Alistair Tice
Socialist Party Yorkshire

Take a ride on the 83 bus across Sheffield and it takes ten years off your life! That’s how long life expectancy falls travelling just ten miles from the wealthier parts of the city to the poorest.

And ‘healthy life expectancy’ - that is, without serious illness or disability - falls a staggering 20 years! These shocking statistics are repeated in every city and across the country, exposing the health inequalities in Tory Britain.

Boris Johnson now talks about ‘levelling up’ infrastructure. But his Conservative governments have spent the last ten austerity years racing our NHS to the bottom of international healthcare league tables.

All health experts agree that the NHS needs an annual increase in funding of 4% just to stand still. But the average over the last decade has been only 1.6%, meaning Britain now has the lowest health spending per person of the major western economies.

17,000 less beds than in 2010. 10,000 doctors short. 40,000 nurses short. 122,000 vacancies in social care.

A junior doctor writing in the Guardian says: “Without beds we can’t admit new patients; without staff we can’t treat patients; and without social care we can’t discharge people.

“This is why our A&E departments, barometers of the overall health of the service, are on the brink of collapse with the worst waiting times in NHS history. Patients are waiting hours to be picked up by ambulances, and queues of ambulances are waiting hours to drop their patients off.

“More people have died waiting for care in ambulances or on A&E trolleys in the last four years than have died from terrorism in the UK in the last 50 years.”

So what does the Tory health secretary propose? Move the goalposts - scrap the A&E waiting targets.

The NHS will never be safe in Tory hands. NHS staff and health campaigners must take matters into their own hands.

The same junior doctor makes the call for all A&E staff to strike and protest for five minutes a shift. This points the way for NHS trade unions to take the lead in calling significant action. Like the nurses in Northern Ireland, whose recent, historic strike of 12 hours was joined by other hospital staff walking out for 24 hours.

The strike had overwhelming public support, and won significant concessions including on funding. Imagine what united national action could achieve.
NO ‘BLANK CHEQUE’ FOR LABOUR LEADERSHIP CANDIDATES
Build united working-class struggle against Tory cuts and attacks on workers’ rights

THE COMMISSION of the struggle between the labour leadership candidates and the establishment within and without the Labour Party will be lit by the struggle behind and around the candidates.

On 147,800 people paid £25 to vote as registered supporters during the 48-hour period giving that option, whereas in 2016 the figure was £16.14. A certain amount has been made by the Labour Party from these members, so that they may become a full party member – subject to gaining a vote in the contest, but not yet clear who most of them will vote for as leader and deputy leader, or how the hundreds of thousands of already missing members will vote.

Any leader election must stand at least as a question of what some of them think members who supported Corbyn will now think of the Labour Party – and how the candidates can prove they won’t be sold out to the establishment. Property-rich Labour members will be joined by Labour members who genuinely want to resist them.

All the candidates argue for ‘unity’ but Labour members need to know just what kind of unity they are talking about. Whether or not they will succeed in ensuring enough support to secure victory is far from certain.

Kate Brian, a former Director of Public Prosecutions, has been described as a ‘party by words alone’ by Lord Newby, who was challenging her to show the party members what she stands for in a 400-word ‘mission statement’. His challenge is well-timed.

The philosophy that has often characterised Labour, ‘the party to change the world’, is not a party to change, in the only party to change or to change for the worse.

The un-ionised candidates’ campaign statement had it that they would support a ‘socialist basis’. Their campaign statements, widely circulated ahead of the hustings, show remarkable uniformity. They emphasise the commitment of the trade unions, the need to oppose austerity, a commitment to the radical 2017 and 2019 Labour manifestos, the need to follow a payment in principle policy to stop the cuts and the need to address climate change.

Their central planks in Unite’s policy book are that: “The organised working class has the potential power to change the world. No attempt to stop the cuts will be vain without the support of the organised working class.”

But while the Labour leadership candidates wish to attract sustained, personalised and effective support from Labour councillors: stop the cuts; it has been so lacking to date. Labour members will only support a leadership that will demonstrate these objectives.

Our demands include...

- No to privatisation and the Private
  Sector in all public services to be properly
  funded.
- No ‘Blank cheque’ for Labour
  and Labour councils.
- End police harassment.
- No to ALL cuts in jobs, public
  services to be properly funded.
- End privatisation.
- End police harassment.
- No to ALL cuts in jobs, public
  services to be properly funded.
- Repeal all laws that trample over
  democratic rights.
- Free, publicly run, good quality
  education, available to all at any age.
- Stop the bosses’ neoliberal
  dictatorship.
- No to the bosses’ neoliberal
  dictatorship.
- Repeal all laws that trample over
  democratic rights.
- No to ALL cuts in jobs, public
  services to be properly funded.
- Repeal all laws that trample over
  democratic rights.
- Repeal all laws that trample over
  democratic rights.

