



Communist Party

COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRITAIN

**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2018**

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2018 REVIEW

1. General

The Communist Party was founded in 1920 as the Communist Party of Great Britain and was re-established in 1988 as the Communist Party of Britain. Its activities are based on the theory and practice of Marxism-Leninism and its organization conforms to the principles of democratic centralism which combines the democratic participation of the membership with an elected, centralized leadership capable of directing the Party's activities. For information on the Party, its history and activities see www.communist-party.org.uk.

2. National Officers at 31 December 2018 with individual executive responsibilities, all of whom were elected, were:

General Secretary	Robert Griffiths
Chair	Liz Payne
International Secretary	John Foster
Editor of Communist Review	Martin Levy
Election Nominating Officer	Jonathan Havard
National Treasurer	Martin Graham

The principal office of the Communist Party is Ruskin House, 23 Coombe Road, Croydon CR2 0BN, telephone [REDACTED], e-mail [REDACTED]. The Party's website is www.communist-party.org.uk.

3. MEMBERSHIP

	At 31 December	
	2018	2017
Full Party members	775	734
Members of the Young Communist League	<u>140</u>	<u>130</u>
Total	<u>915</u>	<u>864</u>

Members' dues are based on bandings for self-declared gross income and have remained largely unchanged since April 2013.



4. Review of Financial Activities

The surplus for the year was £27,499 (£701 in 2017). In 2018 the Party ended the year with net assets of £39,325 (£11,826 at 31 December 2017). The budget for 2018, approved by the Executive Committee in January 2018, is consistent with maintaining a satisfactory state of affairs.

5a. Activities in the year: extra-parliamentary

The Party again organised and participated in successful mobilisations in Central London and elsewhere. The Party assisted its district committees to organise local CP involvement in annual national labour movement festivals (London May Day, Tolpuddle, Durham Miners etc). This support included the production and distribution of special editions of Unity! and mobilising teams of comrades to enhance the presence of the Party and the Morning Star at these events.

The Party continues to support the work of trade unions and to win them over to progressive policies. Unity! was published and distributed at major trade union conferences. The Party continued to support the People's Assembly. Communism amongst young people was encouraged and supported through the work of the Young Communist League (YCL).

The Party continued its support for the work of the National Assembly of Women. .

The Party supports the Morning Star, the world's only English language socialist daily newspaper and continues to deplore the efforts of the mass media, including the BBC, to ignore its existence. The Party and its branches continue to encourage local readers and supporters groups and to hold regular collections for the Fighting Fund. Four editions of the Party's theoretical journal, Communist Review, were published. The Party supports the work of the Marx Memorial Library and organizes with it the annual Marx Oration at Highgate Cemetery. The Party supports Manifesto Press and through the Communist Party Heritage Fund encourages it to publish books that maintain the history and legacy of the Communist Party.

5b. Activities in the year: electoral

Following the 2017 general election and continued convulsions in the Labour Party, electoral activity in the year was minimal. Even, however, when circumstances are suitable for electoral activity, this is limited for the Communist Party by the electoral system in the England, Wales and Scotland which starves it (and other smaller parties) of media coverage and effectively fines it for participating in parliamentary and regional elections by the imposition of excessive election deposits. A further handicaps are provided by the widespread failure to provide the free use of public buildings for public election meetings as required under the Representation of the People Act 1983. Media ownership and control provide a further handicap against which social media provide only a partial remedy.

The Communist Party does not engage in politics in Northern Ireland and encourages communists there to join the Communist Party of Ireland. This is in line with its policy of encouraging members



who move abroad to join the communist party of the country in which they reside.

6. International Activities

Since 1999, communist and workers' parties from across the world have met each year to exchange news and views, hold bilateral discussions and endorse statements setting out common positions on particular issues. In 2018 the meeting was held in Athens. Information on this meeting and on the international communist and workers party movement in general may found at www.solidnet.org.

Priority was again given to solidarity work with the peoples of Palestine, Cuba and Venezuela, to campaigning to oppose further foreign adventures, whether in the Middle East or elsewhere, and to opposing proscriptions against communist parties anywhere in the world including the European Union and Ukraine.

At home the Communist Party of Britain participates in the work of the Co-ordinating Committee of Communist Parties.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018	2017	Notes
	£	£	
INCOME			
Membership fees and subscriptions	81,392	84,841	
Donations	51,339	20,789	
Fundraising	-	-	The Communist Party does not engage in 'fundraising' events
Bank Interest	-	-	
Notional Income	-	-	
Other	18,314	12,601	
Total	151,045	118,231	
EXPENDITURE			
Campaigning	111,020	104,038	Campaigning is what the Party does. This is not confined to election activities
Registration Fees with Electoral Commission	25	25	
Transfers	25	25	Unity for Peace and Socialism.
Cost of Fundraising events	-	-	- See comment above about 'fundraising'
Administration costs	12,476	13,442	
Notional Expenditure	-	-	
Other	-	-	
Total	123,546	117,530	Note 1
Surplus	27,499	701	

BALANCE SHEET at 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018	2017
Fixed assets	1	1
Current assets:		
Stocks of literature and merchandise	1059	1,175
Bank deposits and cash in hand	39690	9,155
Debtors and Prepayments	12421	13,930
	<u>53,170</u>	<u>24,260</u>
Total assets	53,171	24,261
Less Creditors falling due within one year:	13,846	12,435
Less Creditors falling due after one year:		
Net Worth	39,325	11,826
Represented by:		
Accumulated fund b/f	11,826	11,125
Surplus for the year	27,499	701
Accumulated fund c/f	<u>39,325</u>	<u>11,826</u>

Note 1

Staff costs £46,029 (2017 £51,881)
Premises £15,330 (2017 £15,330)

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STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis employing the historical cost convention and conform to generally accepted accounting principles. The format of the accounts is that specified by the Electoral Commission.
2. Fixed assets have been written down to their recoverable amount. There were no movements in the year.
3. Stocks of literature and merchandise are stated at the lower of cost and net realizable value.



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Treasurer's Report

I confirm that the information provided in this Report and Accounts is, to the best of my belief, true and accurate.



Martin Graham
National Treasurer
23 April 2019