

BURNHAM'S MANCHESTER IS NO OASIS

Pat Meusel meets people pushed out of the city's gentrification fairy tale >>Pages 8&9

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PRICES



BILLS



RENTS



WAGES



NOW LET'S HIT BACK

Download our cost of living crisis special poster >>Pages 2&3



THEORY

Why do we need revolution today?

EVERYTHING WE are taught and that we experience encourages us to think there is no alternative to capitalism—and that attempts to change things are doomed to fail.

But revolutions are more common than our rulers want us to think.

To replace their system with ours, we need to be organised, educated and ready to fight.

>>Pages 10&11

TRADE UNIONS



Who supports Reform UK?

TRADE UNION members are just as likely to vote for Reform UK as they are for Labour, a damning new poll has claimed.

If union leaders don't act, racism can eat away the sinews of solidarity at the heart of the working class movement.

This means rejecting the idea that immigration is a "problem" that has to be "managed" and pinning blame on the bosses.

>>Page 4

IMPERIALISM

Destruction rains down in Lebanon

ISRAELI FORCES are advancing further into Lebanon—and forcing people to flee for their lives.

Ghassan, a socialist currently in Beirut, told Socialist Worker, "Right now Israel is targeting rescuers.

"It's indiscriminate killing, there is no military advantage to this at all, except murder."

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Socialist Worker

SIX WAYS TO HIT BACK at the cost of living crisis

**Our bills and rents are soaring but our wages are free-falling.
Here are six changes that could keep us all afloat**



1

We need price controls

FOOD PRICES have surged by over 40 percent since 2021.

Major shocks, such as Donald Trump's war on Iran and the climate crisis, are driving the increases (see page 5).

A handful of supermarkets are ripping us all off by jacking up their prices—known as “price gouging”.

We should impose price controls on food and drink.

This would mean the British government capping the price of

goods such as bread, milk, cheese, olive oil, fruit and vegetables.

When Labour timidly suggested “voluntary price controls”, supermarket bosses and free market economists screamed that it wouldn't work.

But many governments already use price caps—for example, around energy—and the sky has not fallen in.

And supermarket bosses have got plenty of money to slash prices.

They plead poverty, saying the “profit margins” are low because of competition.

But Tesco reported profits of £3.15 billion for 2025-6—and it paid out £937 million to shareholders while rinsing your bank account.



2

Demand pay restoration

IF WAGES had kept up with inflation, you would be thousands of pounds a year better off.

We should fight for “pay restoration” across the public and private sectors—this means bosses giving pay that makes up the losses.

Pay restoration is the rallying cry of the resident doctors' strikes.

The BMA union calculated that resident doctors—formerly known

as junior doctors—had seen their pay fall in real terms by over 26.1 percent between 2008-9 and 2021-2.

It figured out how much pay doctors had lost in those years by comparing “pay increases” to RPI, the most accurate measure of inflation.

Using the same method, teachers have suffered a real terms pay cut of between 26 and 30 percent in the years 2008-9 to 2025-6.

And nurses' wages are around £8,000 a year less than if they had kept up with inflation.

Retail workers suffered a drop of between 8 and 12 percent using the same measure.

Every worker should have their pay restored.



3

Boost not cut benefits

If the Tories hadn't implemented welfare cuts from 2010, around 1.5 million fewer people would be living in poverty.

But Labour wants to push ahead with "welfare reforms" claiming that many claimants don't want to work. In reality, many



people aren't even getting the inadequate support that exists.

The total amount of unclaimed benefits in Britain is now £24 billion a year, research from analysts Policy in Practice found.

This includes £11.1 billion in Universal Credit, £2.4 billion in Carer's Allowance, £1.5 billion in Child Benefit.

The money is going unclaimed because of how the system is stacked against claimants. Benefits should be boosted—and increased automatically each year in line with the RPI rate of inflation.

Sanctions and penalties—which scapegoat and penalise people for poverty—should be scrapped.

4

Take back the utility firms

Privatisation of utilities has lined the pockets of bosses and shareholders, while hammering our bank accounts.

Since water was sold off, for example, our bills have gone up by 44 percent in real terms.

The energy and water sectors should be nationalised and run as public services.

This means taking back all the companies that own and control

the infrastructure and the firms that you get your bills from.

But wouldn't nationalisation be expensive?

Only if there is "compensation" for the fat cat owners.

They are the ones who should be paying compensation to all of us for price gouging and under-investment.

The We Own It campaign has calculated that privatisation is costing us billions a year as it's "our taxes and bills that get wasted on shareholder profits, extra admin costs and higher interest rates on borrowed money".

In 2021, the cost amounted to £2.3 billion for water and £3.2 billion a year for energy.

6

Tax the richest

THERE IS plenty of money to boost working class living standards.

The Sunday Times Rich List 2026 shows that Britain's richest 350 people are "worth" £784 billion.

Here are five tax increases that could raise billions.

■ A wealth tax of just 2 percent would raise £24 billion a year.

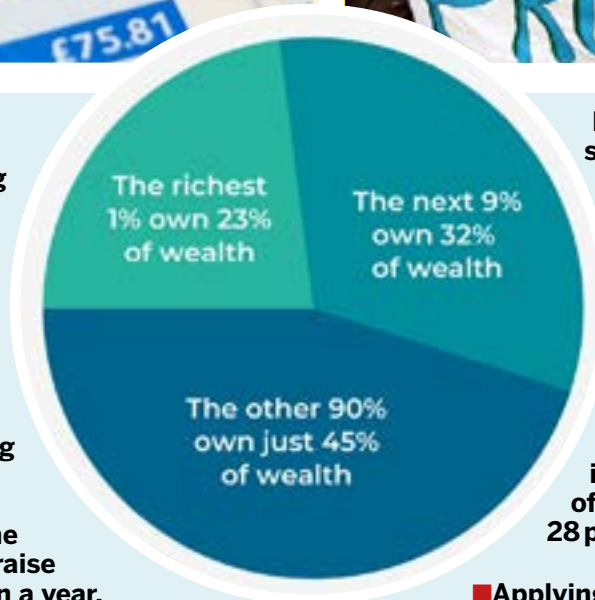
Tax Justice says that levying a tax on assets worth over £10 million would hit 20,000 of the richest people in Britain.

That's a very moderate demand.

At 10 percent it could bring in roughly half the NHS budget—up to £120 billion.

■ Equalising "capital gains tax" with income tax would raise £16.7 billion a year.

This would hit the super-rich who profit from selling shares and property—gains from owning capital.



Earned income, such as working class people's wages, is taxed at rates of 20 to 45 percent.

But unearned income in the form of capital gains is taxed at rates of 10 percent to 28 percent.

■ Applying National Insurance Contributions to unearned income would raise £10.2 billion a year
Currently, National Insurance

evictions and a longer notice period.

They are limited to just one rent rise a year and this must be in line with market rates.

But Labour did not take the radical action required to fix Britain's housing crisis.

The solution is building council homes with low rents for all—and replacing the failed, profit-driven system.

But private renters need immediate action on the cost of living crisis.

So rents should be slashed to at least 2020 levels and frozen.

Landlords, politicians and the mainstream media will scream at the suggestion.

But wouldn't private landlords just take houses off the market in response to rent controls?

Many won't—because they'll still be making money off you even with rent controls.

Some might—but let them try. Rent control should be backed up with mandatory requisition without compensation.

So if your landlord doesn't want to let out the house because of lower rents, it becomes council housing.





Are Reform and Labour neck and neck in the unions?

by TOMÁŠ TENGELY-EVANS

TRADE UNION members are just as likely to vote for Reform UK as they are for Labour, a damning new poll has claimed.

The survey, carried out by JL Partners for The Times newspaper, says that 28 percent of trade union members would back Nigel Farage's party.

It is a wake-up call for the labour movement to take on Reform UK—and the racism that drives it—head on.

If union leaders don't act, racism can eat away the sinews of solidarity at the heart of the working class movement.

What do the figures show?

The polling shows that how trade union members say they'll vote reflects the breakdown of the two-party system.

Much of the data is of a piece with trends among voters in general.

First, even in the unions, Reform UK builds its support on a bedrock of former Tory voters, rather than people switching from Labour.

Some 28 percent of trade union members surveyed said they would vote for Reform UK "if there was a general election tomorrow".



Reform built its support on Tory voters

The vast bulk of these did not vote for the Labour Party in the 2024 general election—some 92 percent of trade union members who voted Reform UK are sticking with the party. And 25 percent of union members who voted Tory in 2024 said they would now support Reform UK.

Just 14 percent of union members who voted Labour now back the far right party.

But a section of Labour voters are going to Reform UK because of the Labour's government's failures—and its strategy of trying to "out-Reform" Reform UK.

Some Labour voters and union members always accepted racist ideas.

Labour has built the bridge towards Reform UK for some of its supporters.

'We need to point the finger at the bosses, not migrants'

NICK IS a Unison member in Kirklees, West Yorkshire.

"Unions don't want to take on the question of racism. They don't want to lose the members, who they know are voting for Reform, by calling them a racist party."

"You can't fight Reform while ducking the question of racism. People who vote Reform know that their top policies are racist."

"Reform's rhetoric has its basis in racism."

"So the idea that all we have

to do is get people a decent pay rise and then they'll stop voting Reform doesn't hold up."

"Unions need to fight tooth and nail to get pay ballots over the threshold."

"And we need to have a series of members' meetings to argue that Reform is not the answer."

"Then we can point the finger at the government and bosses and away from migrants and refugees who Reform and the far right are trying to blame."



THOUSANDS OF union members joined the Together march against the far right

PIC: GUY SMALLMAN

When home secretary Shabana Mahmood boasts of plans to forcibly deport children, it normalises anti-migrant racism.

When the "soft left" poster boy Andy Burnham backs Mahmood's crackdown, it reinforces the narrative that immigration is a "problem".

Second, the collapse in support for Labour has seen a substantial section of its voters switch to Zack Polanski's Green Party.

This is particularly true among younger voters.

Overall, 12 percent of union members surveyed said they'd vote Green.

The Green Party leads among trade union members aged 18-24 at 38 percent, Reform UK is second on 27 percent and Labour third on 23 percent.

Labour leads among 25 to 34 year old trade union members at 33 percent, Reform UK is second on 22 percent while the Greens come third on 19 percent.

Labour leads among 35-49 year olds at 32 percent, while Reform UK comes second at 29 percent and the Greens trail behind at 9 percent.

Reform UK is top only among union members aged 50 or over.

How reliable are the figures?

The more closely you drill down into the data the less reliable it is.

