The NHS, our vital public health service, is under relentless attack. The latest spending cuts in England - £22 billion under the Tory government’s misnamed ‘sustainability and transformation plans’ (STPs) - will mean further A&E and ward closures, fewer GPs and unfilled staff posts.

These cuts are despite regular reports of critically ill patients dying because ambulances are having to go longer distances due to A&E closures.

And even when such patients are admitted to hospitals they can often spend hours waiting on a trolley in a corridor because of bed shortages and a lack of staff.

Thousands of hospital beds have been axed over recent years to save costs. Added to this shortage is the lack of social care places in the community, preventing many elderly patients being discharged - again, because of billions of pounds cut by successive governments.

Yet multi-millionaire health secretary Jeremy Hunt continues to push for cuts and to sign off privatisation schemes that fill the cash tills of private corporations at the expense of draining the NHS budget.

Moreover, Chancellor Philip Hammond’s single-minded pursuit of austerity cuts will worsen the social care crisis in local authorities - unless it’s Tory-run Surrey council, where Hammond’s constituency is located, which got a sweetheart deal.

But health workers and communities have had enough and are fighting back. Proof of this was shown on 4 March in London when at least 100,000 NHS workers, trade unionists, health campaigners and ordinary members of the public demonstrated against cuts and privatisation.

This groundswell of opposition must be built on. The trade union tops must be shaken out of their inaction and Jeremy Corbyn must fulfil his call to defend the NHS ‘with all our might’. Every Labour council must refuse to accept the STPs. Every threat to close or downgrade an NHS hospital must be resisted by a community campaign (see page 3) linked to action by health workers. As the junior doctors’ dispute showed, the government will only sit up and listen when confronted by strikes.

And if a health trust closes a hospital it should be occupied by health workers and the public until it’s reopened.

Until the cuts are restored and privatisation scrapped, there will be no social peace for Theresa May’s government.
2,000 workers on three rail networks strike against driver-only operated trains

Over 2,000 workers across three rail networks took strike action on 13 March against driver-only operated (DOO) trains. The long-running dispute against the removal of guards on Southern Rail has spread to Northern Rail and Merseyrail.

Martin Zee, a Merseyrail train guard, is currently in court on trumped up charges facing a possible prison sentence, provoking the action there. Merseyrail itself intends to switch to DOO, as does Northern Rail.

Socialist Party members visited picket lines at Victoria station in London (Southern Rail), Liverpool and across the Northern Rail network.

The Northern Rail strike at Newcastle station was strong and in excellent spirits, reports South Tyne and Wear Socialist Party member Mick Joyce, with 25 pickets there.

“Absolutely solid”

There was much public support from passers-by and a visit from television cameras. RMT Newcastle steward Mick Robinson said the strike was “absolutely solid” in the North East with no evidence of sabotaging. Mick went on to add that the strike was “about placing the safety of the public before profit”.

The police had earlier “visited the line in an effort to apply the new legislation following the Tories’ (anti) trade union bill”, however the strike committee was well prepared as all steps had been taken.

“Fight back”

One striker said: “If we don’t fight back the company will get rid of hundreds of guards and walk all over the remaining employees! We say no to DOO!”

In Leeds about 25 pickets covered the two entrances at Leeds Station, handing out thousands of leaflets to passengers, explaining why, on safety grounds, they had taken strike action.

Many members of the public stopped to offer support. Two national TV channels were there and union officials took the opportunity to explain how dangerous DOO trains are without the guards, who are trained in 35 different areas of safety competency.

Socialist Party member Kevin Pattison offered support from the National Shop Stewards Network and took the opportunity to address Leeds Trade Union Council.

Unison HE conference:

Delegates give the bureaucracy a lesson in democracy

Socialist Party delegates

Unison delegates to the higher education conference on 2 March reminded the service group executive (SGE) who’s in charge by defeating them on a number of questions.

The overwhelming mood of conference was one of defiance, with many still visibly angry about the leadership overturning a 55% vote for strike action in the summer of 2016, using low turnout as an excuse to derail any chance of a fightback.

This decision not only meant that members were forced to accept a further derisory (1.1%) pay rise but demoralised activists who had confidently campaigned to win the vote for action.

