his self-confident attitude which bordered on the cock sure; he comfortably saved his deposit in a difficult election year in a constituency which had been uncontested for decades; **Birmingham, Edgbaston 1966.**

BAINES, Anthony, b 1959 ed Farnham s, Bristol Coll; information and PR officer; **Warley West 1983**

BAMFORD, Terence, b 1942 ed St Alban's s, Oxford U, LSE; Asst Gen Sec, Social Workers' U; Chesterfield (East Midlands Region) 1966, 1970, **Wolverhampton South East 1974 Feb**

BARNES, Ann Charlotte; lived locally since she was 16; Shropshire UA; part-owner of small business; local activist; **Ludlow 2015**

BARNETT, Peter, b 1966 ed Keele U; employed in mineral extraction ind; Congleton BC; **Stoke-on-Trent South 1997**

BARWICK, David, b 1947 ed Caludon Castle s, Coventry, St Peter's Coll, Birmingham; adult education co-ordinator; joined party 1980; Redditch DC 1986-90, Hereford-Worcestershire CC 1993-97, Wychavon DC; Droitwich TC; energetic campaigner remembered for his off-beat sense of humour; interests incl Amnesty Int; strongly supported by his wife Heather, herself a former WMRP officer; now lives Mid Wales; **Worcestershire Mid 1992, 1997.**

BATCHELOR, Anthony John, OBE, b 1941 Northampton, ed Northampton Town and County s, King Charles I g s Kidderminster, UC London U, Birmingham Poly, Keele U; unmarried; joined party 1957; worked as roving party by-election agent 1962-64, including Northern Ireland and the historic Orpington victory; later successively sen lect in FE, Principal, Kidderminster Coll (retired through persistent ill-health c 2001); long-serving WMRP officer, Pres 1974-77; Kidderminster MBC 1966-74 and as later renamed, Wyre Forest DC 1974-87, grp ldr and Council Ldr 1979-83, 84-85; LPO Exec; Euro cand, Birmingham South 1979; OBE 1981 for services to local government; long time contributor to *Liberal Democratic News* on constituency boundaries revision; many letters published in national press; retired to Bromyard, Herefordshire; remembered for his earnestness, remarkable energy, strong public speaking voice, affable personality, resilience and subtle sense of humour; a source of innumerable political anecdotes; resourceful election organiser, if somewhat prodigal with election funds; considered immature by critics, styled by admirers 'the consummate campaigner;' generally recognised as one of the party's most able candidates unfortunately fated never to be elected to Parliament; author of text books on citizenship, general studies; **Worcestershire South 1964, Kidderminster 1974 Feb, Oct, Wyre Forest 1983, 1987**

BECKETT, Michael, ed Goldsmith's Coll, member Inst of Dir; dir of Mind Charity; formerly nursing asst with NHS, night shelter man.; volunteer with CAB; lives Malton, chair, Thirsk & Malton LDA; describes himself as 'passionate about politics and liberalism'; **Dudley North 2010, Rotherham by-e 2012, Scarborough & Whitby 2015** (both Yorkshire Region)

BEDDOW, Alan, b 1966 Bromsgrove, ed Wolverley h s, Worcestershire; IBM eng, project man. computer ind; fought local elections Warwick/Leamington; joined party 2003; WMRP officer 2006, long-serving Treasurer from 2009, an office to which he has successfully introduced C21st technology and business acumen; affable personality; lives Warwick; **Warwick & Leamington 2010, Warwickshire North 2015.**

BEESELEY, Prof Michael E., CBE b 1924 research associate, later lect Birmingham U; briefly active with party in late 1940s; thought to have been associated with the classical Liberal economists of 'the Birmingham School' with Barbara Lewis and A.A. Sheffield (qqv); subsequently Prof of Business/Economics, London Business School, LSE; wrote on urban transport subjects; early advocate of privatisation, he steadily moved over to a markedly right-wing viewpoint, becoming a proponent of monetarist theories; highly influential in Thatcher Conservative government advisory circles in '80s and '90s; wrote several books; d 1999?; subject of lengthy press obituaries; **Birmingham, King's Norton 1950.**

BENNION, Dr Phillip, b Tamworth 1954, ed Queen Elizabeth g s, Tamworth, Aberdeen U, Newcastle U; farmer, near Tamworth, Staffordshire; former lect, Shuttleworth Agricultural Coll; chair Staffs NFU; has served on national agricultural comms; former SDP member; Staffordshire CC 2002-06, Lichfield DC 1999-2011 ; Euro cand 1999, 2004, 2009, 2014, 2019; energetic WMRP officer, Eurofile; prominent in Lib Int; acted as an adviser on agricultural to party leader Charles Kennedy for eight years; as one of the best-ever of party's Euro candidates in the WM, he was voted into second place on the party list and when Liz Lynne retired in Feb 2012, he succeeded her automatically; soon made a strong impression in the European Parliament as an energetic rep of the West Midlands and Britain; spent on average three weeks in every month in Brussels, one in Strasburg; became leader of British Lib Dem group; kept in touch with regional part members through regular newsletter *Europhile*; member of Euro Parliamentary Committee on Employment and Social Affairs; lost his seat in the disastrous anti-Europe swing of May 2014 but regained it in 2019, only to be deprived shortly after through Brexit; an easy-going personality, highly popular with rank and file party members and widely respected across party lines for his integrity and work on behalf of the West Midlands Region; the exceptionally well-written and designed valedictory illustrated brochure which he despatched to numerous Lib Dems and supporters in the West Midlands to coincide with Britain's exit from Europe, January 31st 2020, was very well-received; **Lichfield 1997, 2001, Tamworth 2005, Telford 2010, Birmingham, Hodge Hill 2015, 2017**

BENTLEY, Arthur, b 1921 ed Elmore Green elem s, Open U; Walsall; retired FE lect, local government officer; Walsall MBC, Mayor 2003-04; **Walsall North 1979, 1983.**

BICK, Timothy, b 1955 ed Leamington Coll, Oxford U, Pres of Lib Soc; human resources officer, joined party 1974; Warwicks CC from 1981 when he was youngest cllr elected; later moved to Cambridge; Cambridge DC; **Sutton Coldfield 1987.**

BIRCH, John Percy, b 1947 ed Alcester g s, quantity surveyor; local cllr; he was originally adopted to contest the by-election, occasioned by the death in November 1973 of the sitting Conservative MP, Sir Gerald Nabarro; the local party were confident of achieving an encouraging

result but the by-election was forestalled by the calling of the General Election, in which Birch added over 20% to the party share of the vote; **Worcestershire South 1974 Feb, Oct**

BIRD, Derek, b Burnley, Lancs c1931, ed Queen Mary's Royal g s, Clitheroe, Lancashire; sales and market dir of electronics co; fought local government elections, Burnley; author of pamphlet on Liberalism; enthusiastic, earnest and plain-speaking; an LPO Party HQ recommendation; **Dudley by-e 1968.**

BOAD, Sarah, b 1958, ed Monmouth s, U Coll, Swansea, C Eng, metallurgist; formerly SDP, joined Lib Dems 1988; Lliw Valley BC; Warwick DC from 1987, grp Ldr, Warwickshire CC 1994; active with ALDC; has presided over sessions at Lib Dem Assemblies; took part in a memorable TV hustings with Clare Short MP and Edwina Currie MP during the 1992 campaign, she acquitted herself with much credit; serious minded, highly respected for firm grasp of local government management skills; (her husband Alan is a party activist serving on Warwick DC, CC; exec agent to Lorely Burt MP 2015 qv); **Warwick & Leamington 1992.**

BOURNE, Steven; **Wolverhampton North East 2001, Shropshire North 2005**

BOWEN, Anthony, b 1940 ed Bradfield s, Cambridge U; academic; Shropshire CC; **Shrewsbury & Atcham 1983**

BOWKER, Ronald James, b 1913 ed Birmingham U, London U; former agricultural land agent/surveyor later barrister; WW II service in Intelligence; former mbr Fabian Society; NLYL Exec; Chair, Worcestershire Liberal Federation; at Worcester he succeeded as candidate Richard Fairburn qv who had fought the constituency at eight general elections, 1910-35; d 1999; **Worcester 1945, Wednesbury 1950.**

BRAMALL, Chris, b 1942 London, ed Latymer Upper s, Hammersmith, Cambridge U, St Mary's Coll of Ed; latterly Open U grad; solicitor; for many years worked in professional ethics dept, Law Society; joined party 1992, attracted by its concern for environmental issues; served nine years Dudley MBC; grp Ldr; has deep roots in Brierley Hill area, an ancestor having been a pioneer of the historic local chain and anchor industry; tenacious campaigner; sports splendid shock of grey hair; cheery personality; interests incl global warming; father of the following; lives Wollaston; **Stourbridge 1997, 2001, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2017, 2019**

BRAMALL, Jonathan, b 1970? son of the preceding, ed King Edward VI Coll, Dudley, Essex U; chair Dudley Youth Council; activist in Brierley Hill area; Euro cand 2009; **Dudley South 2005, 2010, 2015, 2017, 2019**

BRAZIER, Michael, ed Prince Henry's g s, Evesham, Portsmouth Poly; economics teacher; active with NAS; **Coventry South East 1979.**

BRIGHTON-KNIGHT, Dr Richard; ed Birmingham U, medical practitioner, MA in public health; formerly in NHS hospital, now private sector; advocates town council for Sutton Coldfield; chair Party Health Policy Panel; **Birmingham, Selly Oak 2005, Sutton Coldfield 2010, 2015, Nuneaton 2017, 2019**

BROADBENT, Sarah, b 1956, ed Appleton g. s. Warrington, Bristol U; pension fund man; **West Bromwich West 1992.**

BRODIE, Ian R., b 1946, ed Wellington g s, Essex U; teacher, charity dir; **Shrewsbury 1970**

BROWN, Dr Arthur, b Leeds 1907, ed London U (MB 1935); service WW II, RAMC; later GP; lived Wolverhampton from 1935; he fought the constituency, greatly altered by recent boundary changes, held 1929-45 by Liberal MP Sir Geoffrey Mander qv; he finished a distant third; **Wolverhampton North East 1950.**

BROWN, (Brigadier) Sir Ralph Kilner OBE, b Calcutta 1909; ed Kingswood s, Bath, Cambridge U; called to bar 1934; as a YL was a passionate opponent of Appeasement; UK international athlete, missing 1936 Berlin Olympics through injury; distinguished lawyer; Pres Birmingham L O 1946-56, he was an officer of the old Birmingham Liberal Club in Corporation street, near the Law Courts and barristers' chambers for many years which was much frequented by Liberal-inclined members of the legal profession; closed c 1958; 1946 Commander of Birmingham Battalion Boys Brigade on the new Kingstanding estate; later QC, High Court Judge; key figure in planning Overlord, the Normandy Invasion, 1943-44; declined Liberal Life Peerage 1970 on the grounds he could earn more pursuing his legal career; author *Top Brass and No Brass* 1991, in which he challenged the prevailing opinion that the USA had won WW II for an effete Britain; d 2003; he received an extended obituary in *The Daily Telegraph*; **Stourbridge 1945, Oldbury & Halesowen 1950**, Buckinghamshire South (South Central Region) 1959, 1964; a personality of whom there is much more to be learned.

BRUCE, David, b 1931 ed Stratford g s, Stratford Coll of F. E.; poultry farmer near Stratford-upon-Avon; Stratford MBC from 1960s, Mayor 1968-69; remembered for his astonishing ability to recall voices and names; d late 1990s; **Stratford-upon-Avon 1970.**

BUCHANAN, John R. b 1925 ed Collyer's s, Horsham; journalist, sometime with *Sunday Express*; his connection with Oswestry was fleeting though he hoisted the party into 2nd place during a series of promising Liberal showings in by-elections; a quotation, "We must not cease the struggle until we have finished second in every constituency in the UK" was falsely attributed to him; **Oswestry by-e 1961**, Guildford (Southeast Region) 1966

BURCHER, (Lieut) Leslie Corbet b 1896 local government officer; served RFC WWI, RN WWII; d 1953; **Oswestry 1945.**

BURMAN, Richard Malcolm, b 1930 ed Oundle s, Leeds Coll T'nology, Regent St Poly; Ch Eng; management services man; former Ldr Lib-Dem grp, Stoke MBC active till 2002 ? with Shropshire North LDA; remembered for his integrity, enthusiasm and engaging speaking voice; he was the first party cand at Leek since 1918; **Leek 1970, 1974 Feb, Stafford & Stone 1979.**

BURNS, John, b c1910, co dir, building ind; **Coventry North 1950**

BURT, Lorely Jane, now Baroness B of Solihull, b Sedgley, Staffordshire 1954, ed High Arcall g s, Dudley, Dudley Tech Coll, U Coll, Swansea, Open U; long and varied career in financial services, personnel and management, Asst Governor in HM Prison Service; joined party 1995; Dudley MBC 1998-2003; Euro cand 2004; her achievement in overturning a 10,000 plus Conservative

majority at Solihull 2005 ranks among the greatest-ever by a Liberal/Lib Dem candidate at a general election; of striking personality and appearance; excellent communicator; developed into competent spokesperson for party in regional media; rapidly built up respect as able and energetic constituency MP; made immediate impact upon parliamentary party being elected Chair, 2008; one of the brightest stars of 2005 Commons intake; won accolades and awards as champion of small businesses, Save the Cheque campaign etc. including efforts in her own constituency; she became an instant regional/national party star turn at Assemblies in Birmingham ICC in March 2010 and Sept 2011; developed skill at 'playing' an audience; has a special talent for fund raising; appointed to Junior Ministerial post Jan 2013, as PPS to Danny Alexander qv (Scotland) Chief Secretary to the Treasury in Coalition Government; her dedication to constituency duties won her considerable support across party lines; in Jan 2014 she lost by just two votes to Malcolm Bruce in the election for dpty party leader; appointed Government Whip autumn 2014; her exiguous majorities, 279 in 2005, 125 in 2010, were achieved (despite bitter opposition by the local Tories with their virtually unlimited funding), through her strength of personality, the strong Lib Dem tradition in Solihull municipal politics and to the local organisation, under the expert management of Claire O'Kane, her agent; keenly interested in business and industry with which she formed strong local links, persuading several firms to take on hundreds more apprentices; also deeply interested in the NHS and the greater resources for expanding mental health provision; m Richard Burt qv; Peerage 2015; was immediately impressed by the higher standard of contributions to Lords debates compared with the other place; appointed party spokesperson for business by Tim Farron, party ldr qv (Northwest Region); mbr National Secular Soc; on leaving Commons joined board of DBS Law; Lorely maintains close relationship with her former constituency and the regional party, though she and her husband announced they are to move from Solihull to Stroud, Gloucestershire, Nov 2020; **Dudley South 2001, Solihull 2005, 2010, 2015; MP 2005-15**

BURT, Richard George, b 1954, ed Farnborough g s, Hampshire, Westhill Co, Birmingham, Shrewsbury Tech Coll; Open U; has law degree; former photo-journalist studying at Wednesbury Coll of T'nology, where, legend has it, he was briefly a pupil of Lionel King qv; later fire officer, co dir, political organiser; grp ldr Dudley MBC 1996 -; managed successful campaign of Matthew Green (q.v) at Ludlow 2001; noted for his energy, sense of fun; positive electioneering style, organising abilities and forthright views; m Lorely Burt qv; **Dudley South 1997, Dudley North 2001; Shrewsbury & Atcham 2005, Worcestershire West 2010**

BUTCHER, Anthony, b 1932, ed Sidcup and Chislehurst g s; garage proprietor; Warwick MBC; remembered for his persistence, extrovert personality and audacious airborne election stunt over his sedate Warwickshire constituency; contesting local elections at Warwick to 2015; Hull North (Yorkshire Region) 1959, **Warwick & Leamington 1966, by-e 1969, Rugby 1974 Oct**

BYRON, Josephine (Jo), b 1953, ed St Mary's R C s, Grimsby, Manor House s, Brigg; career in finance, management, DMS, Luton U; officer of WLD, LPO English Council; South Gloucestershire DC; lives Bristol; **Solihull 2001**

CADBURY, Dr Edward (Ted) Paul, b 1921 ed Leighton Park s, Reading, Cambridge U, U Coll Hospital, London; medical practitioner; lived Shropshire; member of highly respected Quaker philanthropist family with long history of Liberal connections in Birmingham; co-ordinated research for seminal WMLF publication on regional government c1967; opposed official party policy on nuclear deterrent, assuming unilateral position; maintained family tradition as generous patrons of the party; remembered for his powerful voice, towering presence, resilience, integrity and candour; **Leominster 1964, 1966, Oswestry 1970.**

CAIGER, (Lieut-Col) John J., b 1936 ed Dover Coll, RMA Sandhurst; HM Army 1955-84, later dir Hambros bank, charity fund raiser; formerly SDP; Worcester 1987 (see SDP section); on merger joined Lib Dems; **Worcester 1992, Birmingham, Northfield 1997**

CALDER, Jaime, b 1954, ed More House s, London, London Poly; chart acc, co dir; Stafford MBC, grp ldr 1991; Euro cand 1999; remembered as articulate and assertive; race equality clr; **Stafford 1992, Staffordshire South 1997**, Daventry (East Midlands) 2001

CALVOCORESSI, (Wing Comm) Peter John Ambrose, b Karachi, India 1912; from a prosperous merchant family of Greek origin; ed Eton, Oxford U; barrister from 1935; worked on Ultra decoding with legendary Alan Turing at Bletchley Park in WW II; involved with prosecution of Nuremberg Trials of Nazi leaders in 1946; later a distinguished academic and historian; author of a score of books including best-selling histories e.g. *Total War, Penguin History of World War II* etc autobiography *Threading My Way*; one of the longest-lived survivors of the roster of Liberal candidates at the first post-war General Election; d 2010; **Nuneaton 1945.**

CAMERON, Colin J. Grant, service RAF Transport Command WW II; fruit farmer, later teacher; **Ludlow 1945**, Dorset West (Southwest Region) 1950.

CAMERON-DAW, Alison (Ali), b c 1965; former music teacher, later businessperson, Stock Exchange, Reuters, now runs co which promotes courses for business; joined party in 1980s; **The Wrekin 2010.**

CAMPBELL, John, b 1922, Scotland, ed elem s; iron moulder; lived Rugby; one of first manual workers to fight as Liberal cand in West Midlands; notable for his record of cost-effective, low budget electioneering (in partnership with his agent, the legendary and irrepressible Charlie Pearce); remembered for his resilience, integrity and powerful voice; Amalgamated U of Foundry Workers; **Nuneaton 1959, 1964, by-e 1965, Rugby 1974 Feb**

CAMPBELL, Dr John, b 1930 ed Lenzie Acad, Glasgow, Queen's U, Belfast; ch chemist, teacher; active with Sutton Coldfield LDA; **Birmingham, Erdington 1992.**

CANE, Charlotte K. B., b 1958 ed St Helen's s, Northwood, Birmingham U; archaeologist, later chart acc; joined party aged 16; Euro cand 1994 Birmingham East; moved to Cambridgeshire; grp ldr, East Cambridgeshire DC 1999-2002; there was an interval of 32 years between her two contests; **Birmingham, Selly Oak 1987**, Harlow (East of England Region) 2019

CANEY, Dennis, b 1924, ed Uplands s, Smethwick; man dir of coach and travel cos; close associate of Wallace Lawler qv in his final years; Birmingham MBC (Newtown Ward) from 1970;

a bluff, plain-speaking, voluble Brummie character, remembered for his hard work and sterling service in a tough, deprived Inner City area; **Birmingham, Small Heath 1974 Oct**

CARR, Sarah, b 1974, ed St Dominic' s, Telford Co., Wulfrun Co., Portsmouth U ; long service as constituency activist and organiser in Hereford for Paul Keetch MP qv; agent/organiser at several by-election campaigns; former sen researcher in Lib Dem Peers' Whip's office; former Head of Government Relations, UK Nortel; lives Hereford, energetic cand, effective media performer, with sense of fun; faced vicious Conservative attacks in her energetic campaign to defend seat vacated by Paul Keetch on his retirement; **Hereford & South Herefordshire 2010**

CARTWRIGHT, Geoffrey, b 1930 ed Stourbridge g s, Worksop Coll; manufacturer of swimming pools; a last-minute adoption by way of an experiment; he polled 14.6%; **Bromsgrove 1974 Feb**

CASSIN, Alexis J., b 1952, ed Pate's g g s, Cheltenham, Kingston-upon-Thames Poly, Birmingham Poly; solicitor; Cheltenham MBC, grp ldr; **Bromsgrove & Redditch 1992.**

CHAMBERS, John, b 1947; electrical projects man; local cllr; **Staffordshire South 1983**

CHANDLER, Paul J, b 1949 ed Felsted s, Essex U, Birmingham U; dir travel co; Malvern Hills DC 1982-87, grp ldr; Hereford & Worcestershire CC; **Worcestershire South 1987, 1992, Worcester 1997, 2001.**

CHANTREY, Dr D., **Stoke-on-Trent South 1979.**

CHAPPLE, Brian, b London 1926 ed Stationers' Co s, Oxford U, former schoolmaster later sen lect in FE; Bushey UDC, Solihull MBC from 1972, Mayor 1992-93, West Midlands CC for some years from 1973; remembered for his resilience, expertise in local government, genial personality and beaming smile; still active at Solihull 2017; **Coventry South West 1974 Feb, Oct, 1979.**

CHAUDRY, Mahmood; of Muslim background; **Birmingham, Ladywood 2001.**

CLIFFORD, Paul, b 1913 West Ham, London E, ed Mill Hill s, Oxford U; prominent Baptist theologian, long associated with West Ham Central Mission, one of the most dynamic organisations of its type in the capital; one time Prof of Theology, McMaster U, Hamilton, Canada, Pres of Selly Oak Colls; co-founder of International Association of Mission Studies 1967; later chair, Reform Club; author of *Radical Politics, Government by the People?, Politics and the Christian Vision* (his autobiography) and theological treatises; d 2003 ; **Birmingham, Selly Oak 1979.**

CLUCAS, Helen Flora (Flo) OBE, b 1946; has B Ed, Cert Ed, teacher; long serving mbr Liverpool MBC, dpty grp ldr; a dynamic figure in the politics of the city from 1986; secured almost £1 billion in European Development Funding for Liverpool; held in turn all major posts on city council; Pres Northwest Regional Party; Euro cand; author of articles to press etc; her husband John served alongside her for some years; retired to live nearer family at Cheltenham; Cheltenham MBC 2014 to date; has many interests; personality of remarkable resilience; a surprise token cand in West Midland Region in 2015, she stayed on for further contests; Crosby 1992, Liverpool, Garston 1997, Wirral South by-e 1997, Knowsley North & Sefton East 2005,

Knowsley 2010, (all Northwest Region) **West Bromwich East 2015, West Bromwich West 2017, 2019**

COCKINGS, Ronald (Ron), b 1944 ed Bushmet Mears s m s, Hertfordshire, Middlesex Poly, Aston U; man cons; Stratford-upon-Avon DC; originally a Conservative, joined Lib Dems 1990; defected from the party, Sept 2010; lively disposition; **Nuneaton 1997, Warley 2001.**

COLEMAN, Christopher, b 1978, Cheltenham, ed St Edward's s, Cheltenham, U Coll, Northampton, Stafford U; solicitor; Lib Dem activist at University; Cheltenham MBC; **Stoke-on-Trent South 2001**, Forest of Dean (Southwest Region) 2005, 2010

COLEMAN -TAYLOR, Ruth, (formerly ADDISON), associated with heyday of NLYLS in 1960-70s; cllr 16 years, grp ldr Tomordern TC; campaigned on environmental issues; contributor to *Liberator*; a token candidate in 2019; Liverpool, Toxteth 1979, Macclesfield 1983, (both Northwest Region); **Wolverhampton North East 2019**

COLLINS, Mike, eng in aerospace ind, with Airbus UK, working with firm for long spell in Spain; volunteer with care services; has served as a county and borough cllr, also Mayor; **Dudley North 2015**

COMYNS-CARR, Sir Arthur Strettell KC, b 1882, ed Winchester, Oxford U; eminent barrister, his brilliant cross-examination at trial of former Liberal MP and serial conman, Horatio Bottomley, in the early 1920s brought the final downfall of that old rogue; later prominent in Nuremberg War Crimes trials after WW II; author of legal books, also *National Insurance* 1912, *Escape from the Dole* 1930 etc; LPO Pres 1958-59; Chair of the near-farcical Torquay Party Assembly 1958; a crusading Liberal all his life fighting eleven elections yet serving less than a year as a member of the Commons; one of the leading Liberals of his day, widely esteemed throughout Party and beyond; d 1965; St Pancras (Greater London) 1918, 1922; MP Islington East (Greater London) 1923-24, by-e Ilford (Greater London) 1928, also 1929, Epping (East of England) 1931, Nottingham East (East Midlands Region) 1935, **Shrewsbury 1945**; by-e City of London (Greater London) 1945, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Northeast Region 1950). See *Dictionary of Liberal Biography*

CONWAY, Megan, b 1947; playgroup supervisor, part-time barmaid; Leek MBC; **Leek 1979.**

CORNEY, David, b 1946 ed Wednesbury h s, Birkbeck Coll, Essex U; FE lect; rather bland personality though not without sense of humour; fought his first election in his home town, long neglected by the party; later fought local elections Newham LBC; **West Bromwich West 1974 Oct**, Newham North East (Greater London) 1979

COWCHER, David George, b 1954 ed Kingswood s, Bath, Newcastle-upon-Tyne U; planner in building ind, operations manager SW Region Dvlpmnt Agency later sen exec/chief administrator in successive posts with Regional Chambers of Commerce, most recently Devon C of C; Warwickshire CC, grp ldr; remembered as a refreshingly open, earnest, positive type; **Stratford-upon-Avon 1987**

COX, James, studying for MA in Public Policy at Bristol U; he was selected in 2018 as cand for Bristol West (Southwest Region) but the party withdrew his candidature after an agreement with the Greens; energetic local activist; founder Zero Suicides; interests incl Europe, environment, clean air, housing, local transport; **North Warwickshire 2017**

CRICK, Andy, works in social care research; community activist; volunteer with various organisations, incl community shop; joined party 1992; fought on party's record in coalition; Henley (South Central Region) 2010, **Wyre Forest 2015**

CROFTON, Dr John, b 1915, ed Rotherham Coll of T'ology, London U etc; tech adviser and Open U lect; of Irish Catholic background; remembered for his effusive doorstep manner, though critics would term it 'Irish blarney;' exuded aura of affluence; deceased; **Birmingham, Sparkbrook 1970, Aldridge-Brownhills 1974 Feb, Oct**

CROLL, Ian Phillip, ed U of Wales; public acc; part-time teacher/self-employed; interested in drug-related problems; **Shropshire North 2010, Telford 2015**

CROPP, David, b 1946, ed Reading s, Warwick U, Birmingham U; ed administrator; fought Bromsgrove 1987 (see SDP section); on merger, joined Lib Dems, West Midland party exec; active with Leominster LDA; **Birmingham, Northfield 1992, Wyre Forest 1997**

CROTTY, Dr Joanne (Jo), ed Nottingham U, Liverpool U, Portsmouth U; former lect Aston U, now Prof Salford U, Dir of MBA courses; eminent in her field; lived Staffordshire; long time campaigner on Third World debt cancellation, environment; very strong cand with flair for attracting publicity; author of articles, papers and book; Warrington MBC (resigned on latest academic appt Oct 2011) Eddisbury, (Northwest Region) May 2005, **Staffordshire South by-e, June 2005** (stepping into vacancy caused by untimely death of Jo Harrison qv), Warrington South (Northwest Region) 2010.