For instance, the survey shows that 38 percent of Aslef train drivers' union members would vote for Reform UK if there was a



Trade unionists discuss anti-racism

general election tomorrow.

The "margin of error" for this figure is 26.2 percent—meaning that between 11.8 percent and 64.2 percent of Aslef members might do so. That's partly because the number of Aslef members sampled was incredibly small—just 12 people.

Unions where a higher number was surveyed have a lower "margin of error"—for example, Unison at 301 is 5.2 percent.

However, this doesn't mean anti-racists can be complacent. We know from prior polling that support was growing for Reform UK among union members.

A Unite union poll in 2025 showed 26 percent of its members backing Reform UK.

What's more, we know how the trade union leaders will use this survey as an alibi for ducking the arguments about immigration.

Most of them hope to tackle Reform UK's rise by focusing on its corporate policies or arguing that it's chiefly an "anti-establishment" vote.

However, this line of argument misunderstands what is driving the Reform UK vote.

Farage latches onto people's anger at years of neoliberalism and austerity hammering people.

But opposition to immigration is the glue that binds together Reform UK's story of Britain's "national decline".

A YouGov poll last month showed that voters said road repairs and the cost of living crisis were the "most important issues" facing their local area at 37 and 35 percent.

Immigration lagged behind in fourth place at 19 percent.

But Reform UK voters were the one exception—immigration was their top issue at 46 percent.

Anti-racism and class struggle must go hand in hand—fighting oppression is not a distraction or an optional extra.

If the working class is divided, it will never be united or strong enough to win against the class enemy.

This means rejecting the idea that immigration is a "problem" that has to be "managed".

And it means pinning the blame on billionaires, bankers and bosses for low wages, bad housing and crumbling public services.

Damning report reveals scale of youth jobs crisis

by FRANKIE MURDEN

AFTER ATTACKING children, pensioners and disabled people, Keir Starmer's government is preparing for a new attack in its assault on the welfare state.

The number of young people not in education, employment or training (Neets) is expected to jump to 1.25 million in the next five years.

Big business claims the increase in the national minimum wage for younger workers is to blame. And the right wing media is lining up to claim that young people have only got themselves to blame for being out of work.

That's despite a new report last week that slams youth unemployment as "a catastrophic systems failure". Even its author Alan Milburn—a former Blairite minister in the 2000s—says the minimum wage isn't to blame.

The report says the reason for youth unemployment is that "the engine of job creation in Britain is not running efficiently enough for this age group".

Idman is one of over a million 16-24 year olds in Britain currently not in employment, education or training.

She told Socialist Worker, "Right now we're faced with something no other generation has dealt with."

She says that it feels "impossible" for young people to plan their lives.

Many people are trapped in a cycle of constantly applying for jobs and getting rejected or not getting any response at all.

"I think people fail to understand the big psychological effect of the constant rejection," Idman said.

"The government and bosses want to undermine young people as a group. They say we just don't want to try hard. But a lot of this generation are incredibly hard working.

"All we want is a chance," she said.

"We just want somewhere we can see some career progression or something stable. I think we deserve stability."

Stalled

Since 2020, there had been a steady increase in job creation, but this has stalled to pre-pandemic levels.

The job market for young people has essentially collapsed. In 2022, the number of vacancies peaked at nearly 1.3 million. By April of this year there were only about 705,000.

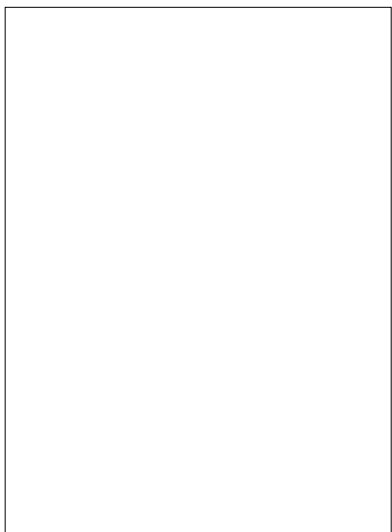
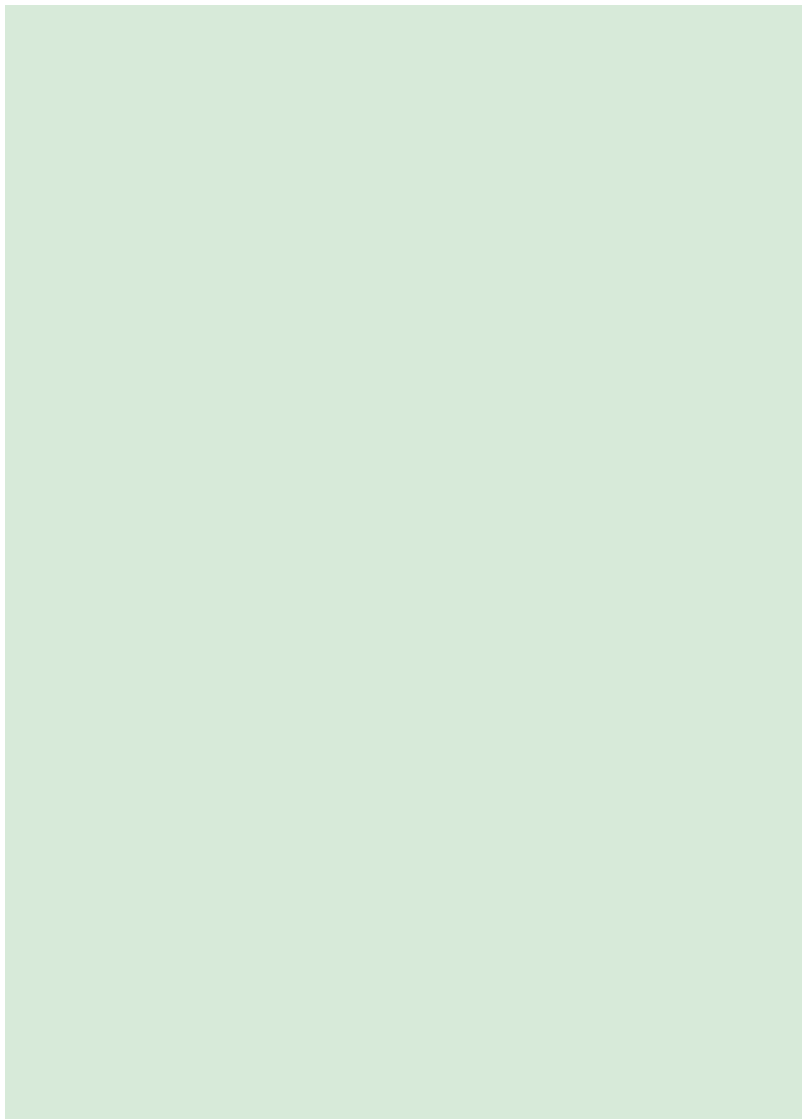
Retail and hospitality—among the key sectors of work for young people—have dramatically changed in recent years.

There are 8,000 fewer shops on high streets than in 2019—that's hundreds of thousands of jobs lost. Jobs in the hospitality sector have fallen by half since 2022.

And many young workers are doing the same jobs as older workers for less, simply because of their age.

Bosses use different wage rates based on age to drive down everyone's wages and increase their profits.

Labour promised to get rid of these



THE NUMBER of 16-24 year olds not in work, education or training is rising (top) Young people attending an employment fair in London (above) Alan Milburn, author of new Neets report (left)

cheap labour—and allowed them to undercut other workers.

The Department for Work and Pensions has pledged to create tens of thousands of work experience positions for young people.

Some 300,000 places will be part of this scheme and will last six weeks, with the promise of a job interview.

But using young workers as short-term labour at Gatwick Airport or on construction sites is not an opportunity for them to develop their skills. It's a sentence for a life of hard, underpaid work. And it may well not result in a job at the end of the period.

We can't rely on Labour to deliver real change for young workers.

A fight over the cost of living crisis and the rise in youth unemployment is urgent—and the trade unions should be leading it.

The money is there. The number of billionaires worldwide has risen above 3,000 for the first time. This immense wealth should be used for public services, education and young workers' wages.

discriminatory age bands in its 2024 manifesto, but it has betrayed this promise.

Now Labour's answer to youth unemployment seems to be a recycled version of Margaret Thatcher's Youth Training Schemes (YTSs) from the 1980s.

With four million unemployed at the time, YTSs forced school leavers into work schemes on the premise of getting them off the dole.

In reality, it provided bosses with

Socialist Worker
WHAT WE THINK

WORKERS FACE A PERFECT STORM

THE UNITED Nations is warning that the world should brace itself for more extreme weather. This year is very likely to see the return of the El Niño phenomenon.

The term El Niño refers to warmer sea surface temperatures in the Pacific. But its effects are global.

The natural weather pattern leads to drought conditions in some parts of the world and torrential rain in others.

In Britain, it is associated with hotter summer temperatures, colder winters and heavy winter rain. It could lead to heatwaves and flash flooding that infrastructure in Britain is unprepared for.

In 2023-4, a particularly strong El Niño effect contributed to high temperatures that made 2024 the world's hottest year on record.

The effects of the El Niño phenomenon combine with the impacts of climate breakdown to drive extreme weather.

"El Niño conditions will pour fuel on the fire of a warming world," says UN secretary general António Guterres.

And this year the ongoing effects of the closure of the Strait of Hormuz on fuel and fertiliser prices will create a perfect storm that will drive up food insecurity.

A report earlier this year found that water scarcity and soil degradation are already reducing crop yields, raising prices and impacting the availability of food worldwide.

In Britain, farmers have faced hundreds of millions of pounds worth of crop losses following a very dry spring in the lead-up to last week's heatwave.

Food prices are expected to be 50 percent higher this November than they were five years ago. We are already feeling the impact at the supermarket checkout.

We were told that the market would save us from rising food prices. If crops fail in one part of the world, Britain could import them from somewhere else.

But, when climate breakdown and extreme weather impact every part of the globe and there is a worldwide scramble for food and fertiliser—this no longer looks like a viable strategy.

Yet, while workers endure a pay squeeze, the super-rich are accumulating unprecedented wealth. According to the Equality Trust charity, the 157 billionaires in Britain have amassed collective wealth of £670 billion. That's equivalent to 22 percent of the country's GDP.

Workers shouldn't have to pay for the crisis caused by the greed of the fossil fuel companies.

STRIKES ARE ANSWER TO RISING PRICES

THE COST of living crisis is deepening amid Donald Trump's war on Iran, profiteering bosses and the effect of extreme weather shocks on food prices.

