MARGARET HODGE’S election campaign has been rocked by a Sex and Cash scandal!

It seems that the Labour MP’s controversial past has caught up with her - just before electors go to the polls in Barking.

Hodge became MP for Barking in 1994. Before that she was a councillor in Islington, North London. She rapidly rose through the ranks to become council leader in 1982. She held this position for ten years.

During this time she became notorious as a loony leftist - she sported a bust of Lenin and flew the red flag over the town hall.

It was also during this time that she was involved in a notorious child sex scandal.

*see centre pages*
Who is Margaret Hodge?

Margaret Eve Hodge was born in Cairo, Egypt.

She was the daughter of multi-millionaire steel trader.

She was educated at two independent schools - Bromley High School and Oxford High School for girls.

She then went onto the London School of Economics. Here she obtained a third class BSc Economics degree in 1966.

After leaving the London School of Economics, she worked in market research from 1966-73. She was also a senior consultant for Price Waterhouse from 1969-73.

In 1973 she married Henry (later Sir Henry) Waterhouse (from an Austrian family). He was a family life under 'the pedophiles charter' by some parents' groups and religious leaders.


Pro-election Vicar Slams Labour Voting Record

"HODGE AND CRUDDAS voted to allow the teaching of homosexuality in our schools. They have been stripped of their right to enjoy the innocence of childhood thanks to Labour MPs including Jon Cruddas and Margaret Hodge.

Both local MPs joined hundreds of others from all the main parties when they voted to abolish Section 28, the Child Protection clause in the Local Government Act which used to stop the promotion of homosexuality in schools. The new law allows parents to support sex education for Primary School children and both voted against Section 28.

As our Lord Jesus said: "And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone be hung about his neck, and that he be cast into the sea." (Mark 10:42, King James Version).

No Christian should support the anti-Christian message of Hodge and Cruddas.

Hodge voted for war

In 1968 Margaret Hodge was one of thousands of far-left students rioting. According to the Evening Standard, demands for a full inquiry.

By her own account Hodge is easy to fool even on important issues. Or is it the truth that she only decided that the war in Iraq was wrong when the body count and public anger mounted? Is she a fool or a liar? You decide!

It’s time to stop sending our Boys to die in wars that have got nothing to do with Britain. It’s time to vote out Labour’s war-mongers!

Hodge - House Immigrants before Britons?

EVEN Margaret Hodge has acknowledged that immigration is the ‘hot’ subject in this election!

But what is she doing to help ordinary British working families? She appears to be involved in what local people feel is the preferential treatment given to immigrants in the allocation of social housing in Barking.

A major provider of social housing and short-term property lettings in Barking and Dagenham is the Circle Anglia housing group. The largest partner of Circle Anglia is the Circle 33 housing association. (Circle 33 owns well over 15,000 homes in and around London).

Circle Anglia is also responsible for the ‘part buy part rent’ Waterfront housing development on Abbey Road, at which it’s claimed that local people have been put at the back of the queue. Circle Anglia/ Circle 33 also runs support services to help local people.

"Children should be allowed an innocent childhood. "Adult" activities, especially strange and unnatural ones - such as homosexuality - should not be flaunted before the young in school classes. It is deeply distressing and worrying to all decent parents."

Jon Cruddas and Margaret Hodge are not moral leaders. They not only backed Labour’s illegal and unjust war in Iraq, they supported the Iraq war.

Yet Mrs. Hodge dropped her anti-war principles when she voted for Tony Blair’s illegal Iraq war.

Even worse, she voted against demands for a full inquiry.

According to the Evening Standard, she now believes that the 2003 invasion was wrong.

Of course, people can – and do – change their views over time. But why would a one-time anti-war campaigner vote for war? Why did Hodge vote for a war that she later claimed she opposed?

Hodge: Third Class degree from the LSE.

For more facts visit www.margarethodge.info

SCAM

PFI is one of the main stealth privatisation tricks. The scam under which our public services are turned into private profit centres for greedy Big Business. Very New Labour!

This Labour back door privatisation mania is the key reason for the closure of so many hospitals.

Margaret married Andrew Watson in 1968. They divorced in 1978 and that same year she married Henry Edgar Garfield Hodge (later Sir Henry). He was a Labour borough councillor in Islington, North London.