CROWTHER, Thomas, b 1937, ed Newport g s, Mon. Oxford U, Pres Liberal Club; barrister; fdr mbr New Orbits (early Liberal 'think tank') qv Anthony Extance); LPO Council; **Oswestry 1964, 1966, Hereford 1970.**

DARGUE, Lee, b Lincoln 1978, ed sec s, FE coll in North England, Open U; qualified teacher; former lect FE; joined party 2009; Lib Dem Education Assn, fdr Lib Dem Mental Health Assn; works in occupational health/environment; officer of WMRP; interests incl education, social diversity, civil liberties; Euro cand 2019; **Birmingham, Edgbaston 2015, Birmingham, Ladywood 2017, 2019, Birmingham, Erdington by-e 2022**

DAS GUPTA, Rana; b Rangoon, Burma, of Indian parentage; in England from two years of age; ed London U; cons plastic surgeon, 35 years with NHS; lived in Warwickshire for 15 years; **Rugby 2019**

DAVIES, John, b 1935, ed Oswestry g s; contracts man; a breezy, confident personality, easy platform manner; broke with party shortly after 1964 but is thought to have subsequently re-joined in the 1970s; **The Wrekin 1964.**

DAVIES, Nicola Sian, b Shrewsbury 1973, ed U of Wales, Swansea; former parliamentary researcher to Lord Livsey, Lembit Öpik former MPs qqv (Wales); career in telecomms, now running own co; joined party 1992; Euro cand 2004; considered a rising star in the party, she withdrew from the front-line after prolonged campaigning; unkindly dubbed 'Nokkia Davies' by opponents because of her career in the mobile phone business; now lives Leamington; Warwickshire CC from 2013, returned to party activity as member of WMRP Exec 2011; with hindsight, lacked experience necessary for a cand in the high profile by-election, making minor media gaffes; cand for Police Crime and Commissioner, Warwickshire 2016; interests incl environment, global warming, international issues; **Birmingham, Edgbaston 2001, Birmingham, Hodge Hill by-e 2004, 2005.**

DAVIS, Peter b 1933, ed Queen Mary's g s, Walsall, St Luke's Coll, Exeter, Open U; teacher, later social worker; **Birmingham, Edgbaston 1974 Oct, Cannock 1979.**

DAVIS, Richard, b 1945, ed Ruthin g s, N Wales; ins clerk, one-time Chair, Birmingham YLs; remembered for his precise diction and anti-septic, earnest, clean-cut image; **Solihull 1970.**

DAVIS, Samuel Henry, b 1900; naval service WW I, Home Guard WW II; estate agent; man dir chemical works? probably Martell Plan candidate; d 1965; **Coventry East 1950**

DAVY, Jennette, b 1938, ed Blackpool Comm. Co; community services volunteer; Malvern DC, Malvern TC, Hereford & Worcestershire CC 1980s; caused considerable embarrassment by praising an opponent in the media during the by-election campaign; **Staffordshire East by-e 1996, Bromsgrove 1997**

DAY, Robin (later Sir Robin) OBE, b Hampstead, London 1923, ed Bembridge s, Isle of Wight, Oxford U; Pres of Union; war service; worked in Washington for British Information Service; called to Bar 1952 though apparently never practised; BBC TV 1952-55, joining ITV News 1956; came to fore after interviewing President Nasser of Egypt in Cairo in 1957 shortly after Suez episode; after his political interlude, he rejoined BBC TV; at various times presenter of *Panorama*, *Question Time*, *General Election Results and Budget Specials etc* on TV, BBC Radio *World At One* etc; claimed that he was the first to call for the televising of parliamentary proceedings in a Hansard Society paper in 1963; knighted 1981; published two autobiographies *Day By Day* 1975, *Grand Inquisitor* 1989, the latter being of interest for chapters on the parliamentary campaign at Hereford in 1959 and his dealings with local Liberal personalities, for many of whom he had only contempt, including the ageing Liberal stalwart, Alderman Farr qv.

A distinguished, influential, political broadcaster, Day introduced the 'hard line', an abrasive, often belligerent dimension to the techniques of interviewing of political figures. He made the most of his unprepossessing appearance by sporting heavy rimmed spectacles and an enormous bow tie. After his unsuccessful attempt to enter Commons at Hereford, where he failed totally to adapt his undoubted talents either to the platform or doorstep, he was at pains to expunge his association with the Liberals from the memory and distance himself from the party. His commitment to Liberalism had in any case never been more than tenuous. In an interview of his old leader, Jo Grimond, in an election broadcast of 1966, he was rude to the point of

offensiveness as if he were seizing the opportunity to make a final public vindication of himself for past transgressions.

Day was said to have been of a cantankerous personality, difficult to work with, reportedly with few, intimate friends, though he had a myriad of superficial acquaintances. He lacked a genuine sense of humour and always wore a stony expression. There were allegations that he often displayed an offensive, chauvinist attitude towards women colleagues. The exaggerated professional reputation he enjoyed in life has justly received posthumous re-evaluation. He fell short of being Britain's equivalent of Ed Murrow by a considerable margin; d 2000; **Hereford 1959.**

DENT, Martin OBE, b 1925, grew up in Harlow, Essex; ed Eton, Cambridge U, Oxford U; studied economics; originally Colonial Civil servant, spending many years in Nigeria; later entered lecturing at Keele U 1963, specializing in political studies; in 1990 co-founded movement which began campaigning for the G8 countries to cancel debts owed by developing countries; from this grew Jubilee 2000, which enjoyed world-wide support; estimated that \$130 billion has since been written off for many of the poorest and most indebted countries; in 2001 shared International Peace Award of the Gandhi Foundation; retired 1990; genial, perceptive assessor of potential Euro candidates for party for brief period; highly popular with students and fellow academics; of deep Christian faith; a noted eccentric; d June 2014; received monumental obituary in *The Daily Telegraph*; **Stoke-on-Trent Central 1992.**

DEWSNIP, Walter (Wally), b Stalybridge 1926; grew up in Gloucestershire; ed Army School of Education, West Hill Coll; Ruskin TU s; catering officer; a leading figure in ALTU; Gloucester MBC, chair Quedgeley PC; jolly, likeable character; promoter of angling as a hobby; received award from Irish Tourist Board for encouraging fishing holidays; **The Wrekin 1974 Oct**

DHONAU, Mary, b Reading 1958, ed Headington Coll s, Oxford, Royal Coll of Music; mother of five children; more than a dozen times a victim of River Severn-related flooding by raw sewage; dir and spokesperson, National Flood Forum, for whom she became an experienced and effective media spokesperson; she was much in evidence in the media during the serious flooding throughout Britain in Jan-Feb 2020; lives Worcester; **Worcester 2005**

DICKSON, Richard, b Sutton Colfield 1960, returning to live locally c 1995; sen posts for several major cos, banks; heads a community foundation; formerly SDP; re-joined party after brief defection; mbr Amnesty Int; in his third contest he raised the party percentage poll by 9.42%; **Kenilworth & Southam 2015, 2017, 2019**

DINGLEY, (Capt) Walter L., OBE b Handsworth, Birmingham 1892; service WW I in Army, RFC; agricultural merchant, analytical chemist with many interests, including fertiliser firm; cllr/ald, Warwickshire CC 1920s/30s latterly council ldr; called for appointment of more women PCs; possibly relative of Sarah Wheeler, (Stratford-upon-Avon MBC, Mayor c2000); he is not known to have been involved in Party activity after 1945; d Stratford-upon-Avon 1980; Warwick & Leamington 1929, Hereford 1935, **Warwick & Leamington 1945.** A personality of whom there is much more of interest to discover.

DIXON, Mike, b Nottingham 1957, ed Rushcliffe comp s, art s, Nottingham; career in sales/marketing, proprietor of catering business; later boat builder; active with Wyre Forest Lib Dems, fought DC elections, prominent as agent/organiser/campaigns man; former officer of WMRP; Euro cand 2004; lives Kidderminster; later full-time party organiser (Birmingham); noted for his sense of humour, energy and relentless hard work for the party; exuded aura of self-importance; his volatile temper led sadly to a short term of imprisonment 2011; not to be confused with his namesake, the Lib Dem Chief Executive appointed 2019; **Wolverhampton South West 2001, Birmingham, Edgbaston 2005, Birmingham, Northfield 2010**

DOW, C. Alistair, b1945 ed Perth h s, St Andrew's U; finance controller; resumed contesting parliamentary elections after absence of 23 years; Birmingham MBC (Selly Oak), Cabinet member 2001; Edinburgh North 1970, Aberdeen East 1974 Oct (both Scotland), **Birmingham, Hall Green 1997, Hodge Hill 2001.**

DOWNIE, Celia, b 1957, ed St Mary Redcliffe c s, U Coll, Swansea; teacher; lives Hanham Abbots, South Gloucestershire; Avon CC; **Aldridge-Brownhills 1997, Leominster 2001**, Bristol North West 2017 (Southwest Region)

DREDGE, Roy, b 1928 ed King Henry VIII s, Coventry, Coventry Tech; man dir; **Coventry North East 1974 Oct**

DRURY, Craig, latterly activist in Grantham, Stamford, Lincolnshire; **Sutton Coldfield 2005**

DUFFY, Hugh, b 1942; ins inspector, long active as organiser with Sutton Coldfield LDA; fought Birmingham MBC elections to 2008; **Birmingham, Erdington 1979.**

DUGUID, James, b 1948, ed Sidcot s, Somerset; personnel and ind relations man, later man dir of shipping co; joined party 1967; now lives Hampshire; continued party activity with Winchester/Eastleigh LDA, standing in Hampshire CC by-e Oct 2015; **Birmingham, Edgbaston 1979.**

DUPONT, Tony, b 1945, ed Rayleigh s s, Buckingham U, Aston U; man cons; Solihull MBC; Solihull Comm Health Council; contested elections locally until c2009; resigned from party c2012; of suave demeanor, dapper in appearance; **Meriden 1997.**

EADES, Ronald William, b 1920 Handsworth, ed Solihull s; co sec; service in WW II, evacuated from Dunkirk; probable Martell Plan cand; author of press articles on political and economic matters; **Birmingham, Handsworth 1950.**

ECCLES, (Flying Off) John Maurice, (Len), b 1907; service in WW II, RAFVR, evacuated from Dunkirk; later welfare officer RAF Assn, Dudley; garage proprietor; stalwart of now defunct Gladstone Liberal Club, Dudley; LPO Exec 1961-62; where he was appreciably out of his depth; a diminutive, perky Black Country individual with self-important air, somewhat given to exaggeration; pedlar of scare stories; d 1979; **Kidderminster 1950.**

EDEN, Leonard, b 1941 ed The Oratory s, Birmingham; airline salesman; fought local elections Birmingham MBC; remembered as a smart dresser who organized successful fund raisers at his home; d 2005? **Halesowen, 1974 Feb, Oct**

ELLIOTT, Doreen, b 1932, ed Ashington Girls sec s; charity organiser later personnel man in eng ind; remembered for her strong opinions and fine public speaking voice; on one occasion described Margaret Thatcher as 'that strident bitch;' believed to have migrated to New Zealand in mid 1980s; **Lichfield 1974 Feb, Worcester 1974 Oct, 1979.**

ELLIOTT, (Lieut-Col) Norman Walter, ed Tettenhall Coll, Birmingham U; army service WW I/II; china manufacturer in Potteries; adopted as PPC in 1942 in anticipation of a war-time by-election which ironically was not contested due to the electoral truce; LPO Council; d 1972; **Newcastle-under-Lyme 1945, Shrewsbury 1950.**

EMBREY, Albert Edward, b c1908/9; service WW II, evacuated from Dunkirk; cost acc; associated with British Legion; a typical Martell Plan cand, nondescript and anonymous, without known prior or subsequent connection with the party; his exiguous vote was one of the very lowest in the UK; d 1967; **Birmingham, Aston 1950.**

EVANS, David, b 1947 ed Teignmouth g s, Liverpool U; FE lect; noted for his dogged persistence, fighting six elections before his 40th birthday but none since; Chester MBC; Wallasey (Northwest Region) 1970, **Oswestry 1974 Feb, Oct, 1979, 1983**, Delyn (Wales) 1987

EVANS, Gwyn, b 1924 ed Cardiff U; electricity supply man; **Newcastle-under-Lyme 1979.**

EVANS, Dr Jerry, ed Bradford U, Inst of Archaeology; archaeologist, lect and author of books/articles; Birmingham MBC; **Birmingham, Erdington 2005, Birmingham, Hall Green 2010, 2015, 2017**

EXTANCE, Anthony H., b 1935 ed Poole g s, Dorset, a county he later described as being 'bogged in feudalism,' Cambridge U, Pres Liberal Club; originally an industrial training officer, later fdr/dir Maidstone Enterprise Agency/Maidstone Enterprise Training; lived Sutton Coldfield, later Lichfield where he fought local elections; founder member, *New Orbits*, the early party 'think tank'; in early 1960s, mbr LPO Council which he termed, with some justification at that time, 'a staid, almost reactionary body;' pioneer activist/administrator of then new outdoor activity of Orienteering; active with WMLF; though considered by some to have an air of pompous self-importance, he is more widely remembered for his earnestness, firm grasp of the essence of any subject under discussion and as a witty and forceful debater with an engaging, hyperbolic turn of phrase e.g. 'I have always been a fervent Wessex Nationalist,' 'In a world context I would be a socialist,' etc; his early retirement from activity in the West Midlands was a great loss; moved to Kent c1970; later active with UNA, Shelter; fought local government elections at borough and parish level, Chair, Bearsted PC, Maidstone; later Chair, Kent Assn of Parish Councils, representing that body on Kent County Council Stategic Planning Comm; **Lichfield & Tamworth 1964**, Bosworth (East Midlands Region) 1966.

FAIRWEATHER, Gwen, school lab technician, housing project manager; **Rugby 2001**

FALCONER, Jeanie, lives Bishop's Frome, Bromyard; career as snr cons European public affairs, living/working London/Bruussels; now runs vineyard business; advocates extra funding for rural community services; Euro cand 2019; **North Herefordshire 2015, 2017**

FARMER, Neville, b Hampstead, London 1960 ed King Charles I g s, Kidderminster; former steel worker later journalist, broadcaster and long time TV producer, director, writer responsible for many memorable programmes/series and winner of many awards; contributed to numerous publications; joined party 2006, WMRP officer 2011-; multi-talented, with personable manner, a natural communicator, with sense of humour and fine turn of phrase; impressed with his contribution to debate on IT resolution at Birmingham Assembly 2011; Euro cand 2014; **Wyre Forest 2010.**

FARR, Albert Edward, JP, b 1874, Clifford, Herefordshire, son of agricultural labourer, first job as brick layer, worked as engineer in London; later owner of construction eng co, farmer in Herefordshire; long-serving cllr/ ald, Hereford MBC, Mayor 1952-54; Hereford CC until 1960s; resolutely opposed to self-rule for India and Pakistan; voiced serious differences of opinion with Robin Day qv during election at Hereford 1959; early advocate of Severn Bridge project; became steadily more right-wing in his views after WW II; last spoke at Regional Party meeting 1960, attempting vainly to mediate in the internecine BLO and WMLF squabbles of that period; in his first two contests he was narrowly defeated in straight fights with Conservative opponents; d 1964; **Leominster 1935, 1945, Hereford 1950.**

FARRELL, Lionel, b 1933 ed Battersea g s, Exeter U; solicitor; of Jewish background; lived Leamington; first 'serious' cand in Solihull constituency who sowed seeds of a famous victory 40 years later; his agent was John Windmill qv; his early exit from active politics was much regretted; **Solihull 1964.**

FAZAL, Nadia, of Muslim background; former Labour supporter, fought Walsall South 2005 for Respect; joined Lib Dems shortly after; contested elections to Walsall MBC from 2008; **Walsall North 2010.**

FELLOWS, Sarah, sales manager; active in Wolverhampton where she lives; contested MBC elections; **Staffordshire South 2010.**

FERGUSON, Tony, Newbury DC; **Nuneaton 2001, Warley 2005.**

FEWTRELL, Chris, b 1970 Birmingham, ed Colmer's Farm comp s, Oxford U; TV screen writer long associated with *Coronation Street*, *The Bill* etc; lives Codsall nr Wolverhampton; deeply concerned over possible impact of Brexit on West Midlands manufacturing ind; **Staffordshire South 2019**

FIELD, Russell, b/raised Coventry, ed Wyken Croft, Calendon Castle, De Montfort U; comp scientist; building society administrator; local campaigner interested in recycling, environmental protection; Coventry MBC; **Coventry North East 2005, 2010, 2015, 2017**

FISHER, Francis, b 1940 ed Brewood g s, Birmingham Coll of T'nology; civil eng; fought Pembroke 1966 for Conservatives; later joined Liberals; a LPO HQ recommendation, he was a last minute

adoption; coped adequately with a local radio election broadcast; a 'fly-by-night' cand only briefly on the scene; **Warley West 1979.**

FISHER, John, b Glasgow ed Birmingham U; teacher; lives Leek; Staffordshire Moorlands DC for 15 years, sometime grp ldr; **Staffordshire, Moorlands 2005, Stoke-on-Trent North 2010.**

FITZGERALD, Sydney Arthur, b 1896, professional soldier, service WW I; in WW II commanded Home Guard co; fitter machinist; probably a Martell Plan cand; **Birmingham, Erdington 1950**

FLETCHER, David b 1933 ed Derby g s, LSE; ret British Railways exec; key activist in early revival of party fortunes in North Staffordshire; long associated with Newcastle-under-Lyme; originally adopted as PPC for Newcastle-under-Lyme c 1961, he withdrew on the eve of the General Election three years later; concentrated for many years on his career; re-entered active politics three decades later when in his mid-60s; reported to have shown a desultory attitude to campaigning; criticised for being aloof and remote, virtually uncontactable by WMRP officers; **Burton-on-Trent 1997, 2001.**

FLORIS, Christopher (Kit), b 1926, ed Highgate s, Oxford U; of Jewish background; man of famous Floris perfumery family co; a professional baker, author of books on cake making; made minor impact at Party Assemblies with histrionic interventions in debates; remembered for his enthusiasm, strong voice, integrity, public cake-making demonstrations and sense of humour; he raised the party vote to over 10,000 in his Black Country constituency but to his disappointment, the local party had no heart for entering the fight in 1966; his abrupt departure from political activity shortly after was a great disappointment; **Oldbury & Halesowen 1964.**

FLYNN, Ian, lives Amblecote, Stourbridge; economist working in business and economic devlpmnt; local election cand; **Dudley North 2019**

FOGG, Nicholas, b 1941 ed Warwick s, Nottingham U, Oxford U, King's Coll, London, Harvard U; teacher and cons on international affairs projects; Marlborough TC, Wilts, 1981-89, Mayor 1985-86; individualist; founded St George Community Trust for the Homeless; held strong opinions; an early critic of Thorpe leadership who he referred to contemptuously as 'The Bomber' for advocating the dynamiting of the single railway line into Rhodesia during the UDI episode; now lives Marlborough; author *Stratford-upon-Avon, Portrait of a Town* pub 1986, *Hidden Shakespeare* pub 2012, said to be the first biography of the Bard written by a Stratfordian; first adopted for the constituency c1970 he subsequently withdrew, being re-adopted 20 years later; **Stratford-upon-Avon 1992.**

FORBES, Linda Craig, b 1957 ed Lesmahagow h s, Lanark g s, Glasgow Coll of Nautical Studies, Plymouth U, later Heriot-Watt U 2008-09, U of E London (Centre of Alternative T'nology) MSc 2008; former merchant navy officer/navigator on variety of vessels, later production dir for international firm of educational publishers; joined party 1990s; Editor '*Who's Who in Lib Dems?*' (No.5) 2006; lived Leamington, now lives Orkney, an authority on Renewable Energy Development; LD Euro Group Exec. 2006-09; ALDC Exec 2005-08; strong personality, formidable campaigner; **Warwick & Leamington 2001, 2005**

FORDHAM, Edward (Ed), b Kingston-upon-Thames 1971, ed Spalding g s, Nottingham U, Pres of Union; entered university admin; active in student politics; joined party 1988; East Mids Reg Exec 1990-93; moving to the West Midlands, Stoke MBC 1998-02, deputy grp ldr; played key role in reviving party organisation in North Staffordshire; left a mixed reputation in the West Midlands circles after his departure, for occasional high-handedness and alleged profligate spending of party funds; Vice-Chair English Council 1998-99; believed to have spent time subsequently on Paddy Ashdown's staff at Yeovil; energetic campaigner on gender issues; ambitious, widely regarded as a political 'high flier'; **Stoke-on-Trent Central 1997**, Hampstead & Highgate (Greater London) 2005, 2010.

FOWLER, Robert (Bob), b 1927 ed Dudley g s; lived Dudley; building ind estimator; served as party agent for J.M. Eccles qv at 1950 General Election at Kidderminster; long associated with old Gladstone Liberal Club, Dudley and others in Black Country area; Dudley MBC for some years from 1961; his winning and holding a seat in hitherto impregnable Labour heartland raised hopes of a wider breakthrough; widely respected figure locally; remembered as an affable, unassuming, well-intentioned Black Country character; d 2011; **Dudley 1964**.

FOX, R.; b 1937; archivist; fought local elections; **South West Staffordshire 1979**

FRANCE, Ben, b 1981 Wolverhampton ed High Arcal s s, Halesowen Coll, U of Greenwich, Birmingham U; worked for Children's Soc, Wolverhampton U, later lect Stourbridge Coll; freelance film maker incl documentaries, items on bullying; interests incl environment; joined party 2015; lives Dudley; **Dudley North 2017**

FRANKENBURG, John Beeching, b 1921 ed Stowe s, Oxford U, Pres U Liberal Club 1947; army service WW II; barrister; Chair NLYLs, active with World Assembly of Youth, Chair ULS; one of only four cand s in West Midland Region 1955; he subsequently took up posts with the Director of Public Prosecutions and The British Council; d 1981; Kensington South (Greater London) 1950, Berwick-upon-Tweed (Northeast Region) 1951, **Nuneaton 1955**.

FRASER, Hannah, b 1973 Bath, ed Hayesfield g s, Bath, Cambridge U, Birmingham U; Ch Geologist; hydrogeologist with many years experience in mining, cons on contaminated land, environmental problems; joined party 2010; Shropshire CC; **Shrewsbury & Atcham 2017**

FREEMAN, Eric, b 1937 ed Port Glasgow h s, Stockport Tech; a sales manager; an aggressive Clydesider with an aura of menace; **Staffordshire South West 1974 Feb, Cannock 1974 Oct**

FURNISS, Eric, b 1914 ed Birmingham Coll of T'nology, Ruskin Coll, Oxford; lived Fox Hollies, Birmingham; ind competitions officer; formerly Labour; member of ALTU; staged first public speaking courses in West Midlands for cand s c1962; fought local elections in Birmingham; remembered for his morose demeanor and pessimistic outlook; **Stafford & Stone 1964**.

FURSE, Andrew; Bath & North East Somerset DC, Mayor; **Coventry North West 2015**

FYSON, Robert, b 1940 ed Christ's Hospital s, Oxford U; FE lect; Newcastle-under-Lyme MBC from 1970, Newcastle-under-Lyme DC from 1973; **Newcastle-under-Lyme 1974 Feb, Oct**

GADIE, Geoffrey, b 1944, ed Barton g s, Humberside, Sheffield Poly; regional man, British Leyland; mbr BIM; **Solihull 1987**

GALLAGHER, James Y. (Jock), b 1938, Greenock, Scotland, ed Greenock h s, Stone Coll, Glasgow, Wulfrun Coll, Wolverhampton; National Service Royal Artillery 1956-58; journalist, broadcaster, later senior BBC Radio exec, Pebble Mill, Birmingham; joined YLs 1954; publisher/original editor of several editions of comprehensive 'Who's Who in the Lib Dems?'; prolific author of articles, booklets dealing with BBC programmes including *The Archers* and media personalities, Laurie Lee, Lady Barnett, Gwen Berryman etc; worked on more than a hundred documentaries; also stage producer; regular columnist in *Liberal Democrat News*; Sutton Coldfield MBC 1966-69; Euro candidate 1994; lives Bewdley; energetic Regional Campaign Director, General Election 1997; member WMPR Exec; assuming office as President 2010, he revolutionised WMRP communications, turning the newsletter into an informative, well-produced, well-illustrated (with his own camera shots), punchy, regular publication; long time Chair PCA; highly regarded at LPO HQ where he has been a strong advocate of WMRP interests; adept at low-cost election constituency campaigning; he and Jenny Pinkett qv have been largely responsible for ensuring from 1997 to date that a Lib-Dem candidate was found to contest every constituency in the West Midland Region; introduced WM Lib Dem 'battle bus'; multi-talented with dry sense of humour; interests include human rights; pub 2014 *Great Scots*, a commemoration of the achievements throughout the world of men and women of Scottish background; latest innovation *Who's Who in the West Midlands?* pub 2015 which includes many newly enrolled party members; has been curtailing some of his party activities of late; **Birmingham, Edgbaston 1997.**

GANT, Dr Andrew, b 1963 ed Radley, Cambridge U, Phd Goldsmith's Coll, London U; lect at Oxford U, musician, composer, singer, choirmaster Chapel Royal 2000-13; ldr grp Oxford MBC; Cotswolds 2017 (Southwest Region), **Staffordshire, Moorlands 2019**

GARDINER, (Major) W. H., b Co Kerry, Ireland, ed Abbey s, Tipperary, Wellington Cadet Coll, India; serving in Indian Army to end of WW II; pedigree pig breeder; lived Rushock, Worcestershire; one of the more bizarre party candd in 1950, left soon after his single parliamentary contest, adopting extreme right-wing views which he vented in the correspondence columns of the local press; Kidderminster RDC in 1960s; **Worcester 1950.**

GARNER, June, b 1930; sen lect FE; remembered only for informing the media that she did not welcome publicity of any kind occasioned by the exigencies of being a parliamentary candidate; **Burton-on-Trent 1983.**

GARRETT, Ian, b Greenwich, London 1965, ed Chislehurst and Sidcup g s, Birmingham U, Oxford U, Pres Liberal Soc; Head of History, St Francis of Assis RC s Aldridge; joined party 1983; CND supporter; fought Birmingham MBC elections; Sandwell MBC; practising Anglican; worked with Church Missionary Soc in India; persistent campaigner over 20 years; interested in young people's issues; Liberal Christian Forum, Amnesty Int; WM Regional Party Exec, Chair Regional Parliamentary Group, contributor to *Journal of Liberal History*; **Erdington 1997; West Bromwich East 2001, 2005, 2010, Aldridge-Brownhills 2015, 2017, 2019**

GIBSON, Peter, b 1935 ed Warwick s, Coventry Tech Coll; electronics eng; officer Warwick LA; a last minute adoption, he was a victim of a malicious headline story in the local press on the eve of poll in which it was claimed he was seriously in arrears with the GPO over his home telephone bill; this turned out to be a trivial sum; the attendant negative publicity probably accounted for the loss of his deposit by a handful of votes; **Warwick & Leamington 1964**

GILL, (Air Vice Marshall) William, b 1918 West Hampstead, London, ed University Coll s, Imperial Defence Coll; RAF career 1936-73; WW II flying ace in Burma later in England piloting Mosquitos in air defence against V1 flying bombs over North Sea, Normandy Invasion etc; became sen instructor/lect in Mosquito pilot training; later personnel advisor, P & O, Chair Merton Associates (Consultants); a LPO HQ recommendation; made only a token appearance locally; d 2007; **Walsall North 1974 Oct**

GILLETT, Ian, b 1943 ed Lanchester Poly, Coventry; metallurgist; Solihull MBC, one-time grp ldr; **Solihull 1979, 1983.**

GLENTON, Robert, b 1919; ed Scarborough Coll; international rally driver, motoring correspondent with *Sunday Express* etc and author; an LPO HQ recommendation, he fought the Worcester by-e 1961, finishing a very close third in a tight three cornered contest, a result which re-invigorated the party in the West Midlands; re-adopted, he subsequently resigned; his abrupt departure from the region was much regretted; m Stella King 1919-82, journalist and author; d 1998; Hitchin (East of England Region) 1959, **Worcester by-e 1961**, Enfield West (Greater London) 1964, Bolton West (Northwest Region) 1966

GOLDBLATT, Simon, b 1928 ed Eton, Cambridge U; of Jewish background; barrister, later QC with chambers in Birmingham; later built up practice in London; active with British West Indian Study Circle 2005; not a dominant personality, remembered for his earnest approach; his seemingly irrelevant references to his recent holiday in Yugoslavia during a flagging televised debate at the Brighton Assembly 1963, plunged the proceedings into embarrassing confusion; **Rugby 1959, 1964**, Twickenham (Greater London) 1966.

