



AID FOR CUBA

Breaking the blockade with material solidarity

The US blockade of Cuba is not a policy of diplomatic disagreement; it is a calculated attempt at social and economic strangulation.



THEY DID NOT PASS

THEY SHALL NOT PASS

▲ Communists to the front at Cable Street Sunday 4 October 1936



Alex Gordon

FIGHTING FASCISM

TOGETHER AGAINST the far right we can roll back the reactionary alliance of Reform UK racists now fused with Boris Johnson's Cabinet, the Tory rump and the fake-patriotic fascist fringe mobilised around MAGA slogans.

For communists the fight against fascism is in our political DNA. Five hundred British anti fascists died to defend democracy in Spain and the Communist Party took the lead in denying Sir Oswald Mosley's fascists entry to London's East End.

When the Metropolitan Police tried to force the way for fascists it was London's workers – Jewish, Irish and many more – who fought from the barricades at Cable Street. See above.

Britain present day Far Right is a different beast to the ruling class fascism of the 1930s.

These Empire Loyalists dreamed of an empire over which the sun never set with white supremacist settler enclaves in Africa, or later, with neocolonial regimes under the control of Whitehall.

Britain's imperial power on the world stage has long departed. So, the new Far-Right Populists have gone where the money is – Silicon Valley – and they take their cues from US FinTech Bros - oligarchs such as Elon Musk and Peter Thiel who openly

evoke fascist symbolism and ideology and sponsor far-right copy-cat movements to further their own business and political interests.

Who pays the piper calls the tune

Multinational corporations lined up to sponsor Reform UK's 2025 Conference – a US-style razzmatazz, political convention held in Birmingham at the National Exhibition Centre – illustrating how corporate, ruling class interests call the shots in that party. Funding for Reform UK comes from firms that trade in climate-change relativism and denial, hi-tech and private finance – and from at least one British government-sponsored arms industry giant, QinetiQ, which focuses on advanced technology for the armed forces.

QinetiQ is a spinoff from the privatisation of the Ministry of Defence's Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA) in 2001. QinetiQ receives over 80 per cent of its revenue from UK taxpayers. QinetiQ's largest single shareholder, Christopher Harborne (who lives in Thailand) bankrolls Reform UK.

What Reform UK's financial backers have in common is their desire to replicate this profit-seeking model through the further privatisation of the NHS.

Reform UK is a stalking horse for US imperialism and private health

corporations and a fifth column threatening the working class in Britain.

Reform UK acts as a transatlantic chapter of MAGA. It wants to roll back gains in education. It plans to privatise the BBC by selling it to US media giants. It calls to scrap net-zero carbon targets and ramp up drilling for oil and gas. It is in favour of fracking. It focuses on so-called 'wokeism' to deflect from popular anger at profiteering, inequality and injustice.

This makes today's Far-Right in Britain different from historical Far-Right and fascist organisations in an important respect. Today in Britain, the Far-Right operates at the behest of a faction of US finance capital as cheerleaders for US imperialism in decline, rather than as nostalgists for the British Empire.

Britain's communists join with socialists, democrats and anti racists to mobilise and counter far right attempts to dominate our communities.

We are proud to march in the Together Alliance and pledge to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Cable Street on Saturday 4 October 2026

Never forget. They did not pass. Stop the Far-Right

ALEX GORDON IS GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY

With the spurious inclusion of Cuba on the 'State Sponsors of Terrorism' list and the brutal new wave of sanctions launched in January 2026, the intention is clear: a total oil blockade designed to shatter the Cuban economy, infrastructure, and healthcare.

In response, the Communist Party is launching the Aid for Cuba appeal. This is not merely a gesture of goodwill. It is a strategic escalation of our work with the Cuba Solidarity Campaign, evoking the historic Aid for Spain campaign launched in 1936.

Support for the Cuban people, their Party, and their government is a communist priority.

We are raising funds for 40ft shipping containers of essential food and medical supplies, with each container estimated at £25,000. Plus we are collaborating with the French CGT France to supply Cuba with Chinese solar energy generators, panels, and batteries. By harnessing solar power, we help release Cuba from the US oil embargo. These units range from \$322.23 to \$1,331.11, providing immediate, decentralized power to the Cuban people.

Donations should be made directly to the Party bank account. Go to www.comunistparty.org.uk

Unity!