One delegate explained that he was the only person from his branch at the conference as others had given up, but that he’d be back next year to continue fighting.

Delegates lined up to condemn the lack of a fighting strategy and demand more accountability, passing a motion which committed the SGE to publish voting information on all important decisions.

One motion calling for an independent inquiry into the lack of effective action over pay was opposed by the SGE, but by the time it was heard they couldn’t find anyone to speak against it! It was passed with a handful of votes against.

Socialist Party delegates argued for a strategy to win a meaningful victory on pay in 2017 and were instrumental in conference passing a motion committing the SGE to support the £10 an hour minimum wage demand.

Unison members who want a fightback against privatisation, outsourcing and casualisation of higher education services should support and campaign for Unison Action candidates Kath Owen and Sandy Nicoll.

Charlie Taylor

Derby Socialist Party

Teaching assistants and school support staff in Derby are now on an all-out strike against massive pay cuts imposed by the Labour-led city council.

In a recent survey 74% of Derby people said they supported the action by these workers.

A council by-election held on 9 March reflected the anger towards the council. In a former Labour stronghold that was lost to UKIP in a previous council election, the Tories came out victorious this time!

Despite Labour putting enormous resources into this election - bringing people in from outside areas - they came second to the Tories.

The victorious Tory candidate said, before the result was announced, that he had been told by lifelong Labour voters that they had voted Conservative because they could not “stand the way that teaching assistants had been treated”.

What an indictment of Labour councils carrying out Tory cuts when they have no excuse. Fighting cuts is a choice.

We need councillors who will not only vote against all cuts to jobs, pay, conditions and services but will campaign for the resources to fully fund the needs of local communities.

DERBY TEACHING ASSISTANTS’ ALL-OUT STRIKE AGAINST LABOUR COUNCIL
GLENFIELD HEART UNIT:
“CHILDREN WILL DIE” ANGRY PARENTS TELL NHS ENGLAND

Steve Score
Save Glenfield campaign and Leicester Socialist Party

“Can you imagine how we feel knowing that our precious daughter could have to travel for hours in an emergency situation to get to life saving surgery when she may not have hours? If you go ahead with your proposal children will die, it’s a simple as that. How can that ever be an acceptable outcome?”

This was one of the moving and powerful speeches from parents, families and campaigners at the ‘public consultation’ meeting in Leicester on 9 March over the threatened closure of the East Midlands Congenital Heart Centre at Glenfield Hospital by NHS England (NHSE).

NHSE representatives were baffled for two hours, not just by the emotions of parents, but crucially the dismantling of the logical flaws in their arguments. What was clear was that the main argument for ending surgery was an unscientific, arbitrary target of 125 operations per surgeon a year.

Cuts mean closure

But NHSE choose to call it a ‘standards’ below which surgeons do not get enough experience of a wide range of cases and, unbelievably, are attempting to impose this retrospectively.

One controversial point was that many in the audience believed that cuts in the NHS were behind this, which was vehemently denied by NHSE. The hospital trust chief executive, who is opposing the closure, pointed out that it would cost a lot of money to close Glenfield and then create capacity elsewhere.

The fighting fund chart will be back next week!

TUSC: Socialist Workers Party suspends its participation in England and Wales

Clive Heemskerk
TUSC national election agent

The Socialist Workers Party (SWP) has announced that it is suspending its participation in the Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition (TUSC) in England and Wales.

This follows the debate at the recent TUSC conference which expressed support for standing candidates, on a selective basis, in this May’s council elections (see socialistparty.org.uk/articles/24360).

The resolution calling on the TUSC national steering committee to process candidate applications was agreed by the other two constituent organisations of TUSC - the RMT transport workers’ union and the Socialist Party - and almost all independent TUSC members.

During the conference debate the SWP spokesperson Charlie Kimber made it clear that the SWP would “not be able to take political responsibility for candidates standing” in England and Wales if that was the decision taken. So suspending their membership is not unexpected.

The suspension does not apply to Scotland, however, where Scottish TUSC organises autonomously. The SWP is standing candidates in the council elections there.

It will also decide on the latest applications to be TUSC candidates, guided by the conference decision - not to have ‘candidates everywhere’ but to make sure they are part of a serious campaign against cuts to local public services and will strengthen the battle against the right wing in Labour Party and the unions.