He was also Chairman of the London School for girls.

Margaret Hodge was the daughter of a multi-millionaire steel trader.

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Pro-election Vicar Slams Labour Voting Record

"HODGE AND CRUDDAS voted to allow the teaching of homosexuality - no true Christian can support such moral poison”

Rev. Robert West

Children as young as five or six are now being taught about the ‘joys’ of homosexuality in our schools. They have been stripped of their right to enjoy the innocence of childhood thanks to Labour MPs including Jon Cruddas and Margaret Hodge.

Both local MPs joined hundreds of others from all the main parties when they voted to abolish Section 28, the Child Protection clause in the Local Government Act which used to stop the promotion of homosexuality in schools. The new law allows parents to support sex education for Primary School children and both voted against Section 28.

As our Lord Jesus said: “And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone be hung about his neck, and that he be cast into the sea.” (Mark 10:42, King James Version).

No Christian should support the anti-Christian message of Hodge and Cruddas.
A LEADING trade union official has asked if Margaret Hodge was aware of plans to flood Britain and the labour market with immigrants.

Mr. Adam Walker, the President of Solidarity Trade Union - www.solidaritytradeunion.net – said:

“For years, ordinary British working folk have believed that the Labour Party was the party for them. It was a ‘socialist’ party – a party for ‘the working class.’ They’ve held their noses and voted for the likes of Margaret Hodge to represent their interests.

“However, it’s been clear for a long time that Labour has been working to another agenda. New Labour has lost all interest in the British working people. They’ve actively promoted mass immigration and stabbed ordinary workers in the back. Not just with privatization and cuts, but also immigration.”

Mr. Walker was responding to the fact that encouraging mass immigration was a key Labour Party aim. This shocking fact came out in October last year when Mr. Andrew Neather (a spin doctor for Labour bosses Tony Blair, David Blunkett and Jack Straw) admitted that mass immigration was a deliberate Labour policy.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. Neather admitted that mass immigration “didn’t just happen: the deliberate policy of Ministers from late 2000 … was to open up the UK to mass immigration”. He confirmed that in 2000 - he helped to write a Government policy document.

Mr. Neather also noted that this policy document “included a driving political purpose: that mass immigration was the way that the Government was going to make the UK truly multicultural.”

Adam Walker told the Sentinel:

“It didn’t seem to occur to the New Labour plotters to ask what the social, economic or cultural implications – or results – might be. It would have been obvious that poor, working-class areas would be the worst affected by this policy. Barking and Dagenham is a shocking example.

“New Labour still seems to be obsessed with multiculturalism and social engineering. The ignore the worries of the people who traditionally vote them into office.

“Margaret Hodge is only making concerned noises now because she knows that immigration is the issue in this election. It is scary that she really worried about the impact of immigration – or just keeping her job?”

MARGARET HODGE has seen her election campaign rocked by Sex and Cash scandals. Her controversial past has well and truly caught up with her.

The Sentinel is not going to tell you who to vote for. However, we’re asking you to think long and hard about Margaret Hodge.

Is she the right person to represent you? Does she deserve your vote? Are other alternative candidates like the anti-racist Left Green or the Christian Party more deserving of your vote?

She’s a multi-millionaire Socialist. Her family money comes from her late father – the German steel trader, Hans Oppenheimer. Two years ago the family wealth was estimated to be around £178 million.

Once you’ve read about these Child Sex and Cash scandals you’ll be able to make up your mind about Mrs. Hodge.

Just read the facts. Picture what it was like to be a millionaire fifty times over – yet still have the cheek to make tax-payers buy your carrier bags and biscuits!

Then just ask yourself one question – are you happy that she represents you?

A multi-millionaire’s receipt for YOU to pay!

Margaret Hodge MP – the richest woman in Parliament with a £50 million personal fortune makes YOU pay for her organic coffee and biscuits, and even a 25p carrier bag.

Here’s just one of the huge wodge of receipts used by Hodge to claim a small fortune from taxpayers every year in Parliament. She gobbled up £133,255 in expenses in the year 2007-2008 alone.

Not just paying for the offices and staff that all MPs and MEPs need to do their jobs, but buying things like toilet rolls and biscuits!

