What should be done when the Tories are in historic crisis?

When a maverick, right-wing populist is elected prime minister by a tiny number of aging ‘Little Englanders’? Eton-educated Tory toff Boris Johnson, sitting atop a crisis-ridden, divided Tory party, is obviously preparing for a general election. There are populist promises such as money for adult social care and a declaration on paying the London living wage, at the same time as proposals for tax cuts for the big corporations. The Tories are divided like never before. To try to stop Johnson crashing the UK out of the EU on 31 October with no deal, several remainer Tory MPs say they are prepared to vote against him in a vote of no confidence. Big business, most of which wants to stay in the EU in order to maximise profit-making and exploitation with as few barriers as possible, has no party reliably representing its interests.

What should be done? The workers’ movement should seize the moment and fight like the blazes for a Corbyn-led Labour government with socialist policies! Drive out these rotten representatives of the rich and fight for a government in the interests of working-class people.

> For more see editorial on pages 2 and 3

Fight for socialist policies for the 99% not the 0.1%
General election looms…

CAPITALISTS IN CHAOS: FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM

WHAT WE THINK

D

epite the historic crisis for British capitalism

enshrouded by a looming

economic downturn, a Tory government has runbled

together, stymied by a left-wing opposition.
Tory bribes don’t hide destruction of NHS

In 2010 every Tory candidate in our county, Gloucestershire, received a donation from a hedge fund manager with interests in private healthcare, yet at the same time there was a Conservative-led election campaign pledging full support to the NHS.

Local Tory MP Mark Harper, who fought elections for the community hospital at Cheltenham, where we have seen the closure of Cheltenham A&E, was just one example. Night-time closures of Cheltenham A&E have already placed huge pressures on Gloucestershire Royal Hospital as well as on the ambulance service. We’ve also seen the closure of minor injury units. Of days, £1.8 billion to upgrade 20 hospitals sounds impressive but the Nuffield Trust think tank has said that in reality £3.3 billion would be needed for this.

We would take space designed to improve views, in reality to the loss of the NHS, our will to reduce protected spaces to public ownership.

The story of Cheltenham A&E is just one example. Night-time closures of Cheltenham A&E has already placed huge pressures on Gloucestershire Royal Hospital as well as on the ambulance service. We’ve also seen the closure of minor injury units. Of days, £1.8 billion to upgrade 20 hospitals sounds impressive but the Nuffield Trust think tank has said that in reality £3.3 billion would be needed for this.

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In the last few years there have been closures of hundreds of units in towns across Gloucestershire. The story is the same: Tory and Lib Dem MPs don’t hide destruction of NHS facilities – particularly green spaces where people can relax and children can play. Whatever you go you see children trying to play games on tiny stretches of land or in corridors.

With storm clouds gathering over capitalism...

With storm clouds gathering over capitalism...

Leeds estate residents push back private ‘mega-block’ development

Leeds Socialist Party members have been campaigning alongside the Little London Tenants and Residents Association (TLTRA) against a ‘mega-block’ proposed for Little London, which is still unaffordable for most. Any-thing but getting the development knocked back at a Leeds City Council planning meeting.

What are the proposals and why do local residents oppose them? Steve: The proposals were for a 12-storey private apartment block on council land at the heart of our town, where the council and many of our friends and relations are living in tremendous overcrowded conditions.

But the flats aren’t for us – only 12.5% are deemed ‘affordable’. Anyway, ‘affordable’ actually means 60% of the city council income one which is still unaffordable for most people living around here.

Apart from this, Little London is a densely populated area with low vacancy rates. Furthermore, the development has now paid off! At the panel meeting.

Visit www.leedsparty.org.uk or call 020 8988 8777 or visit socialism2019.net to find out more about joining us today.

Join the fightback.

After the fire: fight for facilities for all

Not quite three weeks after the dev-astating fire at Walthamstow’s shopping mall Save Our Square (SOS) campaigners were on Saturday 10 August in the lime tree avenue where the fire happened – and while we await happenings we know we are not yet home!

We joined in their “conversation” about the loss of the trees – which was welcome news. Rebellion campaigners were also on the trees and table tennis. Or a putting green. We have received suggestions for the campaigning work is that it has

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Join the fightback.
Hull: Carro Food meat processors strike against poverty pay

A strike at the meat processor has been avoided after the company offered a pay increase for workers.

The company, Carro Food, is a subsidiary of Premier Foods, which has announced plans to close its plant in Hull.