GONCALVES, Eduardo; charity dir; associated with Kidney Kids, Climate Group; environmentalist; **Rugby 2015**

GOPSILL, Graham A., b 1938 ed Moseley School of Art, lived Castle Vale, Erdington; insurance agent, later antiques dealer; Birmingham MBC from 1969; one of the Liberal 'young lions' who stood up to the leadership of Wallace Lawler qv; Birmingham MDC from 1973; Euro Cand Midlands East 1979; the unfortunate 'fall guy,' disgracefully ill-used at the by-election in 1977 when polling day coincided with Steel's decision to enter a Lib-Lab pact with Callaghan Government; in his final campaign, his elopement on polling day to marry his second wife, gave rise to wide media publicity; later moved to Droitwich, Droitwich DC, Mayor; remembered for his resilience, energy, courage, powerful speaking voice and strong opinions; d 2009; **Birmingham, Stechford 1974 Feb, Oct , by-e 1977, 1979, Birmingham, Hodge Hill 1983**

GORDON, Rosalyn Jane, active with party in Hampshire; last minute replacement cand; **Stoke-on-Trent South 2019**

GRAHAM, Andy, b 1954, Birmingham, ed St Hubert's s, Smethwick; **West Bromwich East 2019**

GRANT, Roger, b 1946, ed King's Hill s, Lichfield; education welfare officer; Aldridge UDC;
Birmingham, Selly Oak, 1974 Feb, Oct

GRANT-SMITH, Derek b 1942, ed Slough g s, marketing manager with giant US corporation MMC, later lect in Management at Sandwell Coll, West Bromwich where he was sometime colleague of Brian King, Lionel King qqv; remembered for his earnest commitment, sense of humour and election posters bearing the none-too-imaginative exhortation 'Grant Smith Your Vote'; his abrupt exit from active politics was greatly regretted; **Birmingham, Handsworth 1974 Oct**

GRAY, Jennifer Eileen, ed Streetly s, Open U, Coventry U; varied experience in training, resources and recruitment with Peugeot etc, later French tutor, own business etc; Vice-Chair (Urban) West Midland Regional Party; training of candidates; cand Walsall MBC; bright personality; **Walsall North 2019**

GREEN, Christopher F., b 1943 Grappenhall, Cheshire, ed Wrekin Coll, King's Coll, London U; journalist and partner in ind relations co; joined party 1966; remembered for his all-round communication skills, persistence and commitment; man of many interests incl arts, education; has held hon posts with numerous organisations, dir of several campaigns; chair of party Charter Review Advisory Group for BBC; lived St Weonards, Herefordshire; Surbiton (Greater London) 1970, Cheadle (Northwest Region) 1974 Feb, Oct, **Hereford 1979, 1983, 1987**

GREEN, Colin, ed Stafford U; software eng; fought on record of party's successes in the coalition; interests incl social housing, apprenticeships; has lived in Selly Oak since 2000; **Birmingham, Selly Oak 2015, Birmingham, Edgbaston 2017, 2019**

GREEN, John, b 1916, ed Fircroft g s, U of Wales, Aberystwyth; business cons; subsequently discovered to have had dubious antecedents (unspecified) which led to his abrupt departure from local party activity; did not leave positive impression; **Birmingham, Hall Green 1966.**

GREEN, Matthew Roger, b 1970, Shrewsbury, ed Priory g s, Shrewsbury, Shrewsbury Sixth Form Coll, Birmingham U; co dir, former restaurateur, hotelier; joined party 1993; South Shropshire DC from 1994; WMRP Exec 1995-2000; Party Fed Exec 2004 ; possibly first Lib/Lib Dem elected for a predominantly rural constituency in West Midlands for nearly 100 years; his unexpected defeat in 2005 was an enormous personal disappointment and a great set-back for the party locally; formidable campaigner, determined and committed; not without critics among constituency party members, some of whom claimed he was at times stubborn, self-centered, high-handed and perhaps profligate with campaign spending; took on WMRP responsibilities for election campaigns and strategy at several by-elections; in Parliament proved to be a high-flyer who was soon appointed party Front Bench spokesman on Youth Affairs in Commons; supported interests of gypsies and travellers seeking camping sites in Green Belt areas; likely to resume Westminster ambitions eventually, though is not currently a PPC; brother of the following; **Wolverhampton South West 1997, Ludlow 2001, 2005; MP 2001-05.**

GREEN, Nathaniel (Nat) T., b Broad Oak, Salop 1966 ed Priory b g s, Shrewsbury Sixth Form Coll, Bradford U; varied career, teaching, publishing, finance, journalist with specialist magazines; brother of the preceding; **Telford 1997**; Holborn & St Pancras (Greater London) 2001, Hornchurch (Greater London) 2005, **Cannock Chase 2017, Shrewsbury & Atcham 2019**

GRENVILLE-JONES, Thomas (see JONES, Thomas Grenville)

GRIFFITHS, Ian, raised in Bilston, Wolverhampton, ed Penn Hall special s, Bilston Community College; trained as cook; volunteer with CAB; disabled; lived for some time in Portsmouth now at Ludlow; **Wolverhampton South East 2015, 2017**

GRIFFITHS, John, b 1934, ed Uppingham s, Cambridge U; journalist; prominent as NLYL Chair 1961-63; lived London; served on LPO Exec; one the youngest JPs ever to be appointed; caused dissension when thoughtlessly declaring in press his support for a Labour candidate, a personal friend, at an important by-election; a waspish individual, remembered for his over confident bearing and abrasive style of electioneering; **Ludlow 1964**, Wanstead & Woodford (Greater London) 1966, Bedford (East of England Region) 1974 Feb

GRIFFITHS, Olive Lilian, b 1919, lived Streetley, Aldridge; former charity worker; life-long Methodist activist; long serving campaigner with Sutton Coldfield LA, later Walsall, Aldridge-Brownhills LDAs and WMRP; prominent in animal welfare on which she contributed to party policy; decidedly less than enthusiastic about SDP connection; frequent local election candidate in Walsall MBC, also agent/organiser/fund raiser, with passionate belief in fund-raising potential of frequent book fairs and jumble sales; indefatigable worker continuing activities almost to her death; remembered for her pugnacious, ranting style of campaigning, irascible temperament and barbed sense of humour; her strident, assertive voice (and occasional devilish grimaces) struck fear into supporters and opponents alike; d 2004; **Birmingham, Perry Barr 1979**.

GUPTA, Mihir, b 1935 ed Calcutta U; teacher; of Hindu background, Chairman of Indian Assn. of UK chair Birmingham Advisory Council of Commonwealth Immigrants; courageously attacked and exposed corruption of 'official' Asian community leaders and temple dignitaries; his opponents in the Indian community who were almost exclusively Labour supporters, mounted a vicious campaign against him at the general election, accusing him of being a CIA agent, a covert racist and finally an untouchable; there was also wholesale abuse of the ballot box by impersonation, plural voting etc which the authorities decided not to take seriously at the time; he polled 2.4%; a close associate of Brian King qv, WMRP chair; remembered as an impulsive, obsessive individual, with grandiose ambitions and for his sometimes outrageous utterances; always involved in controversy; had a gift for showmanship, self-publicity and organisation; his untimely death was a great loss to the local Asian community; probably the first Asian Liberal parliamentary candidate in UK since 1950; d c 1980; **Smethwick 1970**.

GWINNETT, Malcolm, b 1953; baker; Wolverhampton MBC 1990; Chair, Wolverhampton Small Business Club; **Wolverhampton North East 1992**.

HADLEY, Michael (Mike) Peter, b 1943 Kinver, Staffordshire; ed King Edward VI s, Stourbridge, Aston U; pharmacist, highly successful man dir of comp co; Shrewsbury DC 1994-96, Wyre Forest DC 1980-84, Bewdley TC 1986-90, later Mayor; considered a rising star of the WMRP in the 1990s; affable and hard-working, not remembered as a forceful personality or compelling speaker; retired to Channel Isles as tax exile; **Dudley West by-e 1994, Worcestershire West 1997, 2001**

HAGAN, Sean, b 1963 ed Hayling comp s, Rhyl h s, U Coll of Wales, Aberystwyth, Chester Coll of Law; solicitor; activist with Birmingham, Selly Oak LDA; **Birmingham, Hodge Hill 1992.**

HAINS, Richard (Dick) b 1945 ed sec s; superintendent children's officer, later principal social worker; his lightning campaigns eg Walsall South were memorable for the prodigious scale of his fly-posting; otherwise left little personal impression; Harrow LBC grp ldr, ldr of opposition; **Walsall South 1974 Feb, Birmingham, Northfield 1974 Oct**, Ealing South 1979, Harrow East 1983 (both Greater London)

HALL, John C., b 1925 ed King Edward's s, Bruton, Oxford U; writer, FE lect; fought Chippenham (Southwest Region) 1959, **Worcestershire South 1970**, Angus North (Scotland) 1974 Feb

HALL, Malcolm, b 1947 ed Tinklers Farm s, Northfield, Birmingham Poly, Wolverhampton Poly; lect; Redditch MBC; **Redditch 1997.**

HAMILTON, Karen, (now TRENCH), of Anglo-Caribbean background, ed Birmingham City U; acc; Birmingham MBC (Perry Barr) 2004 to date; assiduous in her duties, serious minded, striking in appearance and personality; contributed to *Why Vote Lib Dem?* (2010); selected for HQ Candidate Leadership Prog 2012; **Birmingham, Perry Barr 2010, West Bromwich West 2015**

HAMSHER, W. P., journalist with renowned Liberal-leaning national daily, *The News Chronicle* (ceased publication 1960); **Birmingham, Acocks Green 1945.**

HANLEY, T. P., b 1917? RAF service WW II; sheet metal worker; possibly first Liberal cand from shop floor in West Midlands; probable Martell Plan cand; **Brierley Hill 1950.**

HARDEMAN, Kenneth G., b 1936, Aston, Birmingham, ed sec mod s; successively technical publisher's rep, tech education adviser, bingo caller, boxing promoter, restaurateur etc; a leading figure 1950s and 60s in the self-build housing movement which he led from the front; Birmingham MBC (for Newtown Ward, as second Liberal cllr from 1966); later represented Rotten Park, Ald from 1971; long an associate of late Wallace Lawler qv; in late 1980s joined Conservatives; re-elected to Birmingham MBC; fought as Conservative Birmingham, Sparkbrook 1997, Birmingham, Selly Oak 2001; at the time of his death, prominent as Cabinet member for Regeneration in Con-Lib Coalition in control of Birmingham Council; not always taken seriously during his Liberal career; acquired reputation as a back street Birmingham 'hustler' somewhat on a par with Labour's Ald Sir Frank Price; led a complicated personal life; remembered as a smart dresser and for his energy, resilience and strong appeal to women voters; received generous and largely well-merited media tributes for his work for Birmingham; though shrewd and sharp witted, his thinking was not profound; d 2007; **Birmingham, Ladywood 1974 Feb, Oct, by-e 1977, 1979, 1983, Birmingham, Hodge Hill 1987.**

HARDWICK, Dominic Francis Thomas, proud Mancunian, ed Didsbury p s, Us of Manchester, Arkansas; in management with Hardwick's China, also family clothing business; local government activist and frequent candidate in Manchester; strongly pro-Europe; **Burton 2017**, Denton & Reddish 2019 (Northwest Region)

HARLEY, Patrick, (some sources suggest HARLEY, Patricia), **Halesowen & Rowley Regis 2001**

HARMER, Roger, b 1965, Cambridge, ed Bristol g s, Oxford U; reg dir for bus communications firm, later managing charity, latterly head of income generation, Garden Organic; joined party 1979; Birmingham MBC 1995-2001, 2008 to date; interests incl housing, child poverty; lives Edgbaston; has contested five of the constituencies within the City of Birmingham boundaries; **Birmingham, Sparkbrook & Small Heath 1997, Birmingham, Hall Green 2005, Birmingham, Edgbaston 2010, Birmingham, Northfield 2017, Birmingham, Yardley 2019.**

HARRIES, Dr Emrys Hilary L., b 1929 ed Towyn g s, St Bart's, University Coll, London; lect at Birmingham U Med. School; remembered for his gruff manner and fearsome, ursine appearance; in common with Olive Griffiths qv he was discretely advised to omit a photograph of himself from his election address; had lighter side; alleged to have once entertained his students before a lecture by downing a pint while performing a hand stand to demonstrate how the human oesophagus functions; powerful voice, thunderous laugh, somewhat given to making explosive speeches in public; an early devotee of the legendary satirical TV programme 1961-63 *That Was The Week That Was*; sometime WMRP officer for whom he headed a successful emergency financial appeal; Bromsgrove UDC early 1960s; adopted as PPC for Bromsgrove 1960, he worked for four years unstintingly to build up local organisation and a council foothold, then resigned abruptly for family reasons in 1964, shortly before the General Election; his early departure from the WM political scene was greatly regretted, when the regional party boasted few real characters; believed to have moved to Dorset; **Worcestershire South 1959.**

HARRIS, Harry, b 1948 ed Open U, Keele U; teacher; mbr BIM; **Walsall South 1997**

HARRIS, Jack A., London textile manufacturer; lived Nuneaton, service WW I; associated with British Legion, Nuneaton; **Nuneaton 1950**

HARRIS, Paul, activist in Oxford area; **Walsall South 2019**

HARRISON, Alex, b 1920, ed elementary s; cert acc; Bedworth UD; reportedly an ineffectual individual; **Nuneaton 1970.**

HARRISON, Jo (Josephine), b 1952; died tragically after nominations had closed for what would have been her second contest; replaced by M/s Jo Crotty qv; d 2005; **Staffordshire South 2001.**

HARROD, Alan, b 1935 ed sec mod s; placement/development officer; Sandwell MBC from 1991; active with TGWU; **Warley East 1992.**

HARVEY, Christopher b 1949 ed Kidderminster Coll, Bristol Poly; Birmingham Chamber of Commerce exec; later ran own economic dvlpmnt cons; joined party 1970; Kidderminster/Wyre Forest BC early 1980s; officer of Hereford-Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce; committed Christian; interests incl the economy, Europe; **Halesowen 1979.**

HASLAM, S. W., service WW I/II; surveyor and valuer; Liberal until 1950; briefly defected to the Conservatives, later rejoining Liberals; typical Martell Plan cand, adopted at last minute; reportedly over-imbibed early on polling day and had to be taken into police custody; **Birmingham, Stechford 1950.**

HASSALL, Raymond (Ray) Geoffrey, b West Bromwich 1943, ed Ontario, Canada 1957-60; six years military service; later telecomms eng with BT; long campaigning cand Birmingham MB elections; Cllr Perry Barr 1990-2017, probably one of the longest continuous periods of service by a Lib-Dem cllr in modern times; Cabinet member for Sport and Leisure in Lib-Con coalition admin of City 2006-10; strong proponent of regular Focus deliveries and community involvement philosophy; long-serving, great hearted, hard-working councillor whose enthusiasm for the fight was infectious; enjoyed wide cross party support in his ward; lively sense of humour, steadfast in adversity; model of integrity and commitment, a staunch friend and most loyal of colleagues; had a profound interest in the antiquities of Crete where he spent several vacations and to where he was planning to retire eventually; his personal life was marred by recurrent tragedy; Lord Mayor Birmingham 2015-16; close party associate of Cllr John Hunt qv over 30 years; d March 2017; **Birmingham, Perry Barr 1997.**

HASWELL, Sue, b 1964, ed King Edward's g s, Bourneville S of Art; media salesman, later with own co; lives Bromsgrove; **Bromsgrove 2005.**

HAWKINS, Nigel, b 1935 ed Sherbourne s, Cambridge U; solicitor; **Nuneaton 1974 Oct**

HAYES, Ada Louise Charlotte, ed Birmingham U; former teacher; organiser Women's Electrical Assn, President, Business and Professional Women's Assn, Birmingham; probably a Martell Plan cand, albeit one from a professional background who had expertise to offer; lived Moseley, Birmingham; **Solihull 1950.**

HAYNES, Steven, b/raised Birmingham, mainly Northfield area, ed Shenley Court Performing Arts Coll, Birmingham U; interested in directing aid and resources to failing schools; **Birmingham, Northfield 2015**

HEAP, Michael; Wolverhampton MBC, Mayor; **Walsall North 2001.**

HEMMING, John Alexander Melvin, b Birmingham 1960, ed King Edward g s, Birmingham; affluent owner/founder of computer/IT company; made first £1m by age of 23; prominent figure in business world; Birmingham MBC 1990 to date, rose to leadership of Lib-Dem grp and Cabinet member; lives Moseley, Birmingham; persevering, indefatigable cand over many years; had propensity for conducting his complicated private life in a manner of great interest to tabloid press; despite much negative publicity, embarrassing both for himself and the party, mostly concerned with trivial and absurd details, he had a decidedly positive Commons record; acquired reputation for being a 'maverick' taking up unfashionable causes; single-minded, 'carry no passengers' approach; redoubtable campaigner in Parliament on children's, parental and adoption issues, latterly opposing muzzling of the media by the granting of High Court injunctions to the wealthy and privileged; Chair of the all-party Parliamentary Group on Peak Oil and Gas, concerned with fossil oil depletion; member of the Beveridge group; from 2007 party spokesman for the West Midlands; remembered for his valiant but ill-fated attempt to save

British Leyland from extinction, pledging a large contribution from his private fortune; one time drummer in heavy metal group, jazz pianist, mbr Musicians U; his victory at Yardley in 2005 at his fourth attempt, was the first for the party in the city since the success of Wallace Lawler qv at Ladywood in the by-election in 1969 and the first at a parliamentary general election since the 1880s; said to have taken up 30,000 constituents' cases in ten years as MP; **Birmingham, Hall Green 1983, Birmingham, Small Heath 1987, Birmingham, Yardley 1992, 1997, 2001, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2017; MP 2005-15**

HEMSLEY, Kenneth, b 1926, ed Bridgnorth s, Salop, Kirkby Coll of Ed, Manchester U; ret sen lect FE, Cheshire CC, Congleton MBC, TC; remembered for his easy-going, good-natured affability; a little too bland to make a strong impression in election campaigning; active with NATFHE; Eccles (Northwest Region) 1983, **Burton-on-Trent 1987, Shrewsbury & Atcham 1992.**

HERRINGSHAW, Gordon (" 'Hernshaw,' if you please"), b 1934; ed Bishop Vesey g s, Sutton Coldfield, King Edward VI s, Birmingham, Oxford U (graduate in PPE) co dir; from Conservative background; had meteoric rise to prominence in Liberal circles as a Wallace Lawler qv protege in mid 1960s, the latter arbitrarily engineering his nomination for the third seat in Newtown Ward, against many competing claims from long serving/campaigning party members; Birmingham MBC from 1967 alongside Lawler and Hardeman qv; subsequently returned to Conservative fold; may have fought elections later for that party; scarcely taken seriously during his flirtation with the Liberals, he is remembered for his syrupy charm, casual attitude and occasional embarrassing gaffes when speaking in public; described by both supporters and opponents as 'a stuffed shirt;' 'a cynical opportunist and chancer;' still active in Birmingham business circles c2007; **Stratford-upon-Avon 1966, Birmingham, Small Heath 1970.**

HICKS, Nigel Stuart, b 1955 ed Falmouth g s, Trent Poly; cha quantity surveyor; lives Redditch; **Warwick & Leamington 1997, Meriden 2001, Redditch 2005.**

HILL, Robert W. T., b 1917; service WW II; carpet man., associated with Independent Traders Alliance, National U of Manufacturers; active with party in Kidderminster LA and local Liberal Club; his pride would not allow him to accept an offer of a recount by the returning officer when only a handful of votes short of saving his deposit; **Bromsgrove 1950.**

HILTON, Andrew, local activist; **Coventry North West 2017**

HINKS, Nora F., b c1920s; later appointed JP, Birmingham, one time chair, Birmingham Women Liberals; defected to Labour early 1950s; Birmingham MBC early 1960s later crossing floor to rejoin Liberals and old colleague Wallace Lawler qv; one of the most colourful and quintessential Brummie characters of her day with a strident voice and authentic accent to match; the impulse of anyone hearing her speak for the first time was to laugh out loud; her attempts to 'talk posh' were a disaster; took herself very seriously; held absurdly archaic, strait-laced views on matters sexual; she appeared on TV in a memorable and hilarious confrontation with the female manager of the city's first sex supermarket; a pioneer in calling for a greater role for women in public life; said to have campaigned in 1950 for more generous food rationing with slogans including 'Meat and Two Veg for All' probably a Martell Plan candidate ; d 1990s; **Birmingham, Perry Barr 1950.**

HOLDEN, Michael, b 1947 ed Mount St Mary Coll, Manchester Poly; teacher; **Leek 1974 Oct**

HOLTOM, Ann, b/raised Erdington, Birmingham; ed Sutton Coldfield Coll of FE; BA (Hons Housing); various posts in business incl driving school proprietor/instructor; originally elected as Labour cllr for Erdington, Birmingham MBC, crossing floor to join Lib Dems 2006; concerned with youth unemployment; called for end to 'bedroom tax'; lost her council seat in dismal year for party 2014; stalwart local campaigner interested in education; **Birmingham, Erdington 2010, 2015, 2017, 2019**

HOOPER, C. Edward A., b 1940 ed Bryanston s, Leeds U, Harvard U, Oxford U; leather manufacturer/merchant with old family business in Walsall; noted for courteous, unassuming demeanor; Euro cand Birmingham North 1979; fought **Walsall South 1974 Oct, Sutton Coldfield 1979**

HOPKINS, Glyn, b 1937, ed Pontywalin g s, Gwent; remembered for his bumptious Welsh volubility and self-important attitude; **Dudley East 1974 Oct**

HORNBY, Pam, b 1935, ed Wallington City g s, Leeds U; ret teacher, later with National Trust; officer of National Council of Parent-Teacher Assns; Congleton DC, Mayor; **Stafford 1997**

HORTON, Dr Bruce, hails from Solihull; cons on environmental policy; co dir; concerned at climate crisis, greenhouse gases, provision of affordable housing; **Redditch 2019**

HOVERS, Kenneth, b 1922 ; ed King Edward's s, Birmingham; awarded DFC RAF in WW II; originally a wholesale greengrocer, a pioneer of pre-packaging, later ins cons; lived Sutton Coldfield; Sutton Coldfield MBC 1957 to early 60s; subsequently active in Birmingham party circles; a suave, business type, remembered for his confident, positive approach and for bravely forging an entry into local government in a previously impregnable Tory stronghold; d c1992; **Sutton Coldfield 1959, Birmingham Perry Barr 1974 Feb, Oct**

HOWES, Monica, b 1938? ed Haberdashers' Aske's s, Johannesburg h s, South Africa, Westminster U ; dir of international office at Open U; fought Mid Beds (East of England Region) 1983, Ealing, Southall (Greater London)1987, St Albans (East of England Region)1992, **Aldridge-Brownhills 2001.**

(Lieut) HOWELLS, Phillip; former professional soldier with service in Berlin, Northern Ireland etc; Ledbury TC, Mayor, Herefordshire CC; runs his own sports equipment business; devotee of several outdoor pursuits; has run in nearly 300 marathons; **North Herefordshire 2019**

HUFFER, T. Ian, ed Ludlow g s, Oxford U, barrister; Macclesfield MBC 1984-88; contesting Shropshire CC elections 2010; interested in green issues; Denton & Reddish (Northwest Region) 1987, **Ludlow 1997**

HUGILL, David (later Dr), b 1939 from Hodnett, Shropshire, ed Adam g s, Birmingham U; research chemist; became skilled glass blower, building equipment for his complex chemical experiments; later ind chemist; former Chair, U Lib Soc, associated with Ad Lib Group; with Brian King, Lionel King, Stuart Stockdale qqv; remembered for his courage, enthusiasm, intellect and as a forceful speaker; fought bravely in notorious Smethwick election amidst highly-publicised,

Conservative-incited racial ill-feeling; planned to write a book relating his view of the campaign but could not rouse interest of publishers; his early departure from the West Midlands scene was much regretted; later reportedly served as officer of an LDA in Essex; **Smethwick 1964**.