For the right to vote at 16.
For the right to asylum. No to racist
discrimination in public services.
For the right to vote at 16.
For the right to asylum. No to racist
discrimination in public services.
For the right to vote at 16.
For the right to asylum. No to racist
discrimination in public services.
For the right to vote at 16.
For the right to asylum. No to racist
discrimination in public services.
For the right to vote at 16.
For the right to asylum. No to racist
discrimination in public services.
For the right to vote at 16.
For the right to asylum. No to racist
discrimination in public services.
For the right to vote at 16.
For the right to asylum. No to racist
discrimination in public services.
For the right to vote at 16.
For the right to asylum. No to racist
discrimination in public services.
For the right to vote at 16.
For the right to asylum. No to racist
discrimination in public services.
For the right to vote at 16.
For the right to asylum. No to racist
discrimination in public services.
For the right to vote at 16.
For the right to asylum. No to racist
discrimination in public services.
Coronavirus: capitalism limits response to viral outbreaks

The financial world has been sharply rebuked for failing to act in the interests of the vulnerable. In 2009, the care system in England saw a 34% higher risk of death than the national average. In 2010, the care system saw a 34% higher risk of death than the national average.

The government's own report suggested that the care system was inadequate. The increase of 100,000 in the number of children in care from 2012-13 to 2017-18 reflects the collapse of care services. The increase of 100,000 in the number of children in care from 2012-13 to 2017-18 reflects the collapse of care services.

John Delaney
Senior UNISON Nottinghamshire Health Branch

For the third time in 20 years a new virus has spread from animals to human beings. It began on 29 December in Wuhan, in China, as dozens of men

Bezos’s billionaires

Billionaires, chief executives, large business houses, second rates are not only wealthy but are also some of the richest people in the world. They have accumulated more wealth than the total wealth of all the poor in the world.

Still in the money
Multimillionaire chief exec Mike Cohen is retiring from Sainsbury’s. Cohen is notorious for being a rich and powerful businessman who lives a lavish lifestyle. He is one of the richest people in the world.

Billionaire status
More than 7,000 people are now billionaires, according to the Oxfam report. Bill Gates and Trump are the top two richest people in the world.

Billionaires’ club
The club includes the world’s richest people, such as Bill Gates, who owns Microsoft, and Jeff Bezos, the founder of Amazon.

Bezos’s status
Bezos is the founder of Amazon, the largest online retail company. He is also the executive chairman of Amazon.

HS2 debacle: nationalise rail and construction!

Tony cabin takes charge. Stephen Bar-

HS2 debacle: nationalise rail and construction!

HS2 is a colossal waste of money. The project was scrapped in 2015, but 47% have no idea for rebuilding it. HS2 is a flagship project of the UK government, but it has faced numerous challenges.

Cabinet’s climate incompetence
45% of the 524 citizens who replied to a Greenpeace survey don’t know what the climate crisis is. The government is failing to act on the climate crisis.

Debt ratings double

Japan’s credit rating agencies have been downgraded due to the country's financial crisis. The government is facing a financial crisis due to the crisis in Japan.

JSW and ACX

Japan Steel Works and American Commercial Exchange (ACX) have been working together to develop new technologies and products in the steel industry.

Welsh NHS wait

The Welsh NHS is in a poor state. The wait for long-term care has opened up rifts in thinking between the Welsh NHS and the rest of the NHS.

Socialism: the way to end it

The Socialist Party (SP) is a political organisation that campaigns for a socialist society. The party has been active since the 1880s and has been involved in various socialist movements.

The Socialist Party

The Socialist Party is a political organisation that campaigns for a socialist society. The party has been active since the 1880s and has been involved in various socialist movements.

Wipeout

The government’s own report suggested that the care system was inadequate. The increase of 100,000 in the number of children in care from 2012-13 to 2017-18 reflects the collapse of care services. The increase of 100,000 in the number of children in care from 2012-13 to 2017-18 reflects the collapse of care services.

The government’s own report suggested that the care system was inadequate. The increase of 100,000 in the number of children in care from 2012-13 to 2017-18 reflects the collapse of care services. The increase of 100,000 in the number of children in care from 2012-13 to 2017-18 reflects the collapse of care services.
University and College Union

Pensions, pay and conditions dispute reach a crucial stage

UCU Southampton branch executive (personal capacity)

When I stood to be general secretary near-ley, I believed members were looking for a new direction and strategy to win. I was an experienced negotiator. I am supported by the BLN to stand to be the union’s president. I’ve been active in the union since joining the civil service at 16. Currently I am president of the PCS national executive committee. I have led a number of campaigns and disputes with successful outcomes and I am an experienced negotiator.

The RIN is supporting a diverse group of candidates in the election, all of whom are committed to fighting against austerity and for union democracy.

The RIN is a left network programme which is independent of the union and wins on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the union NEC elections to be published soon.

The management claims it is unaffordable to increase pay, but university income, surpluses and reserves have all increased. A victory on pay is the most concrete way of winning university management concessions to improving staff conditions and our share of the income.

Union democracy is the most concrete way of ensuring union management concessions to improving staff conditions and our share of the income.