Ruthless cuts

The big majority of Labour’s 7,000 local councillors oppose Jeremy Corbyn and, as the Socialist Worker article says, are “ruthlessly imposing Tory cuts”. How would giving these councillors a free run at the ballot box in England and Wales help "Corbyn-supporting Labour members" in their fight against them?

Even more importantly, how would it convince working class voters disgusted at their local Labour council’s ‘ruthless cuts not to turn to the Liberal Democrats, Greens or Ukip as an alternative to Labour?

The steering committee is meeting on 22 March and will discuss its response to the SWP’s withdrawal. It will also decide on the latest applications to be TUSC candidates, guided by the conference decision - not to have ‘candidates everywhere’ but to make sure they are part of a serious campaign against cuts to local public services and will strengthen the battle against the right wing in Labour Party and the unions.

 bernard roome memorial meeting

Saturday 25 March, 3pm-5pm, Station Suite, Grand Hotel (Opposite Railway Station), Swansea, SA1 1NX

The Grand Hotel is offering a discount to anyone attending this event and wishing to book accommodation. Please ask for details if booking.

The political context in Scotland is clearly different - but qualitatively so? Labour in Wales, for example, is led by the anti-Corbyn Welsh first minister Carwyn Jones, right-wing Blairite councillors dominate local government, and Plaid Cymru is able to pose as a radical alternative. Why does this not mean that TUSC should close candidates in Wales?

Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP

"I am opposed to all Party leaders’ faddish attempts to claim a ‘radical left’ mantle for themselves. I am sure they would be quick to denounce the Smith commission’s proposals for devolution and public ownership of the key utilities. Labour candidates will not be able to do this, whereas TUSC candidates would.

TUSC members will never adopt the play-it-safe and safe-route mentality that is now part of the political landscape here. TUSC is not interested in being a ‘fusion party’ with the Labour Party - or any other party for that matter. Its participation in the SNP will not prevent it from standing candidates in Scotland against the SNP and for a truly socialist Scotland."

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STATE SURVEILLANCE OF UNIONS: PCS ASSISTANT HEAD DEMANDS INQUIRY

Secret government files released under the 30-year rule apparently show that Margaret Thatcher’s government directly meddled in the internal politics of civil servants’ union CPSA, the predecessor of the PCS union.

The state was concerned about the growing influence of the forerunner of the Socialist Party, Militant, in the unions (see ‘John Macreadie elected’). Cabinet papers said “subversives...cannot be tolerated in such jobs” according to one report.

Socialist Party member Chris Baugh, assistant general secretary of the PCS, worked alongside John Macreadie. Chris spoke in a personal capacity to Neil Cafferky for the Socialist.

Neil: The papers show government officials - at the behest of Margaret Thatcher - met with unnamed leaders of the CPSA, when the CPSA was controlled by the right, to discuss the rise of Militant. So why was the left - and particularly Militant - growing in the CPSA in the 1980s?

Chris: Contrary to the media caricature of Whitehall mandarins, in actual fact the civil service is a vast network of (public service) organisations across the whole UK. And CPSA represented a largely young, women, low-paid section of the workforce.

People like myself and many other CPSA members were drawn to the ideas of socialism. In particular Militant, whose track record was to provide the most socialist leadership we had faced with the attacks that took place at work and in the trade union’s democratic decision-making.

The right wing of the CPSA, the leadership, were colluding with the government. But that wasn’t the only underhanded method. There were also bureaucratic methods.

One of the other reasons that Militant’s ideas attracted support from all the best and most active CPSA representatives is that we were those that fought to hold the leadership to account, and to make the union democratic.

It was we that were fighting to extend elections, to ensure that the elected leadership carried out the decisions of conference. And the question of the members having a say and exercising control over officials was a crucial theme in building up support among activists.

And this was prompted by the actions of the leadership who simply presided over the ripping up of a whole series of national agreements, including pay - which, of course, has been used to deploy a classic divide and rule strategy (sectional pay offers), and limit the union’s ability to speak, act and fight back on behalf of its entire membership.

But the other alarming aspect of this is the discussion at a very senior political level involving interference in the operations of a trade union.