How do you feel about being made to pay for a multi-millionaire’s garden plants? Hodge claimed for invoices from Homebase on 8th November 2005. You paid for her Pansies, Lavender and Thyme. It’s not a sweet smell – in fact it stinks!

WHAT DID HODGE KNOW?

Margaret Hodge won ‘Big Brother’ award

“In 2004, Privacy International, a civil liberties campaign group based in London, awarded Margaret Hodge the ‘Big Brother’ Award for “Worst Public Servant” after she backed controversial government measures that trampled upon personal privacy, added to the power of database state and helped undermine our hard-won civil liberties.

NANNY STATE

In 2004, she strongly defended the idea of greater state regulation of individuals’ choices and supported more state interference in family life, particularly in the way we bring up our children, by declaring, “some may call it the ‘nanny state’, but I call it a force for good”.

Of course, Margaret Hodge would be ‘Super Nanny’ in that State!

AGAINST FREEDOM

She has also strongly backed the power of the state to regulate our personal choices and tastes, including support for the smoking ban.

She:
- opposed making the Freedom of Information Act stronger
- voted to limit your rights to judicial review
- voted against allowing legitimate protest outside Parliament
- voted to force us all to carry ID cards

Kevin Scott of the campaign group Civil Liberty said:

“From ID cards to the rights of suspects, Hodge has voted against freedom time and time again”

HODGE submitted this receipt for YOU to pay!

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Politics before Children?

A trade union leader has joined the chorus condemning Margaret Hodge, for her part in the Islington sex abuse scandal. Adam Walker, President of the Solidarity union is particularly critical of her treatment of Mr. Demetrious Panton, as “outrageous” and questions her suitability as an MP as a result.

From the 70s – 90s, many children who were in Islington council care suffered serious sexual abuse. Hodge was Leader of Islington Council from 1982 till 1992.

ABUSED

Among the many children abused was Demetrious Panton. In 1973, Mr. Panton was just 11 when he was abused by paedophile Bernie Bain, the former head of one of Islington children’s homes.

Demetrious Panton first made allegations against Mr. Bain in 1979, but no other children dared to talk. The case was dropped.

Islington Council was off the hook. In 1985 Demetrious – just turned 18 – wrote to Islington Social Services. This time he wanted to go to the police with the backing of the council.

Despite the seriousness of Mr. Panton’s claims, Hodge twice refused to discuss the sexual abuse he suffered.

She wrongly labelled Mr. Panton “an extremely disturbed person”. Her comments were to get her in hot water.

Solidarity’s President notes that this wasn’t a view shared by Detective Superintendent John Sweeney.

He was the man tasked with launching a full and thorough investigation into the allegations. Indeed, DS Sweeney found Mr. Panton “to be very articulate and very measured”.

LEGAL ACTION

But Hodge’s comments so enraged Mr. Panton that he brought a legal action against her. In late 2003 she agreed to fork out £20,000. At the time it was seen as a move to save her job – of all things, as Labour’s children’s minister.

Unfortunately it did exist. And some of the victims of that abuse were as young as nine. This Barking & Dagenham Sentinel special centre page feature tells the horrific story of how Hodge failed those children.

Turn to page 8 to see how Hodge is implicated in the expenses scandal which rocked Westminster last year.

MARGARET HODGE’S election campaign has been rocked by Sex and Expenses scandals! Her controversial past has caught up with her just before electors go to the polls in Barking.

Before Hodge became MP for Barking she was a councillor in Islington, North London. By 1982 she was council leader – a position she held for ten years.

During her time as leader of Islington that she became involved in a child sex abuse scandal that rocked the borough.

In 1990 senior social workers raised serious concerns about the sexual abuse of children in Islington Council Care. Hodge declined a request for extra resources to investigate. She ignored the views of these experienced social workers – and dated April 1990.

The newspaper investigation also unearthed another document. Produced by Islington social workers – and dated April 1990 – it warned Hodge that the budget was overspent.

According to the Standard, some of the abused children included: “Demetrious Panton, 35, suffered his abuse at Evening Wood, Dougall and Michael Finch, 28 and 35, were abused while at the Gisburne home’s care at Shoreditch Manor; Sandra Webb aged 18, was raped at Gisburne House, yet another Islington controlled home, is added to this list of shame. Sarah Williams, 40, was in care at Gisburne from the age of 10 to 17; when she was abused by the home’s superintendent, Geoffrey Wyle-Reyes.”