HUMPHREY, Patrick T., b 1926 ed Kingston g s, King's Coll, London U; transport officer; Dagenham (Greater London) 1964, **Birmingham, Erdington 1974 Feb**

HUNT, Jonathan (Jon), b 1958, ed Monkton Combe s, Bath, St Aubyns s, Tiverton, U of Tromso, Norway, Cambridge U; former feature journalist on Health with Birmingham Post 1988-99; later developing interests and responsibilities in transport; WMRP Exec, later officer 2011- (Chair of Policy) ; Birmingham MBC 2003 to date, one time Cabinet Member for Transport; succeeded Paul Tilsley qv as ldr of party group, 2016; with late Ray Hassall (qv) re-established party as force in North Birmingham from late 1980s; committed Christian; serious minded with enormous capacity for hard work; some associates find him intense and lacking in humour; **Birmingham, Perry Barr 2001, 2005, Cannock Chase 2010**.

HUNT, Trevor, b 1942; supermarket entrepreneur; **West Bromwich East 1974 Oct**

HURDS, Lucy, ed Prim s, Ross-on-Wye, Hereford Sixth Form Coll; mother of four grown-up children; former book keeper, worked in PR, later cons/adviser to small businesses; spirited local campaigner, notably with Hands Up for Herefordshire; courageously tackled local Tory MP in media over his parliamentary expenses misdemeanors; WMRP Secretary, chair of fund raising; HQ Candidate Leadership Prog 2012; lives Hereford; **Herefordshire North 2010, Hereford & Herefordshire South 2015, 2017, 2019**

HUSSAIN, Talib, b Kashmir 1955, of Muslim background; trained Birmingham Mime & Speech Centre; actor; had small parts in films including James Bond epic, *Octopussy*, *Gandhi etc* and in various TV series; pursued a maverick career on Birmingham MBC; originally elected as a Labour cllr, he defected to the Lib Dem grp in 2003 over the invasion of Iraq; was a cabinet mbr for some months before he resigned in a dispute over grant allocations; subsequently sat as Ind, later joining the Conservatives, fighting a municipal election for that party shortly before his death; d 2011; **Birmingham, Sparkbrook 2005**

HUTCHISON, Robert, b 1941 ed St Paul's s, Trinity Coll., Dublin, U of E Anglia; writer, one-time BBC TV presenter, later civil servant; with Policy Studies Inst 1982-86; serious minded, studious-looking but with strong sense of fun; founder, later Chair, Winchester Action Group on Climate Change 2007; Winchester DC from 2010; **Shrewsbury & Atcham 1987**

INMAN, David, b 1936 ed King Edward's s, Birmingham, University Coll, London; solicitor; Hinckley DC, Leicestershire CC; **Nuneaton 1974 Feb**, Blaby (East Midlands Region) 1974 Oct

IQBAL, Shazad, b/raised Ladywood, of Muslim background; ed pr s in Aston, Wolverhampton U; joined Party 2006; community activist; interested in human rights, prevention of domestic violence, improving quality of life in inner city areas; **Birmingham Ladywood 2015**

JACK, David, activist in Wolverhampton, fighting local elections to 2006; he was later adopted as PPC for Stoke-on-Trent North but was suspended while under investigation for allegedly sending offensive e-mails; he was exonerated when it was found he had been set up by a bogus company, Credit Card Killer, whose nefarious activities he had been investigating;

Wolverhampton North East 2005

JACKSON, Ian Andrew, b Tynemouth 1949, ed St Cuthbert's g s, Newcastle -on-Tyne, Newcastle Poly; Ch Inst of Management; management acc; served on LPO Scottish Council, later English Council; election agent/organiser; lives Lichfield; joined party on Tyneside 1972; local activist since 1990; interests incl transport; Lichfield MBC grp ldr; **Lichfield 2005, 2010, Cannock Chase 2015**

JAMES, Terry, b 1948 ed Lady Hawkins s; farmer, co dir; Hereford & Worcestershire CC from 1981; grp ldr, Leominster DC; **Leominster 1997**

JANKE, Thomas, born/raised locally; former professional soldier, Queen's Royal Lancers; service in Iraq; cllr Telford & Wrekin MBC; interests incl health care; **The Wrekin 2019**

JEBB, Christina (Tina), b 1949 ed Agnes Convent h s, Holte g s, Birmingham, Doncaster Co of Ed, Open U; teacher, holistic therapy practitioner; Staffordshire CC later grp ldr; Staffordshire Moorlands DC 1997-2000; lives Endon, Stoke; remembered for courage and tenacity in her campaign to expose the notorious 'pin down' practices used in Staffordshire children's homes and other abuses in children's services; many interests incl Friends of the Earth, Racial Equality Council;(wife of the following); **Staffordshire, Moorlands 1992, 1997, Nuneaton 2010, 2015**

JEBB, Henry, b 1951 ed Wellington Coll, Berkshire, Keele U; joined party 1988, originally self-employed carpenter, later self-employed publisher/printer; Staffordshire Moorlands DC 1991-95; (husband of the preceding); **Stoke-on-Trent North 1997, 2001, 2005, Staffordshire Moorlands 2010, 2017**

JENKINS, Ian Clive, b 1951 ed King Henry VIII s, Abergavenney, Wolverhampton Poly; sales manager, later foster carer; long an activist in Wolverhampton, fighting many local elections up to 2019; genial, friendly disposition; persevering campaigner in seven unpromising constituencies; mbr CAMRA, Railway Development Soc; **Dudley East 1992, The Wrekin 1997, 2001, Telford 2005, Aldridge-Brownhills 2010, Wolverhampton North East 2015, 2017**

JEPHCOTT, Benedict (Ben) b Enfield, Middlesex 1965, ed St Columba' Co, St Albans Bowland Co, Lancaster U, Lancashire Poly; active in student politics later, in turn, journalist, political organiser, campaign agent; Bridgnorth TC; served as Mayor; originally member SDP 1984-88; formidable advocate of campaign and organisation training; font of up-to-date information on regional local government matters; steadfast aide of Liz Lynne MEP; serious-minded, some critics would say intense and perhaps lacking in humour; indispensable mandarin of WMRP; it would be impossible to adequately describe or acknowledge his work on behalf of the party in a short entry; after 2015 concentrated efforts on Euro Referendum campaign;served as agent in Mayoral and police Commissioner elections; m Helen Tedcastle, Bridgnorth TC, a long-serving party activist; **Shropshire North 2001**

JEROME, Gerry, b 1954 of Mauritian-Creole background; graduate; former civil servant; managed his own co in the City; became disillusioned by prevailing culture of greed; Sutton LBC; Croydon North (Greater London) 2010, 2015, **Birmingham, Perry Barr 2019**

JESSEL, Penelope, later Dame, b 1920, daughter of eminent Oxford publisher, Sir Basil Blackwell; of distant Jewish forebears, ed Dragon s, Oxford, St Leonard's s, St Andrew's, Scotland, Oxford U, LSE; joined ATS in WW II later working in East End of London; former teacher, lecturer; experience as parish cllr; prominent figure in Women' Lib Fed, Pres 1970-72, Liberal Int Officer 1985-88, created Dame 1987; at the by-election *The Guardian* correspondent described her as 'a jolly elder sister of Pussy Galore,' and *The Times* as 'an adroit and charming canvasser' though local party members recalled her permanently disapproving expression and aloof manner; persevering campaigner fighting six elections over a decade; ardent supporter of many causes; spent time in her 70s with Polisario rebels in Western Sahara, with Jonas Savimbi and his partisans in South East Angola; mother of David J., radio/TV broadcaster, campaigner against miscarriages of justice; and Stephen J., distinguished radio/TV broadcaster, eminent BBC foreign correspondent; a *Daily Telegraph* obituary described her as 'a famous beauty,' a life-long chain smoker; died of cancer 1996; **Birmingham, Hall Green 1964, by-e 1965**, Banbury 1966, Petersfield (both South Central Region) 1970, Wellingborough (East Midlands Region) 1974 Feb, Oct

JOHNSON, Elizabeth, b 1947, ed Parkstone g s, Poole Coll of Art, Poole Tech, Keele U; mature student; **Stoke-on-Trent South 1974 Oct.**

JOHNSON, Sandra, longtime activist at Aldridge-Brownhills; as cand brought a welcome touch of glamour to the campaign in two dreary constituencies; assiduous about her duties; confident campaigner with strong opinions; elegant, articulate, attractive personality; **Birmingham, Erdington 2001, Burton-on-Trent 2005**

JOHNSON, Trevor, Newcastle MBC; reported to have defected to the Conservatives; **Newcastle-under-Lyme 2005.**

JONES, Fred, b 1949 ed sec mod s, adult ed coll; fork-lift truck driver; former trade union activist with Union of Democratic Mine Workers; **Stoke-on-Trent South 1992.**

JONES, Gwynoro Glyndwr, b 1942 ed Gwenddraeth g s, Cardiff U; sen education officer; Labour MP, Carmarthen 1970-74 Oct, PPS to Roy Jenkins, member of Council of Europe; his support for Welsh Devolution split the Labour Party in Wales; joined SDP 1981; served on various Alliance committees; fought Gower (Wales) by-e 1982, 1983, Carmarthen (Wales) 1987; at Hereford he was the victim of malicious personal attacks in local press, culminating in an item which appeared on polling day, leaving him no chance to reply; LPO exec 1988-90; subsequently rejoined Labour, but was unsuccessful in attempt to join their list of PPCs; Independent cand for Welsh Assembly 2007; subsequently rejoined Lib Dems, 2011; not remembered for having any marked impact as a cand or personality; **Hereford 1992**

JONES, Mark, b 1964; volunteer bureau development officer, later safety cons; **Wyre Forest 1992**, Leicester West (East Midlands Region) 1997.

JONES, Thomas Grenville (also styled T. G. Jones), b 1923 ed Llandridnod Wells, Tonbridge s, Cambridge U, Pres of Union, Middle Temple but appears not to have practised law; RAF WWII; journalist later political cons with own co from 1960, writer for Cross Bencher column of *Sunday Express*; joined commercial advisers External Political Services; one-time close associate of former Liberal Leader, Jeremy Thorpe; had flair for self-publicity, and according to his *Guardian* obituarist, 'charm and a saucy wit;' despite his encouraging result at Leominster the LA declined to re-adopt him, his life-style not meeting with the approval of the strait-laced membership and officers; defected to Labour in late 1960s; d 2000; fought Isle of Ely 1950 (East of England Region), **Leominster 1959**, Tavistock (Devon & Cornwall Region) 1964

JONES, (William) Nigel, b Aberdare, 1944 ed at successively Aberdare, Cheltenham and Pontypridd g s, Cambridge U, Exeter U, Southampton U; Head of Maths, Stoke-on-Trent FE Coll; Methodist local preacher; first joined party 1969; Newcastle-under-Lyme DC 2002- dpty ldr grp; interests; economic sustainability, wages, PR; **Newcastle-under-Lyme 2010, Walsall North 2015, Newcastle-under-Lyme 2017, 2019**

JONES, Timothy A., b 1951 London, ed Christ's Hospital s, Cambridge U, Chair Liberal Club; LSE; fought elections while a law student; later barrister in Birmingham; Rugeley TC; agreeable in manner, remembered for his dogged persistence, integrity of purpose and impressive moustache; lacked strength of personality necessary to a campaigner; C of E activist; mbr Assn of Lib Dem Lawyers; interests incl climate change, heritage, anti-racism; lives Rugeley; **Warwick & Leamington 1974 Feb, Oct , Mid Staffs 1983, 1987 by-e 1990.**

JUDGE, Greg, b Coventry, lives Canley, ed Alderman Callow s, City Coll, Bristol U; medical research policy man with international charity; wheel-chair bound; fought bravely on party record in Coalition; had to contend with a particularly obnoxious UKIP opponent; campaigner on issues concerning the deaf and otherwise handicapped people, rights of the terminally ill; addressed Assembly 2013 calling for legal recognition of sign language; able public speaker; **Coventry South 2015, 2017, Coventry North West 2019**

JUNED, Dr Susan Aysha, b c1948 ed Swanwick Hall g s, Nene Coll, Birmingham U; biologist; cons with Greewatt Technology; joined party 1985; Stratford DC 1990 to date, Warwickshire CC 1993 to date; member LPO Federal Policy Comm; lives Alcester; Euro cand 1999, 2009; serious minded; highly respected throughout party for her expertise in local government affairs; has served on several party policy working groups; has presided ably over full sessions at Party Assemblies; mbr Green Lib Dems, WLDs, interests incl renewable energy, environment; lives Alcester; contributor to *Green Book* 2013; **Stratford-upon-Avon 1997, 2001, 2005, Redditch 2017**

KEARNEY, Stephen, b 1959; hails from Shropshire/Montgomeryshire border; later lived Plymouth; studied agricultural production with Harper Adams, Shropshire; former head of development charity; fdr/dir of UK Youth parliament; strategist in Government Organising programme; interests incl problems of rural economy; concerned about child abuse, bullying;

Henley by-e 2008, (South Central Region), Tiverton & Honiton 2015 (Devon & Cornwall Region), **Worcester 2017, 2019**

KEATING, Edward, ed Brunel U, Cornwall Coll, Redruth; former journalist later marketing cons; Weston-super-Mare; North Somerset DC; **Warley 2010.**

KEETCH, Paul, b Hereford 1961, ed Hereford h s, Hereford Sixth Form Coll; originally bank employee later official with water hygiene co, later bus cons; later political cons with specialism in East European affairs; joined party 1975, former chairman WM YLs, NLYLs Nat Exec; elected to Hereford DC aged 22; long experience as agent in Hereford elections 1974-79, campaign man 1983; Party Health spokesperson, later Shadow Defence Spokesperson 1999-2005, making forceful speeches during Iraq War against UK involvement; later member Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs 2005-10; will long be remembered as first Lib Dem victor in a general election in West Midlands for 62 years and for defending the seat at two subsequent elections; was exposed in press for his inordinate parliamentary expenses claims; an indiscretion in his personal life led to further press headlines shortly before he retired from Westminster; became partner in lobbying firm; multiple interests, insatiable capacity for hard work; remembered for his genial personality, ready smile; as mbr of Liberal Leave, he worked for Brexit during the 2016 Referendum campaign while details of his sometimes complicated private life continued to appear in the tabloids; reportedly suffered latterly from neurological disorder; d May 2017; **Hereford 1997, 2001, 2005; MP 1997- 2010;** See *Dictionary of Liberal Biography*

KELWAY, Peter, b 1945; research eng; **Bromsgrove 1974 Oct.**

KEMP, William Herbert OBE, b 1881 Market Harborough, ed Market Harborough g s, Caterham Coll; pharmacist in Stoke-on-Trent from 1910; Stoke MBC from 1921, later Ald, from 1939; Lord Mayor 1944-45; Chair, North Staffordshire Liberal Fed; one of founders of Keele U 1949; he and his wife Emma, Chair of the local WVS, were pillars of local community for many years; in his single parliamentary election he polled just 8%; d 1957; **Stoke-on-Trent South 1950.**

KENRICK, Joel, b Edinburgh, ed LSE, Students' Union Treasurer, Harvard U, United World College of the Atlantic; joined Party 2003 while protesting at UK/USA invasion of Iraq; worked for charities, special adviser to Chris Huhne MP qv (South Central Region), briefly Sec of State for Energy & Climate Change working on funding of community energy/energy efficient projects; former parliamentary researcher; worked for Greenpeace, Adam Smith Instit on international development projects in Africa, South East Asia; latterly strategy cons adviser to charities, businesses; **Walsall South 2015**

KEYES, Rod, b West Bromwich 1949?, ed Sheffield U; MBR Ch Ins; worked in insurance for over 30 years in posts all over country; active in Union of Ins Employees; now lives Ellesmere, North Shropshire; interested in inland waterways, the media; Leicestershire North West (East Midlands Region) 2005, **The Wrekin 2015, 2017**

KHAN, Ayoub, b 1973, of Muslim background ed Duddeston Manor s, Josiah Mason Coll, Birmingham U, U of C.E.; has degrees in chemistry, engineering and the law; barrister, Birmingham DC 2003-12; cand for West Mids Police Commission 2012, by-e 2014; Euro cand 2014; **Birmingham, Ladywood 2005, 2010.**

KHAN, Tariq, of Muslim background, ed Duddeston Manor s, Hall Green Tech Coll, Wolverhampton U; sen medical rep; former Labour cllr, joined Lib Dems 2001, Birmingham MBC 2004-08, dpty grp ldr; **Birmingham, Hodge Hill 2010.**

KIDD, Heather, b Shoreham, Sussex 1954, ed Kings Manor s, Shoreham, Sussex, Queen Mary Coll. London U, Chelsea Coll for Science Ed; science teacher in London/Sussex; joined Party 1996; South Shropshire DC 1996 - Ldr 2003-07; personable and articulate; prominent in local Shropshire by-election victories 2010-11; lives Chirbury, Powys; LPO HQ Candidate Leadership Programme 2012; **Ludlow 2010, 2017, 2019**

KILBY, Gordon, b 1940, ed Guildhall s, U of Wales, Open U; teacher; active with Rugby LDA; **Coventry South East 1983.**

KING, Brian David, b Romford, Essex 1936, ed Royal Liberty s, Romford, Birmingham U, Aston U; RAF national service 1955-57, Chair, Birmingham U Lib Soc where he met Lionel King, Stuart Stockdale and David Hugill qqv; formed Ad Lib Group, an informal association of radical graduates; editor of its periodical *Ad Lib* (expired after two issues); studied Spanish, Russian, Portuguese; teacher, later sen lect in FE; from early on a committed Christian, intending to become a missionary in Latin America, later became a free thinker; lived from 1960 at Handsworth, Birmingham; fought many Birmingham MBC and West Midlands CC elections in 1960s and 70s; steadfastly opposed formidable Wallace Lawler's extra-constitutional activities in early 1960s - though they remained friends; WMRP officer 1960-79, closely associated with Roy Lewthwaite qv as key figures in the maintenance and development of party organisation in West Midlands; encouraged the transition of the WMRP AGM into a mini-conference with political resolutions, side-events, panels etc; as Hon Treasurer advocate of several innovations, eventually widely adopted, such as a national party membership register, a local by-election guarantee fund etc; LPO Council/Exec 1960s to 1970s; dedicated to ideals of European Union, internationalism, anti-apartheid, some sympathy for CND; greatly encouraged Mihir Gupta qv in his campaign to establish a nation-wide body representative of the interests of Asian communities; left party c1980 partly through disillusionment at Party's treatment of Jeremy Thorpe qv, antipathy to David Steel's qv brand of leadership etc; subsequently dedicated himself to professional career in FE, pioneering the new discipline of Counselling; critics considered him aloof and intense; remembered for his multi-talents, dedication, intellectual approach, tact and diplomacy, integrity of purpose, guitar and piano playing, singing, occasional witty one-liners; his exit from active politics was widely regretted; remained unmarried; suffered from ill health in later years, becoming something of a recluse; retained perceptive interest in political and philosophical matters; supported Nick Clegg's entry into coalition government as being in the national interest; d 2019; **Stafford & Stone 1964.** (not related to Lionel King qv).

KING, Lionel Arthur, BEM, b West Ham, London 1936, ed Leyton c h s, Birmingham U; (Chair Liberal Society); worked/studied in Spain/Portugal 1957-59 during dictatorships of Franco/

Salazar where his interest in politics and freedom was awakened; joined Liberal Party attracted by ideas and personality of Jo Grimond; co-founder of Ad Lib Group; teacher, later sen lect in Media/TV Training in FE; lived Handsworth, Birmingham 1959-2004, Solihull 2004 to date; married Sally nee Lancaster 1964 1s, 1d; long-serving officer of WMLF/WMRP; LPO Council/Exec 1960s, Chair WMLF 1962-64, taking over as Vice-Chair aged 26, in a crisis caused by the resignation of all his fellow senior officers; served on West Midlands Candidates Interview Panel, on which he sought to increase the number of women and ethnic minority candidates selected; later Federal Council 1996-2000; WMRP Exec 2008-10; Solihull & Meriden Exec 2005-; fought many Birmingham MBC elections 1960s/70s; originally approved as a potential parliamentary cand in 1960; (as of June 2020 believed to be the longest serving member of Liberal Candidates Assn); victim of the 'long knives' purge of PPCs 1979 involving Martyn Smith, Fran and Mike Oborski qqv; after an interval, unconditionally reinstated by LPO HQ; unaccountably side-lined when the party gained strength on Birmingham MBC, his only official appointment was as a trustee of Handsworth Charities in early 2000s; officer for many years Handsworth LA/ Perry Barr LA; familiar face at by-elections at all levels in WM since 1960; in retirement, became writer/journalist/broadcaster on TV, local radio, appeared in May 2015 on acclaimed BBC 2 programme on Winston Churchill, *When Britain Said No*; on numerous TV/radio quiz shows, twice *Brain of Britain* contestant; active in community relations; deeply interested in housing, long-serving mbr board of Midland Area Improvement Housing Association, later Midland Heart; mbr NAS, NATFHE, later NUJ; West Bromwich Trades Council in 1970s; conducted TV training courses for WM PPCs from mid 1980s; prolific writer of letters to press; campaigned for many years against LPO HQ reluctance to stage Party Assembly in Birmingham; finally vindicated when English and Federal Parties chose as venue Birmingham ICC in 2010 and 2011; takes himself and Liberalism very seriously though his somewhat zany, over-the-top, sense of humour is never far away; though widely known in party circles, has few political intimates; a persistent campaigner (fought Solihull MBC elections 2012 - over 50 years after his first contest in Birmingham), Balsall PC 2008-19; said to lack the ruthless quality which makes for a successful campaigner/politician; neither does his intellectual brand of Liberalism readily adapt to doorstep campaigning; a free thinker with Humanist leanings, interests incl Europe, parliamentary reform, the imbalance of wealth, Latin America, languages, inland waterways restoration, writing short stories, historical/political articles for now defunct *Contemporary Review*; life-long interest in jazz; ardent cricket follower, still playing at club level 2018, Warwickshire CCC Over 70s XI; awarded BEM 2016 for community services; after 15 years research, compiled the *UK Regional Indices of Liberal Parliamentary Candidates 1945-2019*, posted on the *Journal of Liberal History* website; **Kidderminster 1964, Sutton Coldfield 1970, Walsall South 1987** (not related to Brian King qv of whom he was long a friend and political associate.)

KING, Susan, former Director of the National Pure Water Association, previously community activist in Leicestershire; during the 2017 campaign she made a statement claiming there are 'feminising hormones' in the domestic water supply which could have long term effects on DNA; besides arousing LGBTQ+ susceptibilities, her remarks caused some embarrassment to the leadership at a time when Tim Farron qv (Northwest Region) was being accused in some quarters of being anti-gay; **Telford 2017**

KIRBY, Richard, b 1973 ed Graham Balfour h s, Stafford, Oxford U; health service man; mbr ERS; **Cannock Chase 1997.**

KIRK, William Watson, b 1915?, Scotland; of uncertain background; entrepreneur/businessman; pioneer in employment of discharged mental patients, innovator in payment of his workers by cheque; (technically illegal until 1960s); was a typical example of the 'fly-by-nights' who briefly joined the Wallace Lawler qv entourage in early 1960s, not taken seriously either by colleagues or opponents; styled by press as 'the perky Mr Kirk'; one of his by-election meetings was graced by Laura Grimond qv (Scotland), the party leader's wife as a guest speaker; remembered for his unconvincing, often incoherent speeches, the deplorable condition of his teeth and the ever present odour of whisky about him; he subsequently spent some time as a guest of HM prison services for financial malpractices; **Birmingham, Small Heath by-e 1961.**

KNOWLES, Izzy, ed Newark g h s, Nottinghamshire; lived Hall Green 40 years; 33 years as police officer, latterly neighbourhood sergeant; charity worker 5 years; she became community activist entering politics 2017; pers asst to Phil Bennion MEP; interested in housing crisis, mental health, local policing; **Birmingham, Hall Green 2019**

LAITINEN, William, b Vermont, USA 1981; grandson of Finnish immigrant; studied in USA; man dir of company; lived Solihull; active with Solihull LDA; **Meriden 2005.**

LAMB, Dr H. H. Brian, b Armagh 1919, ed Armagh Royal s, Trinity Coll, Dublin; respected GP in Kidderminster; lived Wolverley, nr Kidderminster; an early subscriber to *Private Eye*, which he received by post because local newsagents were nervous about stocking it in its early months of publication; larger-than-life figure with rebellious side; enthusiast of work of Brendan Behan; popular figure, remembered for his extravert personality, generosity, bonhomie, strong speaking voice, commitment, Irish charm and toothbrush moustache; his wife Renee, who served briefly on Wolverley PC, was a party activist with strong opinions, relishing controversy; d 1997; **Kidderminster 1970**

LAMB, (Major) Richard A., b 1911; of Catholic background; ed Oxford U; service WW II; from Cumbrian land-owning family; farmer and agriculturalist; defected to Conservatives (for whom he fought Stockton-on-Tees (Northern Counties)1950; returned to Liberals early 1960s; one time editor of party periodical *New Outlook*; later wrote several polemical books about the Italian campaign in WW II, British politics etc; one-time close associate of Jeremy Thorpe; influential contributor to party policy on agriculture; d 1999; **Lichfield 1945**, Dorset North 1964, 1966 (Southwest Region).

LAMBERT, Anthony (Tony), b 1943 ed Hitchin g s, Oxford U; asst postal controller, later GPO sen auditor; Thornbury TC (Gloucestershire) in 1970s later fought Birmingham MB elections; made a strong impression during his short connection with WMRP; remembered for his supreme self-confidence, aggressive electioneering and skill in speedily drafting text of leaflets; energetic campaigner, strong personality; his tragically early death at Gloucester c 1985 was a great loss to the party; Gloucestershire South (Southwest Region) 1970, **Staffordshire South West 1974 Oct**, Newport, Monmouth (Wales) 1979, Caerphilly (Wales) 1983.

LANE, Nicholas, b Solihull 1983, ed local schools in Henley-in-Arden, King Edward VI s, Stratford-upon-Avon, Bristol U, Kings Coll, London, Coll of Law; barrister and bio-chemist; former aide to Norman Baker MP at Westminster; Editor-in-Chief, *Who's Who in Lib Dems?* 2011; **Reddit** 2010.

LAURIE, Alan, b 1921? Grantchester, Cambridgeshire, ed Monkton Combe s, Bath, Cambridge U; rowed in unofficial wartime Boat Race 1940; service WWII, teacher, later housemaster Shrewsbury s, later Principal Royal Coll for Blind, warden of adult education coll; local cllr; d 2019; **Shrewsbury 1979**

LAWLER, Wallace Leslie, b Worcester 1912, ed St Paul's s, Worcester; plastics manufacturer; lived Handsworth, later King's Heath, Birmingham; service WW II; founder member of Public Opinion Action 1943; interest in public affairs from youth; one of only four party candts in West Midlands at 1955 General Election; long-time Chair BLO, WMLF officer, LPO Council and Exec (Vice-Pres 1968).