In addition to [the latest papers], under the 30-year rule cabinet papers were released in 2014 which revealed that Lord Armstrong, the cabinet secretary, had presented a paper - prompted by MI5 - exposing concerns about the growing influence of supporters of the Militant tendency within the civil service.

And to cut a long story short, it explored how to use their words - they could “quickly purge” supporters of the Militant. This is just further evidence of the massive state surveillance of trade union activities. And I think it would be naive to think, in light of what we know today, that there is not still surveillance of trade union activity.

Which prompts, I think, a perfectly reasonable call for a proper public investigation.

Very much so, particularly in the context of what we know about blacklisting for construction workers. So what kind of action do you think should be taken now, on the heels of these revelations? I think in the light of the Pitchford Inquiry [into undercover policing] that we need to speak to lawyers involved in that; other trade unionists that have been subjected to monitoring and victimisation.

We should have a discussion about how we raise a very public and clear call for a public investigation into the interference and subverting of legitimate areas of trade union activity.

And to expose the extent to which individuals have been targeted because of their support for socialists - in the past, Militant, and we know through Pitchford, the targeting of Socialist Party members as well.

- Press smears, secret meetings with Thatcher - read the full interview at socialistparty.org.uk

The election of John Macreadie as the new general secretary of the union had sent a frisson of fear through the ranks of the right wing throughout the trade unions generally as well as in government circles.

On the most flimsy pretext, the right wing moved to invalidate the results. John Macreadie, nevertheless, declared on national lunch-time TV: “I’m the new general secretary of the CPSA.”

Democracy

The right trotted out the usual accusations of “ballot rigging”, despite the fact that John Macreadie had been elected in probably the fairest election in the history of the CPSA. The right then proceeded to move heaven and earth to have his election blocked. We reported: “Right wing hijacks CPSA;” “The right wing have decided to overturn the democratic wishes of the membership... The members voted for a new leadership, but the right wing have declared no confidence in the membership. They have hijacked the union, putting in the defeated candidate.”

A ferocious campaign by the left then opened up in the unions. However, with the help of the judiciary, the right was frustrated in electing John Macreadie. The courts sanctioned the re-run of the election for the general secretary.

All the steps were then pulled out in support of John Ellis, the right’s candidate.

He won with 42,000 votes to John Macreadie’s 31,000. He was helped into power by the splitting tactics of “Break Left 84”, dominated by the Communist Party, who put up its own candidate, Geoff Lewtas, who received 13,000 votes.

In the House of Commons, a right-wing Tory MP, Peter Brunivelis, and two other Tory MPs welcomed “the victory of John Ellis in the ballot.” There was a tremendous sense of disappointment amongst left activists in the union.

But rather than undermining Militant’s support, it strengthened it for the battles to come. Indeed, John Macreadie was soon elected onto the general council of the TUC, the first ever Militant supporter to hold this position.

- The Rise of Militant by Peter Taaffe, £11.99 from leftbooks.co.uk
- Peter Taaffe’s sequel to The Rise of Militant - chronicling the early history of the Socialist Party, from 1995 to 2007 - is due in late April

John Macreadie elected

The following passage on John Macreadie is from ‘The Rise of Militant’, which chronicles the political turmoil between 1964 and 1994 and the role of Militant, now the Socialist Party, in leading struggle.

The election of John Macreadie as the new general secretary of the union had sent a frisson of fear through the ranks of the right wing throughout the trade unions generally as well as in government circles. In the House of Commons, a right-wing Tory MP, Peter Brunivelis, and two other Tory MPs welcomed “the victory of John Ellis in the ballot.” There was a tremendous sense of disappointment amongst left activists in the union.

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The Socialist Party’s national congress 2017 took place in London from 11 to 13 March, attended by delegates and visitors from Socialist Party branches all over England and Wales, as well as international guests. On the next three pages are reports of some of the sessions. Others included building the Socialist Party, organising our publications and a report of the work of the Committee for a Workers’ International. We also heard from Paul Murphy, Irish TD (MP) and member of our Irish sister party, who is facing trial in April on charges of ‘false imprisonment’ for a peaceful sit-down protest. A fighting fund appeal raised £13,070 and a membership subs appeal led to 50 members increasing their subs by a total of £576 a month at the event. All attendees left confident and determined to build the Socialist Party and the struggles of workers and young people in the next 12 months.