If the left and unions don't give a lead, the far right will grow out of the demoralisation and whip up scapegoating against migrants and refugees.

The Labour government wants to appease the bosses by pushing for austerity 2.0. We should demand radical measures.

A cap on the price of food and fuel is an urgent necessity, as well as measures to tax the rich and stop firms profiteering.

Workers don't have to sit on the sidelines and watch as costs go up and wages stay down.

RMT transport union members have shown their power by shutting down London with their strikes this week.

And there is the potential to push for action on pay. Resident doctors in the BMA union have already announced further strikes over pay, jobs and defending the NHS.

UCU union members in further and higher education are calling for nationwide action. Unison is set to launch a ballot of local government and school support workers in the summer.

The doctors are set to walk out for four days from 7am on 15 June—shower their picket lines in solidarity and invite them to speak at your trade union meeting.

Socialists in the trade union movement have to organise now and push for strikes this year at every opportunity.

ANALYSIS

ALEX CALLINICOS



The rotten legacy of Labour's right wing

THE LABOUR Party under Keir Starmer has experienced a precipitous decline. Clearly a major factor has been the party's capture by a right wing Labour gang after the vicious smear campaign conducted against Jeremy Corbyn while he was leader.

It's tempting to imagine that in the past things were better. But this is an illusion. After the Labour Party conference in 1960 passed a motion supporting unilateral nuclear disarmament, right wing leader Hugh Gaitskell launched a media-orchestrated offensive against the left. He is even reported to have supplied the Security Service (MI5) with a list fingering 15 Labour MPs as suspected Communist Party members.

The Labour right's first loyalty has always been to British imperialism. This has been confirmed by the obituaries of Baroness Meta Ramsay, who died at the age of 89 last Thursday. Ramsay was a junior minister in Tony Blair's first government in 1997-2001 and a well-known figure in Scottish Labour.

But Ramsay's actual career was in the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6)—“in the cause of democratic socialism”, she claimed. She was recruited as a right wing Labour activist at Glasgow University in the late 1950s. Her like-minded contemporaries included John Smith, Labour leader 1992-4, and Donald Dewar, founding First Minister of Scotland.

According to MI6 historian Stephen Dorril, Ramsay was secretary of the International Student Conference, a front for the CIA at the height of the Cold War.

The obituaries claim Ramsay, as MI6 station chief in Finland, helped organise the 1985 escape from the Soviet Union by Oleg Gordievsky, a British mole inside the KGB.

Whitehall's ingrained sexism apparently blocked her rise to the top of MI6. The same was true of an earlier woman officer, Daphne Park, who served in the former Belgian Congo in 1960-1. Patrice Lumumba, the country's first independent prime minister, was murdered after both the US and British governments had demanded his “elimination”.

After retirement, Ramsay returned to right wing Labour politics. She was Smith's foreign policy adviser until his sudden death in 1994. Astonishingly, she was allowed in the mid-2000s to serve on the Intelligence and Security Committee, which is meant to supervise secret agencies such as MI6. She also served on the advisory council of the New Labour think-tank the Foreign Policy Centre.

Surprising

Given this track record, it's hardly surprising that, according to the Daily Telegraph newspaper, “Ramsay supported Tony Blair's decision to go to war in Iraq in 2003, and two decades later said she still believed he had been right to”.

All that slaughter and chaos was apparently worthwhile. It's also not much of a surprise that Ramsay chaired Labour Friends of Israel in the House of Lords.

Her networking illustrates the deep connections binding together the Labour right and Britain's national security state. This isn't just of historical interest.

Against this background, we can understand how outraged the Blairites were when Corbyn, a left winger with a strong record of anti-imperialism, was elected party leader in 2015. The cabal organised to destroy his leadership and install Starmer in his place has now been documented, for example, in Paul Holden's book *The Fraud*.

Of course, Labour historically couldn't be reduced to these connections. It also had roots in the organised working class through the part played by trade union officialdom in financing the party and shaping its policies. But under Starmer, these links have grown increasingly threadbare.

The role played by the likes of Ramsay, with one foot in the world of spooks, the other in that of the Labour right, should underline a positive lesson for those who want to build a real left.

An alternative to Labour has to be based on more than fighting for the interests of working people within Britain, important as that is.

It has to set itself against imperialism as the global system of exploitation and domination that underpins the injustices of British society. The extraordinary scale and intensity of the solidarity movement with Palestine—witness the latest strikes in Italy last Friday—offer a glimpse of the potential for a fight against imperialism.

LETTERS

Email letters@socialistworker.co.uk Post Socialist Worker, PO Box 74955, London E16 9EJ

Unions dither as cost of living crisis hits millions

INFLATION IS rising and all predictions are for a rapid jump in the autumn, as a result of Donald Trump's war on Iran.

Socialist Worker was absolutely right to call for a “Hot Autumn of Struggle”.

Keir Starmer's Labour government is weak and unpopular.

If the trade union movement does not mount a serious fightback, the far right will scapegoat migrants further and seek to grow out of the severe social crisis.

That's why the decisions of union leaders to dance around the balloting restrictions on calling action are unforgivable.

Division

Unions are only balloting branches with a chance—in their opinion—of getting a good vote.

But they are leaving a huge chunk of union members out of the conversation—which is a recipe for division and confusion.

Unbelievably, the NEU education union national executive committee

decided in May to delay a formal industrial action ballot for five months, until October.

This is even after winning a massive majority in their initial indicative ballot.

And the NEU ballot is scheduled to last for two months with no action planned until 2027.

Instead of rallying the 200,000 plus NEU members who backed action to win over the entire membership, the NEU leadership are allowing the momentum to slip.

They should be piling

in behind the striking resident doctors and ramping up the pressure on Starmer and the Labour government right now.

Every trade unionist needs to demand the immediate removal of the 50 percent threshold rules for ballots.

And the more militant, well-organised union branches should be prepared to organise a fightback, despite the timidity of the union leaders.

The stakes are high.

Simon Hester
Hastings

Whose lives matter?

WHEN GEORGE Floyd was murdered by US police officer Derek Chauvin in 2020, Black Lives Matter (BLM) came onto the streets.

It stood in solidarity with victims of police brutality.

BLM started to take to the streets of Britain as well. And athletes rightfully “took the knee” to show solidarity with BLM and Floyd.

In 2023, the Tories' then-home secretary Priti Patel tried disgracefully to stop players from taking the knee.

This pandered to racism, which in recent times has only gotten worse.

At the same time, racists and fascists have been spouting their hatred, led by Tommy Robinson.

On one of his demonstrations, a plane carried a banner reading, “White Lives Matter.” We all know that this is a racist code.

Earlier this year in Minnesota, in the US, Ice agents murdered both Renee Good and Alex Pretti.

Both victims were white, which begs the question—where was “White Lives Matter” then?

The silence from the right was absolutely deafening.

Charlie Douthwaite
Barrow-in-Furness



Samsung win shows where our power lies

THE RATIFICATION of Samsung's new bonus agreement is an important victory for organised labour in the technology industry, both in South Korea and globally.

For years, Samsung maintained a strong anti-union culture and resisted meaningful collective bargaining for its workers. That workers were able to secure a deal linking bonuses to company profits shows how much pressure collective action can exert.

For months, management resisted demands from workers

who generate enormous wealth for the company. Only the credible threat of an 18-day strike involving tens of thousands of workers forced serious concessions.

That alone demonstrates a basic truth too often ignored in discussions about AI and the sector—it is workers, not executives or shareholders, who make these companies function.

Samsung workers have shown even the biggest bosses can be forced to concede when workers organise.

Geraldine M
East London

Stand with trans+ lives

WHILE I suspect that our views on some issues are poles apart, I wholeheartedly commend Socialist Worker for its consistent and trenchant support of trans+ equality.

Yours is one of the few media outlets to resolutely oppose the demonisation of trans+ people.

As a woman, I stand unreservedly with trans+ people. I consider trans+ women to be women and trans+ men to be men.

And I unreservedly believe in their right to use facilities that correspond with their gender identity.

Keeley Cavendish
South London



Women and children pay price as rich ignore Ebola outbreak

As the infection rate rises, the ruling class thinks of its own bottom line instead of the impending crisis, writes Yuri Prasad

THE WORLD'S rich are ignoring the threat posed by the deadly Ebola virus in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and beyond.

The African Centres for Disease Control and Prevention reported this week that there are over 1,000 registered cases of Ebola and at least 246 people have died.

Several infections and one death have been confirmed in neighbouring Uganda. Authorities in Italy and Brazil say they are also investigating suspected Ebola infections.

The possibility of a rapid spread of the disease throughout central Africa poses a risk to millions of people.

But instead of flooding the region with vital protective PPE and other equipment, wealthy nations have done little to stem the spread.

Doctor Elizabeth Furaha is the director of a specialised medical facility in the city of Bunia. It is the capital of Congo's Ituri Province, the epicentre of the current wave of infections.

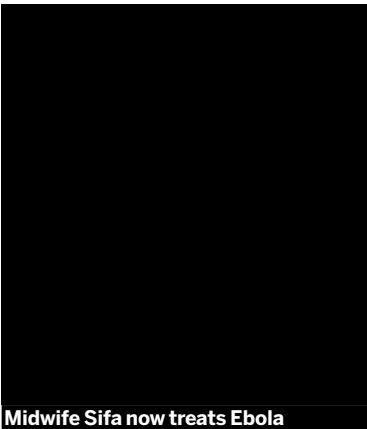
She told Al Jazeera this week that her unit is yet to receive any PPE. And she says it is overwhelmingly women and children who are paying the price.

"When someone is sick, it's the women who help them," she said.

Women also traditionally prepare bodies for burial and Ebola



In the last outbreak women and girls amounted to two-thirds of all deaths



Midwife Sifa now treats Ebola

patients remain highly infectious after death. Elizabeth adds that most nurses are women.

United Nations data shows that in the 2018-19 outbreak in the DRC, women and girls accounted for two-thirds of documented cases.

US president Donald Trump seems determined to make the Ebola crisis worse.

He recently ordered his staff to build a treatment centre in Kenya for American citizens only. He then banned Americans who had contact with Ebola from returning home.

That only encourages people to disguise their exposure and any symptoms in order to return home on ordinary flights, putting other passengers at risk.

A Kenyan court last week banned the US from establishing the treatment centre—for now.

The cost of basic protection for patients and staff can be measured in pennies, yet our ruling classes have other concerns.

For them, the big question remains, who has control over the DRC's mineral resources—and which government or militia should they back to ensure it's the rich that benefit from these resources?

The prospect of a huge Ebola outbreak does not even enter their minds.