The strike was called by the GMB union, with members voting in favour of a coordinated strike action.

The union had threatened to strike from 8am on Tuesday morning, but the company agreed to a 2% pay increase.

GMB national regional organiser Paul Francis said: “This is a victory for all workers at Carro Food and an example of what can be achieved through collective action.”

Carro Food has a plant in Hull, with around 200 workers employed there.

The union said the offer was “not good enough” and called for a 4% increase.

The company said it had made an “unprecedented” offer, but the union rejected it.

The strike was supported by the CWU and the T&G unions.

The company said it was “disappointed” by the decision to strike.

The union said it would be “determined” to fight for a “fair” settlement.

GMB local organiser Paul Francis said: “We have not given up and we will continue to fight for a fair settlement for our members.”

The strike was due to begin at 8am on Tuesday morning, but the company agreed to make the offer out of court.

The union said it was “delighted” with the outcome and would continue to negotiate.

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The capital, establishment described at the time as a temporary autonomous zone, was under occupation. The troops would patrol the streets, acting as a de facto police force.

Establishment commentators might warn that the half-century by setting their hands over the impossible situation facing the army to bring about two ‘warring tribes’ - the Catholic pro-British unionist movement and the Protestant Orange Order - to resources of the Northern Ireland Labour Party, featured from the extreme shortage of working class also faced widespread Catholics suffered from institutional misrule, but also the conservative Socialists recognised that while revolutionary movements - the minority unionists and Catholics in the new Northern Ireland state found themselves second-class citizens, they also experienced discrimination in jobs and housing.

Following the bloody partition of Ireland for Irish independence in the early 1920s - carried out primarily to stretch the police.

In a 4 July 1969 intelligence memo, Albeit disparaging, the RUC officer said, containing a vociferous minority of militant workers, some trade unionists, and a few young, the then name for Comintern Trotskyites.

Different groups in Ireland and Britain - played a significant role in the UK peace movement. The left and Trotskyists, the then name for Comintern Trotskyites.

The right-wing trade union and small business grouping of Trotskyites or Revolutionary Socialists led a march in support of the British army in 1974, BBC World Service.

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The army would not “stand idly by.” Although the IRA hardly existed at the time, few believed the UK could be the ‘backstop’ or an effective barrier to the civil war.

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Following the bloody partition of Ireland for Irish independence in the early 1920s - carried out primarily to stretch the police.
Far right seen off at Oxford Circus - but trade union lead needed

Part of this has to be respond- ing to the solidarity of a trade union, showing our solidarity with the far right - and from police if necessary.

We could then rely on the collec tive strength of our own working class organisations, instead of unskilled workers against the police or the unaccountable actions of an extremist leader.

This might be an issue to political organisations against the far right, and it was a matter of concern for the far right, and the issue should be a matter of concern for the far right, and, this was a real blow to their confidence.

But this, the fight against rac ism has to include the fight against the conditions that allow racism to flourish. We fight for jobs, homes, and healthcare, and this has to be part of the struggle against the far right.

Capitalism will attempt to divide workers against the housing and the house, the government, and the police. Workers will fight for a society where workers collectively own and democratically control the means of production, and not just workers, but share with the people and the community should control and manage services for all.

The programme surveyed 1,400, 99%, and that promising anti-depression medication has increased because for the lack of availability of antidepressants, talking therapies. 38% and they prescribed anti-depressions to people. 62% of people under-19s to child and adolescent mental health services.

A head teacher recognised that parents, trained in the mental health of children, and young people.

One in eight people aged 5-19 with a warm response.

Took their level of need is not deemed to be in their own carers. Of children under-19 assessed for a national day of action in July, Sanah Ahsan focussed on the crisis facing young people in the UK.

We could then rely on the collective strength of our own working class organisations, and not just workers, but people today are ended, and instead of profit making, it will rely on the collective will and take control over their own lives.

One planning application was turned down because although there was enough room on the plot for a car park, there had been 50 residents stating that there was not enough space with houses or flats.

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Worcester Socialist Party

Pete McNally

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Worcester Fire Authority beg to differ, they seem determined to cut fire services.

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The Socialist Party supports trade unionism in the campaign against the far right. This has to be a national day of action in July, Sanah Ahsan focussed on the crisis facing young people in the UK.

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When a fearful ruling class tried to crush working-class political aspirations

The Peterloo Massacre was a political demonstration by workers in Manchester, England, on 16 August 1819. The authorities responded with mass arrests and violence, resulting in the deaths of at least 18 people and hundreds of injuries. The event is seen as a turning point in the English working-class struggle for democracy.

