

Join the Keir Hardie Society

The Keir Hardie Society was formed on 15 August 2010 and aims to keep alive the ideas and promote the life and work of James Keir Hardie, the first Leader of the Labour Party.

James Keir Hardie was born on August 15, 1856, in Legbrannock, Lanarkshire. He came from a working-class background, and his early life was marked by poverty and hardship. Hardie became involved in trade union activities, and his experiences in the labour movement fuelled his commitment to socialist ideals.



Hardie played a key role in forming the Independent Labour Party (ILP). He was elected as the MP for West Ham South in 1892, becoming the first independent Labour representative in the House of Commons. He later represented Merthyr Tydfil and was the first Leader of the Labour Party. Hardie was an outspoken advocate for social justice, women's suffrage, and anti-imperialism. He put his principles into individual practice, living modestly and never used politics to enrich himself. He wanted no honours, spent little time with social elites, and always kept in touch with ordinary people. His principles and ideas are still relevant today.



You can help promote the life and work of Keir Hardie by joining the Keir Hardie Society.

We hold events and publish research and articles about Hardie, his ideas and the period's history. On our website, you can access our Keir Hardie Trail across Ayrshire and Lanarkshire, read Hardie's speeches, and discover the relevance of his work for politics today. We have strong links nationally and internationally, as Keir Hardie did in his day.

You can follow our activities through our regular newsletter and on social media (Facebook and Twitter (X)).

Membership is open to all members of the Labour Party, sister parties internationally and non-Labour Party members who support the Society's objectives. Annual membership is £10 waged and £4 unwaged.

Membership Application Form

Name:

Address:

Email:

To make an online standing order, please enter the following information:

Keir Hardie Society: Sort code: 801297

Account No. 00182087 – Reference No. 8865

Please return by email to: khardsociety@gmail.com or by post to: Keir Hardie Society
c/o Unite the Union, John Smith House, 145/165 West Regent Street, Glasgow G2 4RZ

www.keirhardiesociety.org