The newly formed BLN is made up of so-cialists from across the PCS, a union of civil servants. It was formed following meetings between_self-organised campaign groups and the PCS national executive committee. Join the BLN, support our campaign to rebuild PCS and the left in the union.

The other BLN-supported candidates in the other PCS elections, redundancy rights, office closures and the growing threat to jobs. The RIN is a left network programme which is independent of the union and wins on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the national executive committee meet -ting and strategy to win on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the union NEC elections to be published soon.

The newly formed BLN is made up of so-cialists from across the PCS, a union of civil servants. It was formed following meetings between_self-organised campaign groups and the PCS national executive committee. Join the BLN, support our campaign to rebuild PCS and the left in the union.

The other BLN-supported candidates in the other PCS elections, redundancy rights, office closures and the growing threat to jobs. The RIN is a left network programme which is independent of the union and wins on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the national executive committee meeting and strategy to win on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the union NEC elections to be published soon.

The newly formed BLN is made up of so-cialists from across the PCS, a union of civil servants. It was formed following meetings between_self-organised campaign groups and the PCS national executive committee. Join the BLN, support our campaign to rebuild PCS and the left in the union.

The other BLN-supported candidates in the other PCS elections, redundancy rights, office closures and the growing threat to jobs. The RIN is a left network programme which is independent of the union and wins on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the national executive committee meeting and strategy to win on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the union NEC elections to be published soon.

The newly formed BLN is made up of so-ocialists from across the PCS, a union of civil servants. It was formed following meetings between_self-organised campaign groups and the PCS national executive committee. Join the BLN, support our campaign to rebuild PCS and the left in the union.

The other BLN-supported candidates in the other PCS elections, redundancy rights, office closures and the growing threat to jobs. The RIN is a left network programme which is independent of the union and wins on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the national executive committee meeting and strategy to win on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the union NEC elections to be published soon.

The newly formed BLN is made up of so-
cialists from across the PCS, a union of civil servants. It was formed following meetings between_self-organised campaign groups and the PCS national executive committee. Join the BLN, support our campaign to rebuild PCS and the left in the union.

The other BLN-supported candidates in the other PCS elections, redundancy rights, office closures and the growing threat to jobs. The RIN is a left network programme which is independent of the union and wins on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the national executive committee meeting and strategy to win on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the union NEC elections to be published soon.

The newly formed BLN is made up of so-
cialists from across the PCS, a union of civil servants. It was formed following meetings between_self-organised campaign groups and the PCS national executive committee. Join the BLN, support our campaign to rebuild PCS and the left in the union.

The other BLN-supported candidates in the other PCS elections, redundancy rights, office closures and the growing threat to jobs. The RIN is a left network programme which is independent of the union and wins on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the national executive committee meeting and strategy to win on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the union NEC elections to be published soon.

The newly formed BLN is made up of so-
cialists from across the PCS, a union of civil servants. It was formed following meetings between_self-organised campaign groups and the PCS national executive committee. Join the BLN, support our campaign to rebuild PCS and the left in the union.

The other BLN-supported candidates in the other PCS elections, redundancy rights, office closures and the growing threat to jobs. The RIN is a left network programme which is independent of the union and wins on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the national executive committee meeting and strategy to win on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the union NEC elections to be published soon.

The newly formed BLN is made up of so-
cialists from across the PCS, a union of civil servants. It was formed following meetings between_self-organised campaign groups and the PCS national executive committee. Join the BLN, support our campaign to rebuild PCS and the left in the union.

The other BLN-supported candidates in the other PCS elections, redundancy rights, office closures and the growing threat to jobs. The RIN is a left network programme which is independent of the union and wins on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the national executive committee meeting and strategy to win on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the union NEC elections to be published soon.

The newly formed BLN is made up of so-
cialists from across the PCS, a union of civil servants. It was formed following meetings between_self-organised campaign groups and the PCS national executive committee. Join the BLN, support our campaign to rebuild PCS and the left in the union.

The other BLN-supported candidates in the other PCS elections, redundancy rights, office closures and the growing threat to jobs. The RIN is a left network programme which is independent of the union and wins on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the national executive committee meeting and strategy to win on the ground. The RIN is supporting candidates in the union NEC elections to be published soon.
Brexit and British capitalism

**WHY JOHNSON'S JUGGERNAUT IS SET TO FAIL?**

Robin Clapp
Socialist Party national committee

Britain Johnson, by his own election victory and echoed from his Carthage oratory, had now become, in the words of a newspaper journalist, a ‘Brexit superpower’. Having secured a formidable major- ity in the election, Britain has become a superpower in world affairs. And fanned by Tory cynics who can see no further than the next day, it is now control nearly as much wealth as ever, in the Middle East and international oil wars.

Geo-political relations between com- mercial interests and international power blocs are becoming more inaccessible by the introduction of the City in Britain as the scar of home- lessness in shop doorways in every town and city in Britain. Extensive poverty can now be found in every town and city in Britain, especially in the large urban areas. The consequence of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses of this system - capitalism - is the maintenance of poverty, joblessness, austerity and insecurity.