WOMEN ARE more likely to be carers, both in the medical field and at home

Israeli boycott victory in New York

by PAT MEUSEL

THE BOYCOTT, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement scored a victory against complicity with genocide in New York last week.

A major supermarket, the Park Slope Food Coop, will now boycott Israeli goods made throughout historic Palestine.

"It reflects a growing revulsion towards Israel, including among a lot of Jewish people," says Brooklyn resident Eric.

A three-hour online meeting, attended by 7,000 of the coop's 17,000 members, backed the boycott by 67 percent.

The motion was moved by Park Slope Food Coop Members in Solidarity with Palestine. It was supported by at least two dozen activist and campaign groups, including several Jewish ones.

"It was really important that some long-time members of the coop who were Jewish were leading the boycott," Eric said.

The decision to hold the vote comes after years of debate, stretching back to at least 2012. But the boycott movement has gained momentum, especially since 7 October.

"It's an extension of what the coop's done for a long time," Eric explained.

"In 1973, they boycotted non-union grapes during the

United Farm Workers union strike. They boycotted products from apartheid South Africa."

The vote was part of a debate wider than the coop itself.

Dan Goldman and Brad Lander are contesting a congressional primary race for the Democratic Party in New York's 10th district.

Goldman, as the sitting representative for the district, has consistently voted to aid Israel.

Lander, on the other hand, has called for an end to military support for Israel. He has also said that the Israeli state's actions in Gaza amount to genocide.

Both, however, weighed in against the boycott, before the vote. Goldman said it was explicitly antisemitic and Landers said he'd vote no.

Despite the best efforts to

smear the boycott as antisemitic, the motion passed.

Eric put this down to the movement in solidarity with Palestine. "I think all the activism around Gaza has changed people's minds," he said.

That's the experience of one former member of the coop, now living in London. "It's not a neutral decision to stock shelves with stuff from Israel," Orit told Socialist Worker.

Orit took the decision to renounce her Israeli citizenship after 7 October—and she's part of a generation of Jewish people speaking out against Israel.

That's especially the case in the US, where opinion polls suggest something like half of Jewish people under the age of 35 identify as anti-Zionist.

BURNHAM'S MANCHESTER IS NO OASIS

As property developers rake in huge profits, working class communities in areas like Moss Side and Hulme are being priced out, broken up and pushed aside. Residents told **Pat Meusel** that what is called ‘regeneration’ feels less like renewal and more like social cleansing

MANCHESTER'S skyline rises every year. Glass towers, luxury flats and billion-pound developments are touted as proof that the city is booming under Andy Burnham's model of “Manchesterism”.

Its city centre now boasts 28 skyscrapers, with seven more already under construction and planning for the tallest tower in Britain outside of London has been approved.

But while politicians, developers and the media hail it as a blueprint for Britain's future, behind the shiny developments lies a different reality.

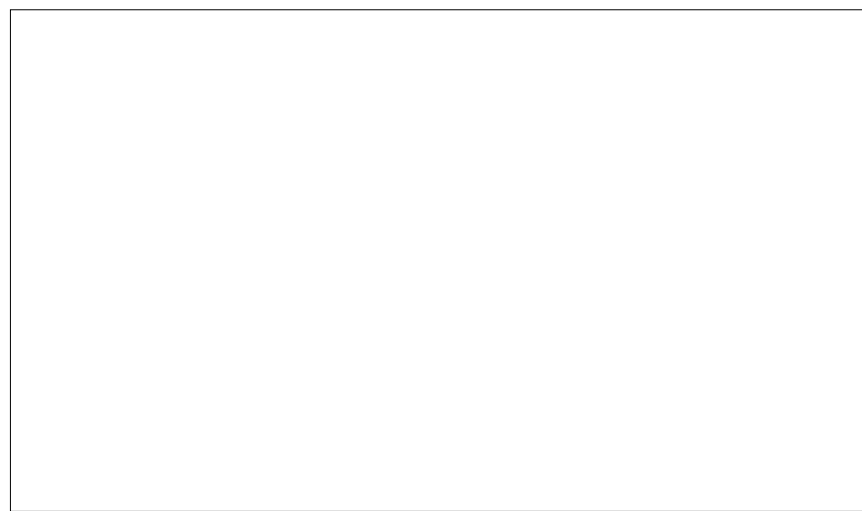
“There's a lot being built. But they're not building everywhere. And what's being built isn't for everyone,” said Joel, a resident of Manchester's Moss Side neighbourhood.

He lives only a few miles from a city centre that has been transformed beyond recognition in recent years.

“We can see skyscrapers going up, but I know that I am not going to be able to afford to live in any of them. None of my friends are going to be able to afford to live there,” Joel added.

“Manchesterism”—the model of growth championed by Burnham—the mayor of Greater Manchester, claims to champion autonomy on a local and regional level.

It is supposed to allow authorities to put essential services to use for the public benefit, rather than private profit.



But the reality in Manchester is soaring rents, homelessness on the rise and long-standing community spaces under threat—all while public money flows



For all the flats being built, people are being pushed further and further out

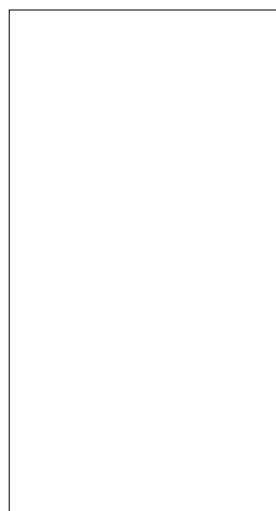
into private hands. Burnham built his reputation on the Bee Network, an integrated network of bus and tram lines, as well as a cycle scheme.

Relatively affordable public transport has made Burnham a popular figure, he's lauded as the man who put buses back under public control.

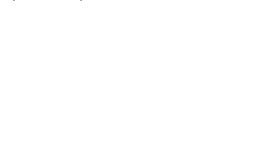
But he's used that reputation to push through private developments for profit, not the people of Manchester.

Sam, another resident of Moss Side, agreed with Joel on the so-called building boom. She is not convinced that it offers anything to people living outside of the city centre.

“For all the flats that are being built, people are being pushed further and



Hulme Cresents in Manchester was the largest council estate in Europe when it was built in 1969. It was abandoned in 1984 (above, left) The city's tram is fast but doesn't reach the poorest parts in outer Greater Manchester (above)



further out,” she said. This points to a failing of “Manchesterism”—it has prioritised the city centre over other parts of the city.

The majority of flats available in the city centre's sky scrapers are luxury flats that few will ever be able to afford.

And along with them, the average rent in Manchester has skyrocketed, rising by 3 percent in the last year alone to over £1,300 pounds a month.

Greater Manchester has now been named as one of the least affordable places to rent a home in Britain, which is reflected in the homelessness crisis that blights the city.

That is something that Burnham pledged to put right in his first mayoral election campaign, promising an end to rough sleeping.

Homeless

However, at the end of last year the housing charity Shelter revealed that 1 in 61 people in Manchester were homeless.

Joel explained what the rising cost of rents has meant for neighbourhoods like Moss Side.

“People are not only being pushed out. They are also losing their sense of place,” he said.

Sam agreed, adding that the cost of living crisis was breaking up long established communities.

“A lot of families, my family included, came to this country, from Jamaica, in the 1950s. They were part of the Windrush Generation.

“And they first moved to Moss Side,



WHILE PROPERTY developers and speculators have taken over the centre of Greater Manchester, resistance to gentrification and over-priced tower blocks remains steadfast

Growth—who benefits?

A RECENTLY published report by the Centre for Cities research group champions Manchester as a city with declining rates of deprivation.

Burnham's response was, “It's great to see proof that Manchesterism works”.

That claim is based on rising figures for employment and Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Manchester has, apparently, seen an 11 percent increase in employment and 15 percent increase in GDP.

But, as the study points out, and Burnham fails to mention, there are growing areas of deprivation in Manchester, as well as affluence.

“Manchester illustrates how city-level headlines can hide within-city changes,” the report concludes.

So, areas such as Hulme and Moss Side feel few of the effects of a redeveloped city centre.

And for outlying boroughs, like Bolton and Wigan, the figures for employment and GDP are lower than those for Manchester. Indeed, they are below the national average.

So, if “Manchesterism” is working, it is only for the private developers who Burnham has been working with.

While he made a campaign pledge in 2024 to build 10,000 council

homes, only ten were built in that year.

But in his time as mayor, an office he has held since 2017, Burnham has overseen the handover of roughly £800 million in public loans from the local authority to one private developer alone.

Renaker is responsible for the construction of most of the skyscrapers that dominate Manchester's skyline. And while the company's built thousands of flats, few if any have been affordable, by any ordinary person's measure.

Complimentary

And all the while, Renaker's CEO and founder, Daren Whitaker has been raking it in. He is now worth something in the region of £525 million.

As Burnham puts himself forward in the Makerfield parliamentary by-election, a stepping stone to a challenge of Keir Starmer's leadership of the Labour Party, there has been no shortage of complimentary coverage in the bourgeois press.

“Manchesterism,” we are told, is a model that should be rolled out nationwide.

In reality, it is nothing less than neo-liberalism with a new name.



for the most part. At the time, that was the heart of the West Indian community in the city.

“But when the city started to ‘regenerate’ Moss Side in the 1980s and 1990s, a lot of people were pushed out. First to neighbouring areas like Hulme.

“But then Hulme itself got gentrified, especially with all of the buildings around Manchester Metropolitan University going up.”

And it is not only that people are being pushed out, but that the sense of community for those who stay behind is under constant threat.

The area was once home to iconic institutions for the Caribbean community, including the Reno Nightclub on Princess Road.

Brownfield

The Reno was knocked down in 1986, in the name of “urban renewal. But ever since then, the land has lain empty, a brownfield site.

Now there are plans to develop it. Manchester City Council and Mosscafe St Vincents Housing propose building 212 units on the site, at a cost of £60 million.

It is a plan that has been criticised by the community.

They are asking why such a huge development has been proposed for what is already one of the country's most densely populated areas.

Moss Side is home to over 21,000 people. The population density in Moss Side is nearly six times the Greater Manchester average. And 475 times the UK average.

And there are concerns that the development will have a damaging impact on the Caribbean community specifically.

Next door to the brownfield site is the West Indian Sports and Social Club. It is the oldest surviving venue of its kind in Britain, first set up in 1953.

Jonesy, a long-time resident of Moss Side, spoke about the importance of institutions like the West Indian Sports and Social Club to the community.

“We are a community. And it is important for us to have a place to come together, to celebrate and to mourn,” he said.