Workers of all lands, unite!
Communist Party March 2026

INSIDE

Revolutionary Practice
Action Reports P2

Briefing Defend refugees
Tony Conway & Alex Gordon P4

Fascist threat revived
Victoria Holmes P3

Karl Marx Oration
Mary Davis and Gawain Little P10&11

International Reports
British bases in Cyprus P9
Communists jailed in Jordan
Epic Fury is a war crime

Plus CHALLENGE

Jobs not war
Phillip English

Violence against women and girls
Annie Cogan-Thomas
with Georgina Andrews

Sharpeville remembered
Ethan Chan

Wales as nation
Twm Draper

The role of the YCL
Georgina Andrews



REVOLUTIONARY PRACTICE

‘In order to be able to organize the masses we must acquire the Leninist art of making our decisions the property not only of the Communists but also of the widest masses of working people. We must learn to talk to the masses, not in the language of book formulas, but in the language of fighters for the cause of the masses, whose every word and every idea reflect the innermost thoughts and sentiments of millions.’
Georgi Dimitroff *Unity of the working class against fascism.* 13 August 1935 at the 7th Congress of the Communist International

Communists condemn anti-semitic hate crime

23 March 2026

COMMUNIST PARTY

The Communist Party utterly condemns the arson attack on the Jewish Volunteer ambulances in London.

This is a direct assault on the essential infrastructure of our communities.

To target the vehicles that provide emergency medical care is to target the most vulnerable members of the working class. This is not an isolated incident of mindless criminality but gives all indications of being an antisemitic hate crime.

We stand with the Jewish community and will always oppose those trying to spread hate and division.

The growth of hateful ideologies is no accident but the logical conclusion of a system that fosters suspicion and violence to maintain

its own stability. We reiterate our unequivocal opposition to the rise of antisemitism, Islamophobia, and all forms of hate crime.

These ideologies are the tools of the ruling class, deployed to fracture the unity of the people and divert anger away from the architects of economic exploitation. The propagation of such hatred is a fundamental threat to the collective safety of our streets.

The state has proven itself unable and unwilling to provide genuine security against reactionary violence.

History demonstrates that the only effective defence against such terror is the organised solidarity of the working class.

We reject the rhetoric that emboldens the arsonist and call for a unified front against those who seek to divide us by race, religion, or origin. Solidarity with those affected.



Bill Greenshields

SOLIDARITY

THE DEMISE of the current Islamic Republic in Iran should not be the result of foreign imperialist invasion and control, with the installation of a puppet regime Navid Shomali, international secretary of the Tudeh Party of Iran told a Derby meeting.

He denounced the latest attempt of US to subjugate Iran in order to plunder its huge oil and other mineral resources, and to utilise its key geopolitical position linking Asia, Europe and Africa – extremely important to the USA in its ongoing ambition to dominate the world, militarily, economically, and politically.

Tracing the imperialist plans for Iran throughout the 20th and 21st centuries he focused particularly on

the history since the 1953 coup – orchestrated by the US CIA (Operation AJAX) and the British MI6 (Operation Boot) against the democratic government of Mohammad Mosaddegh who had promised oil industry nationalisation.

The coup ushered the Shah into power, who repaid his debt with 26 years of loyalty to imperialism – until the people’s popular revolution of 1979 put an end to his rule.

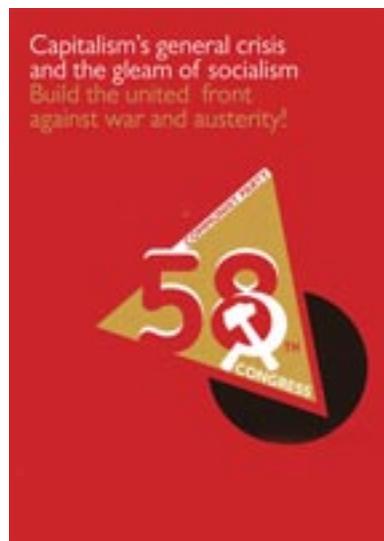
But not to be outdone the US and British provoked the Iraqi invasion of Iran in 1980 – providing Saddam Hussein with several billion dollars’ worth of economic aid, dual-use technology, intelligence sharing and special operations training. The invasion was intended to destabilise the revolution, and by 1983 power and control lay in the hands of reactionary Islamism – and many of

the 1979 revolutionaries were its victims – including the deaths of Navid Shomali’s brothers, and his own forced exile for over 40 years.