Upheaval and fightback in a new, exciting world

Kevin Parslow

The first discussion of the 2017 Socialist Party congress was on the current world situation, introduced by Peter Taaffe, general secretary, and replied to by Judy Beishon of the executive committee. Peter said that the previous weekend’s demo in defence of the NHS was a fitting curtain raiser to this congress and its angry mood and working-class composition reflected a new, exciting world.

Trump

Peter explained how the election of Trump as US president has built massive opposition worldwide. The ‘whip of counter-revolution’ has provoked upheaval both domestically and internationally against an increasingly uncertain and dangerous background.

Deep splits are opening among the ruling class because of Trump, which the working class will notice and take advantage of as they defend their rights and living standards. Even this early in his presidency, sections of the capitalists are looking for ways of removing Trump, citing the Watergate scandal that removed disgraced President Nixon in 1974. It is clear that Trump is attempting to pursue an aggressive ‘America First’ economic policy against other national capitalist classes, the aim being to put the rest of the world on the back foot. This will provoke a retaliation ‘China First’, ‘Europe First’ and so on.

Trump will also try to pursue a more aggressive foreign policy despite six out of ten people in the US opposing big foreign adventures. This in a ‘multipolar world’ dominated by three powers: the US, China and Russia. Although the US is still economically and militarily ahead, China is increasing its military power, challenging the US particularly in the Asia-Pacific region. Yet both are worried by the developing crisis in the Korean peninsula.

Russia, although economically weakened since the collapse of Stalinism and the fall in the price of oil, still has big military spending and its reach is still considerable, as shown in Syria where it has been able to prop up the ailing Assad regime against its opponents in the civil war.

This will have consequences in the Middle East with its patchwork of religious and national groups defending their interests. The situation could be compared to Europe and the 30 Years War of the 17th century. There will be no real peace and no solution to the region’s intractable problems on the basis of landlordism and capitalism in the Middle East.

Europe could find itself in conflict with the US over the economy. Europe’s economies are very weak. The social catastrophe in Greece continues and German right-wing forces continue to take a hard line on Greece’s debt.

Explosive

The explosive situation in southern Europe was emphasised by Comrade Beatriz from Izquierda Revolucionaria in Spain, who the Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI - to which the Socialist Party is affiliated) is in a unification process with (see page 7). She highlighted the rising militant mood, particularly among the school student youth who defeated the right-wing government’s proposed education laws through their union Sindicato de Estudiantes. Left-wing party Podemos has also rejected a conciliatory approach to ex-social democratic party PSOE, which is divided over backing the right-wing government.

Peter pointed out there is not just a crisis of capitalism and the right but also social democracy and its advocates, which is not ‘left’ and increasingly unable to put forward solutions to the problems of the working class and youth. A number of elections in European countries this year could see the strengthening of right-wing forces because of the weakness of the left. But this will prove temporary as these organisations cannot solve the problems of capitalism either.

Peter concluded by reiterating that the whole world is in crisis and there are huge changes ahead. The middle layers in society - students, junior doctors in England and others worldwide - are being forced into action and will join the inevitable resistance of the working class.

This mood of anger will present the CWI with big opportunities, as has been shown in the US with our allies in Socialist Alternative since the election in Seattle of Kshama Sawant. The coming battles will then lay the basis for mass revolutionary parties and a mass socialist international.
Two features increasingly define Brit-ain's politics. First: the possibility of volatile strikes on several issues. Second, uncertainty, as estab-lished parties lose their authority and co-operation.

The Socialist Party's 2017 con-gress agreed on this: "There is no peaceable way out of these crises, they buy time for the government. A movement on the class struggle, which is coming.