It is a de facto community centre



The area was once home to Caribbean community cafes and institutions—not now

(top) **Homeless person sleeps in a doorway on Oxford Road, in the Manchester city centre**

that over the years has provided help for people in need of support, a hub for campaigning, as well as a venue for dominoes, drinks, funerals and weddings.

But there are concerns that with the construction of the new development next door, the club will not be able to operate as normal and eventually will be forced to close.

“The Nia Centre in Hulme, a cultural space for African and Caribbean people in the city, has had to put up with noise complaints as the neighbourhood around it has been gentrified,” Sam explained.

“It has been a struggle for it to stay open,” she added.

And Joel questioned why it is always neighbourhoods such as Hulme or Moss Side that have these developments forced on them in the first place.

“You don't see developments like this one in more affluent areas like Chorlton.

“I think the council probably would not even try it. But if they did, there would be a backlash. And the council would listen to those people,” he said.

Across Princess Road, in neighbouring Hulme, Brian spoke about the changes he has seen take place there recently.

He talked about the Hulme Market, a mainstay of Hulme High Street.

“The market has changed. There used to be a lot more independent traders.

Vacate

“Then, the landlord evicted two businesses in 2024 that had been here for decades, Roy's Original Sweet Dish and The Corner Plaice.

“They were not in arrears. And they were not given proper notice. They were just told to vacate the premises, almost overnight.

“We organised a campaign and protests. But the evictions went ahead.

“And what was put in their place was a big shop, nothing like what was there before.

“These were places where people could meet, to chat, drink and eat,” he said.

Brian added that the replacement of two independent shops with one big business did not just mean the loss of community space, but an increase to the already spiralling cost of living crisis.

“I think the landlord is raising the rents for those independent shops still scraping by. That is making it much, much harder for them to survive.

“But it is making it harder for us to get by as well. I keep seeing my weekly shop go up. I make enough to put food on the table for my family. But I could not afford to take them on holiday now,” he said.

Angela Davis, the US civil rights activist, once said, “You have to act as if it were possible to radically transform the world. And you have to do it all the time”.

Davis didn’t mean you must wake up every morning calling for a revolution. Instead, the task is finding ways of connecting those around you to a different future.

That process can include everything from relatively small actions—wearing an anti-racist badge to work, for example—to leading revolts and arguing for workers’ power.

Everything we are taught, and much of what we experience, encourages us to think that there is no alternative to capitalism and that attempts to change things are doomed to fail.

Capitalist ideas colonise people’s minds. We get locked into competing with others, blaming individuals for systemic failures.

The police force protects property and represses peaceful protests. But the most dangerous police officer is not the one wielding a baton—it is the one in our heads.

The radical poet William Blake called these the “mind-forged manacles,” and they chain us to the system.

But revolutions are much more common than our rulers want us to think.

The 20th century saw a revolution in every decade—and this century has continued the trend, with the Arab Spring from 2010 to 2012, the Sudanese Revolution of 2018 and the “Gen Z” uprisings across the globe more recently.

Revolution is possible because capitalism is the most rapidly changing economic and social system in history.

It is built on competition between different owners of the means of production—from the small factories of the 19th century to the multinational corporations of today.

This competition forces every company to seek to transform production methods, which means closing old industries and opening new ones.

Towns and cities that grew up around certain products are decimated. People find the future they looked forward to has been destroyed by decisions taken in distant boardrooms.

Capitalism forces them to change the very rhythm of their lives, learn new skills, move to new areas and fear constantly the next upheaval.

In the Communist Manifesto, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels observed, “Constant revolutionising of production,

uninterrupted disturbance of all social conditions, everlasting uncertainty and agitation distinguish the bourgeois epoch from all earlier ones.

“All fixed, fast frozen relations, with their train of ancient and venerable prejudices and opinions, are swept away, all new-formed ones become antiquated before they can ossify. All that is solid melts into air.”

This tendency towards constant, unpredictable change has intensified over the last two centuries. Shifts



Technology has always dominated workers who operate it. But it also gives them power

in global production and new technologies mean that billions of people live in fear of losing their livelihoods.

Under this system, the exploitation of labour is connected to military might. Those seeking increased wealth seize it by force, knowing the accumulation of arms permits the accumulation of capital.

Peace is just an interlude until the next war. Imperialist war not only brings terrible suffering. It can shake society to its core, break old routines and

reveal the violence at its heart.

As Marxist author Chris Harman wrote, wars “can lead to the most reactionary ideas and monstrous behaviour taking hold but can also result in a questioning of the system that leads to war and to confrontation with the politicians, generals and tycoons who rejoice in it”.

The climate catastrophe has an equally profound social impact. Like economic turmoil and imperialist war, it is uprooting people and destroying traditional ways of life.

All this creates an ideological crisis for those who rule. Their authority rests on persuading us that this is the best possible system, that wars and environmental destruction are aberrations—products of human nature that can be smoothed out by “reforms”.

These systemic failures create ideological vacuums that can be filled by irrational conspiracy theories and far right propaganda.

But such crises can also make millions of people turn against capitalism itself. Into this explosive mix come moments when oppressed groups resist and win solidarity from wider layers of society.

That process is aided by one of the features of capitalism. As it tears families and communities apart, always seeking to divide us, it also concentrates those it exploits in giant cities and workplaces.

And it is here that we have power. Capitalism creates a class with the capacity to organise against it and the potential to turn society on its head.

New forms of employment create fresh workforces. At first, these workers are generally dismissed as incapable of self-organisation.

Unionisation

But throughout history, we have seen such people assert themselves as powerful sections of the working class movement.

Huge numbers of workers are today organising in hospitals, distribution networks and in offices—areas once thought immune to unionisation.

Technology has always dominated the workers who operate it. But technology also gives new groups of workers enormous power. And they are beginning to use it.

South Korean Samsung workers recently voted for a strike which threatened global supply chains of semiconductors.

These are essential for everything from data centres to smartphones and electric vehicles. They won the bonuses their unions had demanded.

This apparent contradiction between rapid advance and increasing misery was present in Marx’s time.

He wrote, “On the one

hand, there have started into life industrial and scientific forces, which no epoch of the former human history had ever suspected. On the other hand, there exist symptoms of decay, far surpassing the horrors of the Roman Empire.

“Machinery, gifted with the wonderful power of shortening and fructifying human labour, we behold starving and overworking it. The new-fangled sources of wealth, by some strange, weird spell, are turned into sources of want.”

The discovery of the power to fight back collectively occurs among the evolving working class of the 21st century, just as it did in the 20th and 19th centuries.

Apathy can transform into its opposite when people get a taste of their power. And revolutions happen when vast numbers of people feel they can only get what they need by taking matters into their own hands.

The Russian revolutionary Vladimir Lenin pointed to two elements necessary for this transformation in behaviour to occur.

First, the lower classes must reach a point where they feel the conditions of life are increasingly intolerable. But anger at poverty, corruption and repression are not enough to generate a revolution.

The second element is that the ruling class loses its authority, becomes bitterly divided, argues and panics.

A revolutionary situation opens up when splits inside a ruling class meet rising discontent among the mass of people. When that happens, ideas and expectations change dramatically.

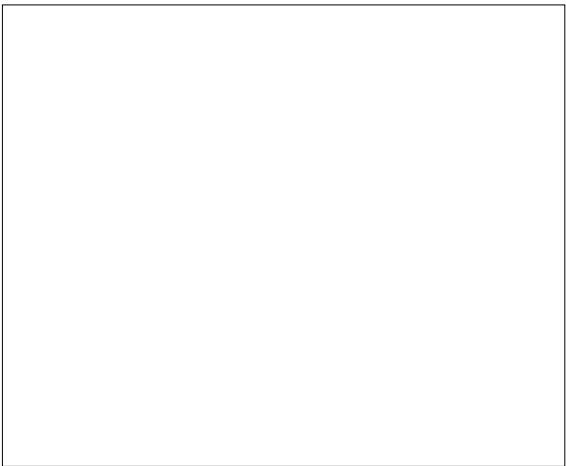
Marvelled

Eduard Dune was a teenager in Moscow during the 1917 Russian Revolution.

He marvelled at how “the mood of the crowd was transmitted from one to another like conduction, like a spontaneous burst of laughter, joy or anger.

“There were those who had been praying for the good health of the imperial family. Now they were shouting ‘Down with the tsar’ and not disguising their joyful contempt,” he wrote.

To secure a future different from capitalism, every revolution must drive forward



On the streets of Khartoum in 2021 to demand a return to civilian rule in Sudan (top) Fighting for democracy in Sri Lanka in 2022 (above)

and resist people’s hesitation and timidity, which can open the door to the ruling class returning to power.

And every revolution must address the question of state power.

We have seen the rise of increasingly authoritarian methods deployed by “democratic” states. And we’ve seen how people are prepared to defy them—from Palestine Action protests here in Britain to defending migrants against Ice agents in the US.

When our side, the global majority, has power, we can begin to refashion all the things our labour under capitalism has created—the technologies, medical breakthroughs and distribution chains—to answer human and planetary need.

Capitalism creates the potential for socialism, the material wealth, the technology, the global working class. And revolutions will continue to rock the ruling class.

But to replace their system with ours, we need to be organised, educated and ready to fight back.

READ MORE

● **Revolution in the 21st century** by Chris Harman This 2007 article details the Marxist understanding of revolution—and why it fits the modern world

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TEACH YOURSELF
MARXISM
with Judy Cox

Does socialism allow for individuality?

THE RIGHT constantly recycle the accusation that socialism will crush individuality. They champion “rugged individualism” and “personal responsibility,” which they contrast with slothful reliance on welfare.

There is nothing original in this—it runs back from Margaret “There’s no such thing as society” Thatcher, to the founding fathers of free market economics.

The market appears to offer us an unlimited choice of clothes, entertainment, lifestyles and experiences—for a price.

But this illusion of choice is filtered through huge corporations that increasingly dominate world markets. Choice is limited to McDonald’s or Burger King, Levi’s or Wranglers, Pepsi or Coke, Nike or Adidas.

The empty streets of every city or town in Britain are virtually identical to one another.

Everything sold online is remarkably similar. People seek out original items offered by independent sellers. But successful pop ups and independent shops get swallowed up by corporations.

This centralisation is constantly taking place across the world, as big corporations take over their competitors.

And even this limited, corporate “freedom of choice” is only available to those who can afford it.

Expression

The rich minority, those who own the massive corporations and their hangers on, can express themselves with bespoke gear, commissioned art and homes designed to suit them.

The rest of us are expected to work for these firms, doing humdrum jobs where any expression of individuality is punished.