To this day, Hodge has never come clean about her part in the Islington sex scandal.

Why did she deny any knowledge of the abuse? Why didn’t she act? And, when the abuse came to light, why did she attack the social workers who reported the abuse?

As well as attacking the social workers, she called the Standard’s investigation “gutter journalism”. And when Hodge heard that the BBC were looking into Demetrious Panton’s claims she called him “an extremely disturbed person”. As an article (right) notes, her comments were to get her into hot water.

Hodge knew about the Sexual Abuse

FOR YEARS Margaret Hodge has argued that she was “naïve” about the serious sexual abuse that went on in Islington. However, the Barking & Dagenham Sentinel can reveal that she was briefed on the matter – and did nothing.

Indeed, she failed to confront one of Britain’s worst child abuse scandals when the then Leader of Islington council.

Hodge was told by Senior Social Workers that children – some as young as nine – were being sexually abused in Islington.

Both David Colfe, his deputy, Liz Davies and other social workers attended a meeting which was called by Hodge. At the time she was council leader.

AGENDA

Hodge actually set the agenda on how children who reported sexual abuse should be handled by social workers.

Despite all of their concerns, she told them: “Sexual abuse does not exist in Islington.”

However, sexual abuse did exist in Islington. And Hodge had known about it for years.

The truth only came to light during an investigation by the London Evening Standard. This investigation uncovered a memo, dated April 1990, which proved that she was told about it a two and a half years earlier.

This was on the council leader’s letterhead. In it Hodge referred to the memo as “unacceptable”. And she had received the memo from Bernie Bain.

Superintendent John Sweeney. He was the man tasked with launching a full and thorough investigation into the allegations. Indeed, DS Sweeney found Mr. Panton “to be very articulate and very measured”.

At the time it was suggested that the legal costs to be paid by Mr. Panton were to be £20,000. For the fabulously wealthy Hodge, this seemed to be a small price to pay.

Hodge Couched Up

Hodge’s election campaign has been rocked by Sex and Expenses scandals! Her controversial past has caught up with her just before electors go to the polls in Barking.

In particular, he singled out her treatment of Mr. Demetrious Panton, as “outrageous” and questioned her suitability as an MP.

Hodge, was born in Egypt as Margaret Oppenheimer, the daughter of a millionaire steel trader.

Her family later settled in London. In 1973 she was elected as a councillor in the London Borough of Islington.

From the 70s – 90s, many children who were in Islington council care suffered serious sexual abuse. Hodge was Leader of the Council from 1982 till 1992.

One of those who were abused was Demetrious Panton. In 1978, Mr. Panton was just 11 when he was abused by paedophile Bernie Bain, the former head of one of Islington children’s homes.

Demetrious Panton first made allegations against Mr. Bain in 1973, but no other children dared to talk. The case was dropped.

At the time it was seen as a move to save her job – of all things, as Labour’s children’s minister.

Despite the seriousness of Mr. Panton’s claims, Hodge twice refused to discuss the sexual abuse he suffered.

After paying the £20,000, Hodge attended a meeting with her and Mr. Panton’s solicitors, said: “I can now confirm that we have agreed the following:

One, a statement in court will be made shortly reiterating the allegations. Indeed, DS Sweeney found Mr. Panton “to be very articulate and very measured”.

Two, I will make a donation of £20,000. For the fabulously wealthy Hodge, this seemed to be a small price to pay.

Three, I have agreed to pay Mr. Panton’s legal costs.”

According to the Standard, some of the abused children included: “Demetrious Panton, 35, suffered his abuse at Evening Wood, Dougall and Michael Finch, 28 and 35, were abused while at the Gisburne home’s care at Shoreditch Manor; Sandra Webb aged 18, was raped at Gisburne House, yet another Islington controlled home, is added to this list of shame. Sarah Williams, 40, was in care at Gisburne from the age of 10 to 17; when she was abused by the home’s superintendent, Geoffrey Wyle-Reyes.”

To this day, Hodge has never come clean about her part in the Islington sex scandal.