The British economy has never recovered from the ‘Great Recession’ of 2007-2009 and is incapable of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses that have characterised it since 2009-2010, a product of the 2007-2009 financial crash. Extreme poverty can now be found in every town and city in Britain, especially in the large urban areas. The consequence of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses of this system - capitalism - is the maintenance of poverty, joblessness, austerity and insecurity.

The Institute of Fiscal Studies recently published a study, the ‘Socialist Party’s view that winning the general elec-
tion was a “easy” for the Tories. The Economic Journal has claimed that Johnson may look like a strong leader, but that the British economy is in a deep structural crisis.

The British economy has never recovered from the ‘Great Recession’ of 2007-2009 and is incapable of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses that have characterised it since 2009-2010, a product of the 2007-2009 financial crash. Extreme poverty can now be found in every town and city in Britain, especially in the large urban areas. The consequence of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses of this system - capitalism - is the maintenance of poverty, joblessness, austerity and insecurity.

The Institute of Fiscal Studies recently published a study, the ‘Socialist Party’s view that winning the general elec-
tion was a “easy” for the Tories. The Economic Journal has claimed that Johnson may look like a strong leader, but that the British economy is in a deep structural crisis.

The British economy has never recovered from the ‘Great Recession’ of 2007-2009 and is incapable of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses that have characterised it since 2009-2010, a product of the 2007-2009 financial crash. Extreme poverty can now be found in every town and city in Britain, especially in the large urban areas. The consequence of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses of this system - capitalism - is the maintenance of poverty, joblessness, austerity and insecurity.

The Institute of Fiscal Studies recently published a study, the ‘Socialist Party’s view that winning the general elec-
tion was a “easy” for the Tories. The Economic Journal has claimed that Johnson may look like a strong leader, but that the British economy is in a deep structural crisis.

The British economy has never recovered from the ‘Great Recession’ of 2007-2009 and is incapable of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses that have characterised it since 2009-2010, a product of the 2007-2009 financial crash. Extreme poverty can now be found in every town and city in Britain, especially in the large urban areas. The consequence of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses of this system - capitalism - is the maintenance of poverty, joblessness, austerity and insecurity.

The Institute of Fiscal Studies recently published a study, the ‘Socialist Party’s view that winning the general elec-
tion was a “easy” for the Tories. The Economic Journal has claimed that Johnson may look like a strong leader, but that the British economy is in a deep structural crisis.

The British economy has never recovered from the ‘Great Recession’ of 2007-2009 and is incapable of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses that have characterised it since 2009-2010, a product of the 2007-2009 financial crash. Extreme poverty can now be found in every town and city in Britain, especially in the large urban areas. The consequence of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses of this system - capitalism - is the maintenance of poverty, joblessness, austerity and insecurity.

The Institute of Fiscal Studies recently published a study, the ‘Socialist Party’s view that winning the general elec-
tion was a “easy” for the Tories. The Economic Journal has claimed that Johnson may look like a strong leader, but that the British economy is in a deep structural crisis.

The British economy has never recovered from the ‘Great Recession’ of 2007-2009 and is incapable of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses that have characterised it since 2009-2010, a product of the 2007-2009 financial crash. Extreme poverty can now be found in every town and city in Britain, especially in the large urban areas. The consequence of doing so, given the deep structural weaknesses of this system - capitalism - is the maintenance of poverty, joblessness, austerity and insecurity.

The Institute of Fiscal Studies recently published a study, the ‘Socialist Party’s view that winning the general elec-
tion was a “easy” for the Tories. The Economic Journal has claimed that Johnson may look like a strong leader, but that the British economy is in a deep structural crisis.
The truth is this cut has been long-promised by the Tories and implemented by health board bosses with an air of inevitability, as they are determined to dismantle this much-loved Latin Village, with its rich history of community campaigns and activism. It is hardly the case that there is a shortage of housing in this area – families and over 9,000 people street homelessness and families in private rents. 100,000 families have lost all government money for therapeutic support. This is urgent. Let’s act now to defend women’s lives.

The Tory-engineered benefits system saw a disabled woman die from cold in her own home in a coat and scarf because the council refused to turn the heating on. Women simply cannot risk being cut off. Even Theresa May’s government took a stand, refuse to make the cuts and fought for the money the Tories stole. This is urgent. Let’s act now to defend women’s lives.

The Tory engineered benefits system saw a disabled woman die from cold in her own home in a coat and scarf because the council refused to turn the heating on. Women simply cannot risk being cut off. Even Theresa May’s government took a stand, refuse to make the cuts and fought for the money the Tories stole. This is urgent. Let’s act now to defend women’s lives.