Capitalism could only grow by deliberately destroying the individuality of its workers.

When the first factories developed in Britain, the capitalist class made its workers as much like each

HIGH STREET retailers offer the illusion of choice

other as possible. Workers were forced to regard work as their only aim in life, to sacrifice their small personal pleasures to endless toil.

The commodification of our personalities is structured into capitalism. Karl Marx explained how the existence of money submerges our individuality.

“The properties of money are my—the possessors’—properties and essential powers. Therefore, what I am and what I can do is by no means determined by my individuality.

“I am a wicked, dishonest, unscrupulous individual, but money is respected and so also is its owner. Through money I can have anything the human heart desires. Do I not, therefore, possess all human abilities? Does not money, therefore, transform all my incapacities into their opposite?”

Modern capitalism continues this process. In schools what matters is not children developing their interests—it is testing them.

Children dress in the same uniforms and have the same “disciplined” behaviour.



Workers were forced to regard work as their only aim in life

Expressions of individuality are punished.

Massive resources have been poured into developing the micro-management and surveillance of workers, destroying their individuality.

So why does the idea that socialism crushes individuality get any traction?

A cramping of individual development marked countries that claimed to be socialist, such as the Soviet Union.

This was the basis of a popular image of socialism. But these countries were not socialist.

Competition

They were dominated by bureaucratic ruling groups that wanted to develop their economies to compete with the West.

Real individuality, the full and complete development of the distinct capacities of the individual, will only be possible in a completely different sort of society.

Genuine socialism means the individual and society would no longer be in opposition. People would stop having to compete with one another and would not be under pressure to work ever harder.

Real human individuality will only be possible when workers across the world come together and use their collective power to overturn the capitalist class.

They can then reorganise society so that it is based upon developing human abilities and not the demands of competition.

YOUNG PEOPLE in Nepal last year led a movement that brought down a hated government

THE REASONS OUR RULERS STILL FEAR REVOLUTION

Judy Cox says capitalism’s repeated crises and its need for constant change create the seeds of the system’s downfall

Angela Davis

WHAT WE STAND FOR

These are the core politics of the Socialist Workers Party.

INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS ACTION

Under capitalism workers' labour creates all profit. A socialist society can only be constructed when the working class seizes control of the means of production and democratically plans how they are used.

REVOLUTION NOT REFORM

The present system cannot be patched up or reformed as the established Labour and trade union leaders say.

It has to be overthrown. Capitalism systematically degrades the natural world. Ending environmental crisis means creating a new society.

THERE IS NO PARLIAMENTARY ROAD

The structures of the present parliament, army, police and judiciary cannot be taken over and used by the working class.

They grew up under capitalism and are designed to protect the ruling class against the workers.

The working class needs an entirely different kind of state—a workers' state based upon councils of workers' delegates and a workers' militia.

At most parliamentary activity can be used to make propaganda against the present system.

Only the mass action of the workers themselves can destroy the system.

INTERNATIONALISM

The struggle for socialism is part of a worldwide struggle. We campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries.

We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against those from other countries.

We oppose racism and imperialism. We oppose all immigration controls.

We support the right of black people and other oppressed groups to organise their own defence.

We support all genuine national liberation movements.

The experience of Russia demonstrates that a socialist revolution cannot survive in isolation in one country.

In Russia the result was state capitalism, not socialism. In Eastern Europe and China a similar system was later established by Stalinist parties.

We support the struggle of workers in these countries against both private and state capitalism.

We are for real social, economic and political equality of women.

We are for an end to all forms of discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

We oppose discrimination against disabled people including those who experience mental distress.

We defend the right of believers to practise their religion without state interference.

THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To achieve socialism the most militant sections of the working class have to be organised into a revolutionary socialist party.

Such a party can only be built by activity in the mass organisations of the working class.

We have to prove in practice to other workers that reformist leaders and reformist ideas are opposed to their own interests.

We have to build a rank and file movement within the unions.

To join us, go to socialistworker.co.uk/join-swp

Come to a socialist meeting near you

THE Socialist Workers Party (SWP) has branches all over Britain. We meet most weeks, usually on a Wednesday or Thursday, to discuss politics and to plan activities.

The branch meeting normally has a speaker who opens a discussion in which all are free to join in.

Afterwards, we plan the party's involvement in local and national movements.

Our meetings are open to the public and we encourage participation.

For a local branch, look at the list and scan the QR code.

Scotland

- Aberdeen
- Dundee
- Edinburgh
- Glasgow North
- Glasgow South

North

- Lancaster and Morecambe
- Manchester
- Newcastle
- Liverpool
- Wigan

Yorkshire and Humberside

- Bradford
- Huddersfield
- Hull
- Leeds
- Sheffield and South Yorkshire
- York and Scarborough
- Wakefield

Midlands

- Birmingham
- Black Country
- Coventry
- Crewe and Stoke
- Chesterfield
- Derby
- Leicester
- Nottingham

London

- Hackney
- Haringey
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- Tower Hamlets
- Waltham Forest
- West and North West London

South west

- Bristol
- Devon and Exeter
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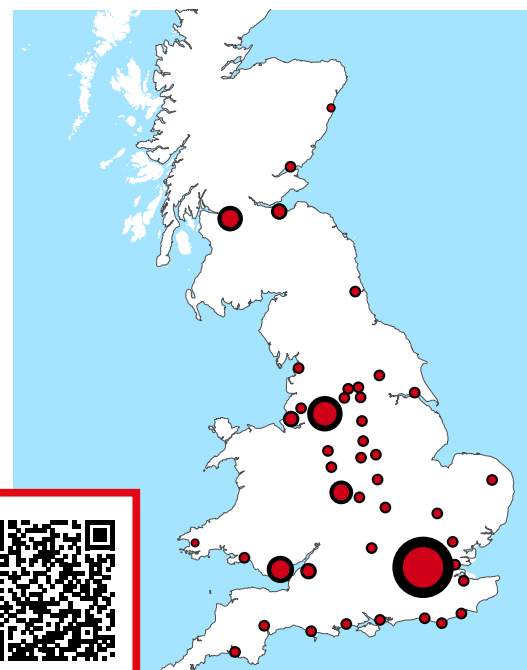
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- Portsmouth

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- Bournemouth
- Cambridge
- Colchester
- Eastbourne
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Believe Me shames the cops—and their system

by SHEILA MCGREGOR

A TOTAL of 105 women are known to have been raped and sexually assaulted by black cab taxi driver John Worboys.

If the police had believed the first woman who reported her rape, dozens of those women would have been spared.

Believe Me is a four-part series that tells the story through two women, Sarah and Laila. But this is not about victims.

This is about two women, whose lives, yes, were damaged by the rapes, but were so angered by not being believed by the police, that they fought back.

You feel their pain and their anger.

Sarah's account to the police outlined Worboys' modus operandi.

He would pick up a young woman after a night out, pressure her into drinking a glass of champagne laced with drugs, rape and assault her, then drop her off at the address she had given.

But the police had an alternative narrative.

A black cab driver would never risk his job by drugging and raping a woman in his own cab, they said.

Instead they insisted that Sarah and Laila had both drunk too much, didn't remember what happened and had sex with someone

AIMEE-FFION EDWARDS as Sarah

else. They said that the drugs in their system weren't the typical rape drugs.

They would do anything but believe the women.

Eventually, the police arrested Worboys and he was given an indeterminate sentence with an 8-year minimum term. That's when Sarah and Laila decided



Police would do anything but believe the women

to take the police to court under the Human Rights Act for infringing their right not to be subject to inhuman or degrading treatment.

Evidence

This led to the disclosure of further evidence of police negligence. Sarah and Laila established the right to use the Human Rights Act as a basis for legal action against the police.

Meanwhile, Worboys was intent on getting out. He changed his name to John Radford and turned to God.

Having insisted on his innocence, he then "confessed" and conjured up an explanation for his attacks. He eventually convinced the parole board and got a date for his release.

Sarah and Laila fought back, supported by Carrie Symonds, herself one of Worboys' victims.

Their dedicated legal team exposed the holes in Worboys' story and the parole board's decision was overturned.

Believe Me conveys Sarah and Laila's trauma and the impact on their lives.

Above all, it exposes the bureaucratic and misogynist practices of the police.

They don't think it is always "practical" to apply their own guidelines that the starting point is to "believe the woman".

It's easier to clear up a burglary than pursue a rapist. Believe Me is a difficult watch, but it is well worth it.

Believe Me is available to stream on ITVX

REVIEW

MARK BROWN

An irresistible allegory of fascism

IN THESE days—when the spectre of fascism looms, not only across Europe, but in India, Argentina and the US—it is hard to think of a more powerfully relevant play than The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui.

It was written by the Marxist playwright Bertolt Brecht in 1941, when he was living in Finland in exile from the Third Reich. This allegorical account of Adolf Hitler's rise to power casts the Nazis as gangsters in early-20th century Chicago.

When it finally premiered in Stuttgart, West Germany, in 1958 it was intended as a warning of the continued threat of fascism that was deeply ingrained in capitalist society.

The decision by the Royal Shakespeare Company to stage Brecht's classic now is to be welcomed.

It is the perfect artistic response to the rise of Nigel Farage's far right Reform UK and the hate marches organised by the fascist who calls himself Tommy Robinson.

Director Seán Linnen has created a powerful and memorable production that has an excellent grasp of Brecht's artistic method.

Brecht's self-defined "Epic Theatre" uses allegory and metaphor as a means of enabling audiences to perceive the world they live in from a new, politically engaging perspective.

As we see in the placards that explain the play's historical parallels, the great dramatist's point was not to simply depict what had happened in recent history, but rather, to explore how and why it happened.

Moustache

Actor Mark Gatiss's repellent, merciless Arturo Ui casts the American gangster as an undisguised representation of Hitler—complete with toothbrush moustache.

Chicago stands in for Germany, nearby Cicero for Austria and Ui's ill-fated henchman Roma for Hitler's long standing friend Ernst Röhm. He was the leader of the Nazis' "stormtroopers," who—to appease nervous capitalists—Hitler ordered to be murdered in the infamous "Night of the Long Knives" in 1934.

The fall of the city of Chicago into the hands of Ui and his gang of thugs—with the connivance of the greedy and cynical local greengrocers who represent the German capitalist class—is rendered with a bleak, Vaudevillian comedy.

Designer Georgia Lowe's garish costumes and stark, yet functional sets serve Brecht's purpose well—effectively alienating and defamiliarising the audience from events and figures that they might be familiar with.