The authorities were massively and unprepared for its brute effect.

Lessons

- Workers should always be aware of the dangers of working-class movements.
- The authorities should never underestimate the workers' determination.
- The ruling class must always be prepared for the worst.

The Peterloo Massacre bicentenary

Sunday 10 August

Manchester Central Convention Hall, 501 Deansgate, M3 2PL

March off at 12noon.

March for Democracy

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The Prince Regent as portrayed in Peterloo

Eric Hobsbawm - £12
AI Morton - £17
EP Thompson - £25
Socialist Party pamphlet - £2

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Kashmir crisis: Stop the attack on democratic rights

The scrapping of Jammu and Kashmir’s special status and imposing brutal direct rule by New Delhi’s Modi government, India has once again dislocated the struggle for democracy and assertiveness in Kashmir. There is a general awareness among the people of Kashmiris that they are in the grips of imperialism, imperialist trends, and imperialism. The situation is dangerous and alarming. The same is also true of the region of Jammu and Kashmir which is already dislocated by the demands for independence.

The Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, along with his home minister Amit Shah, announced from the floor that their government has decided to abrogate Article 370 and 35A, which were given to Kashmiris by Indian Union governments. These articles gave ‘special status’ to the region of Jammu and Kashmir.

The immediate reinstatement of Article 370 was demanded by the working class and the people of Kashmiris during last year’s general elections. The socialist movement, which has won millions of votes and seats in the Indian National Congress and Janata Party regime in different parts of India, has raised the demand for the reinstatement of Article 370. The Kempe Gowd’s Shiv Sena, the Shiv Sena, is also supporting the reinstatement of Article 370.

The immediate reinstatement of Article 370 and the demand for self-determination for the people in Kashmir is supported by the socialist movement, which has won millions of votes and seats in the Indian National Congress and Janata Party regime in different parts of India. The Kempe Gowd’s Shiv Sena, the Shiv Sena, is also supporting the reinstatement of Article 370.

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Ryan Aldred
Usdaw shop workers’ union branch secretary (personal capacity)

The needs of the business is a phrase most retail staff will be familiar with. Does it mean the need to have a happy, healthy workforce? Does it mean the need to provide decent wages and sustainable contracts? Does it mean the need to ensure workers can enjoy a sensible work/life balance? Not for a second!

Anybody in retail who hears these foreboding words knows that change is coming and it’s not going to be pretty. The needs of the business mean cutbacks, worsening of conditions and the threat of redundancy - all to satisfy the need of the bosses to keep the profits rolling in as we’re turfed out onto the street.

The British Retail Consortium reports 72,000 jobs lost in the sector in the last year alone. But this only paints a partial picture when factoring in the diminishing hours of those on zero and low-hour contracts. Is it any wonder then that shop workers have had enough?

Job losses
Tesco announced 9,000 job cuts as recently as January but the bloodletting continues. The axe is now wielded for another 4,500 jobs with more ‘flexibility’ being demanded of the workers who survive the chop.

Similarly, Asda is using the threat of dismissal to sign its staff up to ‘contract 6’, scrapping time off on bank holidays and slashing night shift rates, all while demanding workers be completely flexible. We are expected to be completely flexible at the expense of our lives and families for jobs that may not exist in a year or two!

It is for this reason that myself and many other workers will be joining the National Shop Stewards Network (NSSN) lobby of the Trade Union Congress (TUC) in Brighton on 8 September. We are sick and tired of the needs of the business when it is these same businesses that disregard the needs of the workers.

Coordinated strikes
We need coordinated strike action to make it clear to bosses that poverty wages, low hours and threats of dismissal will not be tolerated. We need the TUC to take up the NSSN’s call for mass action to force a general election to get rid of the Tories, the discredited party of Boris and the bosses.

My family and I, like so many countless others, can no longer afford the needs of the business. Already we have seen Sainsbury’s workers take strike action over changes to sick pay, and now Wilko workers look poised to follow as the bosses feel that weekends for workers are a luxury that can no longer be afforded.

With the misery that austerity has inflicted, the TUC needs to bring together the growing mood for localised strike action and push for a more generalised struggle to end austerity and bring down this government.

And the unions must fight to raise the minimum wage to £10 an hour, to scrap zero and low-hour contracts and fight for a government that puts the needs of the millions ahead of the greed of a few billion-dollar shareholders.