Why did she deny any knowledge of the abuse? Why didn’t she act? And, when the abuse came to light, why did she attack the social workers who reported the abuse?

As well as attacking the social workers, she called the Standard’s investigation “gutter journalism”. And when Hodge heard that the BBC were looking into Demetrious Panton’s claims she called him “an extremely disturbed person”. As an article (right) notes, her comments were to get her into hot water.

The Solidarity President noted that this wasn’t a view shared by Detective Superintendent John Sweeney.

Hodge was leader of the council. How heartless is that?"
EX-COP BAGS THE ‘DIRTY DOZEN’
and more expenses fiddling MPs will get their collars felt!

WE’RE ALL angry to hear about MPs fiddling their expenses. And everybody’s furious to learn that the three Labour MPs – Elliot Morley, Dave Chaytor and Jim Devine – who have already been hauled up at Southwark Crown Court are getting full Legal Aid, despite all being extremely wealthy men. Together they are accused of swindling taxpayers out of £60,000.

On top of that, twelve MPs, Labour and Tory alike, have now been forced to stand down or repay their ill-gotten gains. While it was the Daily Telegraph that exposed the whole Westminster expenses scandal, it would have happened if formal complaints had not been made.

Fortunately this cosy stitch-up was broken by retired police officer Michael Barnbrook, BNP candidate in the Dagenham parliamentary election. Mr Barnbrook used his extensive experience in the Metropolitan Police to compile the files of evidence and the formal complaints that kicked off the entire police investigation.

In addition, his complaints to the Parliamentary authorities forced them to deal with other MPs. These included the Conservative’s Mr & Mrs Winterton and Labour’s Harry Cohen, who lost the ‘right’ to a ‘golden goodbye’ of £60,000 in taxpayers’ money as a direct result.

The Metropolitan Police are now working on evidence files on another half a dozen Labour and Tory MPs that Mr. Barnbrook has passed to them more recently.

Because all the parties had MPs with their snouts in the trough, they all agreed behind the scenes to say nothing against each other, in the hope that all of their crooks would get off free.

HODGE BREAKS HOUSE OF COMMONS RULES
Union man slams Hodge record on expenses

Margaret Hodge broke House of Commons rules by hiring her former press officer to provide Public Relations advice. She made the taxpayer fork out £2,000 to Chelmsford-based PR company Chilli and Spice. But MPs are banned from claiming expenses “for self-promotion or PR.”

Even more sneaky, Chilli and Spice run by Hodge’s former government press officer. Most damaging of all, Mrs Hodge tried to cover up her breach of the rules. She claimed that the company was paid for “articles, reports and speech writing.” But the receipts from Chilli and Spice as submitted as proof of her expenses set out that they were for “PR support.”

The facts are very simple. The rules insist that MPs can’t use taxpayers money for their Public Relations costs, but Mrs. Hodge has done exactly that. This news brought a furious response from the President of Solidarity trade union, Adam Walker:

“Margaret Hodge has betrayed the ideals of socialism and the founders of the good old Labour Party. It’s disgusting to see so-called ‘socialist’ MPs behaving like greedy bankers or PFI fat cats. They all seem to be trying to outdo each other in who can rake in the most”.

“Margaret Hodge should be ashamed of herself and the actions of her fellow MPs, including Mr. Cruddas. At a time when working class families are having to tighten their belts, MPs seem to be spending money like it’s going out of fashion.”

“Meanwhile, already hard-up communities face savage cuts, and working people are being taxed to death. Is it fair? Is it just? Of course not, but isn’t it all so very New Labour?”

HODGE was unpopular as a Council leader in Islington among Labour activists who accused her of being domineering and dictator.

In Barking and Dagenham a number of top Labour councillors have been de-selected, including Val Rush, cabinet member for the environment, and planning chair John Denyer.

More and more decent old Labour councillors are being replaced by outsiders.

Even the Labour Left paper Tribune was shocked:-

“Asked what linked the councillors together, one activist said: “They’re all people who didn’t like Margaret”. Another declared: “She is a control freak and she wants total control...I can see the BNP controlling the council”.

As one blogger commented:-

“Hodge’s performance in the expenses scandal did not add to the tally of her admirers, and she was widely disliked, seen as an Islington millionairess who rarely visited the constituency.”