By the time this is published, the cuts to local services will have been made, and we will be left with fewer Refuges, worse women’s health services, on average due to lack of space. One in five domestic abuse victims have lost all government money for therapy and support. We are prepared to put forward a list of candidates to stand against Sadiq Khan. We are prepared to fight for your local services and demand the Tory cuts that deny women services. We call on you, the Labour leadership to give confidence to those Labour voters “got it right”! We are prepared to work with any other local socialist groups available, to fight to defend women’s services, on average due to lack of space. One in five domestic abuse victims have lost all government money for therapy and support. We are prepared to put forward a list of candidates to stand against Sadiq Khan. We are prepared to fight for your local services and demand the Tory cuts that deny women services. We call on you, the Labour leadership to give confidence to those Labour voters “got it right”! We are prepared to work with any other local socialist groups available, to fight to defend women’s services. It is an immediate moratorium on these plans!
SOFIALIST SELLERS: OPPOSING THE TORIES AND FIGHTING THE CUTS

■ Southampton

There seemed to be a new mood among the people who stopped at our stalls in Southampton over the past week.

Gone were the concerns over Brexit, the Labour leadership and whether the Labour manifesto was deliverable. This was replaced by outright anger at the Tories.

Repeatedly people said that the Tories would break their election promises and that the NHS was certainly not safe in Tory hands.

There was not a discernible increase in the numbers of people who stopped to talk to us, but those who did were very angry at the thought of five more years of Tory rule - which would inflict more suffering on the poorest in society.

There were calls to action. One person said: “We need a revolution!”

Another talked about the growing number of homeless people on the streets of Southampton. They said that the tourists who come here on cruise ships must think they are visiting a third world country. And it could only get worse under another Tory government.

Some very generous donations were made to our fighting fund and people wanted to buy the Socialist paper too.

58 people got a copy, we raised £73 fighting fund and five people left their details to join the Socialist Party.

Jane Ward

■ Bradford and Leeds

Campaigning in Bradford city centre to renationalise bus and rail services.

The government has announced it will strip Northern Rail of its franchise and nationalise it.

We say that’s good, but it needs to be run under the democratic control of elected representatives of rail workers and passengers.

Campaigning in Leeds on the same issue, we sold 12 copies of the Socialist, raised £14 for the fighting fund, and met three people who are interested in joining the Socialist Party.

■ Newcastle

It was bitterly cold, so Newcastle was a bit desolate on 18 January.

But people liked our message ‘stand firm against the Tories - fight low pay.’ One woman commented how committed we are, being out on the street on a “day like this”.

The people who stopped were interested in our take on developments in the Labour Party.

Two young people expressed an interest in joining the Socialist Party. Others took our number and are going to read our material and might get back to us.

Good response on our 25 January Socialist Party stall. Lots of anger against low pay, attacks on our NHS, and a recognition that we need to build a mass campaign against Boris Johnson and his rotten Tory government.

Elaine Brunskill

■ Leicester

It was a busy day of campaigning for Leicester Socialist Party on 21 January.

We started with a Socialist Students stall on De Montfort uni campus, our bus station Socialist paper sale was from 5pm until 6pm, then our Socialist Party branch meeting, where we discussed the huge strikes and protests in India. And getting organised for the week ahead.

Another good campaign stall on 25 January. Councils do have the option to fight the cuts, but they clearly need a little encouragement!

Trade unions need to lead the way forward for their members, organising to pressure councils to save jobs and services by fighting for a needs-based, no-cuts budget.


■ Brighton

The fight continues to stop council cuts and defend jobs and services in Brighton. Lots of angry people, still not happy, looking to get active.

Acorn housing campaigners were out too, fighting evictions.

■ Exeter

People were glad to see us campaigning on the streets. They bought our Socialist paper and donated £50 to aid the fight against the Tories.

■ Swansea

Our members out in force today, taking on council cuts and low pay in our city!

London protest against Modi’s racist law

Tamil Solidarity called a London demonstration, involving various organisations, to protest the racist, anti-Muslim Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) imposed by the Modi government in India.

Nearly 1,000 people participated in solidarity with the people who are protesting in the streets of India. There was a huge range of speakers.

But speaking from Tamil Solidarity, I was the only one to mention the 8 January 250 million-strong general strike in India. This showed the potential power of the working class.

I pointed out that this is the aggregated anger against Modi’s repressive policies. I also mentioned the need for a strong coalition of trade unions and left organisations to build a mass working-class movement. People cheered from the crowd on hearing this.

The Socialist Party also participated. The Socialist paper featured a report of the general strike and a strategy on how to defeat the racist law, written by New Socialist Alternative - the Socialist Party’s sister party in India - as well as a report of Tamil Solidarity’s annual general meeting, 25 people bought a copy.

From Downing Street, the protesters marched to the Indian High Commission. Our Tamil Solidarity contingent was energetic and loud. Our member Mathan grabbed the crowd’s attention with our demands and slogans.

Read ‘India: Huge general strike but a missed opportunity’ and ‘Building Tamil Solidarity with youth and the trade unions’ at socialisitparty.org.uk

Sara Rajan (right) on the protest with the Socialist paper and the article on the general strike in India
The Socialist Inbox

Do you have something to say?
Send your views, news and criticism in not more than 150 words to Socialist Postbox, PO Box 1038, Enfield EN1 9GT or phone 020 8988 8795, email: editors@socialistparty.org.uk

‘Aspiring’ leader

“Quite often we talked about handouts and how we would help people rather than providing that broad positive vision for the future.”

