

Chair: Ellen Lebethe, 1 Heyford Ave, London SW8 1EA. Tel 020 7582 5063
Secretary: Penny Savage, 61 Hackford Road SW9 ORE Tel:020 7735 7375
Treasurer: Jennie Hall, 100 Newpark Road, SW2 4LN Tel 0208 671 8752
info@lampag.org www.lampag.org

MEET OUR M.P.'S

**OUR FEBRUARY MEETING WILL BE ON
MONDAY 24th FEBRUARY (THE FOURTH
MONDAY OF THE MONTH)
AT THE MCMILLAN ROOM PORTCULLIS
HOUSE TO MEET OUR M.P'S**

**Please meet at the entrance to Portcullis
House, 1 Parliament Street, SW1A 2JR
At 12noon to enable us to go through
security to start the meeting at 12.30pm**

**The nearest stop is on Whitehall (159 bus) then cross the
road to Westminster station. Walk around the corner to
Portcullis House. Alternatively take a bus to St Thomas's
hospital and walk over the bridge.**

On 4 July 2024 the Labour Party led by Sir Keir Starmer won the election by a landslide victory. Among the Labour Party election pledges was to

- Create wealth for working people
- Build 300,000 new homes
- 40,000 more NHS appointments and operations
- Home first care
- Private school vat fees to pay for state school teachers

The elected MPs for Lambeth became Florence Eshalomi, Vauxhall and Camberwell, Helen Hayes, Dulwich and West Norwood, Bell Rebeiro, Clapham and Brixton Hill, Steve Reed, Streatham and Croydon.

They consider and can propose new laws as well as raise the interests and concerns of their constituents in the House of Commons. As pensioners we know that our experience of

ageing are becoming more unequal. The rising cost of living, financial constraints, poor housing, physical and mental health, social care, ageism all bear heavily on the quality of our lives. We all deserve the right to a good quality of life in retirement. **We** are clear about what we expect the government should do to enhance our health and well-being .

Most importantly, we demand the re- instatement of the winter fuel allowance so cruelly taken from poor pensioners. Among other things we call for a Commissioner for Older people and Ageing in England to ensure that our voices are heard in parliament. We want the rights of older people who rely on others for care and those with mental capacity to be protected. We want the cuts to banking services and access to cash to be stopped. We call for a Minister for Loneliness to tackle the scourge of isolation amongst many older people. Furthermore, we demand changes to the building regulations so that all homes meet high accessibility and a ban on prepayment meters.

The meeting is an opportunity for us to raise issues of interest and concern which you would like MPs to raise in Parliament and to support them. We would like regular reports on their contributions to questions raised in parliament on your behalf.

International Women's Day

8 March is international Women's Day. It is the day when we celebrate the achievements of women in science, economics, culture, agriculture, politics, sport and their efforts to change the world and make a difference.

Olive Morris 1952-1979

When a woman speaks up for herself, she speaks up for every woman

The late 1960s and 1970s was a particularly challenging time for British post war Caribbean and Asian communities. There was increased tension between the police and the Black communities and attacks by fascist groups such as the National Front as well as discrimination in housing and employment. Olive Morris became a tireless organiser of fighting against racism.

Olive was born on 24 June 1952 in Harwood St Catherines Jamaica, the daughter of Vicente Nathaniel Morris and his wife Doris Lowena Morris. She and her brothers joined their parents in Lavender Hill south London when she was five

years old. In the early 1970s Olive became a member of the Youth section of the Black Panther Movement. She was also a founding member of the Brixton Women's Group. She squatted at 121 Railton Road in 1973 which became an ongoing centre for community groups such as Black People against State Racism as well as the first black bookshop. In July, she returned to Jamaica for six weeks and the following year she began a degree in Economics and Social Science at Manchester University. She campaigned with students for the abolition of fees for overseas students. She visited Italy and Northern Ireland in 1976 and China in 1977. In 1978 along with Stella Dadzie she founded the Organisation of Women of African and Asian Descent (OWAD). After graduating in 1978, Olive worked in the department of the Brixton Community Law Centre. She was a prolific writer and co-writer on the Anti Nazi League. She became ill during a trip to Spain and died after a short illness on 12 July 1979. Her premature death was a shock to her family, friends and political colleagues. A Lambeth Council Building 18 Brixton Hill was named after her. A Community garden and play area was also named in the Myatts Field area. Her Legacy lives on.

**Please see the enclosed Nomination Form for our AGM
in March**

**The Committee Meeting will be on Monday 3rd March at
the Town Hall Room 1 at 1pm**