

# 2020-08-28\_GPW\_NEWSLETTER



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## CONFERENCE: Autumn 2020 - How will it all work?

Due to the current restrictions on large gatherings, the Annual Conference cannot take place in its usual format. GPEW are therefore planning an Extraordinary Autumn Online Conference with the usual exciting programme of fringes, panels, meetings, workshops, elections, plenaries and voting. Some dates and times are to be confirmed, but the outline schedule is as follows:

### Extraordinary Online Autumn Conference 2020

<b>Friday 2 and Saturday 3 October</b>	Fringes, panels, hustings and meetings
<b>Monday 5 - Friday 9 October (evenings)</b>	Workshops on motions
<b>Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 October</b>	Plenaries, hustings and voting

Green party policy is made by its members and voted for at the conference. We hope that the move online will enable women who may not have previously been able to attend because of work or family commitments, to have an opportunity to participate.

We urge you to get involved if you can, as only a small percentage of members traditionally attend the conference, which of course means that policy is ultimately decided on by a very few members.

Members have to book a place to join the green Party Autumn Conference. Bookings will open at the end of August.



## CONFERENCE: How Green Party Policy is Made

Motions to amend or add to Green Party policies at the Autumn conference have been put forward already by members. You can log in to the members' space and see them [here](#). However there will not be enough time during the conference to discuss all of the motions. Some motions are accredited, which means that they are likely to be discussed at conference, but there are also unaccredited motions which will only be considered if time allows. Because these unaccredited motions are less likely to be heard, members are given the opportunity to vote in a prioritisation ballot to select the ones that they would most like to see discussed. To participate in the prioritisation ballot, just rank the motions in the order of importance to you. Those with the highest votes have more chance of being discussed.

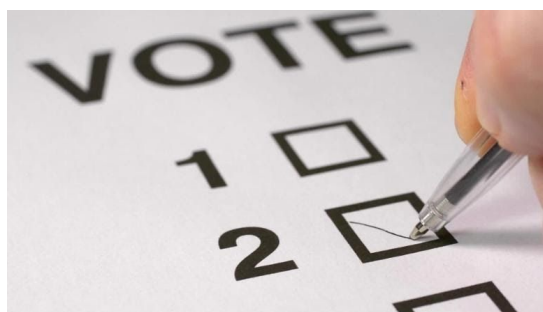
## CONFERENCE: Prioritisation Ballot

The prioritisation ballot is open now and will run until the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September. You should read the first agenda before looking at the ballot. Members can access it via the [Agenda Forum](#) on the members' website, or via direct links to the ballots here:

The ballot for Policy Motions (Sections C and E in the agenda) can be found [online here](#).

The ballot for organisational motions (how we operate and organise) can be found [online here](#).

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## CONFERENCE: Reaffirming Women's Rights motion not accredited to a C motion

Green Party Women are disappointed that despite consulting our membership widely, and also seeking advice from Mick Gregg as the interim Policy Development Co-ordinator, our Reaffirming Women's Rights Motion was not accredited. This means that, due to time constraints, there is less likelihood that the motion will be heard, despite it being the FOURTH time it is being presented to the conference. However, you can vote for it to be moved up the rankings in the prioritisation ballot [here](#).

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## CONFERENCE: GPW AGM what would you like to discuss?

The online conference offers GPW an opportunity to connect with its membership. We are currently drafting a preliminary schedule. Some mandatory items we need to discuss include:

1. Presentation of a report from the GPW Committee (via powerpoint).
2. The election of the committee
3. Campaigns update

Claudine Letsae has offered to run a 15 minute healing meditation session that we welcome members to participate in.





## GPEX & Leadership Voting

A gentle reminder that the voting closes on Monday (31 AUG) and GPW have TWO members of the committee standing for election. Claudine Letsae for International Co-Ordinator and Julia Lagoutte for Publications Officer. You can view all the candidates statements on the members' site and view Claudine's video [here](#). The Green Party needs its members to step up and play their part, so if you have not done so already, please vote now, [here](#).

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## GPEX Campaigns Co-ordinator Resignation - Caro New

For years, the Green Party has been wary of talking about climate chaos, believing that, far from bringing in supporters and increasing our vote, it would be "death on the doorstep". Evidence now suggests otherwise. People are looking to the Green Party to provide leadership and are bemused by our silence.

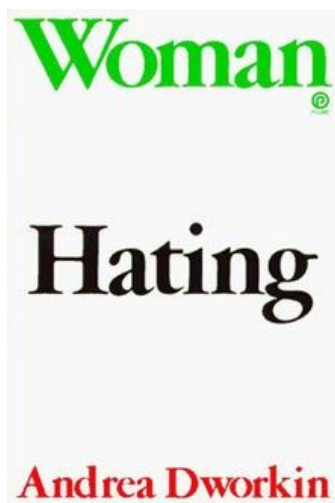
In Autumn 2018, Caroline New and Britta Goodman were elected to GPEX as job-share Campaign Co-ordinators. They drew up a campaign - Zero Carbon Now - that could be run with minimal funding and maximum reach. While the details were being argued over on GPEX, Bristol Green Councillor Carla Denyer got a motion passed - unanimously - by the City Council declaring a Climate Emergency and setting a target for reaching net zero carbon by 2030. This was followed by similar motions from many other Councils. The Green Party was caught on the back foot.

Fast forward to October 2019, national Conference in Newport. Following endless meetings and argument over detail, the Action on Climate Emergency (ACE) campaign was finally launched.

Local ACE actions were going well, but the GPEW leadership failed to take advantage of the general election in December 2019 to showcase our commitment to putting fighting climate change at the forefront of our campaigns. Caro's conclusion is that GPEX effectively sabotaged a campaign that they had initially agreed by repeatedly putting it on the back burner. This left other campaigners, such as XR, to move into the space that we had mapped out. This left her feeling that her only option was to resign from GPEX and take her campaigning energies elsewhere. Read the full text of Caro's article [here](#).