Gifted with a powerful voice, a formidable, emotional, if at times prolix public speaker, he was noted for his hyperbole and malapropisms, mispronunciations eg 'omes before hoffices,' 'amalgamated,' misuse of vocabulary eg 'redundant' constituencies without any Liberal organisation' He had a great flair for publicity and was seldom free from media attention. He could not be ignored even by fiercely hostile Birmingham press. He was detested by both Labour and Conservative civic leaders for daring to challenge their 'duopoly' while his high-handed behaviour and boundless personal ambition often aroused strong opposition from within his own camp. He was hopelessly at odds on many issues with younger colleagues of Liberal group towards the end of his career Paul Tilsley, Dennis Minnis, Graham Gopsill qqv. He was a sincere and tireless champion of the many causes he embraced; the homeless, small businessmen, victims of villainous landlords, self-build housing groups, council tenants, Inner City problems, OAPs, youth clubs, National Health workers. Claiming to be non-political until his late 30s, he went on to contest numerous local elections for Birmingham City council finally being elected for Newtown Ward in 1962, the first Liberal in the chamber for 30 years serving until his death, latterly as an alderman. It was four years before a colleague, Ken Hardeman qv, was elected to join him. He was effectively leader of a Liberal group only from 1966-72.

His electioneering methods became known as 'community politics' and were widely adopted elsewhere, with outstanding success in Liverpool. They were also strongly favoured by the YL leaders who sponsored a successful Assembly resolution calling for the party to adopt 'community politics' as a campaign strategy. He also enjoyed considerable rapport with the YLs for his anti-party establishment views. In Birmingham the Lawler appeal generally fell upon deaf ears outside the Inner City, his approach proving unsuited to Conservative-inclined wards. It was not until after his death that younger Liberal candidates began to win seats on the edge of the city such as Sheldon, Yardley and Acocks Green.

All these strands, Lawlerism, community politics, Inner City problems, the support of the YLs – fused admirably at Ladywood to achieve his by-election victory in the summer of 1969. Already a sick man when elected as the first Liberal MP in Birmingham since 1880s, he became a vociferous advocate of all his chosen causes in the Commons being appointed party spokesman

on Housing and the Home Office. His spirited attacks on the Labour government's record on housing brought upon him the hatred of their front bench and he was regularly shouted down by back benchers. But he proved an effective performer. In the disaster which befell the party at the General Election of 1970, he lost his seat after serving his troubled constituency for just 364 days. At the time of his death through lung cancer, after a long illness, bravely borne, he had already been adopted as PPC for the revised Birmingham, Small Heath constituency.

Lawler was one of the first figures in local government to voice opposition to the indiscriminate and wholesale redevelopment of inner-city areas, which he termed 'municipal fascism.' He welcomed the end of slums and sub-standard dwellings in Birmingham, many of which were over a century old. What he demanded was more thought, public consultation and imaginative planning with an increased emphasis on refurbishment of properties, small industrial premises, public buildings and expanded inner city facilities. He believed that in their haste to push through their plans, local authorities were destroying established communities and patterns of life and work. Birmingham's industrial might and great wealth had been founded in the C19th by entrepreneurs who had set up their businesses in central Birmingham. Many hundreds of these, involved in precision engineering and metals, still employed thousands of workers, many of them middle-aged, who lived often conveniently close to the workplace. All these factors had been overlooked. Many of these small businesses had simply closed, others after much disruption, had been re-located on industrial estates on the city boundaries. Many highly skilled workers, technicians and craftsmen, had lost their jobs or were obliged to become commuters. Lawler believed that the very existence of Birmingham as Britain's premier industrial city was at stake.

He deplored the building of high-rise tower blocks on bleak, impersonal estates, drawing attention to the consequences of the break-down of communities, particularly when thousands of uprooted families were re-settled on giant estates, such as Castle Vale, Erdington which was to become a by word for social engineering disasters of this kind. Birmingham's housing shortage could never have been solved at a stroke in this way, particularly when the policy created unforeseen social problems. He feared tensions arising among a new generation of rootless youth, no longer subject to the benign influence of a network of close relatives, life-long friends and neighbours. His doubts were dismissed by his opponents as being those of 'an alarmist reactionary, standing in the way of progress,' 'nostalgic day-dreaming' etc though he did attract the attention of the Bishop of Birmingham, some local religious groups and more perceptive sociologists. Sadly, nearly all his worst fears were realized.

Lawler championed from his election to the City Council the introduction of Organisation & Methods surveys, then a radical departure, into council departments. These he advised should be undertaken by outside firms, rather than by internal procedure. He was prompted by possibilities of savings being made and raising standards of efficiency. The suggestion was summarily rejected by the Labour-controlled Council, who not without cause, believed that adverse reports would call into question the efficiency of their administration. The Conservative opposition concurred, claiming the possible savings would not cover the fees payable to O & M firms. Leaders of the enormous staff of local government officers, fearing redundancies, also fiercely opposed the idea. It is likely that Lawler even at this stage suspected corruption in some

council departments, particularly those concerned with the redevelopment of the city, many of the contracts awarded involving millions of pounds.

Eventually the Council engaged an O & M firm to undertake a survey in probably the least typical of all council departments, that of the Town Clerk. The final report suggested savings, if the recommendations were implemented, of hundreds of thousands of pounds. As for his suspicions of corruption, the city was stunned some years later when, after a sensational trial, the City Architect and leading officials of a major local building firm were jailed. In some areas of the country where urban redevelopment was taking place on a similar scale to Birmingham, for example the North East, legal proceedings led to the imprisonment of civic leaders among them T. Dan Smith. Lawler would have believed a number of Birmingham council personalities deserved a similar fate.

Lawler was an early advocate of a 20 m.p.h speed limit in side-streets and pedestrianisation of the City Centre, calling for the exclusion of private vehicles from within the Inner Ring Road. Though derided at the time some of these measures were introduced some years later, though in a piece meal fashion. He would have welcomed the imaginative redevelopment of the canal basins at Gas Street, the attractive focus of Birmingham's dining, entertainment and conference facilities. He would have fully approved of putting derelict industrial sites back into use, particularly those which had been neglected by the council for decades. The city's canal network figured in another of Lawler's many ideas which were years ahead of their time – reclamation and recycling. 'Birmingham could live off its own rubbish!' he once informed an incredulous council, where he was again mocked and jeered. Alderman Frank Griffin, the Conservative leader who harboured an unconcealed contempt for Lawler and Liberals in general, commented, 'You can scarcely trust the average Brummie to put rubbish in his own dustbin, let alone carry it to the end of the street!' The Birmingham newspapers were equally dismissive, devoting editorials to demolishing the latest Liberal 'crazy idea.' Lawler envisaged the systematic collection Birmingham's industrial, commercial and domestic waste, with depots established at derelict canal basins. He reminded the council of the resounding success of the door-to-door collection of food waste for municipal pig farms for six years during the war. 'If it could work when people were on strict food rations, it could work when people are throwing food away.' He favoured a community-run system in which people could dispose of waste of all kinds at designated collection centres. Once again, within years of his death, bottle, clothes and waste-paper banks were being placed on street corners in selected areas, the bins being regularly filled to capacity. The pollution scandal at Perry Barr where toxic waste was discharged directly into the River Tame by local industry, another abuse he raised in council, was not successfully countered until many years later.

Probably the pre-eminent figure in the civic life of the City of Birmingham in his day, Lawler is remembered for his boundless energy, enthusiasm, dominant personality, sense of humour, countless anecdotes, hysterical laugh, broken spectacles and silver clothes brush. On the minus side were his mischievous intrusions into local and regional Party organization together with his propensity to adopt on impulse, and promote the interests of, a succession of individuals, cynical chancers and adventurers and others with doubtful antecedents. His equivocal views on immigration laid him open to accusations of racism, though he had several intimates among the

city's Jewish personalities. He also encouraged a community-minded West Indian GP, Dr Barnabus, to enter public life in the early 1950s. Then there was his uncontrollable coughing in public arising from his chain-smoking which led to his premature demise.

Lawler's importance in the re-establishment, from nothing, of the Party in Birmingham and beyond its boundaries in the 1950s and 60s, cannot be exaggerated. His memorial service in Birmingham Cathedral drew an enormous number of mourners, the address being delivered by the party leader, Jeremy Thorpe. It has only recently been appreciated that Lawler stood in a direct line of succession to those mid C19th enlightened industrialists, Liberal entrepreneurs, small businessmen and radical reformers such as the Chamberlains and Cadburys, whose endeavors established the city as one of the most advanced municipalities in the world. His 365-day term at Westminster when he was already in fading health was hardly enough to allow him to make a strong impression but he regularly challenged and provoked Labour Government ministers on their housing record. He served as a member of the select Comm on race relations and Immigration. Since his death Lawler has been the subject of several unpublished doctoral theses by PhD students; d 1972; **Dudley 1955, Birmingham, Perry Barr 1959, Handsworth 1964, Ladywood 1966, by-e 1969, 1970; MP 1969-70**; See *Dictionary of Liberal Biography*

LAWRENCE, Robin, teacher; joined party 2010; Wolverhampton MBC; chair health scrutiny panel; **Wolverhampton South West 2010**.

LEIGHTON, Alan, broadcaster with Radio WM (BBC), an early 'agony uncle' with many regional listeners in mid 1970s; fleetingly involved with party in the by-e which was fought in a constituency previously uncontested for many years; later believed to have continued media career in London; **Coventry North West by-e 1976**.

LEWIS, (Dame) Barbara Estelle, later SHEFFIELD; b Smethwick 1919, ed Birmingham U; academic; lecturer in Social Sciences, Birmingham U 1945-56; Foreign Office Control Commissioner in Germany 1945, Academic Dir, Buckingham U 1972-73; leaving the Party after 1951, she became a strong advocate of the free market revolution; author of papers on the role of voluntary services, co-author *The Aged and the Nation* and four other books 1951-75; senior officer of various national bodies, including WVS; as her influence grew she became an adviser to Margaret Thatcher on the right-wing policies with which the former PM is associated; widowed when her first husband was killed serving with the RAF 1941, she later married a colleague, A.A. Sheffield qv; in 1951 she fought one of the two or three constituencies the Party had not contested in the country in 1950, losing her deposit by a small margin at Walsall, one of only three seats in the West Midlands fought by the Liberals in 1951; Exec LPO; d 2004; **Birmingham, Handsworth 1945, Walsall 1951**.

LEWIS, Gerald P.T., b Haverford West, Pembrokeshire, 1926, ed Belfast U, Aberdeen U, Birmingham U; originally a farmer, student counsellor at Dudley Coll from 1974; of retiring personality, but a dogged campaigner; joined party 1976, fighting seven elections in 26 years; cand in Dudley MBC elections; both he and his wife are long serving activists in Dudley; widely respected in WMRP circles; mbr Amnesty Int, Dudley Racial Equality Council, Friend of Dudley Castle; Anne has campaigned steadfastly at his side; **Dudley East 1979, Dudley West 1983, 1987, 1992, Dudley North 1997, 2005**

LEWIS, Martin; raised in Staffordshire, ed Stafford; lives Newcastle-under-Lyme; ret civil servant; fought on record of the party in coalition; **Stone 2015, 2017**

LEWIS, Neil, joined party 2015; cand for Police/Crime Commissioner, Chester 2016; contributes positively to *Lib Dem Voice*; **Bromsgrove 2017**

LEWTHWAITE, Roy, b 1929 ed King Edward's s, Birmingham, lived King's Heath, later Charford Lodge, Bromsgrove, from where he worked for the WMRP for many years; member of Society of Friends; originally Labour activist; joined party c 1960; fought many Birmingham MBC elections; full-time professional organiser for WMLF/WMRP 1967-87; responsible for maintaining party fabric in West Midlands and master-minding great expansion of party activity in local government; set up Regional Interview Panel for PPCs; under his direction the party widened its front to contest every seat in region for first time by October 1974 whilst maintaining a highly acceptable standard of candidate; prominent in electoral negotiations with SDP at General Elections of 1983/87 when the Alliance again contested every West Midlands constituency; remembered for his integrity and Job-like patience in time of adversity, eg the General Elections of 1970 and 1979; of formidable voice, unflappable tenacity, resilience, dry sense of humour and hearty laugh; the party had no better servant in its bleakest years; avoided intrigue, setting high standard of probity; narrowly missed out on top-level LPO appointment; later dabbled in property development and refurbishing with his wife Dr Ruth L. who contested several Birmingham local elections; Ruth and Roy died within a few weeks of each other in the spring of 2012, their joint memorial service at Barnt Green Friends Meeting House being the occasion of a very well-attended reunion of party personalities and friends; their daughter Sarah was an energetic YL activist locally and at University, considered a rising young star in the Party; left politics on joining the BBC; now lect in FE at Blackburn, she is the partner of noted TV political commentator, Gary O'Donohue, lately BBC TV correspondent in Washington DC; **Birmingham, Northfield 1964, Selly Oak 1966, Birmingham, Northfield 1979.**

LING, Philip, b Leamington, of Chinese background ed Bath U; former asst economist in Prime Minister's Strategy Unit, later bank analyst, currently with Thomson Reuters; joined party 2007; Treasurer Chinese Lib Dems; Chair Bromley LDA; left positive impression; **Bromsgrove 2010, Tooting (Greater London) 2015**

LLOYD, J. N. G. (Nick), b 1930 ed Chorlton-cum-Hardy g s, Tech Faculty, Manchester U; optician; lived Wellington, Salop; Wellington UDC from 1961; capable speaker with sharp edge to his tongue, particularly scathing in his attacks upon middle-class petty-mindedness and nouveau riche attitudes which he saw as epitomising Conservative values of the day; wrote pithy letters to *Wolverhampton Express and Star*; remembered for the dry humour of his occasional column *Through the Salopian Folds* in WMLF Newsletter; died c 1975 by his own hand in fit of depression caused by guilt over an extra-marital affair; remembered for his seemingly cool, laid-back approach; **Wolverhampton South West 1964.**

LOCKYER, Peter, b 1950 ed Milton Keynes Coll of Education; teacher; believed to have contested Birmingham MBC elections; **Birmingham, Hall Green 1979.**

LOMAX, Brian, b 1948 ed De La Salle Coll, Salford, Cambridge U; probation officer; Oldham West 1970, Knutsford (both Northwest Region) 1974 Feb, Oct, **Rugby 1979**

McCARTHY, Laura, (KETLEY); has her own small business; active in the community; Solihull MBC; has attractive personality, pleasant manner with an engaging smile; **Meriden 2019**

MacDONALD, David, b 1987 at Burton-on-Trent, ed William Shrewsbury s, Ferrers Acad; political agent/organiser; worked in South London constituencies for Paul Burstow MP, earlier Tom Brake MP qqv (Greater London); his highly promising career was tragically cut short by his untimely death, apparently from an epileptic seizure in August 2015; **Burton-on-Trent 2015**

MacDONALD, Dr Gordon, b 1968 ed Douglas Acad, Milngavie, Strathclyde, Glasgow U; lect; **Coventry South 1997, Strathkelvin & Bearsden 2001, East Renfrewshire 2005 (both Scotland).**

McELDOWNEY, Rev. William Joseph, b 1889 Wellington, New Zealand, ed Victoria U Coll, Manchester Coll, Oxford U? service with Anzacs in WW I in medical corps; originally a solicitor; in UK from 1933; trained as Unitarian minister, later incumbent at Newcastle-under-Lyme; described in press as a capable public speaker; possibly a Martell Plan cand; d 1967; **Stafford 1950**

McGRATH, David, b 1960; business dvlpmnt man; Birmingham MBC, chair Birmingham party 1989-90; **Birmingham, Hall Green 1992.**

McGUFFIE, Duncan G., fruit farmer, author, radio broadcaster on farming; lived near Alcester, Warwickshire; he finished in 2nd place to the incumbent Conservative MP; **Evesham 1945**

McKEE, (Dr) Vincent, b 1958 ed Downpatrick Coll, Belfast Coll of Business Studies, City of London Poly, Birmingham Poly; author of studies on Scottish/Irish Gaelic and contemporary politics, lecturer; mbr ERS; holds some strongly dissenting views e.g. on termination of pregnancies; several times local election candidate to 2006; lives Coventry; penchant for attracting media attention; suspended from Party membership early in 2011 following an ITN investigation; **Coventry North East 1992, Coventry South 2001, 2005, Coventry North West 2010**

McKEOWN, Brendan, with Dudley Community Volunteer Service; lives Mid Staffordshire; Stafford MBC; **Stone 2001**

McLEAN, Laurence (Larry), b 1931 ed St Chad's s, Wolverhampton; ch acc; long active with party in Wolverhampton, to whom he was a generous donor; remembered for his innumerable pithy letters to the local press, many of them witty ripostes to earlier efforts sent in by his brother whose politics were diametrically opposed; d c1998; **Wolverhampton North East 1979**

McMILLAN-SCOTT, Edward Hugh Christian, b Cambridge 1949, ed privately by Dominican friars; linguist; posts as tour director various parts of Africa, USSR; founded public affairs consultancy 1982; joined Conservatives 1967; MEP 1984-2014 for successively York, North Yorkshire, Yorkshire & Humberside; ldr Conservative grp Euro parliament 1997-2001, Vice-Pres European Parliament; interest incl Human Rights, European national parliaments, democracy; long record

of service to emergent democracies of former Soviet bloc; active with parliaments of Arab world, in anti-fraud campaigns, children's rights; lost Conservative whip in Euro Parliament 2010 as a result of his objections to the inclusion of Michael Kaminsky, a Polish MEP suspected of extremist views, incl anti-semitism, in the European Conservatives and Reformists grp; his expulsion from the Conservatives was an arbitrary procedure in which he was not permitted to state his case formally; afterwards the victim of vicious vilification campaign by former colleagues; joined Liberal Democrats 2011 and sat out remainder of his term as mbr of Group of Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe; stood for party as 'paper' cand at two subsequent general elections; Normanton, Pontefract & Castleford 2015 (Yorkshire Region), **West Worcestershire 2017**

MANDER, Sir Geoffrey Le Mesurier, b 1882 ed Harrow s, Cambridge U; from an affluent local family of land-owners and industrialists, manufacturers of paint and varnish; originally trained as a barrister; later man dir of the family business; lived at ancestral home of Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton (later bequeathed to the National Trust, the first property to be donated within the life-time of its donor); Wolverhampton MBC 1911-20; a bitter opponent of Chamberlain's Appeasement policies prior to 1939; he organized an anti-appeasement rally at Wolverhampton Town hall which drew a huge cross party response; earned reputation for incisive questioning of Ministers in the Commons; author of *We Were Not All Wrong* 1941, partly a riposte to the famous polemic of 1940, *Guilty Men* qv Frank Owen; Private Sec to Sir Archibald Sinclair at Air Ministry in Churchill's war time Coalition Government; knighted in 1945; expected to become party chief whip but in July 1945 lost seat on huge swing to left, the last Liberal MP in the region for 24 years; he subsequently joined Labour; Staffordshire CC in late 1940s; d 1962; the Mander Centre, a vast shopping complex built in Wolverhampton c1980 bears the family name; m2nd Rosalie Grylls, a distinguished biographer, lecturer and one-time sec to Edgar Granville MP qv (East of England). Her numerous interests included Mary Shelley, William Godwin among writers/artists of the Romantic period. She was largely responsible for the re-evaluation of the Pre-Raphaelite artists. She was adopted as PPC for Reading in the early 1930s but later withdrew; Leominster 1922, Cannock 1923, Stourbridge 1924, **Wolverhampton East 1929, 1931, 1935, 1945**; MP Wolverhampton East 1929-45.

MANLEY-GREEN, Brian Stuart, b Leeds, 20 years Warley resident after study at Wolverhampton Poly; runs translation bureau; interested in environment, solar panels, processing of food waste; local LDA officer; affable character; in long-term civil partnership; **Warley 2017, 2019**

MARSH, William (Bill), b 1914, ed Smethwick Tech, Wolsey Hall; Royal Navy WW II as petty officer; lived Shrewsbury; long-serving Shrewsbury MBC; LPO Council c1962; had firsthand experience of the evils of apartheid which left a lasting impression upon him; remembered for his formidable voice, powerful debating style and menacing beard; dominant personality in Shrewsbury party circles and beyond for three decades; in his second contest he raised the party share of the vote by 17.2%; d c 1990; **Shrewsbury 1966, 1974 Feb, Oct**

MARSHALL, Hon Sir Archie Pellew, b 1899 ed Truro s, Cambridge U; Pres of Union; service WW I; practised as barrister in Birmingham 1925-47; involved with BLO in 1920s and 30s, Pres 1945; KC 1947; opposed to party's rightward drift under Clement Davies 1947-50, he made overtures to

Labour leaders, with a view to agreeing on a limited Lib-Lab electoral arrangement at Westminster to keep the Attlee government in power; these secret talks were aborted when the Premier made a snap decision to call an early general election; dropped out of political activity in the early 1950s; made 1959 High Court judge, later presiding over the trial of Dr Stephen Ward in the aftermath of the Profumo scandal which rocked the MacMillan Government in 1963; there have been allegations that the trial was rigged and that vital evidence was suppressed; associated with Radical Action Group in early 1940s, unsuccessful candidate for LPO office in 1944; he was adopted as cand for Hereford in preparation for the expected General Election of 1940 which did not take place owing to the outbreak of war; he was a major figure in keeping the party organization in the West/East Midlands in some semblance of order 1935-45, the last Party personality of any consequence in Birmingham for over a decade; his disappointing result at Hereford in 1945 where he had long been PPC, probably determined him to concentrate on his legal career; d 1966; Birmingham, Kings Norton 1929, 1931, **Hereford 1945**. Another personality of whom there is surely more to discover.

MARTIN, Alan, b 1951 ed Alexandra h s, Tipton, Brighton Poly, Birmingham U; research asst; **Dudley West 1974 Oct**

MARTIN, Andrew, **Stoke-on-Trent South 2005**

MARTIN, Harold, b 1944 ed Grove s, Wrexham, Wolverhampton Poly; marketing cons; **Stafford & Stone 1974 Feb, Oct**

MARTIN, Dr (later Professor) Edward Stephen, b 1944 ed High Pavement s, Nottingham, Nottingham U, Reading U, U of Saskatchewan; academic; Plymouth Poly; HMI for Education, ind cons; lives South Littleton, Worcestershire; Euro cand 1999; stepped into a vacancy at very short notice 2010; his wife Maureen (b Canada 1945), also an academic, has been a party activist since 1971 latterly in Mid Worcestershire; Tewkesbury (Southwest Region) 2001, **Warwickshire North 2010**

MARWA, Sardul b 1947, ed Sandwell sec s, Chance Tech Coll; lect ; prominent member of Sikh community; served on numerous public and official bodies; Birmingham MBC 1982-88 (Labour); WMRP Exec 1997-98; he was fast tracked in a highly questionable manner (following extraordinary LPO HQ pressure on WMRP; qv Jenny Pinkett) for Westminster and European elections; Euro cand 1999; spent inordinate sum on his single parliamentary campaign; ceased to be active shortly after; remembered for his sense of humor, bland opinions; **Birmingham, Ladywood 1997**

MAWLE, Norman William (Bill), b 1895; man dir of Imperial Typewriters, West Bromwich; air ace in Royal Flying Corps, WW I; a natty dresser; remembered for his generosity and genial manner; appeared from nowhere announcing himself available to fight the unpromising Black Country constituency of West Bromwich, uncontested by the Party since 1931; received generous support from LPO HQ with Jo Grimond addressing a well-attended, traditional Town Hall rally; he polled respectably and announced plans to fight again, appointing at his own expense, a party certificated agent; it is believed health problems caused his much regretted resignation at

the eleventh hour before the General Election 1964; d Leicester 1972; **West Bromwich by-e 1963**

MAXWELL, Richard, works in construction ind; formerly with charities; interested in health services, crisis in hospitals; **Wolverhampton South West 2019**

MEREDITH, Alan, b 1922 ed Darwen g s, Manchester U, teacher; lived Nuneaton; Nuneaton MBC 1960s; a community activist with some local personal following, he raised the Liberal percentage poll by over 3% at a difficult time in party fortunes; **Nuneaton 1966, by-e 1967.**

MERRITT, Ruth, b 1929, ed London U, Open U; Oakham TC, Rutland 1974-78; Stroud DC 1990; Warwickshire CC; mbr Rivers Advisory Comm, Severn-Trent Region; **Nuneaton 1992.**

MIAH, Shazu, ed King Charles I s, Kidderminster, Kidderminster co; solicitor; Wyre Forest DC; **Wyre Forest 2017, 2019**

MIDDLETON, Charles Frederick, b 1895? RAF service WW II; jeweller/watchmaker; **Birmingham, Yardley 1945.**

MIDDLETON, (Capt) George C., b 1925 ed King's s, Canterbury, Oxford U, RMC, Sandhurst; military career, serving in Malaya; former Young Conservative; at 25 one of the youngest cand s at the 1951 General Election; Nuneaton was one of the three constituencies the party contested in the West Midlands, thus preserving the local party's tradition of always nominating a candidate; **Nuneaton 1951.**

MILLER, Keith; b Cornwall ed Queen Mary Coll, London U, later grad in Psychology, Goldsmiths' Coll; for 30 years a medical rep, later selling home improvements; interested in defence; as a sufferer from recurrent depressive illness, he is deeply interested in mental health issues; seeks to lift the stigma of of ignorance on the subject; an eleventh hour nomination at Stafford, he was viciously attacked in local Labour blogs as 'a tissue paper cand from London'; made a rather hesitant and apologetic attempt to defend the party's record on Radio Stafford during campaign; **Stafford 2015, Tonbridge (South East Region) 2017, Rochford & Southend East 2019 (East of England Region)**

MILLS, Julia, b 1915, ed Erdington g s, London Coll of Music, cllr later Mayor, Sutton Coldfield MBC; Warwickshire CC from 1964; teacher; with her husband Donald, also cllr, who predeceased her, stalwarts in Sutton Coldfield public life for many years; campaigned unsuccessfully against merger of Sutton Coldfield with Birmingham; fought total of seventeen elections for party at all levels; advocated just and humane treatment of gypsies and travellers and for provision of designated sites; held advanced views on many social matters; remembered for her kindly, humane approach to politics, encouragement to younger hopefuls and her grande femme, maternal appearance; active with Party almost until her death; a great-great-grandmother who left numerous descendants; d 2002; fought Derby South (East Midlands) 1974 Feb, **Birmingham, Erdington 1974 Oct**

MINNIS, Dennis, b 1938, ed St Alban's C of E s, lived Hall Green, later Edgbaston; prominent, dynamic figure in party in Birmingham 1960s to 1980s; had own import/export bus, later trouble shooter for travel firm; one time full time political organiser/agent, at Orpington in 1960s for

Eric Lubbock MP; fought numerous local elections in Birmingham from 1960, finally gaining a seat at Duddeston Ward in late 1960s; close associate of Wallace Lawler qv, (with whom he had several heated differences of opinion); highly active in Lawler-inspired community politics style of campaigning in Inner City wards; Birmingham MBC 1970-76; defected to Labour c1980, possibly attracted by that party's unilateral policies on nuclear weapons; after long interval returned to Council, becoming Cabinet Chair (Housing); lost seat 2002, elected Hon Ald; later became youth worker and Warden of St Basil's Hostel; attempted comeback to Council 2012; remembered for his herculean appetite for hard work, zest for the fight, organising and campaigning skills, flair for publicity, integrity, sense of fun, beaming smile, ready sense of humour, approachability; his defection at a time when the party was on the threshold of a new break-through in the city, was greatly regretted; **Birmingham, All Saints 1970, Birmingham, Small Heath 1974 Feb, Meriden 1974 Oct, Birmingham, Small Heath 1979**

MIRFIN, Derek (Derick?), b Sheffield 1930, ed Cambridge U, Chair of the Union; associated with Radical Reform Group in 1950s and 60s; former member LPO Council; publisher with Liberal-inclined Pall Mall Press, one time Editor, *Pall Mall Quarterly*; author and translator; in his day a highly regarded prospect in party circles; an unlikely choice for an industrial Black Country constituency, one of only four in the West Midlands willing to nominate a candidate in 1955, and with only a residual idiosyncratic party tradition based on Liberal Clubs; he restored the local vote to a respectable level and improved upon it in 1959; his adoption for the crucial Stratford-upon-Avon by-election August 1963 (prompted by the Profumo affair) was urged by LPO HQ; he polled well in a constituency with no Liberal tradition; his election speeches, possibly a trifle too subtly worded for his audience, were full of witty touches, some being taken up by the media e.g. 'this is one garden I am determined Maud will not come into', (his Conservative opponent being one Angus Maude); Mirfin complied with his opponents in an undertaking not to mention during the campaign the circumstances that had occasioned the by-election; remembered for his sharp intellect, stinging one-liners, profound grasp of issues and suave demeanor; the site of him dancing the twist at constituency social events, however, was a sight to make the blood run cold; the result of the by-election influenced Premier Douglas Home's decision to postpone the intended general election for a further year; believed to have been removed from the approved list of possible candds during the 'long knives' purge at the outset of the Steel leadership 1977-78; Basingstoke MB from c1995, Mayor 1998-99; his retirement from active politics for two decades was a major loss; **Oldbury & Halesowen 1955, 1959, Stratford-upon-Avon by-e 1963, 1964**, Penistone (Yorkshire Region) 1970.