He described the current US bombing campaign as barbarous, based on Trump’s expectation that he could bring about a quick collapse, and regime change – but also described the spirit and determination of the whole Iranian people, asserting that Trump had made a great mistake in thinking that they would submit.

He described Trump’s international isolation, and the growing opposition to him in the USA which his reckless and stupid acts of aggression will only encourage to develop, as they cause further splits in the imperialist camp.

The event was organised by Derby People’s Assembly’s Peoples Café with local *Liberation Journal* readers and Derby Stop the War Coalition



Resolutions of the November 2025 Congress of the Communist Party

£2 www.comuniustparty.org.uk



If not you, who? If not now, when?

Join Britain’s working class party of socialist power and liberation www.comunistparty.org.uk

Celebrating International Working Women’s Day

Judith Cazorla

WOMEN

INTERNATIONAL Working Womens Day was celebrated this month with the now traditional meeting of progressive sister organisations in Britain.

This included the women from the Iraqi, Sudanese, Spanish and Britain’s communist parties, AKEL of Cyprus, Free People of Palestine and the Democratic Federation of Iranian Women amongst others.

Lorraine Douglas highlighted the

imperialist role of the Western powers, with particular emphasis the rise of racism and solidarity with Cuba under blockade by the USA. She encouraged participating organisations to support the Communist Party’s campaign to send a container of aid to the island.

Following this a Women’s Conference, organised by the Communist Party and Young Communist League, was held at the Max Memorial Library.

Discussions centred on the

Party’s policies on sex and gender with a discussion the implications for working women in Britain and the broader labour movement.

Well recieved contributions came from representatives of Filia, the Socialist Women Alliance, Southall Sisters and Nordic Model Now.

Strengthening collaboration with these organisations reflects the Communist Party’s commitment to winning women to join in the united front in defence of working class interests.

One key aim of communist

women is to claim back International Women’s Day for the working class.

The party and and YCL work to put working women at the forefront of the struggle for peace, jobs and socialism. The ruling class attacks on women’s rights are bound together as part of a wider offensive on the working class as a whole.

To resist them requires education, agitation and organisation. The fight for women’s liberation must be linked with the broader struggle

against imperialism and for socialism. With this approach, communists move forward as the Party of the working class – building solidarity, deepening alliances and ensuring that the voice and leadership of working women remain central in the struggle for socialism.



JUDITH CAZORLA IS THE COMMUNIST PARTY’S NATIONAL ORGANISER



ON THE UNITED FRONT

‘The determination, which in Russia was direct and drove the masses onto the streets for a revolutionary uprising, in central and western Europe is complicated by all these political super-structures, created by the greater development of capitalism. This makes the action of the masses slower and more prudent, and therefore requires of the revolutionary party a strategy and tactics altogether more complex and long-term than those which were necessary for the Bolsheviks in the period between March and November 1917.’ **Antonio Gramsci** *Letter to Togliatti, Terracini and others* (9 February 1924)

The fascist threat revived



The far right is fed by the dark money of the digital oligarchy, boosted by the erratic whims of Elon Musk and the global networks of reactionary wealth.

Reform UK

Alex Gordon writes:

The Communist Party argues that Reform UK is a stalking horse for US imperialism and private health corporations and a fifth column threatening the working class in Britain.

Reform UK acts as a transatlantic chapter of MAGA. It wants to roll back gains in education. It plans to privatise the BBC by selling it to US media giants. It calls to scrap net-zero carbon targets and ramp up drilling for oil and gas. It is in favour of fracking. It focuses on so-called ‘wokeism’ to deflect from popular anger at profiteering, inequality and injustice.

This makes today’s Far-Right in Britain different from historical Far-Right and fascist organisations in an important respect. Today in Britain, the Far-Right operates at the behest of a faction of US finance capital as cheerleaders for US imperialism in decline, rather than as nostalgists for the British Empire.

ALEX GORDON IS GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY

Victoria Holmes

FASCISM TODAY

THE GHOST of Oswald Mosley has not been exorcised: it has simply been rebranded for the digital age. The black shirt of the 1930s has been laundered into the barbour jacket of Nigel Farage and the tactical vest of Stephen Yaxley-Lennon (above left). This is a singular, unbroken thread of British reaction: a lineage of exclusion that stretches from the paving stones of the East End to the bruised docks of Liverpool this month. The faces change, the technology evolves, but the pulse of the movement remains a rhythmic, thumping desire for a Britain defined by the purge.