On a platform above the action, the acclaimed rock group Placebo play the superb musical score they have created for the production.

Generating an alarming sense of chaos and a frightening atmosphere of foreboding, the music is put—with a very Brechtian sense of purpose—at the service of the play.

Indeed, it is the character of this production that all of its moving parts interconnect and support the overall aesthetic and political drive of Brecht's drama.

Dubious

The cast is universally impressive. Christopher Godwin as Dogsborough is a hapless and culpable elder statesman of Chicago, who represents Hitler's enabler president Paul von Hindenburg. Mawaan Rizwan is the dubious friend of the audience, The Barker. He exudes a real understanding of and commitment to the play.

The effect of such a profound and resonating production of this great drama in 2026 is, as it should be, to frighten and enrage the theatregoer.

I, for one, have no embarrassment in saying that I left the theatre deeply emotionally affected by what I had just experienced.

The closing lines, in Stephen Sharkey's translation of Brecht's epilogue, serve as both a sobering warning and an urgent call to arms—

"So—we need to act, not stand and gawk./To resist, and not indulge in endless talk./This bastard almost won the human race!/The World fought back, and put him in his place./But there's no time for bunting and champagne—/The bitch that bore him is in heat again."

EXHIBITION

Celebratory exhibition tracking anti-fascist art

THIS IS a must-see exhibition that displays the work of a group of socially committed artists appalled by the rise of Hitler and the spread of fascism.

The artists formed Artists International just months after Adolph Hitler's 1933 ascent to power.

It championed the "Unity of artists for peace, democracy and cultural development".

The group later changed its name to Artists International Association (AIA).

It went on to attract more than

1,000 artists to contribute works to both its permanent and travelling exhibitions.

The Towner Gallery exhibition displays a wonderful selection of explicitly anti-Nazi works by young, socialist artists.

Much of the work was influenced by the explosion in artistic forms and techniques that grew out of the Russian Revolution.

James Fitton, for instance, was a working class artist from Oldham, Manchester. He went on to produce



A mural by Cliff Rowe

cartoons and posters. Illustrations and lithographs of working class life by Margaret Fitton, his wife, are also shown.

James also formed a "triple alliance" with fellow artists James Holland and the great cartoonist James Boswell. Their

work, much of it from a collective diary that ridiculed the absurdities of 1930s Britain, is on display.

The artists' commitment to socialism and hatred of capitalism is evident in much of the work.

The exhibition also includes great pieces by Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth, Paul Nash, Laura Knight, Lucien Pissarro and Eric Ravilious.

Many of them were moved by the call to back the republicans' battle in the Spanish Civil

War and the events leading to the Second World War.

Works made during that war, and the post-war period, are on display.

They include an array of fine sculptures and a fabulous wall of drawings.

The AIA's association with the Festival of Britain, whose 75th anniversary has just been celebrated, is also on show.

Alan Gibson

Comrades in Art, Towner Gallery, Eastbourne, BN21 4JJ, open till 18 October

ANTI-RACISM

Wigan fights Reform UK

ANTI-RACISTS PROTESTED against Reform UK councillors taking up their seats on Wigan Council, north west England, last week.

The protest was part of a bigger Stand Up To Racism (SUTR) campaign against Nigel Farage's far right party in the Makerfield by-election on 18 June.

Danielle, a Unison union rep and social worker, said it was crucial to get involved in the fight back against Reform UK.

"As social workers, we're extremely concerned with what Reform UK would do if they won control over a council or Westminster.

"Reform UK are our enemies, all of our enemies—they're racists, trying to divide us.

"But they're also the enemies of working class people in places like Wigan and across the country. They've got nothing to offer any of us.

SUTR is coordinating action on a daily basis, making sure that an anti-racist message makes it through to voters.

Moe, a local anti-racist activist, told Socialist Worker, "It's basically 50-50 when you talk to people.

"But, almost always, when you ask someone why they're voting for Farage's party, it's the same answer—immigration.

"That's why it's crucial to expose them for their racism."

■ Nigel Farage had high hopes for Croydon in south London, but he's been pushed backed by anti-racists in the borough.

Reform UK won two seats on Croydon Council in local elections last month.

And while that's two too many, they were met with opposition last week as they walked in to take their seats.

Activists in SUTR called the protest and it was backed by the GMB, NEU and UCU unions, workers from Croydon College, as well as campaigners from Croydon Climate Action.

'We'll keep our city Nazi free'

ANTI-RACISTS IN Oxford have scored a win against Nazi Tommy Robinson—for now.

He was scheduled to appear at a "debate", hosted by the Oxford Union on Thursday, about "whether the West is right to be suspicious of Islam".

The event has been postponed until 17 June due to pressure.

Stand Up To Racism (SUTR), which was planning to protest this week, has made clear it will oppose Robinson if he turns up in Oxford on 17 June.

Ian McKendrick from Oxford SUTR said, "We blocked Robinson when he brought 300 violent, racist thugs from the English Defence League on a hate march against Muslims in 2015.

"We'll block him again, if the Union invites him back," he added.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

North London parents fight to save Islington nursery

PARADISE PARK Children's Centre, in Islington has been providing services for children in the north London borough for 50 years.

But a Labour-run council wants to shut it.

Bosses at the Islington Play Association, which runs the nursery on behalf of the council, issued workers with redundancy notices last week.

Just a few days later, Islington council confirmed that the closure date would

be 22 July. The parents and workers immediately set up a campaign.

Parents, carers, workers and others rallied together for a picnic protest outside Islington Town Hall on Wednesday of last week.

Please send messages of solidarity.

Jan Nielsen

● Sign the petition and send messages of support to megaphone.org.uk/petitions/save-paradise-park-nursery-and-protect-jobs

PARENTS AND workers rally in Islington, north London

SCIENCE

Cancer researchers strike against low pay

by CAMILLA ROYLE

WORKERS AT the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) in London do world leading research. But they are struggling to live on their wages.

The Unite union members are set to begin nine days of strikes this week.

Unite rep Teige told Socialist Worker that pay has been eroded since 2019.

That is when bosses removed the existing salary increment scales, meaning there was no longer any pay progression for workers.

He said, "Everyone's pay has fallen really rapidly.

"Workers are furious that

they are not valued and respected.

"People are choosing between heating or eating.

"Some told us they are working a second job."

Yet with hundreds of millions in cash reserves, ICR can afford to pay its workers better.

Pay has fallen by 16 percent compared to the RPI measure of inflation in just six years.

Restoration

So the workers started a campaign for pay restoration.

Teige said the demand was "popular and has grown the union branch".

He explained that, as well as cutting pay, bosses had refused to offer the USS

pension scheme to some workers.

They also made changes to the canteen facilities.

"There are hundreds of workers there who don't have access to proper, healthy hot meals they used to get," said Teige.

The Unite members at ICR are set to strike on Wednesday and Thursday, Tuesday to Thursday the following week and then Monday to Thursday the week after.

They are planning picket lines at all three sites.

These are on Fulham Road and Old Brompton Road in west London and at the Royal Marsden Hospital at Sutton in south London.

Trade unionists in London should join the picket lines.

MANUFACTURING

Action takes off in Bristol

AROUND 900 workers at the GKN airplane manufacturer in Filton, near Bristol, struck last week against a paltry 3.3 percent pay offer.

Unite union members are demanding a pay rise of more than 5 percent.

Picket lines around the various entrances to the site were large with up to 200 joining at times.

Workers on the picket line explained that the pay deals are negotiated site by site—and that the other sites should join the fight.

The vote to strike was 90 percent on a 75 percent turnout.

Further rounds of strikes are planned.

This dispute is important

in the city and across the industry.

It offers a chance to land a blow on one of the big corporations.

Workers make wing parts for civilian and military aircraft, such as the F-35 jet.

Unite union leader Sharon Graham, who visited the picket line, has previously called for higher arms spending.

But more arms spending makes us all less safe.

Defence industry workers have skills that could be used to meet socially useful production.

Support the strikes—and demand the defence industry is repurposed.

Huw Williams

SCOTLAND

SCHOOL WORKERS in Glasgow are demanding the Scottish government provides more staff and training.

Some 120 workers, members of Glasgow City Unison union branch, protested at the City

Chambers. Supporters from other Unison branches and the EIS teacher's union joined the rally.

The rally ended with a call to take the workers' demands to the Scottish government.

AMEEN HADI CAMPAIGN

Support grows for campaign to defend trade unionist Ameen Hadi

by JUDE MCKECHNIE

THE CAMPAIGN to defend victimised trade unionist Ameen Hadi has vowed to "keep up momentum" after a successful meeting of supporters and a lobby of council bosses last week.

They are demanding that leading trade unionist and lifelong anti-racist activist Ameen be reinstated.

He was put under investigation by his employer, Salford council, following a smear campaign by the far right spearheaded by Nazi Tommy Robinson.

Ameen told Socialist Worker, "The campaign has received lots of support.

"But we have to keep up momentum and dig a lot deeper.



Activists lobby Salford council

"The campaign is drafting a letter to people in trade unions to try and get more branches to pass the motion."

He added, "Reform UK is taking more and more councils.

"In Salford they gained 14 councillors.

"This means it could shift even further to the right.

"So, we really need to try

and win this, and win this quickly. And to do that we need to build the biggest campaign possible."

The Defend Ameen Hadi and Salford City Unison against the far right campaign organised an online meeting last week that showed the breadth of support.

Over 190 activists from around the country attended, showing their

solidarity with Ameen. Speakers included trade unionists, councillors and MPs Kim Johnson and John McDonnell.

The following day around 50 campaigners lobbied Salford council, in Greater Manchester, on the first full meeting of the newly elected councillors.

Activists should support Ameen by getting the solidarity motion passed in their branch and signing the petition.

At the lobby trade unionist Steve North said, "When complaints, organised by the likes of Tommy Robinson are directed against people like Ameen, they need to pick a side.

"If the far right gets away with this, they will feel emboldened and come

back. They'll come back for people in my union branch.

"People who are standing here this morning—you'll be next on the target list."

Vital

Ameen's is a vital case. If his campaign for reinstatement wins it will send a message that when activists are targeted by the far right that the trade union movement will stand with them.

Unison's national delegate conference is taking place later this month in Brighton.

Ameen will be speaking alongside Zack Polanski at the Stand Up To Racism (SUTR) fringe meeting on 17 June.

An injury to one is an injury to all—build solidarity.

FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION

UCU union fight to save an education sector in dire crisis

by CAMILLAROYLE

HIGHER EDUCATION is at crisis point and UCU union members are fighting crucial battles in response.

At Goldsmiths, in London, workers are set to begin indefinite strikes from next Monday.