MITCHELL, Noel, b 1938 ed Leicester U; PE teacher, later sec s headmaster; **Warwickshire North 1992.**

MOKRCZYCKI, Jan, b 1932 Poland; dentist practising in Coventry; rumours of death in 1990s happily unfounded; ed Thornleigh Coll, Bolton, Sutherland Dental School, Durham U; asst sec N.U.S 1959-60; believed to have taken part, aged 12, in the heroic but ill-fated Warsaw uprising against the Nazis in 1944; escaped to Britain; took UK nationality; lived Coventry, later active with Kenilworth LDA; a leading figure in the UK ex-pat Polish community; campaigned for a memorial for the victims of Katyn Massacres by the Russians of Polish prisoners in 1939-40; took

part in eventual memorial dedication services 2010; **Coventry East 1966**, Loughborough (East Midlands) 1970.

MORGAN, Helen, b Nottingham 1975, ed Alleyn's h s, Cambridge U; Ch acc, originally with KPMG, later in sen management with British Gas; acc with local family firm; won by-election with a 34% swing from the government; Spokesperson for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities and Local Government; **North Shropshire 2019, by-e 2021 MP 2021-**

MORGAN-HARRIS, George Ernest, b 1902, service in WW I with RNAS after joining RFC; aero eng, test pilot, later owner of air transport co; a curious choice of cand, with no recorded previous involvement with the party, for a constituency which it had come very close to winning in 1945; d 1971; **Leominster 1950**.

MORRIS, Judy A., b 1944, ed Riland Bedford h s, Sutton Coldfield, Warwick U; housewife; Solihull MBC; **Meriden 1992**.

MORRIS, Stephen, b 1955, ed Hereford Cathedral s, Exeter U, Sussex U; co dir, tech author; **Leominster 1987**.

MURRAY, David, b Cottingham, East Yorkshire 1939, ed Culford s, Bury St Edmunds, Cambridge Coll of Arts & Tech, Wolverhampton Poly; lect, Ch Eng; co dir; founded own co; bus cons; joined party c1967; fought numerous elections; Cambridge MBC from 1970; fought local election Wolverhampton MBC; moved to Shropshire; Bridgnorth DC from 2003; Albrighton PC, Shifnal TC; prominent member WMRP Exec; adopted for The Wrekin 2010, he was obliged to withdraw at the eleventh hour for personal reasons; of serious, purposeful character; **Wolverhampton South East 2005**

MYERS, Hilary Alice, b Bristol 1956, ed Reading U, Manchester Met U; long career in health/social care, employment adviser to people with disabilities; served as a district/town cllr in her native West Yorkshire where she was involved in major community projects; now lives at Evesham; supporter of PR/votes at 16; Calder Valley (Yorkshire Region) 2015, **Redditch 2015, South Staffordshire 2017**

NEWMAN, Patricia, b 1929, ed Bournemouth g s; freelance editor/writer; **Coventry North West 1974 Oct**

NIBLETT, Brian, b 1957, ed Filton h s, Bristol, Salford U, West of England U; public affairs manager; believed to have been a one-time close associate of Matthew Green qv; an intense, prickly individual, somewhat over-confident about his abilities; **Wolverhampton North East 1997**, Bristol East (Southwest Region) 2001.

NICHOLL, Dr David, raised in Belfast; has worked in USA, South Africa and the Netherlands; with NHS for 30 years; NHS cons neurologist, Birmingham U Hospital 2002- ; campaigner for Amnesty Int and Reprieve; **Bromsgrove 2019**

NIELSEN, Beverley, (EMMERSON), b Malvern 1960, ed Grove p s, Malvern, later Rathdown s, Glengeary, St Columba's Coll, Dublin, Trinity Coll, Dublin; entrepreneur, educator, campaigner; worked for CBI, London, New York Vogue, CBI West Midlands; now with Inst of Design & Economic Acceleration, Birmingham U; cand for Mayor of West Midlands 2017; Chair, West Midland Regional Party until resignation before General Election 2019; engaging personality; figure of considerable influence in region; Malvern Hills BC; serious disagreements within the Lib Dem group on Malvern Hills BC led to a split, resulting in her resignation with three of her colleagues, 2020; **West Worcestershire 2019**

NORCOTT, Barry, b 1941, ed Haymill sec mod s, Merchant Seamen's Coll; voluntary social worker and househusband; remembered as something of a rebel and individualist; **Wolverhampton South East 1974 Oct**, Feltham & Heston, (Greater London) 1979.

OBORSKI, Frances, (Fran) Mary OBE b London 1945, ed Bassaley, Newport. Gwent, Birmingham U, Oxford U; joined ULS 1966; Wyre Forest DC for over 40 years from from 1973; Worcs-Hereford CC, former WMRP officer; member, WMPC Selection Comm during 'Long Knives' purge 1979-80; diminutive, vociferous, formidable local campaigner in innumerable causes, an early advocate of regular mass delivery of Liberal Focus leaflets; of stubbornly individualistic temperament; Euro Candidate 1989 as Lib Dem; remained with the 'continuing' Liberals after merger with SDP, serving as their National Pres/Chair, standing in general elections for that grouping at Stoke Central 1997, Wyre Forest 2005; an unlikely 'scarlet lady' who hit national press headlines following an alleged liaison with a senior Wyre Forest council official; remembered for her energy, strong personality, courage in adversity and cider apple voice; widow of Mike O. (also on Wyre Forest DC and group leader who died at tragically early age in 2003); a Polish Hon Consul; subsequently re-joined Lib Dems in June 2015 after 26 years absence following the severe reverses in the General Election, stating that it was vital that all Liberals should unite everywhere; impressive speaker at Regional Assembly, Nov 2015; **Walsall North by-e 1976, Staffordshire South 1987.**

O'BRIEN, Tracey, b 1963, St Ambrose Barlow RC s m s, Wolverhampton U; advice worker/trainer; pioneer in training of candidates; long-term hard-working WMRP officer; effusive, chirpy personality; **Walsall North 1997.**

ODDIE, Christopher (later Hon.), b 1929 ed Giggleswick s, Oxford U; barrister, later appointed judge; author *Science and the Administration of Justice* pub 1991; **Ludlow 1970.**

OSBORNE, David, b 1942, ed Queen Elizabeth g s, Mansfield, City of Worcester T T Coll, Birmingham U; FE lect, Sandwell; sen national officer NATFHE; Birmingham MBC; remembered for his witty speeches in Council chamber; irrepressible, often irreverent sense of humour; **Birmingham, Selly Oak 1992, 1997, 2001**

OTTER, Robin, b 1926, ed Marlborough s, Oxford U; solicitor former district commissioner, Kenya; raised rare breed of Gloucestershire cattle; active professionally until his late 70s; Euro candidate 1979; remembered as a serious-minded campaigner, for his commitment and stiff

military bearing; **Worcestershire South 1966**, Westbury 1970, Cirencester (both Southwest Region) 1974 Feb

OWEN, Douglas b 1932, ed Berkhamstead s, Imperial Coll, Loughborough U; sen lect, Lanchester Coll of T'nology; **Warley West 1974 Oct**

OWEN, Humphrey Frank OBE, b 1905, in Widemarsh St, Hereford, near the Liberal Club; from his youth a staunch admirer and later close supporter of Lloyd George; after 1931 rose to eminence on Fleet Street as a journalist; Editor, *Evening Standard* 1938, *Daily Mail* 1947-50; later TV interviewer; in July 1940 after the fall of the Chamberlain government he was co-author with Michael Foot and Peter Howard of *Guilty Men*, one of the most apposite and influential political polemics of all time, published pseudonymously in 1940, which savagely exposed the Conservative-dominated National Government of 1931-40 and identified those responsible for Appeasement and Britain's ill-preparedness for WW II; 200,000 copies were sold within days without profit to the authors, the rogue publisher having made off with the proceeds; service WW II, reaching rank of Lieut-Col; later wrote early acclaimed biography of his idol David Lloyd-George, *Tempestuous Journey*; author of several books on war and current affairs; early ITV journalist; attempted a political comeback in 1955-56, as one of only five party cand's in the West Midlands, polling well in his old constituency after 25 years absence; did even better in by-election when his campaign was managed by Dominic Le Foe qv (Greater London); said to have died in penury, of alcoholism, in 1979 at Worthing; biography by Gron Williams *Firebrand* pub 1993; Hereford 1929, 1931 MP 1929-31, **Hereford 1955, by-e 1956**; see *Dictionary of Liberal Biography*

OWEN-JONES, David b 1949 ed Llandovery Coll, London U; barrister, later circuit judge; Carmarthen 1974 Feb, Oct (Wales), **Rugby 1983, 1987**

PARASRAM, Isabelle, b London, of Trinidadian parents of Asian origins; head of legal practice, former barrister; mother of four; has been involved in campaigning for many years on various issues inc FGM, human trafficking, human rights, forced marriages; advocates internationalism, human rights; fought London Assembly election for Women's Equality party 2016 before joining Lib Dems; elected first Vice President 2019; lives Wanstead, London E; **Walsall North 2017**, Chipping Barnet (Greater London) 2019

PARRY, David, b 1957, ed St Alban's g s, Reading U; architectural cons; St Albans DC 1984-88; **Birmingham, Sparkbrook 1992.**

PARRY, John Kelsall, b 1927, ed Liverpool Coll s, Cambridge U, lived London; BBC radio producer, husband of actress/authoress Judy Cornwell; took over candidature at last minute from predecessor John Perry (sic!); active in European Movement 2000 -; remembered for campaigning sporting a beard, a novelty in the early 1960s; **Worcester 1964**, Hounslow, Isleworth (Greater London) 1979

PARSLEY, Michael, b 1940, ed Cambridge g s; financial dir of eng co; **Wolverhampton South East 1979**

PATTON, Brian, former Coventry MBC Labour cllr; defected to Lib Dems; **Coventry South 2010**

PAYNE, Charles, b 1888? electrical contractor/radio eng; active with party in Coventry until mid 1960s by when his Liberalism had assumed a decidedly Whiggish character; Coventry MBC for 25 years, Mayor 1935; remembered for his immense presence and formidable voice; he finished in fourth place behind the Communist cand; **Coventry East 1945**. Another WM personality of whom there is likely to be more of interest to be discovered.

PEARSON, Malcolm, b 1931, ed St Mary's s, Willenhall, Walsall; eng; Wolverhampton; **Wolverhampton North East 1987**.

PENLINGTON, Dr Gilbert Napier, b 1928, ed Cambridge U, Middlesex Hospital; cons anaesthetist (ret); long associated with party in Coventry; of distinguished appearance, fine diction; remembered as affable, serious minded, energetic officer of WMRP, conducting cand adoption meetings with scrupulous regard for party procedure; regular at Party Assembly to 2014; **Staffordshire South East 1992, Coventry North West 1997, 2001**

PHILLIPS, David Ivor, b Birmingham 1933; former RAF officer, pilot for 12 years, later founded electronics co; joined party 1973, long time sen officer of WMRP; much revered President 1992 to 2012; English Party Council; served as 'Chair of Chairs' comprising the 13 UK reg party chairmen; always sceptical about the SDP/Liberal arrangement; pioneer of regional cands media training; Euro cand 1984; not an outstanding public speaker; remembered for his restrained, serious and reasoned approach to campaigning and conciliatory attitude; prominent in moves to bring a more professional approach to regional party affairs; tenacious campaigner; lives Elmley Castle; **Worcestershire South 1979, 1983, Ludlow 1987, 1992**; father of the following.

PHILLIPS, Nigel, b 1956, ed Prince Henry's g s, Evesham, Leicester U; sales exec; son of the preceding; **Bromsgrove & Redditch 1979**.

PHILPOTT, Toby, b 1969, ed Birmingham Poly; economist; later ran a management/business development training organisation; one of youngest-ever party cands in region; Chair YLs; subsequently activist in Kent; Shepway DC; an inveterate blogger; left party c 2008; **Birmingham, Perry Barr 1992**.

PINCHAM, Roger, CBE b 1935, ed Kingston g s; stockbroker on London Stock Exchange; lived Leominster; LPO Chair 1979-82, founder and later chair Gladstone Club from 1974, Pres, Lloyd George Society, Trustee of John S. Mill Institute; continues to be man of many interests; chair board of governors of St James Ind schools, 1975-2007; remembered for easy conversational style, as softly spoken, resilient, determined and dedicated with dry sense of humour; thought by some to lack the ruthless streak vital to successful politicians; by contrast nominated by *Liberator* as one of the top four most compelling platform orators in party of the later C20th; came within 579 votes of winning the traditional Tory stronghold on one occasion; his successful Conservative opponent in five elections subsequently defected to Labour; **Leominster 1970, 1974 Feb, Oct, 1979, 1983**.

PINKERTON, (Barbara) Jeanne JP, b 1946, ed Oldland sec mod s, Sandwell TC; varied career, incl newsagent, lately partner in market garden; long time Lib Dem campaigner; Bristol MBC 1986-88; lives Keynsham, nr Bristol; Kingswood (Southwest Region) 1992, 1997, **Stafford 2001**

PINKETT, Jennifer (Jenny), b 1945, ed Sedgemoor comp s, London, Cartrefle Coll, Wrexham; teacher of children with special needs, education administrator; hard-working, long serving WMRP Exec officer, organising countless successful WMRP Assemblies in often untried locations throughout the West Midlands; fighting local elections to date at Tamworth MBC (a notoriously barren area for the party); with Jock Gallagher qv she took on the onerous responsibility for cand selection for WMRP at successive general elections; it is largely due to their efforts that all constituencies have been found cands in last two decades, particularly in the adverse circumstances leading to the 2015/2017 General Elections, when once again candidates were found to contest all 58/59 constituencies, some recruited from outside the region; advantage has been taken of her good nature and probity, some would say gullibility, on occasion eg the Sardul Marwa case qv; remembered for her courage, energy and hard work; her irrepressible sense of fun has led to her being unkindly termed a scatterbrain at times; **Tamworth 1997, 2001, Cannock 2005, Tamworth 2010, 2015, 2017**

POOLE, Christopher, b 1948 ed Liverpool U; lect in law; **Coventry North West 1979.**

PORTER, John, b 1939 ed St Chad's Coll, Wolverhampton; journalist with *The Catholic Herald*; **Wolverhampton North East Oct 1974.**

POWELL, William (Bill), b 1938 at Newcastle-upon-Tyne ed Diocesan Coll, Cape Town, U of Cape Town, Imperial Coll, London; Ch Eng with long career in electronics and communications inds; former group leader North Warwicks BC; Atherstone TC 2000-2009; Euro cand 2009; indefatigable local campaigner; noted for grim determination, serious-minded approach; mbr ERS; now lives in Cambridgeshire; **Warwickshire North 1997, 2001.**

POWIS, Alan, b 1955 ed Darlaston comp s, Walsall, Sheffield Poly, Salford U; shop manager; LD spokeserson on environmental health; sec Walsall LDA; **Walsall North 1992.**

POWNEY, Ian George, b 1950, ed Bishop Vesey's s, Sutton Coldfield, Kent U; Sutton Coldfield MBC 1970s, West Mids CC 1970s; worked zealously behind the scenes with Roy Lewthwaite qv to ensure a broad front at general/local elections in Birmingham; prominent as organizer at Brecon & Radnor by-election victory 1985, a role he reprised in July 2019; spent brief period time in West Africa; subject to sudden exits and long absences from political scene followed by dramatic re-appearances; some years later surfaced in Greater London serving on Islington MBC, still later Basingstoke MBC where he crossed the floor having been elected as an Independent; some colleagues considered him a trifle withdrawn in personality with little sense of humour remaining distant in company; remembered for his dedication to the party, unbounded energy, studious and methodical approach to campaigning; re-appeared in 2019 in the Brecon & Radnor by-election, subsequently party general election organizer in Cheshire area; **The Wrekin Feb 1974, Birmingham, Hall Green 1974 Oct, Brigg & Cleethorpes (Yorkshire Region) 1987.**

PREM, Dr Dani, b Aligarh, near Delhi 1904, of Hindu background; ed National U of India, King's Medical School, later at Edinburgh U; surgeon, medical practitioner; resident in UK from 1930s; Birmingham MBC (Labour) 1945-50; left Labour over its immigration policies 1968; wrote *The Parliamentary Leper*, a study of deteriorating race relations in Smethwick and the General Election campaign of 1964; an enigmatic character of dubious motivation in his later years; supposedly a personality of great influence in the Asian community, his defection to the Liberals resulted in very few Asian recruits to party membership, nor did it bring any detectable increase in support for the party on the part of Asian voters; after his single election contest he soon drifted away from the party scene; killed in car accident, India 1979; **Coventry South East 1974 Feb**

PRIEST, Ryan, b 1997? born and grew up locally; ed Windsor h s, Halesowen; works for International development charity; has fought local government election; **Halesowen 2019**

PRITCHARD, Steven James, b 1972, from Hanley; acting chair Stoke LDA; strongly pro-Remain; **Stoke-on-Trent Central 2019**

PROCTOR, Nukey, of Anglo-Caribbean background; grad in Biochemical Sciences; a senior IT programme management cons; Vice-Chair Coventry LDA; Exec mbr party health and care group; strong advocate of NHS; also interested in well-being of youth; has been designated Nov 2020 a beneficiary of the funds of Activate Collective in respect of her political campaigning; **Coventry North East 2019**

PURSEHOUSE, Jeremy, b 1957 ed Ounsdale comp s, Staffs, Wolverhampton Poly, Middlesex Poly; public relations officer/journalist; Tandridge DC; **Warley 1997**, Surrey East (Southeast Region) 2001, 2005.

PURVIS, Anna Rachel Wellings, grew up in New Zealand; originally teacher, later legal compliance co-ordinator; local government candidate; interests incl environment, public transport; lives Hemel Hempstead; **Walsall South 2017**

QUARMBY, Sarah, studied Oxford; has background in engineering and the media; Chair West Midland NLYLs; lives Wolverhampton; cand Wolverhampton MBC; interests incl NHS, renewable energy; **Wolverhampton South West 2017**

RADCLIFFE, Dr David, b 1973 Peterborough, ed comp s, UMIST, Manchester, Phd; planning and funding officer at Birmingham U; joined party 1997; Birmingham DC 2004; Corby (East Midland Region) 2005, **Birmingham, Selly Oak 2010, 2017, 2019**

RAFIQ, Waheed; five days after his adoption as cand in 2019, he was suspended and disowned by the party over his anti-Semitic postings on social media dating back some time; it was too late to withdraw his candidature, his name remaining on the ballot paper with the designation 'Liberal Democrat'; but so far as the party was concerned, his status was Independent at the subsequent General Election; **Birmingham, Hodge Hill 2019**

RAY, Paul, b London 1963, ed Aston U; Birmingham City U; worked in food retail; later trained as solicitor; in practice since 1987, later partner; specialises in banking/finance law; ambassador for Birmingham Access to Finance grp; originally SDP; lived locally since 2001; interests incl small/medium sized businesses; lives Lichfield; **Lichfield 2015, 2017, 2019**

REDFERN, John, b 1959, ed Warwick U, U of Wales; chef; Staffordshire Moorlands DC 1991 to date, group leader, later Mayor; became activist in Stoke, fighting local elections to 2006; member of WMRP Exec from c 2000; the patient, stolid, dependable type; Euro cand 2014; **Stoke-on-Trent North 1992, Staffordshire, Moorlands 2001, Stoke-on-Trent Central 2005, 2010, Staffordshire, Moorlands 2015**

REES, Lt-Col Denis (Dai) G. b 1908, ed Caterham s, U of Wales, McGill U, Canada; ind relations advisor; Mayor of Pembroke 1937-38; after making an impression in his first contest, he switched to a neighbouring constituency for the by-e where he again polled well; when a by-e occurred soon after in his erstwhile Oswestry constituency, the local LA were understandably unwilling to re-adopt him, understandably wary of his 'carpet bagging' behaviour; **Oswestry 1959, Ludlow by-e 1960**, Cardiff North (Wales) 1964. Doubtless there is more to discover about this colourful personality

RENOLD, Robert (Rob), b Leamington 1952, ed Gordonstoun s, Birmingham U, Cranfield Inst; management cons; Leicestershire CC 1985-89; activist in East Midlands; mbr Amnesty Int, Charter 88; Leicester South 1983, Rutland & Melton 1987 (East Midlands Region), **Burton-on-Trent 1992**; Derbyshire South (East Midlands Region) 1997.

REYNOLDS, Stewart, b 1947, ed Chesterfield s, Westminster Coll, Open U; teacher; Euro cand Birmingham West 1989; activist in Cannock Chase, fighting local elections up to his untimely death in 2007; Amber Valley (East Midlands Region) 1987, **Aldridge-Brownhills 1992, Cannock 2001**.

RICHARDS, Evan F. L., b Swansea 1927, ed Blundell's s, Oxford U; active in student politics with ULS; strong public speaking voice: boldly expressed in public disagreement with the Lib-Con electoral arrangements at Huddersfield West and Bolton West over 1950-64; one of the ablest younger cands of the 1950 roster; party Commonwealth Affairs Comm; LPO Council; later believed to have worked in East Africa; **Birmingham, Northfield 1950**, Leyton (Greater London) 1955, Buckingham (South Central Region) 1959.