The Socialist Party executive committee works with, Socialist Party congresses and.| New unionism

Socialist Party congress 2017

VOLCANIC STRUGGLES AND UNCERTAINTY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT IN BRITAIN

James Evans

photo Paul Mattsson

photo Mary Finch

Spain: Solidarity from our co-thinkers fresh from leading mass struggles

Scott Jones

photo Paul Mattsson

"We share the same political DNA, said Beatriz from Estudiantes, 'The EU is the main crack. Hannah from Community Trade Union

Deputy general secretary Hannah said the working class could pick up to regain control. Thealist class does not want one. How-tionalised. An early general election...""
The Scots Parliament will vote next week in favour of a second independence referendum. With a pro-independence majority in the parliament, the vote itself is a formality. The exact timing of a referendum will be up to Nicola Sturgeon and the SNP's role in carrying out Tory austerity measures - that are causing misery to millions. In contrast to a Scotland for the super-rich 1%, we stand for an independent socialist Scotland. For public ownership, wealth redistribution, and a new socialist society - that is the vision of an independent working class Scotland.

Disabled workers deserve a living wage

Sam Gowers
Countrywide Co-operative

Beca Munro, one of the trustees of Tran Inverness, a charity which helps disabled people get into work, has said that businesses should be allowed to pay disabled people less than the minimum wage.

"Writing in the Spectator about the planned reduction in the minimum wage for disabled people, she wrote: "There is not about the right to a minimum wage. The crucial issue is the right to work, to have the same opportunities as other people in the workplace and with living included.""

Munro is a member of the New Model MID (Mental Illness Dennis) alliance, which is led by Columnist Dominique Lawson, who has a son with Asperger's. 

She is the daughter of Cllr Margaret, 2nd Viceroy of Monarchy. She made a very powerful speech about the issue.

The new alliance has been set up to give a voice to the growing number of disabled people who are feeling increasingly isolated and pressed to find a balance between living and working.

The move in Wales has been no less critical in England, despite. With the NHS in crisis, the threat of closure of health and social care on the door and increased pressure on disabled people, it is essential that disabled people have the right to equal opportunities in life. The new alliance is calling on the government to listen to disabled people, and not to accept the timeframe as outlined by Philip Stott.

The exact timing of a referendum is not clear. First Minister Nicola Sturgeon has said that the SNP's role in carrying out Tory austerity measures - that are causing misery to millions. Meanwhile, in Northern Ireland - that has suitable hours.

Socialist

That is in line with socialist policies, and the building of a new socialist society. But it gives an insight into the kind of policy that is shaping up to be taken by the Scottish government. Meanwhile, a Socialist dominated and socialist dominated party, do not have the right to work. The Socialist led government is working with the NHS and social care on the door and increased pressure on disabled people, it is essential that disabled people have the right to equal opportunities in life. The new alliance is calling on the government to listen to disabled people, and not to accept the timeframe as outlined by Philip Stott.

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Revolucionaria - CWI co-thinkers in diantres and members of Izquierda in Madrid!

demonstrations took place, including 500,000 in feminism.

by women and young people in of thousands in International Women's Day 'March 8 Repeal' was 12,000 strong.

'Women's Marches just six weeks ago - the smaller than the tremendous Wom-

eers where it hurts - by shutting down services and benefits. Defend our services and benefits. Defend our (CWI), a socialist international that organises in over 40 countries. The Socialist Party is part of the Committee for a Workers' International (CWI), a socialist international that organises in over 40 countries.

As capitalism dominates the globe, the struggle for genuine socialism must and transform society. People. The organised working class has the potential power to stop the cuts needs of all and not the profits of a few. We also oppose every cut, fighting in principle. And we need to go further. Where it hurts - by shutting down services and benefits. Defend our services and benefits. Defend our

We later joined a demonstration held at the university in solidarity with

We, as women, have begun a cru-

This is not only about an end to

The Socialist Party is part of the Committee for a Workers' International

As capitalism dominates the globe, the struggle for genuine socialism must

No to the bosses' neoliberal

No to imperialist wars and

End police harassment.

Oppose discrimination on the

We demand that the cuts be rolled back, and that we have: Full funding for all public services and benefits. Defend our services and benefits. Defend our

London demo - action day

London - revolution past and present

In a room plastered in photos, displays and posters celebrating the Russian Revolution, 'Standing up against their exploita-

In a room plastered in photos, displays and posters celebrating the Russian Revolution, the overwhelming majority of people, we want to link our struggles to the

Socialist Students Liverpool

University of Liverpool Socialist Students celebrated IWD with a debate and discussion on "What is the relationship between gender and class regulation?"