In the 1930s, the British Union of Fascists sought to weaponise the economic despair of the working class against the Jewish community. Today, that same poison is being recirculated. Antisemitism is on a sharp, terrifying rise: a 30 percent increase in reported incidents as the old conspiracy theories of the 1930s are fed through the algorithms of the 2020s.

We see a sophisticated division of labour within the far right. There is the respectable face of Farage: the man who translates bile into the language of common sense and parliamentary procedure. Then there is the street-level muscle of Robinson: the man who translates that same bile into the language of the riot and the direct threat. They are two halves of the same historical coin, minted in the same forge of racial anxiety.

This movement has always been the

attack dog of capital. Mosley was not a man of the people: he was bankrolled by Lord Rothermere and the industrialist money that feared the rising tide of the unions. Today, the financiers have moved from the press rooms to the platform owners. The far right is fed by the dark money of the digital oligarchy, boosted by the erratic whims of Elon Musk and the global networks of reactionary wealth. They serve capital by diverting the righteous anger of the dispossessed. They tell the worker to look at the migrant or the Roma instead of the landlord. They offer a scapegoat so the billionaire can keep the keys to the city. This is the ultimate spatial trick: while they occupy our attention with the ‘threat’ at the border, the digital landlords occupy our minds and the private equity firms occupy our streets.

The digital pavement is now as contested as the physical one. Musk does not merely fund the movement: he provides the virtual architecture for the radicalisation of the lonely and the lost. By hollowing out the public square of the internet, the billionaire class creates a vacuum that the far right is only too happy to fill with the aesthetics of the crusader and the language of the victim. They have turned the algorithm into a modern-day megaphone for the Mosleyite creed, ensuring that the lie travels around the world before the truth can even find its boots. It is a pincer movement: the high-tech surveillance of the state above and the low-tech violence of the street below, both serving to protect the interests of a

ruling class that thrives on our fragmentation.

On 21 March this year, the physical reality of this rhetoric spilled onto the streets of Liverpool. A UKIP procession attempted to claim the city centre, but they were met by a massive surge of counter-protestors: a wall of solidarity that refused to cede an inch of the pavement.

The tally of the day was written in handcuffs and broken glass. Merseyside Police confirmed six arrests: charges of assault, public order offences, and the possession of offensive weapons.

This was not a procession of concerned citizens: it was a theatre of intimidation. It was a failed attempt to rehearse the violence they hope to make permanent.

The data provides the grim rhythm to this escalation. National statistics for the period ending in 2025 record a 19 percent surge in racially aggravated offences across the United Kingdom. This is a direct correlation to the mainstreaming of ethno-nationalist rhetoric. The hostile environment has moved from a Whitehall policy to a street-level reality, where the cross is now weaponised as a badge of indigenous purity. In Liverpool, the rhetoric was draped in the aesthetics of a crusader state: a Christian Britain that exists only as a weapon to be wielded against the migrant, the Muslim, the Jewish community, and the Roma. It is a hollowed-out theology: a void used to signal who belongs to the national myth and who is a trespasser.

When we stand together, we are

not just protesting a policy or a party. We are standing in the breach of history. We are the living answer to the Mosleyite legacy.

Our presence on the street is a physical reclamation of the commons, a refusal to allow the far right to define the boundaries of our community.

We must break the thread to the poisonous heritage of Mosley once and for all. We carry the memory of the East End, the defiance of Liverpool, and the unyielding spirit of anti fascism – workers in Wales, Scotland and England; Black people from Britain’s colonies in Africa, the Caribbean and Asia; Jews, Irish and the Roma who have always known that the roadside is a frontline.

Fascists shall not pass.



VICTORIA HOLMES IS DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE COMMUNIST PARTY



Communist Party pamphlet *Unmasking Reform UK* by Phil Katz and Nick Wright £2 www.comunistparty.org.uk



As we march together, we carry the echo of 4 October 1936, the day the barricades at Cable Street were held by the iron will of the communists and a working class – Jews, Irish and many more – who knew that fascism is not a debate but a physical threat to the collective interests of the working class.