RICHMOND, Stephen John, Chair, Coventry LDA; **Coventry South 2019**

RICKETTS, Bart, b Worcester, raised Droitwich; ed Kingston U, waste manager, mbr Cha Waste Managers' Inst; cllr in London, associated with Vince Cable qv (Greater London) before returning to West Midlands; strong believer in development of the individual's potential; supports environmental and disabled persons' charities; campaigner for environment and renewable energy; shortly after General Election 2015 defected to the Greens, later re-joining Lib Dems; **Bromsgrove 2015, Wolverhampton South East 2019**

RIDLEY, Steven; former lawyer, later worked for Employment Services; fought Birmingham MBC elections; his early departure from active politics was regretted after his impressive showing in the by-e; **Birmingham, Northfield by-e, 1982.**

RITCHIE, Alexander Stanley, b 1892? Tooting, London; engraver; formerly Labour, joined Liberals late 1940s; during WW II worked in Royal Ordnance factory in Dorset; active with party in Southampton; said to have been a typical Martell Plan candidate; emerged briefly as activist with Aldridge-Brownhills LA in mid 1960s; lived Pelsall; of irascible temperament; **Birmingham, Yardley 1950.**

ROBERTS, Geoffrey, b 1936 ed Priory g s LSE; FE lect; **Shrewsbury 1964.**

ROBERTS, Paul David, b 1947 ed Sevenoaks s, Aston U; ret acc/businessman; lect at Open U; long career in local government partly as council ldr; Tonbridge & Maling MBC, Kent; joined party 1974; Euro cand 1979; persevering cand over two decades; Federal Appeals Panel; Tonbridge & Maling (Southeast Region) 1992, Eddisbury by-e 1999, 2001, Crewe & Nantwich 2005 (all Northwest Region), **Stoke-on-Trent North 2015**

ROBERTS, Shana, b Telford, educated locally; community activist; opposed to over-centralization of power in London; **Telford 2019**

ROBERTSON-STEEL, Dr Iain, b 1954 ed Ramsey Abbey g s, Cambridgeshire, Birmingham U; GP; RAF Medical Corps until 1992; **Birmingham, Edgbaston 1992.**

ROBINSON, Eric, b 1930, ed Hanley g s, Stoke-on-Trent, Edinburgh U, lived Bridgnorth, lect in Art; university contemporary of David Steel of whom he remained a close friend; Bridgnorth BC, Shropshire CC, later moved to Scotland to take post with Scottish Arts Council; reportedly joined Green Party there; first chairman of Transport 2000 campaign at Ludlow, remembered for boldly taking on Enoch Powell in his heyday on his home ground; bucked the trend by raising his percentage share at Ludlow at three successive general elections, thus laying foundation for future progress; returned to assist in Matthew Green's qv successful campaign at General Election 2001; a resolute campaigner, courageously advocating ideas years ahead of their time; remembered for his commitment and integrity of purpose; somewhat irritable, sensitive and hyper tense in personality; once described in press as 'the gay Liberal cavalier of the Salopian Folds'; former Vice Chair, West Midland Liberal Federation; **Wolverhampton South West 1970, Ludlow 1974 Feb, Oct, 1979**

ROCK, Nigel, b Nuneaton, ed Bedworth comp s; student apprentice in motor ind. later ch engineer, now self-employed cons; joined party 1983; lives Napton, Stratford DC 2003- ; **Kenilworth & Southam 2010.**

RODGERS, Michael; Burton MBC, defied the massive anti-Lib swing to be re-elected, May 2015; **Burton-on-Trent 2010**

ROGERS, Antony, ed Coventry U; runs own small business; wife is a police officer; enthusiastic recent recruit to party; lives Solihull; **Meriden 2017**

ROLLASON, (Major) William Frederick Hubert, ed Birmingham Coll Arts & Crafts, Birmingham U; service WW II; teacher, lived Birmingham; Treasurer Oldbury & Halesowen L A; **Wolverhampton South West 1950.**

ROODHOUSE, Jeremy (Jerry), b Leeds 1953, ed Harris C of E s, Rugby, Rycotewood Coll, Thame, Oxfordshire; agricultural sales eng; Warwickshire CC; Rugby DC Lib Dem grp ldr; hard-working, persistent long-serving cand; WMRP officer and rep on ELD; Euro cand 1989 Birmingham East; **Rugby & Kenilworth, 1992, 1997, Newcastle-under-Lyme 2001, Warwickshire North 2005, Rugby 2010, 2017**

ROSS, Colin, b Greenwich, London 1975, ed Addey and Stanhope sec s, New Cross, London, Orpington Coll of FE, Wolverhampton U; joined party 1972p; activist in Wolverhampton, fighting local elections to date; often engaged to supervise key local by-election campaigns; disciplinarian, tempered with sense of humour, conducting polling day procedure like a military operation; agent for Paul Keetch MP qv at Hereford 2001; asst to grp ldr Walsall MBC 2014-15; strong character, energetic WMRP mandarin, trade mark a genial smile; set up and maintained for a spell a highly informative, if sometimes controversial, WMRP internet web site; Euro cand 2009; interests incl Europe, Foreign Policy; **Wolverhampton South West 2005, Wolverhampton North East 2010.**

ROWLEY, (Alexandra) Margaret, b c1946, ed Horncastle g s, Lincs; Nottingham U, Loughborough U; librarian, learning centre man; Chair, Droitwich Canal Trust 1998- playing a leading role in final years of restoring a vital canal link between the River Severn and the Worcester-Birmingham Canal; Wychavon DC; cand West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner 2016; **Bromsgrove 2001, Worcestershire Mid 2005, 2010, 2015, 2017, 2019**

ROY, George L., b Canada 1913; service WW II as air raid warden, later in army; ins agent later sales rep for agricultural machinery co; active with party until mid 1970s; rendered sterling service in various capacities as officer of former BLO; close associate of Wallace Lawler qv; rich source of reminiscences of campaigning and local party history; remembered for his party loyalty, doleful expression, toothbrush moustache; d c 2002; **Birmingham, Hall Green 1950.**

RULE, Jonathan; son of the following; ed Friary Grange comp s, Lichfield, Oxford U, Pres Oxford U SLD; barrister; joined party aged 15; Cheadle & Gatley MBC; pianist/comedian; his robust campaign tactics in the Hartlepool by-e 1997 incurred the wrath of the hyper-sensitive Peter Mandelson MP, who complained bitterly to the media; Wigan (Northwest Region) by-e 1999, **Shrewsbury & Atcham 2001.**

RULE, Philip, b 1936, ed Stowmarket g s; successful entrepreneur and early IT pioneer; man dir of computer co; one-time Chair of PCA; long active in Lichfield LDA; larger than life character, remembered for his encouragement of younger members, his fund of humorous political anecdotes and for his belief campaigning should be fun; disputed author of legendary party chants and slogans; (father of preceding) d 2010; **Lichfield 1974 Oct, 1979.** There may well be more to discover about this interesting character.

SADLER, Ian, b 1949, ed Adams g s, Newport, Salop; student services man; South Staffordshire DC from 1991, Wombourne PC; semi-finalist BBC TV *Mastermind* 1991; **Staffordshire South 1992.**

SAMSON, (Flt Lt.) Gerald, b c1918; one-time Reuters correspondent in Far East; RAF service WW II; made an excellent showing in a straight fight in a hitherto Tory stronghold; left active politics soon after; d Channel Islands c 2002; **Bewdley, Worcestershire 1945**

SANDIFORD, Alec, b 1987, Stafford, ed locally; chef, carer; **Stone 2019**

SCOTT, Jamie Christian, b/raised in Birmingham; criminal barrister; believes national economy is too centred on London to the detriment of the manufacturing centres of the country; **Halesowen & Rowley Regis 2017, Birmingham, Northfield 2019**

SEABORNE, Hadley (or Hadleigh) b 1898?; service WW I, WW II for Ministry of Supply; dir of eng co; instrumental in establishing Liberal presence post WWII in Solihull, where he lived; a Vice-Pres of WMLF in early 1960s; deplored placing of election hoardings in Warwickshire countryside during 1950 campaign; witty public speaker, with a subtle sense of humour; a figure of great dignity, widely respected; d c 1962; **Stratford-upon-Avon 1950.**

SEWARDS, Geoffrey b 1936 ed Emanuel s, Wandsworth, London, Cambridge U, Nottingham U; ret maths lect at Coventry U; activist with Coventry Lib Dems since 1973, fighting local elections to date; Euro cand 1994; **Coventry South West 1992, Coventry North East 1997, 2001**

SHARMA, Vinod, 1947 ed Sir Gilbert Cloughton g s, Dudley, U Coll, London; of Sikh background; British Gas tech man; Sutton LBC; **Halesowen & Stourbridge 1992.**

SHAW, Harold, b 1920 ed St Paul's s, London U; dir of textile co; service WW II; campaigned under highly unimaginative slogan 'Better Be Shaw'; moderately successful with the Liberal Party tie he manufactured and promoted on behalf of party funds; said to have left his local L A after General Election saddled with a crippling hotel bill; **Shrewsbury 1959.**

SHEFFIELD, Arthur A., b 1909; academic; lect, later Prof of Economics; formerly a lawyer noted for controversial libertarian views; left party after 1951, later espousing right-wing opinions on economics in common with his wife (Dame) Barbara Lewis and Prof Michael Beesley qqv the trio becoming known informally as 'The Birmingham School'; author of 15 books on economics and politics published from 1962; d 1990; **Birmingham, Edgbaston 1945**

SHEWARD, Roy; fought Walsall MBC local elections, most recently 2013; **Aldridge-Brownhills 2005**

SHIRES, Ian, b 1944 ed Pelsall sec mod s, Walsall Tech Coll, Wednesbury Commercial Coll; production supervisor; latterly self-employed financial services cons; joined party 1977; Walsall MBC from 1979; later group ldr from 1982; hard-working local activist, of great integrity, forceful speaker; shrewd and diligent operator in the minefield of Walsall politics where he helped re-introduce democracy, credibility, integrity and sanity into the Council Chamber after a long, turbulent interlude under 'Militant Tendency' control during which Walsall was proclaimed 'a nuclear free zone'; lives Willenhall; **Walsall North 1987.**

SHORT, David C., b 1943 ed Gravesend g s, Kingsway Day Continuation Coll; ins cons; Free Church lay preacher; Herefordshire CC, Worcestershire CC, Leominster DC, grp ldr and one-time council ldr; Gloucestershire South (Southwest Region) 1974 Feb, Oct; **Leominster 1992**

SILVER, Bernard, b 1937, ed Kilburn g s, Coll for Distributive Trades; vice-chair LD Friends of Israel; remembered for sense of humour, stinging one-liners and impressive moustache; a real character, he had a memorable series of contretemps with his agent, the redoubtable Olive Griffiths qv, who, he claimed 'aged me!' during the campaign; many directories erroneously label him as SDP cand at Walsall South; St Marylebone (Greater London) 1974 Feb, Oct, Bristol West (Southwest Region) 1979, **Walsall South 1983**.

SIMPSON, E. Ann b 1938, ed Barr's Hill g s, Coventry; teacher; Stratford-upon-Avon DC from 1990; Chair, Stratford-upon-Avon LDA; **Coventry North West 1992**.

SINGH, Parmjit, b 1967 ed Joseph Chamberlain h s, Birmingham; of Sikh background; British Safety Council, London; safety man cons; Birmingham MBC elections from 1999; **Birmingham, Hall Green 2001**.

SINGH, Arjub, **Birmingham, Perry Barr 2015**

SINGH, Harjun, **Birmingham, Perry Barr 2017**

SINGH, Raj Mal, b 1924; machinist/textile worker, of Sikh background; subsequently fell foul of the law and is said to have spent some time as a guest of HM prison service for financial malpractices; **Coventry North East 1979**.

SINHA, Dr Murlji; of Muslim background; local GP with interest in environmental matters; soon defected to Labour over tuition fees, Coalition Government plans for NHS; **Walsall South 2010**.

SKINNER, Dominic, b Studley, Warwickshire, ed Alcester g s; dir of own architecture practice; Warwickshire CCLr 2018-; energetic campaigner, he raised the Party vote by 12.4%, to 24.29% the highest in the West Midland Region; **Stratford-upon-Avon 2019**

SLATER, Dr Simon, b c 1980; economist; Solihull MBC 2006 to date; made an impression with his sincerity and well-reasoned election speeches; his decision to defect to Labour in Sept 2010, prompted by the party joining the Conservatives in Coalition at Westminster, was deeply regretted; gained his PhD 2011; fought Ludlow 2015 for Labour; his mother Glenys, remains a greatly respected Lib Dem cllr at Solihull (Mayor 2015-16), laterly ldr party group; **Meriden 2010**

SMITH, Catherine Rachel, **Warley 2015**

SMEDLEY, Clive, b 1945; employee relations man with comp firm; **Stoke-on-Trent North 1979**

SMITH, David, b 1947 ed King's s, Worcester; surveyor/auctioneer; **Worcester 1974 Feb**

SMITH, Federica, b 1985? hails from Taunton from a Lib Dem family, ed Aberystwyth U, Open U; works in private health ins; Taunton Deane TC; began working aged 15 for Jackie Ballard MP qv (Southwest Region); campaigned on record of party in coalition; seeks to redress balance of unfairness in life; **Worcester 2015**

SMITH, Francis G. b 1924; ed King Edward's g s, Birmingham; acc; active with Old Age Pensioners' Assn; believed to have emigrated to Rhodesia after 1951; the sole party cand in the city in 1951, and one of only three in the West Midlands, after the disaster of 1950; his modest percentage share held remarkably firm though he again forfeited his deposit; there was an interval of eight years before the party contested a Birmingham constituency; **Birmingham, Small Heath 1950, 1951.**

SMITH, J. Gordon, b 1941 ed Bury g s, Lancashire, Leeds U; civil eng; Chester MBC 1978, Sheriff 1986-87; of bluff, warm personality; **Shropshire North 1987**, City of Chester (Northwest Region) 1992.

SMITH, Leslie, b 1963 ed Maypole comp s, Birmingham, Wolverhampton Poly; economist; seemingly lacking in confidence, he made a promising showing in what later became a target seat; might well have developed into a strong cand but soon quit the scene; **Birmingham, Yardley 1987.**

SMITH, Martyn, b 1946 ed Wyggeston g s, Leicestershire, Cambridge U; computer systems engineer, later community health council secretary; Newcastle-under-Lyme MBC 1972-74, West Bromwich, later Sandwell DC 1980-2007, group leader 1980-95; m Sadie Smith qv; WMRP officer; his membership of WM Candidates Comm during the illiberal 'Long Knives' episode 1979-80, in which PPCs suspected of retaining loyalty to former leader Jeremy Thorpe were purged from list of PPCs, for a while clouded his reputation; influential figure in development of Lib Dem Health policies; indefatigable campaigner in party cause; remembered for his inexhaustible energy, courage, integrity; sometimes accused of high-handedness and arrogance by Sandwell MBC colleagues, several of whom defected from party group to join Labour; eloquent and persuasive speaker, though on occasion lapsing into prolixity; always very well-informed; flair for publicity; adept at producing, and pioneer in the use of, regular Focus circulars; at the time of his untimely death from cancer, he was one of the longest continuously serving party councillors in the country; his wife Sadie qv served alongside him for many years; his outstanding achievement was to carry the fight into the Labour heartland of the Black Country, hitherto barren territory for the party and to establish a strong Liberal presence; he was the first party cand in any of the three Stoke constituencies for 24 years, polling over 14%; d 2007; **Stoke-on-Trent South 1974 Feb, Stoke-on-Trent Central 1974 Oct ; West Bromwich East 1979, 1983, 1987, 1992, 1997, West Bromwich West 2005**

SMITH, Rodney, b 1945 ed Campbell Coll, Queen's U, Belfast, Cambridge U; sales rep, later FE lect; once described on Midlands TV as being 'to the left of Andrew Faulds MP' (hardly an extreme position to occupy !); emerged briefly from decades in total obscurity in May 2010 to voice opposition to the Lib-Dems joining the Coalition Government; fought Antrim South (Northern Ireland) 1970, **Warley East 1974 Oct**, Newton 1979, Oldham West (both Northwest Region) 1983.

SMITH, Sadie, b Tonbridge, Kent, c1945 ed Wolverhampton g h s, Wolverhampton Poly; librarian; with NHS; m Martyn S. qv; a long-term (until 2012) cllr Sandwell MBC; Mayor 2006-07, as first Lib Dem; remembered for courage, integrity and energy and, in common with her late spouse, has a barely credible capacity for hard-work; prominent in promoting community

cohesion in multi-ethnic borough; probably the first woman Lib-Dem Council group leader in WM, certainly for a Metropolitan DC; interests incl Health, equalities, regionalism; first joint winner 2016 with Paul Tilsley qv of Jonathan Webber life time achievement award from WMRLP; current Hon President Sandwell LDA; **West Bromwich West by-e 2000, 2001, 2010**

SOLMAN, Nick, lives Long Itchington; researcher at Warwick Business s, specializing in UK Energy Policy; former surveyor; local election cand; **Warwick & Leamington 2017**

SOPER, Richard John, b 1913, ed Sheffield U; service WW II, engaged in preparations for D Day; town planning officer; chief planning asst Coventry Corporation 1946; dpty Chief Engineer, Hemel Hempstead Development Corporation; **Coventry South 1950.**

SOUTHCOMBE, Michael (Mike) J., b 1962 ed Holyrood s, Chard, London U, Royal Holloway Co; environmental protection officer; campaigner against apartheid; mbr NALGO; Chard TC 1985-90; **Solihull 1992, 1997** Doncaster Central (Yorkshire Region) 2001.

SPRECKLEY, David R. A., b 1915 India, allegedly of part-Gurkha parentage; orphaned before first birthday, adopted by family in England; ed Dartmouth Naval Coll, Royal Military Coll, Sandhurst; former cavalry officer later an organiser of pre-WW II Peace Pledge U; spent short spells in prison towards end of WWII for breaching public order, failing to comply with conditions applying to conscientious objectors; refused to take oath in magistrates court 1951, narrowly escaping further penalties; worked as librarian later dir of caravan building business; former Labour CCLr; joined Liberals 1961; served Godmanchester BC, Huntingdon DC 1957-82, St Neots TC; enthusiastic advocate of co-partnership policies which he introduced into his businesses; the quintessential itinerant cand, unaccountably promoted by LPO HQ for some time, contesting four different constituencies in five years; at Newcastle-under-Lyme he was the first party cand for 24 years; dropped out of party activity c1970; joined CND 1982; in 2009 reportedly involved with British Republican Party; d 2013; Yarmouth 1964, Huntingdon 1966, Cambridge by-e 1967, (all East of England Region), **Newcastle-under-Lyme by-e 1969.**

SPURLING, David, b 1940 ed Owen's s, London, Royal g s, Guildford, Bristol U; sen lect City of Birmingham Poly; later Head of Economics Gravesend g s; author of numerous textbooks; Southend MBC 1973, Swale BC 1994-2002; lives Sittingbourne, Kent; **Meriden 1979**

STAMP, Barry, b 1952 Stafford, ed West Midlands Coll of FE, St Peter's Coll, Open U; advisory teacher; Stafford MBC grp ldr; mbr party education policy grp; led campaign against M6 Toll Express Way; early blogger, flair for publicity; **Mid Staffordshire 1992, Stone 1997, Stafford 2005, 2010.**

STANLEY, Neil, b 1952 ed King Edward's s, Stafford; NHS exec; Cannock Chase DC 1978-Staffordshire CC; **Cannock 1987.**

STEED, Michael, b Kent 1940; joined party locally while at school ; ed Cambridge U; long-time lect in French politics, Manchester U; political scientist who became an eminent psephologist, if not inventing the discipline, greatly enhancing its standing in academic circles; appeared regularly in the media and as contributor of scholarly chapters to the Nuffield General Election studies of Butler and King from 1964; one time chair, ULS; in 1960 was refused entry by

apartheid government of South Africa into Sharpeville, to deliver aid to the victims of the notorious massacre; member of LPO Council/ Executive, LPO Pres 1978-79; lived Todmorden, Lancashire; very influential figure with enormous input into policy on constitutional reform etc; in 1976 designed the current system of election of the party leader; served as member of Cook-MacLennan talks which led to introduction of PR for Euro elections of 1999; associated with radical wing of the party, often at odds with Thorpe leadership; Euro cand 1979; his activities were curtailed by the onset of a debilitating neurological disorder in 1987; Todmorden TC 1987-91; author of numerous publications, pamphlets and articles; from 1990s has lived in Kent; Canterbury DC 2008- ; remembered as an ever-willing, committed and hard-working candidate, though his intellectual approach was hardly suited to constituency campaigning; m 1970 Margareta Holmstedt qv (Yorkshire Region); contributor to *Journal of Liberal History* 2020; **Brierley Hill by-e 1967**; Truro (Devon and Cornwall Region) 1970, followed by a series of contests in the Northwest Region; by-e Manchester, Exchange 1973, Manchester, Central 1974 Feb, Burnley 1979, 1983; see *Dictionary of Liberal Biography*

STEVENS, H. John, b 1943 ed Trowbridge h s, Wiltshire; computer service man; persistent campaigner over three decades; at Bristol South he was the first party cand for 24 years; Shropshire CC grp ldr; Euro cand 1994; Bristol North West 1970, Bristol South 1974 Feb, (both Southwest Region), Fylde South (Northwest Region) 1979, **Shropshire North 1992, 1997**.

STEVENS, Keith, b 1935 ed Stafford g s, King's s, Worcester, Staffordshire Coll of Agriculture; broadcaster and farmer; **Burton-on-Trent 1974 Oct, 1979**.

STEVENS, Peter R., local campaigner; **Stone 2005**

STOCKDALE, Stewart Leonard, b 1940 Welling, Kent, ed King's s, Worcester, Birmingham U; Mod Languages teacher, specialising in German; lived successively Handsworth (Birmingham), Kidderminster and Lichfield; joined ULS 1958; close associate of Brian/Lionel King qqv in Ad Lib Group; one time Chair WMYLs, also Votes At 18 campaign; later lect in Libya until given hours to quit by the incoming Gaddafi regime; fought local elections Birmingham MBC, Kidderminster MBC; later active with local LDA at Lichfield where he fought local elections until 2012; regular attendee WMRP assemblies; remembered for his serious, intellectual approach to politics, commitment, sincerity, mischievous smile, sense of fun, guitar playing; capable of well-reasoned rather than forceful public speaking; took an early interest in ecology, long before this discipline was taken up by the Lib Dem Green grp, in its early days as a field of study; had many interests; extremely widely read; d 2015 after short illness; **Bromsgrove 1964**

STUDD, Dr Robin, b1941 ed King Edward VI s, Stratford-upon-Avon, Leeds U, London U; history lect at Keele U from 1967; joined SDP 1985; fought local elections, Newcastle-under-Lyme DC to 2006; grp ldr; lives Keele; he was opposed by a 'continuing Liberal' who polled 2.85%; **Newcastle-under-Lyme 1997**

SWORD, Trevor, b 1957 ed Victoria Phys Handicapped s, Birmingham, Bournville Co of FE, Birmingham Poly; specialist training officer with Sandwell Social Services; despite disabilities (lying virtually supine on wheeled conveyance), an activist in Northfield, fighting local elections to 2015; indefatigable campaigner on behalf of physically disadvantaged; crusader for better

access to conference/assembly centres; an example in courage and tenacity to all; lives Bournville, Birmingham; **Birmingham, Northfield 2001, 2005**

TALBOT, William, b 1929; man-dir Pathfinder T'ology; **Coventry North West 1983**

TANNANT-NASH, Brian b 1937, ed Hereford h s, Fellow of Computer Soc. chair/ man dir of co; active for many years with Hereford LA; **Hereford 1974 Feb, Oct**

TAYLOR, Douglas; **Walsall North 2005.**

TAYLOR, W. James B., b 1934 ed Bootham s, York, Royal Agricultural Coll, Cirencester; farmer; held sen office in NFU; mbr Society of Friends and conscientious objector; **Stratford-upon-Avon 1979, 1983**

THOMAS, Alan, b 1939 ed Wallasey g s, Hull U; computer training officer, lect; highly peeved when his constituency was removed from LPO HQ targeted list in 1992; stalwart campaigner over two decades; Newcastle-under-Lyme DC from 1980, Staffordshire CC from 1981; mbr NATFHE; **Stoke-on-Trent Central 1974 Oct, 1979, Newcastle-under-Lyme 1983, by-e 1986, 1987, 1992**

THOMAS, Haydn, ed Porth g s, London U; ret dir, nursing education; prominent at WMRP assemblies; powerful voice; somewhat officious in manner; Warwickshire CC; **Birmingham, Small Heath, 1992, Birmingham, Hodge Hill 1997.**

THORNHILL, Tom, b c 1994, raised North Shropshire, ed in Whitchurch, Birmingham U, Chair Lib Dem Society; made first speech in public aged seven, in protest at closing of a local public library; aged just 20, one of very youngest candd at General Election 2015; local campaigner, hospital volunteer; strong advocate of potential power of Liberalism in C21st; **North Shropshire 2015, 2017**

TIBBETTS, Philip, b 1984 ed Earls h s, Halesowen, King Edward Coll, Stourbridge, U of St Andrews, Aarhus U, Denmark; **Halesowen & Rowley Regis 2010.**

TILSLEY, Paul Calvin OBE, CBE, b Birmingham 1945, ed Brandwood sec s, Lordswood g-t s, Birmingham City U; former sales rep; later fruit and vegetable wholesaler then entered management; joined party 1961, held numerous offices including chair of former BALF; Birmingham MBC 1968-82 Aston Ward, Sheldon Ward 1982 to date, late grp ldr until retirement, Jan 2016; West Midlands CC 1973-86; popular Lord Mayor 1994-95, first Liberal incumbent since 1921; under his direction the party group grew to over 30 cllrs; though a Euro cand 1999, 2004, could not be persuaded to contest more than a single parliamentary election; co-leader of Birmingham City Council, having taken Lib-Dems into coalition with Conservatives 2005-12 providing Birmingham with the most efficient and forward-looking administration since the C19th; originally a Wallace Lawler qv disciple, representing an Inner City ward, he steadily distanced himself from the 'official' Lawler populist line; took the fight to the outer suburbs of Birmingham where he has remained prominent in party success in Yardley area; arguably one of the most authoritative and influential personalities in UK local government, highly esteemed

across party lines; respected for his single-minded determination, energy and integrity; tall, imposing figure; formidable organiser and campaigner with powerful speaking voice and occasional devastating turn-of-phrase eg 'On this issue I'm to the right of Attila the Hun!'; adept at media relations, talented communicator, regularly in media eye; has no time for phoneyes, time-wasters or losers, has strong sense of humor, though his sarcasm can be devastating at times; does not suffer fools gladly; author of articles on John Bright MP etc; first joint winner 2016 with Sadie Smith qv of Jonathan Webber Life Time Achievement Award from WMRLP; **Birmingham, Handsworth 1974 Feb.**

TINKER, Christine May, b Liverpool, former HM Army Officer, widow of naval officer; successively Chief Exec Shropshire Youth Assn and British Tennis Coaches Assn, now freelance tennis coach; WMRP Exec from 2010, Chair WMRP Conference Comm; HQ Candidates Leadership Prog. 2012; experienced organiser/worker with volunteers and as team leader; serious-minded, purposeful and hard-working; Euro cand 2014; **Stone 2010, Shrewsbury & Atcham 2015, Stafford 2017**

TODD, Elaine, b 1950 ed Bolling g s, Bradford, Northern Counties Coll, Newcastle-upon-Tyne U, Keele U; education and ind liaison officer; interests incl racial equality; **Warley West 1987, 1992, Halesowen & Rowley Regis 1997**

TOMLINSON, Bill; Telford & Wrekin MBC grp ldr; **Walsall South 2001, The Wrekin 2005**

TREASADEN, Peter, b 1945, water board official; Cannock Chase DC from 1988, grp ldr 1991-; Rugeley TC chair; **Cannock & Burntwood 1992**

TRENCH, Karen, see HAMILTON, Karen, **Birmingham, Perry Barr 2010, West Bromwich West 2015, West Bromwich East 2017**

TURNER, Martin Marshall, b 1966 Todmorden, West Yorkshire, ed St Chad's Cathedral s, Lichfield, King Edward's, Birmingham, Oxford U; Chartered Public Relations Practitioner; Dir of Communications Warwickshire NHS 2009-11, later dir of Brand Motor Ltd; fought local elections Birmingham MBC; WMRP officer, chair 2014-; WMRP spokesman on Culture, Media & Sport; chair, Lib Dem Christian Forum; author of papers on media/communications; officer, later chair of PCA; close associate of Jock Gallagher qv ; makes regular, effective appearances on Midlands TV; flair for publicity, eloquent debater and public speaker; a rising star in the party; interests incl human trafficking, NHS, culture, media, sport; talented fencer; moved with his family to Belgium in 2017 to take up a post with a charitable organisation; Euro cand 2004; **Sutton Coldfield 2001, Halesowen & Rowley Regis 2005, Stratford-upon-Avon 2010, Dudley South 2015**

TYZACK, Peter, b Coventry 1946 ed Bablake s, Shoreditch Coll; originally a teacher, set up property agency, building co, later property adviser; joined party c1975; South Gloucester CC, Chair Severn Estuary Partnership; lives Severn Beach; Bristol East 1997, Bristol North West 2001, Filton & Bradley Stoke (all Southwest Region), **Halesowen & Rowley Regis 2015**

UPSTONE, Neale, fought on national issues, economic reform etc expressed doubts about HS2; advocate of local decision making on planning issues; Cambridge MBC???: **Wolverhampton South West 2015**

VAUS, Kenneth Sydney CBE, b Westerham 1928, ed Haberdashers' Aske's s, Sheffield U, Royal Dental S; dentist, lived Hereford in 1960s; influential personality of national standing and immense presence; Exec NLYL 1954-55; Chair LPO Exec 1973-76; party financial and admin board; one time West Midland Fed Treasurer who attempted to bring errant Liberal clubs in West Midlands back into the fold; opposed Lib-Lab Pact 1978; his failure to make headway in the Hereford constituency, was a great personal disappointment; later returned to live and practise in Surrey; his untimely death was mourned throughout the party; remembered for his sense of humour, genial personality and as a low-key but persuasive speaker; d 1982; Surrey East (Southeast Region) 1959, **Hereford 1964, 1966**, Reigate (Southeast Region) 1970, Surrey East 1974 (Southeast Region) Feb, Oct

VIRK, Sunny; local barrister and mediator; **Tamworth by-e 2024**

WAGNER, Alex, b Shrewsbury 2001? brought up in farming background; concerned with rural issues; strongly opposed to Brexit; believed to be youngest candidate in UK, 2019; **Stafford 2019**

WAIN, Adam b Burton-on-Trent; U grad; IT professional with int co; **Burton-on-Trent 2019**

WALLEY, William, b 1941, ed Queen Mary Coll., London U, Birmingham U; Ch Civil Eng; university lect; Stafford MBC; mbr party planning policy comm; **Stoke-on-Trent South 1983**.