We discussed events such as the peace and bread strikes which triggered the February revolution in Russia as well as events such as the Dagenham women's strike in 1968, which was influential in securing the 10-hour day. 

The meeting explained the role of women in the Russian revolution. The presentation included a video of the Women's Strike - shopkeepers marching in Manchester on the right of our workers to take their struggles into their own hands.

The demonstration was not with some opposition from a group of male union leaders, who called for negotiation and not revolution. The workers drew the line at the arrogance of the management and the Workers' Congress.

In the evening big demonstration, 10,000 people, including 500,000 in Madrid!

Spain: Hundreds of thousands in International Women's Day student strike

Th e call to 'Rally against fascism!' is being echoed by the Instituto de Estudios de la Mujer (IEM) and the coalition ‘Movimiento por la Dignidad’ (MDC).

It is also 100 years since women workers of Petrograd chose this day to take action which sparked the historic Russian revolution. From 'International Women's Day 2017: 100 years on from the Russian 

We are fighting for a socialist world.

Today is one of the largest ever collections of Interna-

We are fighting for a socialist world.

We have to be the leaders of the resistance against the cuts, for free education, for decent health care and for a living wage. We need to be working together to

We need a new socialist party, as a step beyond the Green Party and the Lib Dem party.

We need our own political parties. We need a political party which is independent of corporate politicians. We need a political party which is independent of corporate politicians. We need a political party which is independent of corporate politicians. We need a political party which is independent of corporate politicians. We need a political party which is independent of corporate politicians. We need a political party which is independent of corporate politicians. We need a political party which is independent of corporate politicians. We need a political party which is independent of corporate politicians. We need a political party which is independent of corporate politicians.

As capitalism dominates the globe, the struggle for genuine socialism must and transform society. People. The organised working class has the potential power to stop the cuts needs of all and not the profits of a few. We also oppose every cut, fighting in principle. And we need to go further. Where it hurts - by shutting down services and benefits. Defend our services and benefits. Defend our

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Sindh office in Mirpurkhas to the

Other Socialist Party members spoke on fighting sexism today, for abor-

For a round-up of CWI sections on divorce, abortion and sexuality, which remain progressive even by

They put forward demands for reproductive health into their own hands.

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Sindh office in Mirpurkhas to the
April Ashley
Unison executive, Black members seat (personal capacity)

Trump’s vile racist ban on people travelling to the US from six Muslim-majority countries and his ban on refugees has been met with a mighty movement of opposition from US workers and young people.

And it’s not only in the US that people are taking to the streets, as we saw most recently on International Women’s Day. His presidency threatens working class and oppressed communities all over the world. It’s a scandal that Theresa May has invited this bigot to Britain to speak.

But the Tory government is also guilty of racism and of blocking refugees, while pursuing wars and ‘regime change’ in Syria and the Middle East which have created a massive humanitarian crisis.

Many equate Trump’s right-wing populism with Brexit. Of course, during the EU referendum the official and the Ukip-led Leave campaigns whipped up anti-migrant feeling, but so too did the Tory Remain campaign.

Unfortunately, the late switch of Jeremy Corbyn to a pro-EU position meant that an independent, working class socialist opposition to the bosses’ EU was not heard.

Since Brexit, and Trump’s election, there has been a steep rise in racist attacks. However, at root, the vote to exit the EU was not primarily against immigration. For many, Brexit represented a rage against austerity and against a corrupt establishment which benefits the super-rich.

We fight for better terms and conditions for all - including a £10 an hour minimum wage, mass council house building, nationalisation of key industries and rejection of EU directives that attack workers’ rights.

Defend the rights of migrants and refugees. Defend the right to asylum. Oppose all racist immigration controls. Guarantee the rights of EU citizens in the UK to remain. For workers’ unity against racism and austerity.

The establishment of full union recognition rights to negotiate collective agreements for all workers. Stop the ‘race to the bottom’.

Rejection of all trade agreements which increase corporate power and its ability to take over our public services and weaken workers’ rights.

Jobs, homes and solidarity, not Trumpism!

March Against Racism - 18 March
London: 12pm, (BBC) Portland Place, W1A 1AA
Cardiff: 11am, Grange Gardens, CF11
Glasgow: 11am, Holland St