“To cut a long story short, Hodge had long ago fallen out with a substantial part of her CLP and her supporters swung into action earlier this year, identifying and marginalising dissidents. As this included a number of local Labour councillors, it led to the deselection of several sitting councillors”.

Several of the purged councillors have announced that they will be standing as Independent candidates in the local elections. The Barking & Dagenham Post reported on the split and quoted Cllr Denyer at length:

“And the fact they have used my disability as an excuse to de-select me shows them in a very poor light.

“Exactly the same thing has happened to Fred Barns who has been an excellent Thames Ward councillor.

“They are getting rid of ward councillors who have served their party and their community well.

“In their haste to change things the Labour Party has lost a lot of experience.

“I think this will come back to bite them.” The POST.

“I feel disappointed and let down by the Labour Party.”

Even former colleagues think Hodge is a Little Hitler and question her social skills and leadership. Many say she treats people like dirt.

Hodge is a “control freak” – Labour dissidents

“An Islington millionairess who rarely visited the constituency.”

Labour’s Favourite Lays Off Brits

You can’t have missed the signs on building site hoardings for Bouygues.

The French construction giant has a very close relationship with B&Q’s Labour council. So close, that Bouygues have opened an office in the borough, and it’s rare for a PFI contract around here to go to anyone else.

Bouygues got the £17 Million contract for Heathway Library, have built two PFI schools in the region, and are favourites to win the £350 Million B&Q Schools contract.

They were also odds on to get the Labour government’s Super Prison contract until Labour realised just how many votes it would cost them and organised a ‘campaign’ against their own plan.

Of course, some big company has to get this work. But we have to ask – why Bouygues?

They and their subsidiary

Alstom have a truly shocking record for laying off British workers and importing cheap foreign labour to drive down wages.

They’ve done it at the power station site on the Isle of Grain, and at the Olympics site, where it’s unusual to hear anyone even speaking English.

Why is the Labour Party giving so much money to a foreign company that treats British workers so shabbily?
TO SAY that Margaret Hodge is not stuck for a bob or two would be the understatement of the year!

It’s hard to put a precise figure on what she’s worth. It’s been said that she owns assets worth millions of pounds.

What we do know for sure, however, is that she’ll hardly need to go to the Credit Union for a loan. (Although, for some strange reason, she still submitted Expenses to Parliament for organic coffee and biscuits, a 25p carrier bag and garden plants like Pansies, Lavender and Tyme.)

Her father was the multi-millionaire German steel trader, Hans Oppenheimer.

When he died in 1985, his 50% stake in the company passed to his four daughters – one of whom is Margaret Hodge - and his son, Ralph Oppenheimer. By last year, Hodge and her family owned 71% of the company. The family firm in which she holds a large stake is called Stemcor Holdings. It describes itself as “the world’s largest independent steel trader.”

Stemcor’s services “span every step in the steel supply chain and include finance, provision of raw materials, steel trading, distribution and stockholding.”

Stemcor seems to be doing ok. It has an annual turnover in 2008 of more than £6.28 billion. (Turnover exceeded £3.5 billion in 2009 – the drop probably due to the global economic downturn.) And if Stemcor is doing well, so is Hodge. The firm is now the third wealthiest private company in the whole of the UK. In 2008, The Sunday Times valued Hodge’s family wealth at a cool £178 million.

We at the Barking and Dagenham Sentinel are not opposed people having money. But ordinary working class families have to tighten their belts, survive on the minimum wage or try to get by on the dole and benefits.

Meanwhile, Hodge is living the high life. She’s probably the richest woman in Parliament.

Hodge is supposed to be a Socialist but she has zero in common with decent working people.

WHAT IS IT about Barking and Dagenham that the Labour Party treats us with such contempt?

Barking has to suffer with Margaret ‘Loaves of Money’ Hodge. And Dagenham is stuck with Jon ‘Two Houses’ Cruddas!

This issue of the Barking and Dagenham Sentinel takes a good hard look at Hodge. And you can’t blame us for that – her record is truly awful.

However, Cruddas deserves a mention as well. He’s another MP who’s been caught up in the Expenses scandal.

Meanwhile, Hodge is living the high life. She’s probably the richest woman in Parliament.