WATSON, Sir Andrew Bt, b 1937 succ as 5th Baronet 1941; ed Eton, Inner Temple; Lieut, Life Guards; barrister with chambers in Birmingham, later appointed Recorder 1989; remembered for his aloof bearing, not a disadvantage in the snobby constituency he fought; only fleetingly involved with party; lived Newbold-on-Stour, Warwickshire; **Sutton Coldfield 1974 Feb, Oct**

WEBB, David, b 1935 ed Hitchin g s, London U, Cranfield Inst; comp dir formerly sen police officer, Inner City Birmingham, later sports outfitter; team manager Birmingham Bulls (American football); popular police officer in tough inner districts, noted for his work in community relations; remembered as an affable, bluff, positive personality; **Birmingham, Northfield 1983, Birmingham, Perry Barr 1987**.

WEBB, Gavin; individualist with a propensity for falling out with local LDAs with which he had previously been active eg Stoke-on-Trent, Newcastle-under-Lyme etc; adopted PPC for Burton 2008, he proved somewhat given to voicing maverick opinions in the media; described himself as 'Libertarian'; amidst much adverse publicity he was later obliged to resign in 2009; subsequently left party; Stoke MBC; **Stoke-on-Trent Central 2001**

WEDGWOOD, Major Sir John Hamilton, 2nd Bt, b 1907, ed Winchester, Cambridge U; service WW II; member of the famous pottery family; nephew of Sir Josiah Wedgwood (1872-1942 Liberal MP for Newcastle-under-Lyme from 1906, later Labour); dpty Chair, Josiah Wedgwood & Sons to 1966; a former Labour activist, he defected from the Liberals after 1950 to Conservatives becoming rabidly anti-Liberal Party, describing it as 'a party of liars' in a notorious local press statement issued at the 1964 General Election; contested Leek for the Conservatives 1959; d 1989; **Stone 1945.**

WELLS, Thomas (Tom); Malvern DC, Worcestershire CC; outspoken local campaigner with flair for publicity; his efforts briefly turned a traditional Tory bastion into a marginal constituency; **Worcestershire West 2005.**

WERNICK, Joseph (Joe), b 1920, ed Wolverhampton g s, Wolverhampton & Staffs Tech; dir of family business; of Jewish background; prominent in many aspects of local public scene; appointed JP; a highly esteemed member of the community, he enjoyed much cross-party support; **Wolverhampton South West 1974 Feb, Oct, 1979, Wolverhampton South East 1983.**

WEST, A. C. (Tony), b 1945 ed Birmingham, Royal Coll of Nursing; nursing tutor/lect; Newport (Salop) TC; **Wrekin 1992.**

WEST, Dr Charles, ed Birmingham U; South Shropshire DC; a well-known and respected GP in Shrewsbury area, worked in NHS management; restored Lib Dem fortunes in constituency where the Party had fallen back; forceful speaker; made an impact in debate on NHS at Birmingham Assembly 2011; lives Church Stretton; **Shrewsbury & Atcham 2010.**

WHARTON, Dennis, b 1963 ed Priesthope Comp s, Oxford U, Edinburgh U, Surrey U; ret head teacher; based much of his campaign on attacking record of Conservative policies in coalition; bewildered supporters and opponents alike by defecting to Conservatives in June 2015, soon after the General Election, claiming that he had held Conservative sympathies for some time; **Worcestershire West 2015**

WHEELAN, Richard, b 1987; activist and local government cand, Newcastle-under-Lyme; **Stoke-on-Trent North 2017, North Warwickshire 2019**

WHEWAY, Robert, b 1949 ed Bablake s, Coventry; educational advisor, later dir of Children's Play Advisory Service; Coventry MBC (first party cllr for 59 years); closely associated with revival of party in Coventry; a determined 'continuing Liberal' after 1988 merger, holding office in party and fighting Coventry North West under that label at General Election 1997; after long interval rejoined Lib Dems; his two contests for the Party were 32 years apart; **Coventry South West 1987, Tamworth 2019**

WHINCUP, Michael, b 1929, ed Wallasey g s, Liverpool U, Inns of Court, London; some time barrister, lect, Birmingham Coll of Advanced T'nology (now Aston U), Director of Continuing Legal Education, later Prof of Law, Keele U; author of several legal books eg *Medical Negligence* 1991, *Employment Law* 1995 and thought-provoking articles to political journals e g *Time and Tide* in 1960s; LPO Council early 1960s; once stirred the ire of YLs for complaining of the 'excessive youth' of some of his contemporary PPCs; remembered for his warm Mancunian

voice, acid wit and incisive platform style; sometimes abrupt and impatient, he did not suffer fools gladly and was contemptuous of middle class snobbery, Toryism and associated attitudes; mbr JUSTICE; incensed by local obsession with re-institution of death penalty; a great loss to the party when he gave up active politics; associated with Newcastle-under-Lyme LDA 2018; **Sutton Coldfield 1964, 1966.**

WHITE, Bertram Samuel, former builder, later farmer, businessman; one-time Chair, WMLF, officer of Assn of Liberal Clubs who worked to keep the clubs and party in close association; also associated with Kidderminster carpet ind; member of Party 'shadow cabinet,' worked with Ministries of Supply and Food, WW II; pioneer of methods for conversion of household waste into animal feed; **Birmingham, Kings Norton 1945, Dudley 1950**

WHITEHOUSE, Richard F., b 1951 ed Highfield s, Wolverhampton; Hull U; schoolmaster; Wolverhampton MBC, later grp ldr/Mayor; joined party at university; mbr Amnesty; fought Derby North (East Midlands Region) 1979; persistent campaigner over 30 years; Derby North (East Midlands Region) 1979, **Wolverhampton South East 1987, 1992, 1997, 2010**

WHORWOOD, James, b Sutton Coldfield 1934, ed Handsworth Tech s, Aston U, Bolton Co of Ed; CEng; design eng; former man of eng co, later lect in manufacturing, head of engineering management dept, Coventry U; West Midlands CC 1973-77, Sutton Coldfield MBC 1964-74, later Birmingham MBC 1996-2010, Lord Mayor 2001-2002; during his term of office made official visit to New York after 9/11 Twin Towers carnage; many times election agent/campaign organiser; party stalwart from 1950s; meticulous keeper of records and election information; respected for his integrity, serious minded approach, sense of humour and capacity for hard work; (younger brother of long- term party activist/agent/organiser, the late Robert Whorwood); **Sutton Coldfield 1992, 1997.**

WIGGIN, Mark Nigel Charles, b 1955 ed Adams g s, Newport (Salop), Keele U; former dairy farmer, long serving police officer, later mature student; editor LD Focus; Newport TC, (Salop); Dpty Mayor; husband of the following; **Wolverhampton South West 1992.**

WIGGIN, Sally Ann, teacher; Wrekin DC, Newport TC; local community activist; officer Telford & Wrekin LDA; wife of Mark W. above; **Telford 2001.**

WILD, Peter, b 1963 ed Yew Tree Upper s, Manchester, Keele U; retail shop manager; Stoke South 1987, Leeds Central (Yorkshire Region) by-e 1999; **Wolverhampton South East 2001.**

WILKES, Ian Frank, b Stoke-on-Trent 1962, ed 'school of life;' lived locally over 50 years; manager of local post office; Newcastle-under-Lyme MBC; interests incl housing, planning provision for sport facilities; **Newcastle-under-Lyme 2015, Stoke-on-Trent South 2017**

WILKINSON, Jennie, born/raised Sutton Coldfield; community activist; Ch Acc; works for international acc firm KPMG, specializing in forensic accounting and fraud cases; Euro cand 2019; interests incl the environment; selected Dec 2020 as candidate for West Midlands Mayor (2021); **Sutton Coldfield 2017, 2019**

WILLIAMS, Arnold (Wallace?), b 1930s ed King Edward VI s, Stafford; tech rep; remembered for his zany sense of humour; defected to Conservatives; believed to have fought elections in late 1970s for that party; **Stafford & Stone 1970.**

WILLIAMS, Caroline, b 1970, ed John Beddoe s, Herefordshire, Gloucestershire Coll of Art. Stafford U; private airline administrator; joined party 1997; Leominster LDA Exec; lives Westhope, Herefordshire; **Leominster 2005.**

WILLIAMS, Cecil Edward (Gus), b 1948 St Kitts, West Indies, of Afro-Caribbean background, ed Birmingham Poly; building surveyor, later dir of ACCAFES (community development body); first Lib Dem cand in West Mids of Anglo-Caribbean background; enjoyed high standing among his community and beyond; fought Birmingham MBC elections; later defected to Labour; remembered for his energy, enthusiasm and good-natured bonhomie; larger-than-life character, free and easy life style, the archetypal likeable rogue; he was well-favoured at LPO at a time when the party was becoming aware of the need to promote candidates from ethnic minorities; became a target of racial abuse from the National Front at Nuneaton during campaigning and shamefully, from elements in the 'old guard' of his own local association; he was highly amused when he won a jar of suntan lotion in a WLF tombola at a party assembly; reported in 2009 to have been appointed Hon Consul of St Kitts & Nevis to Brazilian Republic; **Birmingham, Sparkbrook 1974 Oct , Nuneaton 1979, Birmingham, Perry Barr 1983.**

WILLIAMS, Grant E., b Birmingham 1965, ed Walton h s, Stafford, Wolverhampton Poly, Birmingham City U; administrator, later man cons; served on WMRP Exec in 1990s and from 2011; energetic champion of local NHS; personable manner, with a sense of humour; Walsall MBC 1991-95; **Walsall South 1992.**

WILLMOTT, Francis B., b 1894, ed Birmingham tech and commercial schools; engineer later affluent industrialist with many local business interests; Vice-Chair, National Union of Manufacturers; prolific writer of letters to press, notable only for their total obscurity of meaning; author *Philosophy of Production* (1950), *The Human Touch in Industry* (1951); remembered for his irascible personality and many eccentricities; Birmingham MBC (Conservative) 1950-53, fought Handsworth Ward 1959 or 1960 as Liberal; an example of the oddball characters who were briefly Party members in the 1950s; d c 1965; **Wednesbury 1959.**

WINDMILL, John Anthony, b Yardley, Birmingham 1938, ed Moseley g s, Birmingham U; solicitor in Solihull; joined party 1957; one of the pioneers/ founders of party presence in Solihull; agent at Solihull General Election 1964; long-serving pillar of Solihull & Meriden LDA which became the best organized and financially secure in the West Midlands; Solihull CBC 1962-65, 66-69 and 70-74; Solihull MBC 1973-78, 1986 to 2018; highly respected figure on local government scene; appointed Hon Alderman for nearly 50 years service; presented with 50 years party membership award by Vince Cable 2009; remembered for his serious-minded, uncompromising, studiously correct approach, integrity of purpose; passionately opposed to the Tory mindset; leading figure behind MP Lorely Burt's qv victories in 2005 and 2010 in Solihull; among his many interests figure economic regeneration, planning, legal affairs; **Solihull 1974 Feb, Oct**

WINDRIDGE, Michael, b Wolverhampton 1947, ed Repton s; publishing exec; ordained priest after Salisbury & Wells Theo Coll; defected to the Conservatives; South Norfolk DC since 1999; Blyth Valley 2005; **Cannock 1974 Feb.**

WOOD, Stephen b 1958, ed Whitgift s, Grimsby, Liverpool U; research fellow at Warwick U; **Coventry North East 1987.**

WOODCOCK, David, b 1932; education administrator, later lect; **Coventry South East 1974 Oct, Warwick & Leamington 1979.**

WOODTHORPE-BROWNE, Robert MBE, b 1943 Little Gaddesden, Herfordshire, ed St Ignatius Coll, Stamford Hill, London, Poitiers U (France), Barcelona U, Birkbeck Coll; FRGS, FRFS; ins broker and underwriter; lives Broad Marston, Worcestershire; multi-linguist; long active in Liberal Int, ELDR, former Chair PCA; Euro cand London Central 1979, Eastern Region 1999; organiser of Lib-Dem week-end courses; influential and respected figure in highest echelons of party, currently (2011) Chair, Party International Comm; his work in his various roles and capacities has taken him to 130 countries; remembered as excellent communicator and for his organising skills, affable personality with multiplicity of interests; a dogged if somewhat ubiquitous campaigner over four decades; d 2022; Harlow (East of England) 1979, Kensington & Chelsea (Greater London) 1997, by-e 1999, **Worcestershire Mid 2001**, Sedgefield (Northeast Region) 2005, **South Staffordshire 2015.**

WOOLLAND, Ann Margaret, b 1946; ed Grove Park g g s, Wrexham, Liverpool U; former teacher, later lab tech; Shrewsbury & Atcham MBC 1992-1997, fought borough and county council until 2009; remembered as attractive in personality and appearance, with infectious sense of humour, petite, vivacious and energetic; **Shrewsbury & Atcham 1997.**

WORTH, Brian, b 1938 ed Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham s; Ch Acc; Treasurer, British Council of Churches 1973-80; active with Inst of Ch Accs, UK; **Birmingham, Ladywood 1992.**

WRIGHT, Derek, b 1924 ed Manchester g s, Keele U; teacher; associated with revival of party fortunes at Newcastle-under-Lyme from early 1960s to late 1980s; remembered for his hearty good humour and powerful voice; **Newcastle-under-Lyme 1970.**

WRIGHT, (Col) Michael (Mike), b 1928 ed St Alban's s, Manchester U; FE lect, local director of Shelter; one-time Chair, National Federation of Housing Associations, Chair, Party Defence Panel in 1970s; Warwickshire CC; sympathetic to CND position; amenable, approachable character, remembered for his military bearing tempered with a bluff sense of humour; **Stratford-upon-Avon 1974 Feb, Oct**, Maldon (East of England Region) 1979.

YARNELL, Raymond (Ray), b 1927 ed Warley Coll of T'nology, Bolton Tech, lect in Poly, later Open U tutor; **The Wrekin 1979, Wolverhampton North East 1983.**

YATES, Arthur (or R)? b Manchester 1919? former British Railways employee he addressed open air political meetings as teenager before service in WWII. In an article in *Lib Dem News* in 2005, he stated he was selected to oppose Winston Churchill in the General Election at Woodford

(Greater London) 1945 but was unable to return from active war service overseas in time to sign the nomination papers. This claim, repeated at length in his semi- autobiographical *The Trooper* pub 2001, is not widely accepted. Contemporary sources confirm that the Liberal and Labour Leaders had previously agreed not to oppose the candidature of the revered war time Prime Minister in his own constituency. Yates's other publications incl *Red Tide Stemmed*. He does however have a strong title to being one of the oldest surviving Liberal candidates, by date of his first contest, though not by age. His speech (according to Bob Fowler qv who was present), after the count at the election at Rowley Regis in 1950, comprised just five words, 'I have made my point!' presumably a reference to the tally of 4,692 of votes he had received; probably a Martell Plan cand. He subsequently took Canadian citizenship and unsuccessfully fought provincial elections in Alberta. He further maintained he was a close friend of former Canadian Premier Pierre Trudeau who, he claimed, offered him a seat in the Senate which, he still further insists, he turned down. **Rowley Regis & Tipton 1950.**

INDEX OF SDP CANDIDATES FOR WEST MIDLAND CONSTITUENCIES; GENERAL ELECTIONS OF 1983 and 1987 with RELATED BY-ELECTIONS.

BARBER, Christopher b 1930 ed Ireland; mark research officer; Birmingham MBC (Labour) for Erdington Ward, Birmingham MB; joined SDP; **Birmingham, Erdington 1983**; later fought local elections in Birmingham for Lib Dems.

BEHRENS, Robert (Rob) b1952 ed Burnage g s, Manchester, Nottingham U, Exeter U, polytechnic lect; joint sec of Campaign for Racial Justice, later worked in S. Africa on training for Post-Apartheid Public Services; many senior posts in public/government service in UK; **Warwick & Leamington 1983.**

BENNETT, David b 1948 ed Harold Malley s, Solihull, John Hopkins U, USA, Portsmouth Poly; economist; Euro cand 1984 Birmingham East 1984; **Birmingham Yardley, 1983**, Basingstoke (South Central Region) 1987.

BESWICK, Trevor b 1935 ed Bradford g s, Leeds U; teacher; **Stoke North 1983**; later joined Lib Dems; fought Wigan MBC elections 2007; Wigan (Northwest Region)1997, 2001.

BETTERIDGE, Glyn b 1952 ed Willenhall comp s, Wolverhampton; sales rep; **Aldridge-Brownhills 1987.**

BIDDLESTONE, Neil b 1939 ed King Edward's g s, Aston, Birmingham U; co dir; on merger in 1989 joined Lib Dems; Birmingham MBC 1993-96; d 1996; **Birmingham, Erdington 1987.**

BINNS, Joseph (Jo) b 1931 ins broker, co dir; from an old Labour family with Manchester roots; son of Joseph Binns snr MP (Labour) Gillingham (Home Counties) 1945-50; for Labour fought Bromley (Greater London) 1964, Gillingham (Greater London) 1966; Greenwich MBC (Labour) 1963-65; joined SDP; Euro cand 1984, 1989; reported to have died c 2002; **Birmingham, Edgbaston 1983, 1987.**

BOSTOCK, Andrew b 1953 ed Herbert Strutt s, Belper, Aston U; personnel/ind relations manager; **Birmingham, Small Heath 1983.**

CAIGER, John J. **Worcester 1987** (see Lib Dem section above)

CLITHEROE, Thomas b 1940 ed Exeter U; lect; Dudley MBC (Labour) 1973-80; joined SDP remaining in office until 1982; **Halesowen 1983.**

COLLINGBOURNE, Anthony b 1947; ed Northwood sec mod s, Huntingdon g s, microbiologist in brewing ind; **West Bromwich West 1983, 1987.**

COOK, George b 1937 ed Hyde g s, Chester Diocesan Training Coll; teacher; Walsall MBC (Labour) 1970-73; joined SDP; **The Wrekin 1987.**

CORBETT, James b 1952 ed Sloane s, Chelsea, Exeter U; barrister; Euro cand, Cheshire East (Northwest Region) 1984, Midlands Central 1989; Erewash (East Midlands Region) 1983, **Staffordshire Moorlands 1987.**

CROPP, David, **Bromsgrove 1987** (see Lib Dem section above)

CUNDY, Iain b 1964 ed Bristol Cathedral s, Warwick U; systems eng; Euro cand 1989 as SLD; **Stoke Central 1987.**

DEVINE, Frank b 1954 ed Warwick U; ind relations man; **Coventry South East 1987.**

DIMMICK, Robin b 1941; radiographer; **Birmingham, Sparkbrook 1987.**

DUNBAR, Dr Pamela b 1944 ed U of Canterbury, New Zealand, Cambridge U; university lect, author; **Meriden 1983.**

DUNN, David b 1946 ed Burnage g s, London U; polytechnic lect; **Stafford 1983, by-e 1984.**

FAIRHEAD, Margaret b 1924 ed Nottingham U; retired coll lect; **Mid Worcestershire 1983.**

FREEMAN, Victoria (Vicky) b 1941 ed Oxford U; freelance parliamentary lobbyist, former social worker; **Stoke Central 1983.**

GLUCK, Elizabeth Ann b 1956, ed Queen's Coll, Brighton Poly; described by a local dignitary as 'a charismatic blonde bundle of energy'; she is reported as having arrived with a large entourage from London and against the trend raised the SDP vote by 5.6% taking the party into 2nd place; there was an unusually large number of SDP members in the constituency; **Staffordshire South East 1983.**

GORDON, John b 1958 ed Exhall Grange s, Coventry; social worker; **Birmingham, Northfield 1987.**

GUBBINS, Paul b 1949 ed Manchester U, Queen's U, Canada; journalist; **Staffordshire Moorlands 1983.**

GUNN, Peter b 1946; marketing dir; Walsall MBC (Ind) 1975-79; **Aldridge-Brownhills 1983**

HAMER, Bryn b 1938 ed Denbigh g s; sub-postmaster/shopkeeper; **Warley East 1983.**

HARWOOD, Edgar b 1939; manager, steel stockholders; formerly Labour; **Wolverhampton South West 1983, Mid Worcestershire 1987;** later rejoined Labour; Wychavon DC 2010.

JONES, Aubrey b 1911 d 2003 ed Merthyr Tydfil s s, LSE ; as a Conservative fought Essex South East (East of England Region) 1945, Heywood & Radcliffe by-e (North West Region)1946, MP for Birmingham, Hall Green 1950-65; Minister of Fuel & Power 1955-57, Min of Supply 1957-59, Chairman of Prices & Incomes Board 1965-70; dir of numerous companies from 1970- ; widely regarded as t'nologist rather than politician; joined SDP; his personal expenses during the 1983 election campaign were the highest recorded in the country; **Sutton Coldfield 1983;**

JONES, H. Tudor b 1946 ed University Coll. s, Oxford U, Southampton U; lecturer in polytechnic; **Coventry North West 1987;** later joined Lib Dems, Buckingham (South Central Region)1992.

JORDAN, Jonathan b 1951 ed Wallington g s, Oxon, Warwick U, Birmingham Poly; teacher; **Warley East 1987.**

KERRY, Howard b 1943 ed Yardley g s; dir of freight forwarding co; **Warwickshire North 1983.**

LAMB, Beris? b 1942 ed Wolverhampton Coll, Bilston Coll; building contractor; **Wolverhampton South West 1987.**

LANE, Peter b 1946 ed Croydon g s, LSE, Essex U; economist; Lambeth MBC (Labour)1971-81; former member of Labour Nat Exec; joined SDP; **Ludlow 1983.**

LEVITT, Dr Ruth b 1950, ed Camden s, UCE; research asst to Dr David Owen; **Nuneaton 1983.**

LYLE, Marjorie b 1926, ed Ashford s, Oxford U; education officer; **Coventry South West 1983;** later joined Lib Dems.

LYNCH, Michael b 1943, ed William Hulme g s, Oxford U; FE lect; **Staffordshire South East 1983.**

MILLINGTON, Arthur James (Jim) b 1935, ed Stourport s s, Worcestershire, Kidderminster g s, Bristol U; of a prominent local family; former head/owner of private prep school in Hall Green, Birmingham, later FE lect; long-serving member Stourport UDC, where he was said to have once exchanged blows in the council chamber with a fellow Labour cllr; Worcestershire CC 1958-61 (Labour); briefly Liberal Party member 1961-65 (including short spell as PPC for Shrewsbury where his alleged philandering led to his being dismissed); of uncertain political allegiance 1965-82; Worcestershire-Hereford CC again from 1981; joined SDP 1982; subsequently joined UKIP for whom he contested Wyre Forest 1997, 2001; said to have later joined Christian People's Alliance; a controversial personality in North Worcestershire public life for over 50 years, displaying remarkable resilience; perennial cand at elections at all levels; described by some

colleagues and opponents as 'the type to give one the creeps'; of unremarkable appearance, softly spoken; led complicated private life; propensity to attract negative media publicity; **Bromsgrove 1983.**

MONKS, Kevin b 1962, ed Wallington h s, Reading Coll of T'ology, Brunel U; researcher/asst to John Cartwright MP; **Dudley East 1987.**

NEALE, Suzan b 1933, ed Bailey s, Fleetwood, Blackpool Tech Coll, Bristol Tech Coll; welfare officer; Warwick DC; **Warwickshire North 1987.**

O' SULLIVAN, Kevin b 1938 ed Cambridge U, Yale U; cons eng; Euro cand 1983; **Warwick & Leamington 1987.**

PARKINSON, Dr Christina b 1943 ed Drayton Manor s, London, London U; inner city missionary; **Meriden 1987.**

PARMAR, Omkar b 1930 ed Nairobi, East Africa, Birmingham School of Architecture; architect; **Birmingham, Sparkbrook 1983.**

PHIPPS, Dr Colin b 1934 ed Acton g s, Bishop Gore s, London U, Birmingham U; geologist in petroleum ind; fought by-e (Labour) Walthamstow West (London) 1969; MP Dudley West (Lab) 1974-79; joined SDP; somewhat aloof and abrupt in demeanour; d 2009; **Worcester 1983, Stafford 1987.**

SANGHA, Gurdial b 1945; co dir; **Birmingham, Ladywood 1987.**

SIMON, D. Crispin A. b 1958 ed Westminster s, Oxford U; economist, chief exec Biocompatibles 2010; **Dudley East 1983, Halesowen 1987.**

SIMMONS, David b 1945 ed Loughborough g s, Central London Poly; dir/vice pres of international comp systems co, former diplomat, India, Viet Nam, Brazil; **Coventry North East 1983, Crawley (Southeast Region) 1987.**

SIMMONDS, Stephen b 1955 ed Beale s, Redbridge, London E, Middlesex Poly, Essex Poly, Keele U; student, union official; **Stoke North 1987.**

TREMBATH, Andrew b 1948 ed Carlton-le-Willows g s; teacher; **Nuneaton 1987.**

WHELDALL, Kevin b 1949 ed Henry Cavendish Tech s, Manchester U; Dir of Centre for Child Studies, Birmingham U, later Prof of Education, Macquarie U, Australia; **Birmingham, Selly Oak 1983.**

WILKES, Michael (Mike) b 1941 Brierley Hill, Staffs, ed St Philips g s, Edgbaston, Birmingham U; University lect, later Faculty Dean, Professor; Birmingham MBC (SDP) 1984; later joined Lib Dems; Birmingham MBC, Lord Mayor 2009-10. **Birmingham, Hall Green 1987**

WITHNALL, J. William, b 1941 ed St Mary's g s, Walsall, Birmingham U; teacher; Walsall MBC 1970-80 (Labour); **Cannock 1983**