This was Rebecca Long-Bailey talking about the Labour’s 2019 general election manifesto in a BBC interview. She said Labour should have delivered positive messages about its manifesto, while “talking about aspiration”.

Long-Bailey was hailed as the ‘continuity Corbyn’ candidate, though no one seems to mention Corbyn at all any more. She is also the ‘socialist’ candidate.

What she said could just as easily have come from any neoliberal or pro-austerity politician.

The policies in the manifesto were popular. What was lacking, among other things, was trust in Corbyn and a Labour government to implement them, given that Labour councils have carried out cuts for years.

For the potential left leader of the Labour Party to refer to measures to address low pay, precarious work, poverty, housing and homelessness, education and healthcare and all the other policies proposed in the manifesto as “handouts” is deeply worrying. The idea that these policies prevent “aspiration” shows a complete lack of understanding of working-class people’s lives. Without addressing inequality in society there can be no ‘aspiration’ for the majority of the population.

It is disappointing that Long-Bailey attacked her own party manifesto at the moment when it was revealed by Time magazine that 2.153 billionaires have more wealth than 4.6 billion people on earth. Clearly, the 4.6 billion are suffering providing handouts so the billionaires and the rich get richer.

The leadership election finishes on 2 April. There is little chance of a ‘continuity Corbyn’ if even Long-Bailey cannot speak to the working class or support the 2019 manifesto as policies to end austerity and improve lives, especially if Labour councils continue to make cuts.

Clare Wilkins
Nottingham

Benjamin Disraeli, two-time Tory prime minister in the nineteenth century, once said: “A Conservative government is an organised hypocrisy.” The Christine Keeler story on BBC1 would seem to bear out that analysis.

I will avoid spoilers, but all the main events are in the public domain already. The politicians, press and police all come out of this disgracefully tarnished.

On the one hand, John Profumo, the defence minister (played by Ben Miles), lost his job in the Macmillan Tory government, in 1963.

On the other, of course, he maintained a millionaire who did a bit of charity work on the side to salve his conscience. He received a CBE in 1975. You will be astonished to learn that Christine Keeler did not receive any such honour!

Christine Keeler, then a working-class 19-year-old aspiring model (played by Sophie Cookson), and her showgirl friend Mandy Rice-Davies (played by Ellie Bamber) both got jail time. Christine Keeler was accused of perjury.

Yet the series suggests that the police pressured both of them to give fake evidence against Stephen Ward, the society surgeon who introduced Keeler to Profumo. If that isn’t perjury, what is?

The racism of the Met Police is also a feature of the series. If only things had changed!

The press routinely referred to them (without evidence) as “prostitutes”. Prosecution was not a criminal offence. They were vilified in the media and the Conservative Party has never forgiven them. The scandal contributed to the Tories losing the 1964 election to Harold Wilson’s Labour Party.

Stephen Ward (played by James Norton) found the ruling class closing ranks against him. The extraordinary waste of police manpower in ‘gathering (very little) evidence’ against him caused his patients to go elsewhere. He was driven to suicide and, for many people, his blood is on Conservative Party hands.

All of the performances are superb and bring this bit of history to life. But is it history? Or is the Conservative government an organised hypocrisy to this day?

Derek McMillan

的地步. The lack of any organised fight against the cuts for the Tories over many years, without any serious attempt to step up these attacks, as we are prepared to mount a mass campaign to recover the funds we need to sustain our services. If you fight, you can win. If you don’t fight, you never win. French workers have shown us how we can win and they have forced Macron to retreat over the retirement age and pensions’ issues.

No more cuts! Fight for the resources that we need for a decent life.

Frank Bowen
Liverpool

TV review: The Trial of Christine Keeler

Tory organised hypocrisy

We reserve the right to shorten letters. Don’t forget to give your name, address and phone number. Confidentiality will be respected if requested.

Cuts crime

On BBC Question Time, 23 January, in answer to a question on knife crime, the former Durham police chief constable Mike Barton replied: “We are never going to arrest our way out of this problem. Of course the police have got a role to play, of course we’ve got to investigate crime... but the cuts since 2010 have had an impact. There’s got to be a grown-up debate about drugs. So what’s the answer? The answer has got to be youth and social provision...

Paris Metro workers striking against pensions’ attacks

Photo: James Ivens

It is almost nine years since the Nato-led military intervention in Libya, and the country is still a battleground for various factions, each with their own agenda. The regime of Muammar Gaddafi, which had been in power for four decades, was toppled in 2011, leading to a period of instability and conflict. The result has been a fractured society, divided along political, ethnic, and tribal lines. Libya is one of the largest oil producers in the world, and has vast natural gas reserves, providing a significant source of revenue. However, the country has been categorized as a failed state, with little effective government control. Western intervention had initially been portrayed as a means to topple a dictator and prevent human rights abuses, but the intervention has been criticized for failing to achieve these goals and for exacerbating conflicts and creating new ones. The recent past is a stark warning however that the forces of imperialism will intervene only to protect their own interests. Libya-led operations may have ended in 2011 but military interventions continue.

The Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI) is the socialist international organisation to which the Socialist Party in England and Wales is affiliated. CWI members here in Britain, those in other countries in Europe and the US are involved in struggles and developing socialist ideas that can fundamentally change society. Below are a few examples of this work. More reports and socialist analysis can be read at socialistworld.net

Nigeria

The government of Nigeria, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, is a federal republic in West Africa. It is the most populous country in Africa, with a total population of about 206 million people. The government is headed by a president, who is elected by the people for a term of four years. The president appoints a prime minister and a cabinet of ministers to assist him in running the country. The government is divided into three branches: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial.

The recent past is a stark warning however that the forces of imperialism will intervene only to protect their own interests. Libya-led operations may have ended in 2011 but military interventions continue.

The Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI) is the socialist international organisation to which the Socialist Party in England and Wales is affiliated. CWI members here in Britain, those in other countries in Europe and the US are involved in struggles and developing socialist ideas that can fundamentally change society. Below are a few examples of this work. More reports and socialist analysis can be read at socialistworld.net

Nigeria

The government of Nigeria, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, is a federal republic in West Africa. It is the most populous country in Africa, with a total population of about 206 million people. The government is headed by a president, who is elected by the people for a term of four years. The president appoints a prime minister and a cabinet of ministers to assist him in running the country. The government is divided into three branches: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial.

The recent past is a stark warning however that the forces of imperialism will intervene only to protect their own interests. Libya-led operations may have ended in 2011 but military interventions continue.

The Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI) is the socialist international organisation to which the Socialist Party in England and Wales is affiliated. CWI members here in Britain, those in other countries in Europe and the US are involved in struggles and developing socialist ideas that can fundamentally change society. Below are a few examples of this work. More reports and socialist analysis can be read at socialistworld.net

South Africa

The government of South Africa is a republic with a unitary structure. The head of state is the president, who is elected by the people for a term of five years. The president appoints a prime minister and a cabinet of ministers to assist him in running the country. The government is divided into three branches: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial.

The recent past is a stark warning however that the forces of imperialism will intervene only to protect their own interests. Libya-led operations may have ended in 2011 but military interventions continue.

The Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI) is the socialist international organisation to which the Socialist Party in England and Wales is affiliated. CWI members here in Britain, those in other countries in Europe and the US are involved in struggles and developing socialist ideas that can fundamentally change society. Below are a few examples of this work. More reports and socialist analysis can be read at socialistworld.net

France

The government of France is a republic with a semi-presidential system. The head of state is the president, who is elected by the people for a term of five years. The president appoints a prime minister and a cabinet of ministers to assist him in running the country. The government is divided into three branches: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial.

The recent past is a stark warning however that the forces of imperialism will intervene only to protect their own interests. Libya-led operations may have ended in 2011 but military interventions continue.

The Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI) is the socialist international organisation to which the Socialist Party in England and Wales is affiliated. CWI members here in Britain, those in other countries in Europe and the US are involved in struggles and developing socialist ideas that can fundamentally change society. Below are a few examples of this work. More reports and socialist analysis can be read at socialistworld.net

Ireland

The government of Ireland is a republic with a parliamentary system. The head of state is the president, who is elected by the people for a term of seven years. The president appoints a prime minister and a cabinet of ministers to assist him in running the country. The government is divided into three branches: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial.

The recent past is a stark warning however that the forces of imperialism will intervene only to protect their own interests. Libya-led operations may have ended in 2011 but military interventions continue.

The Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI) is the socialist international organisation to which the Socialist Party in England and Wales is affiliated. CWI members here in Britain, those in other countries in Europe and the US are involved in struggles and developing socialist ideas that can fundamentally change society. Below are a few examples of this work. More reports and socialist analysis can be read at socialistworld.net

Brock momma has described being a nurse as being your life’s work and her relationships are the most important things in her life.

The recent past is a stark warning however that the forces of imperialism will intervene only to protect their own interests. Libya-led operations may have ended in 2011 but military interventions continue.

The Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI) is the socialist international organisation to which the Socialist Party in England and Wales is affiliated. CWI members here in Britain, those in other countries in Europe and the US are involved in struggles and developing socialist ideas that can fundamentally change society. Below are a few examples of this work. More reports and socialist analysis can be read at socialistworld.net

Nigeria

The government of Nigeria, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, is a federal republic in West Africa. It is the most populous country in Africa, with a total population of about 206 million people. The government is headed by a president, who is elected by the people for a term of four years. The president appoints a prime minister and a cabinet of ministers to assist him in running the country. The government is divided into three branches: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial.

The recent past is a stark warning however that the forces of imperialism will intervene only to protect their own interests. Libya-led operations may have ended in 2011 but military interventions continue.

The Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI) is the socialist international organisation to which the Socialist Party in England and Wales is affiliated. CWI members here in Britain, those in other countries in Europe and the US are involved in struggles and developing socialist ideas that can fundamentally change society. Below are a few examples of this work. More reports and socialist analysis can be read at socialistworld.net

South Africa

The government of South Africa is a republic with a unitary structure. The head of state is the president, who is elected by the people for a term of five years. The president appoints a prime minister and a cabinet of ministers to assist him in running the country. The government is divided into three branches: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial.

The recent past is a stark warning however that the forces of imperialism will intervene only to protect their own interests. Libya-led operations may have ended in 2011 but military interventions continue.

The Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI) is the socialist international organisation to which the Socialist Party in England and Wales is affiliated. CWI members here in Britain, those in other countries in Europe and the US are involved in struggles and developing socialist ideas that can fundamentally change society. Below are a few examples of this work. More reports and socialist analysis can be read at socialistworld.net

France

The government of France is a republic with a semi-presidential system. The head of state is the president, who is elected by the people for a term of five years. The president appoints a prime minister and a cabinet of ministers to assist him in running the country. The government is divided into three branches: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial.

The recent past is a stark warning however that the forces of imperialism will intervene only to protect their own interests. Libya-led operations may have ended in 2011 but military interventions continue.

The Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI) is the socialist international organisation to which the Socialist Party in England and Wales is affiliated. CWI members here in Britain, those in other countries in Europe and the US are involved in struggles and developing socialist ideas that can fundamentally change society. Below are a few examples of this work. More reports and socialist analysis can be read at socialistworld.net

Ireland

The government of Ireland is a republic with a parliamentary system. The head of state is the president, who is elected by the people for a term of seven years. The president appoints a prime minister and a cabinet of ministers to assist him in running the country. The government is divided into three branches: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial.

The recent past is a stark warning however that the forces of imperialism will intervene only to protect their own interests. Libya-led operations may have ended in 2011 but military interventions continue.

The Committee for a Workers’ International (CWI) is the socialist international organisation to which the Socialist Party in England and Wales is affiliated. CWI members here in Britain, those in other countries in Europe and the US are involved in struggles and developing socialist ideas that can fundamentally change society. Below are a few examples of this work. More reports and socialist analysis can be read at socialistworld.net
Simon Carter

At the recent World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, US president Donald Trump attacked those calling for meaningful action to halt catastrophic, capitalist-induced climate change as “prophets of doom.” It’s easy to dismiss such drivel as the ranting of a billionaire, birdbrain bigot. But Trump’s one-line attack on environmentalists is driven by his association with the fossil-fuel industries, who bankrolled his 2016 presidential campaign, and more generally by his unqualified embrace of the capitalist profit system.

Since elected, he has rolled back environmental protection measures, allowing landowners, agribusiness, mining companies and coal-fired power stations, and so on, to dump more toxic waste in the waterways, rivers, streams and aquifers of the USA.

That means more arsenic and carcinogenic heavy metals being poured literally down the drains. Indeed, Trump’s administration has removed federal government oversight of a least 60% of US waterways. This, despite the fact that millions of Americans are already exposed to unsafe drinking water.

And Trump’s trashing of the environment goes on. He issued an order allowing a huge increase in logging of public forests on the spurious ‘scientific’ grounds that thinning forests would prevent more damaging fires. So instead of tackling global heating - which is driving more extreme weather events such as droughts, leading to more intensive fires - he promoted the financial interests of the logging industry.

Trump’s pro-mining and logging messages are dressed up as ‘job creation’ measures in order to appeal to working-class communities suffering high unemployment. However, a genuine workers’ government could create millions of new jobs through investment in sustainable alternative energy projects.

Trump’s removal from office is urgent but the Republican majority in the Senate will ensure that the Democrats’ impeachment of him will fail.

The Democrat leadership - with its neoliberal, Blairite policies, representing another branch of capitalism to the Republicans - failed in 2016 to defeat Trump with Hillary Clinton, their establishment candidate. Polls, then, suggested that that only Bernie Sanders with his left-leaning platform could have beaten Trump by attracting enough support from the working class and oppressed. But Sanders, having been outmanoeuvred by the Democrat establishment, backed Clinton instead of running as an independent.

In the upcoming presidential election primaries, Sanders is repeating the same mistake of running for the capitalist Democratic Party nomination. Although enthusing tens of thousands with his campaign, and polls showing once again that he is frontrunner to beat Trump, he faces an uphill struggle to defeat establishment candidate Joe Biden and liberal Elizabeth Warren.

Whether he wins or loses the Democratic nomination, it’s imperative that Sanders uses the platform he has built to mobilise the working class - particularly organised workers in the trade unions and those left activists currently supporting him - to break with the Democrats and forge an independent, mass working-class party, based on socialist ideas, to seriously challenge Trump and end capitalism.

That’s the only way the pressing issues of climate change and organising sustainable production can be resolved in the interests of the overwhelming majority.