Cruddas has been claiming his second-home expenses on.

Yes, you’ve guessed it – the flat in Notting Hill!

Cruddas has hovevered up more than £86,000 in the so-called Additional Costs Allowance (ACA) since 2004.

Thousands of families in Barking and Dagenham have to live in private rent slums, but Cruddas rakes in a fortune in equity and tax hand-outs.

JON CRUDDAS, Labour MP for Dagenham, got the biggest issue of the last decade wrong - he voted for the disastrous war in Iraq. He now says that it was a “mistake” and a “wrong decision”.

Of course saying this will not bring one of the innocent Iraqi civilian back to life. His self-serving excuses now do nothing for those who have suffered or died as a result of his vote and the vote of the other warmongers. Their blood is on his hands. He can’t wash it off so easily.

Remember too that he still supports the occupation of Afghanistan. Have you learnt anything?

Jon ‘Two Homes’ Cruddas

Cruddas bought his Notting Hill flat in 2004. It cost him £375,000. Flats in Notting Hill are probably worth around £180,000 by now.

It’s only about 13 miles from Westminster. And as thousands of commuters know, the centre of London is not exactly in Outer Space. It’s not that hard to get to.

His other home is an upmarket flat in a Notting Hill mansion-block.

He lives just around the corner from mega-rich Tory leader, David Cameron. Cruddas bought his Notting Hill flat in 2004. It cost him £375,000. Flats in Notting Hill are probably worth around £180,000 by now.

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What do people think of Margaret Hodge?
Not very much it seems...

“I have the impression she’s not able to hear about serious child abuse. She seems to shut down and there is the sense that she can’t even hear it. It’s come up again and again. When she described children in care as ‘disruptive and difficult’ - those aren’t terms we ever use. We’re not into pathologising children and that’s what you do when you don’t listen. You define them out of existence.”

Liz Davies, former senior social worker. Talking about Margaret Hodge’s handling of a catalogue of abuse at children’s homes in Islington, North London. Hodge was the Islington council leader between 1982-92. The abuse was exposed by the London Evening Standard in October 1992. Source: http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2003/nov/21/childrenservices.sch00s

“The story broke at the end of her leadership on the council. She was looking to be an MP and I personally don’t think she was interested.”

Chris Goodhall, Assistant Editor, Islington Gazette. Talking about Margaret Hodge’s reaction to the Islington sex abuse scandal. http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2003/nov/21/childrenservices.sch00s

“Two senior frontline social workers are now prepared to blow the whistle publicly; they say that Hodge failed in 1990 to take their warnings seriously and refused to give them extra staff and money to conduct further investigations. They now say they continued to submit warning reports that their superiors, and Hodge, did not take seriously.”


“You felt she was a lady seeking power. She never had to do a day’s work in her life. She was a leftwinger with an Islington town house and cottage in Norfolk. And while she was leading the revolution, she was advertising for a nanny in the Lady”.


Editors note: Whilst Hodge probably never had to work she did at one point work for Unilever and the British Market Research Bureau prior to having children.

“Of course, for much of her life Hodge was indeed a diehard old leftist; in her time as leader of the notorious and loony left Islington council (1982-1992) she sported a bust of Lenin and flew the red flag over the town hall.”


“Margaret is a true daughter of her family. She likes power, she likes to be the boss, to tell people what to do. It is the same fascination with power which I believe explains her involvement in politics.”


“My colleague David Cofie had presented powerful evidence to Hodge of sexual abuse in Islington. She wanted to slap him down and she told us that it was all malicious rumour and that it didn’t happen. But I - and others - knew that it did.”


“If you see someone doing wrong, and you allow that person to get away with it, then you are as guilty as the people who did the crimes themselves.”

“‘That is why Hodge - who tried to sweep it under the carpet when it was brought to her attention - must be held accountable. She needs to feel our pain, hear our anger. She needs to stop thinking like a politician and behave like a human being. People’s lives have been ruined.’”


“She was the original radical leftwing firebrand. What she said was law on that Council. She was more a dictator than a leader.”


“‘pregnancies and miscarriages were routine, and police often arrested men, unofficially living there on drugs and burglary offences’. Description of a care home in Islington when Hodge was leader.”