## Book Club

### 27 AUG 2020: Andrea Dworkin - Woman Hating



Thanks to everyone who attended the session, we were fortunate to have a very lively and engaging discussion on Dworkin's analysis of female stereotypes in classic fairytales, quite an eye opener. We took a more abridged approach, discussing the first chapter, rather than the whole book. This allowed participation of the discussion from a wider group of members than the previous session.

As we touched on issues relating to the increase of domestic violence during lockdown, a reminder that the freephone, 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline is 0808 2000 247. Please also contact [Women@GreenParty.Org.uk](mailto:Women@GreenParty.Org.uk) if you require an additional, confidential support.

The book choices for the next two months are below. We may even squeeze in Margaret Atwood's 'The Handmaid's Tale' in time for Christmas!

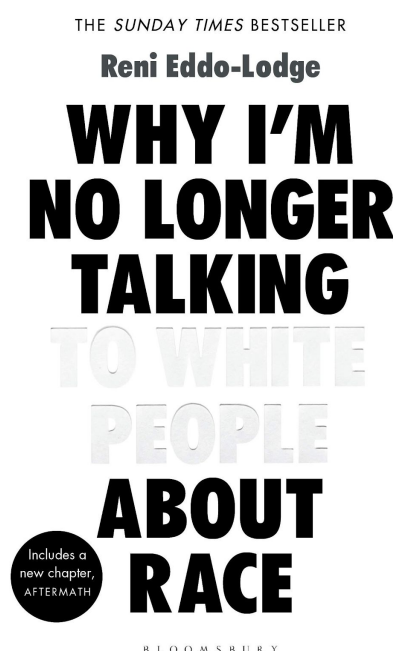
### 29 SEP 2020: Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race

This was the most popular choice, helped by being recommended by two separate Deputy Leadership candidates Andrea Carey Fuller and Cleo Lake.

Book Summary - A hard look at structural racism in Britain and the world at large. Journalist Reni Eddo-Lodge wrote a blog post in 2014 called "Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race." It immediately went viral; her frustrations with ambivalent or defensive white people resonated with many readers while infuriating others. In this Snapshot, you'll learn her thoughts on structural racism and how it seeps into every facet of our lives. As you'll find out, those who benefit from structural racism may not notice it, but it is painfully obvious to everyone else. Full description [here](#). Register in advance for the discussion [here](#). GPW Book Club meets last Wednesday of each month.

Hive.co.uk is an aggregate of independent booksellers who are NOT Amazon. Their lowest price for a paperback, inc. free delivery, is £7.09. If price point is an issue, Amazon fulfilment is slightly cheaper £5.94 inc. free delivery - hold your nose [here](#).

Scribd.com have a free trial month subscription for £6.79 (\$8.99 for premium). Full pdf of book [here](#). Snapshot is an

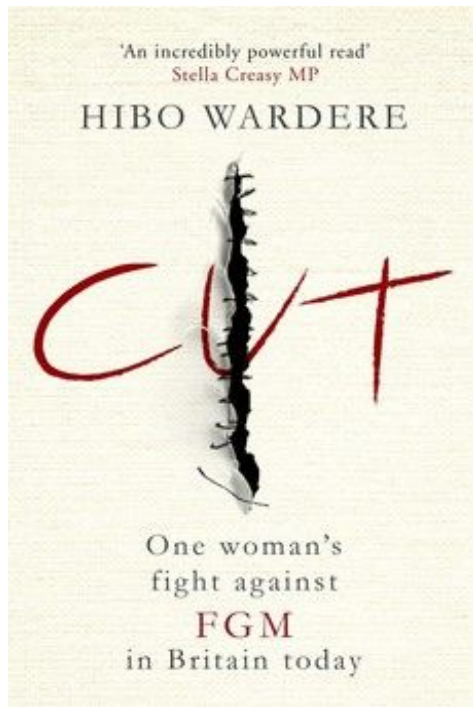




abridged audiobook on the key insights (lasting about 10 minutes) it is free with the subscription premium [here](#).

Try Audible for when you don't have time to read the book? Buyer beware, Audible is owned by Amazon. Monthly subscription is £7.99 but you can get a free 30 day trial so listen to the book and then after 29 days cancel your subscription and tell Jeff Bezos (the first person in history to be worth [\\$200Billion](#)) to stuff it and pay his Corporation Tax! Everyone's a winner! Find it [here](#).

## 28 OCT 2020 - The Cut by Hibo Wardere



Imagine for a moment that you are 6-years-old and you are woken in the early hours, bathed and then dressed in rags before being led down to an ominous looking tent at the end of your garden. And there, you are subjected to the cruellest cut, ordered by your own mother. Forced down on a bed, her legs held apart, Hibo Wardere was made to undergo female genital cutting, a process so brutal, she nearly died.

Eloquent and searingly honest, this is Hibo's memoir which promises not only to tell her remarkable story but also to shed light on a medieval practice that's being carried out in the 21st century, right on our doorstep. FGM in the UK has gone undocumented for too long and now that's going to change. Devastating, empowering and informative, this book brings to life a clash of cultures at the heart of contemporary society and shows how female genital mutilation is a very British problem. Read More [here](#).

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## Yoga & Meditation

Come and get stretched, get toned, get fit with Shaka and then chill with the relaxing sound bath of Claudine's beautiful singing bowls. Free to attend but donations welcome via paypal to [shakalish@gmail.com](mailto:shakalish@gmail.com). Please wear loose fitting clothing. A yoga mat is recommended, but not essential.