At the University of Nottingham, UCU members started two months of strikes this week after bosses said nearly 2,700 of them face redundancy.

There are also strikes this week at London Metropolitan University and Sheffield Hallam.

Yet, at the UCU union's annual congress last week, delegates had to battle to get their union leaders to back nationwide action this autumn.

Higher education delegates voted for a "coordinated national campaign" across the sector to "defend jobs, pay and pensions".

And they agreed to move urgently towards a ballot to take up the fight over job losses.

University bosses are pushing through cuts that will end careers, slash courses and transform education

UCU UNION'S annual congress

beyond recognition. In some places, bosses are trying to back away from their legal responsibilities to let workers join the TPS pension scheme.

Branch president Lopa Leach told Socialist Worker that workers at Nottingham are ready for action.

"They are angry. If management don't stop, they will see our strength," she said.

Nottingham delegate Alan Barker told conference he was "extremely surprised" by the lack of a nationwide strategy

for the union. He said that job cuts are "not just an existential threat to our universities but to us as a union".

Christina Paine is from London Metropolitan University, where they are striking against planned cuts to 120 jobs.

Precipice

She told Socialist Worker, "We have got university after university going into a new fight. And it feels like we are falling over a precipice."

"We can't fight this branch

by branch. The only way to respond is by unified action.

"We should go as soon as we can to a national ballot."

Delegates resolved to start a ballot for action with the demand that bosses rule out compulsory redundancies.

As university managements are unlikely to rule this out, this strategy would enable a fight against job cuts nationwide that would allow for action in the autumn.

But some of the union's leaders are pulling back from calling for coordinated strikes.

FURTHER EDUCATION

DELEGATES FROM further education at UCU union's annual congress backed a ballot for action across colleges in England over pay and conditions.

They voted to start an aggregated ballot if negotiations fail. This means all colleges could walk out together rather than separately.

Sean Vernell from Capital City College Group told Socialist Worker, "There is a clear majority who want to move on from local battles".

He argued for a national ballot across England at the beginning of autumn with the aim of taking action in the autumn term.

Workers face spiralling workloads that impact their ability to teach. There is an exodus of people leaving the sector.

Pay rises negotiated by each college separately often fall below inflation and workers will be squeezed as fuel and heating costs rise.

Adult education has seen its funding slashed by up to 6 percent nationwide.

This year some delegates also unsuccessfully proposed to delay discussing a national dispute until 2027.

Many also fear ideological attacks on the sector as Reform UK take control of more councils—such as cuts to English as a second language courses.

Delegates also agreed to combat the growing use of insecure contracts. They also called for fully inclusive, accessible and gender neutral toilets in colleges.

Conference debated politics in the workplace

DELEGATES AT this year's UCU union annual congress discussed how to take the fight against Reform UK and the far right into their workplaces.

Stand Up To Racism's fringe meeting attracted 120 people. And 20 branches agreed to back a national meeting of UCU activists later this month to oppose the far right.

Marian Mayer from the union's national executive committee told Socialist Worker, "Reform UK is actively recruiting trade union members. It is doing it to burnish its working class credentials."

"It should be one of the groups the union proscribes," she said.

There was a strong vote for a motion calling for co-ordination with students and other unions on anti-racist and anti-fascist initiatives.

Conference delegates also overwhelmingly opposed the Equality

and Human Rights Commission's most recent guidance on gendered facilities that will exclude trans+ people.

They also resolved to campaign for improved benefits for disabled people.

There was a chaotic start to congress on Friday.

UCU members tried to raise a motion to support the union's employees who are members of the Unite union and are in dispute with their employer.

Their motion called on the senior management of UCU to engage meaningfully in talks with the workers.

But delaying tactics by the union's senior management meant that several motions weren't discussed.

These included a resolution to defend students and workers against Zionist harassment on campus. An amendment to oppose conscription was passed.

EXAM BOARDS



Picketing in Manchester

WORKERS AT Britain's largest exam board, AQA, are striking to win pay restoration.

Members of the Unison union AQA branch are set to strike again this Friday and next Monday.

These dates will mark their third round of strikes since they first walked out.

The workers are battling against a new pay structure that has led to mass inequality and wage suppression.

Workers have taken indefinite action short of a strike since 12 May. They have not undertaken weekend work or overtime or been on call.

A rally is set to take place in Manchester on Monday.

AQA workers ask for solidarity.

Trade union branches should send messages to support to UnisonDevasSt@aqa.org.uk

SCHOOLS

Education workers are determined to fight job cuts across the country

NEU UNION members at the Woodfield School in Brent, west London, were set to strike Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday this week, as their employer threatens fire and rehire.

But the workers are fighting back.

This action is the latest escalation in a long running dispute.

The teachers and support workers first walked out in December 2025 over Compass Learning Partnership's plan to cut the hours of Lead Learning Assistants.

And they have already announced a further 20 dates. Strikes are set to continue on 8, 11-12, 16-18, 22, 25-26 and 29 June. And 2-3, 6-9, 13-14 and 16-17 July.

Woodfield School is a secondary school that teaches children with special educational needs and disabilities (Send).

But the trust wanted to

cut these workers' hours, from 36 to 32.5 hours meaning a pay cut of up to £4,000.

So workers walked out on strike. And not just the support workers, but the teachers as well. They shut the school down with 13 days of action.

The workers also had to fight back against the trust's attempt to break the strike and re-open the school by bringing in scab labour. This was stopped after lobbying from the NEU.

The trust has almost £4 million in the bank. It could easily afford to pay the workers what they're asking for.

Yet they've pressed ahead with plans to stuff their pockets at the workers' expense. The trust is already advertising positions.

Lucy Cox, joint branch secretary of Brent NEU, said, "We know that if this trust get away with this, others will try this everywhere."

MEMBERS OF the NEU education union at Aylesford School, Warwick, were set to start six days of strikes against mass redundancies on Thursday.

NEU union members are determined to fight against the bosses' planned restructure.

Simon O'Hara, assistant branch secretary of Warwickshire NEU said, "Our members are striking to save the future of Aylesford. This situation is a direct result of the employer's actions."

"We cannot accept the managed decline of Aylesford and mass redundancies," he said.

"Our members remain united that these cuts will damage Aylesford's ability to provide a broad, balanced rich curriculum for students."

The workers are set to strike on 9-11 and 16-19 June.

ISRAEL'S MURDER SPREE IN LEBANON

by CAMILLA ROYLE

ISRAELI FORCES are advancing further into Lebanon—and forcing people to flee for their lives.

The terror state has ordered people to leave the entire area south of the Zahrani River.

The Zahrani is further north than the Litani River and some 25 miles from the southern border.

This is Israel's deepest incursion into Lebanon in 26 years.

Israel was set to encircle Nabatieh, a major city associated with the Lebanese resistance, as Socialist Worker went to press on Tuesday.

The day before, Israeli prime minister Binyamin Netanyahu ordered forces to bomb the southern suburbs of the capital, Beirut.

And on Sunday Israeli forces crossed the Litani and captured the clifftop Beaufort Castle.

It's a symbolic victory as Israel last captured the castle in 1982 in a battle against the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Ghassan, a socialist currently in Beirut, told Socialist Worker that Israel is indiscriminately bombing and killing as it advances in the face of resistance.

Triple

He said, "Right now Israel is targeting rescuers. They are using double tap and triple tap attacks where they target rescuers and ambulances as they arrive.

"It's indiscriminate killing, there is no military advantage to this at all, except murder."

More than 1.2 million people have been displaced within Lebanon—a fifth of the population.

As the state has abandoned them, they are reliant on volunteers and mutual aid.

Ghassan said that people are constantly on the move. Many of the displaced were stranded in Tyre in the south.

They are now leaving as it is again bombarded with



ISRAEL HAS been destroying Lebanon despite a 'ceasefire'

PICTURE: GUY SMALLMAN

airstrikes and civilians are ordered by Israel to evacuate.

The effects of the war go beyond the immediate destruction and violence.

Ghassan said, "There is also a big campaign to save culture and heritage.

"Many libraries and cultural centres have been destroyed."

Lebanese prime minister



Ghassan, a Lebanese socialist in the capital Beirut, speaks out

Nawaf Salam accused Israel of carrying out a "scorched-earth policy and collective punishment".

Israel says it is only at war with the Hezbollah resistance movement, but the truth is that it wants to dominate the country.

And the Lebanese state is continuing with business as usual.

Ghassan said, "The ministers are neglecting things that need to be done and are ignoring people from the south completely.

"The minister of education decided to go ahead with the national exams in schools even though 30 percent of students have lost their schools."

And the state continues to pursue US-backed negotiations with Israel—even though Israel fails to recognise the

conventional meaning of the term "ceasefire".

Academic Imad Salamey works at the Lebanese American University.

He says Israel's understanding of a ceasefire means it can continue its "destruction of towns and cities in southern Lebanon" and target Hezbollah operatives "anywhere in the country".

As the state negotiates with Israel it has also sought to disarm Hezbollah, a Shia Muslim organisation.

Ghassan explained that, "There is a very dangerous atmosphere of sectarianism and the state is completely complicit in it.

"The state is trying to mobilise the Christians and Sunni Muslims.

"The private media is also taking the opportunity to cause strife among civilians.

This could lead to clashes," he added.

Lebanese people took to the streets in April to oppose the Israel-Lebanon talks.

The protests involved a mix of people including Hezbollah supporters and the left. Many brought Palestinian flags.

The street movement was suppressed by the state, but also by the leadership of Hezbollah itself, under pressure from Arab states including Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Yet protests that unite Lebanese people along class lines against Israel and against their own state can offer an alternative to sectarian strife.

■ OVER 1,700 people from Britain and internationally have bought tickets to an international conference against war in London on Saturday 20 June.

The Stop The War (STW) coalition, which is organising it, says, "We are hurtling towards more wars and greater global instability at an alarming rate.

"Both must be resisted as a matter of urgency."

John Rees is a STW national officer and one of the organisers of the conference. He said, "The wolf is at the door. Donald Trump is setting fires he has no intention and no capacity to extinguish.

"European political leaders have begun a continent-wide rearmament programme on a scale not seen since World War Two.

"They're making arms companies rich and the rest of us poor.

"Every day another politician or army chief tells us we have to accept austerity and prepare for war.

"The International Anti-War conference in London on 20 June is the response from trade unionists and anti-war activists.

"It could not come at a more vital time.

"Together we will demand welfare, not warfare, wages, not weapons."

International conference against war



Sat 20 June
Central Hall
Westminster
London

stopwar.org.uk