Action Briefing

Defend refugees



Tony Conway and Alex Gordon call on the trade union movement to build a mass anti-racist and anti-fascist movement in Britain

In 2025, overt fascists and far-right groups with known fascist links organised street mobilisations and coordinated patriotic flag-flying events branded as “Operation Raise the Colours” across Britain. Unlike the fascist-instigated racist riots in English towns and cities in 2024, the 2025 mobilisations were organised with police permission, well-funded with organised transport, and featured prominent displays of English, Scottish, Welsh, and Union flags, alongside coordinated social media messaging.

This operation bears the hallmarks of a sophisticated far-right populist strategy, using symbols like flags and social media memes to scapegoat “illegal migrants.” Longstanding issues of crime, housing insecurity, loss of local services, and amenities are blamed on asylum seekers, reframing legitimate concerns through a xenophobic, Islamophobic, or racist lens.

The party of snatch squads

Reform UK’s Trumpian ‘Operation Restoring Justice’ with its plans to deport up to 600,000 people over the next parliament – over 2,300 people a week, or 330 people per day – would require a UK version of the hated US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) force. This is why defending refugee rights, and the UN Refugee Convention is a cornerstone of the call for a united front against racism and fascism.

Reform UK’s plan would mean paramilitary, non-uniformed snatch squads operating beyond the law to terrorise working-class communities in Britain, mirroring the tactics employed by Donald Trump in cities across the US, which Farage aims to emulate. To achieve this, Reform UK proposes to ‘disapply’ international treaties such as the UN Refugee Convention and to leave the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).

End the state-funded hellholes

The far-right’s chosen target – so-called ‘migrant hotels’ – are often dilapidated hellholes run by corporate hotel chains.

People awaiting decisions on their refugee status after fleeing violence, persecution, and torture are crammed into damp, mouldy, infested, insanitary conditions, often four to a room without natural light. Reports from inside describe heat and water cut-offs, lack of privacy and safety for children and women, and dehumanising treatment.

These state-funded, privately run incarceration centres provide ideal flashpoints for far-right provocateurs. But the very existence of such conditions in Britain in 2025 is the real scandal. The Refugee Council, Care4Calais, and other campaigning organisations have called for an end to the use of hotels to house asylum seekers.

Anti-racists who mobilised counter-protests at hundreds of these asylum hotels must be absolutely clear: we defend refugees, not the appalling conditions in which they are held.

In October 2023, Rachel Goodall, Refugee Action head of asylum services, stated: “Private companies are pocketing outrageously large taxpayer-funded profits. This gravy train must stop. It’s time the government funded local authorities to run the system on a not-for-profit basis and spent every penny of this public money to protect refugees and strengthen services for all of us.”

Where there’s muck, there’s brass

In July 2024, the Starmer government inherited Tory Home Secretary Theresa May’s 12-year-old asylum seeker dispersal policy. In March 2012, the Tory/Lib Dem coalition government signed six COMPASS contracts to provide “no choice” housing to asylum seekers and their families. COMPASS transferred responsibility for asylum accommodation from local authorities and social housing associations to three private contractors: G4S, Serco, and Clearel. G4S managed Brook House and Tinsley House Immigration Removal Centres until a BBC Panorama investigation into abuse at Brook House led to Serco taking over in 2020. Serco has managed Yarl’s Wood since 2007.

By July 2024, a *Sunday Times* investigation revealed that three contractors – Serco, Mears, and Clearsprings – controlled government contracts worth £3 billion per year to house asylum seekers, with a guaranteed profit of £7 per person per day. Middlemen received a 15 per cent cut to source rooms in run-down hotels whose owners are eager to profit from guaranteed bookings.

Hotel owners themselves have no direct contracts with the government and are not vetted. They include notorious slum landlord Nicholas Adolf von Hessen, a self-confessed fascist who owns three hotels in Brighton used for asylum seekers, including one housing unaccompanied children from which 136 children went missing in 2023.

The 1951 UN Refugee Convention confers a legal obligation to house people waiting for a decision on their refugee status. Its core principle is “non-

refoulement,” meaning refugees may not be returned to a country where they face serious threats to their life or freedom. The Convention also mandates minimum standards for treatment, including the right to housing, work, and education while displaced.

Until recently, hotels were only used for short-term emergency cover, but during Covid their use spiked as contractors struggled to find dispersal accommodation. At its peak in June 2023, the Home Office housed 51,000 asylum seekers in over 400 hotels across Britain. Tory ministers gaslit asylum seekers, blaming them for the £8 million daily hotel bill. By March 2025, the number reduced to 32,345 asylum seekers in 218 hotels. Annual asylum applications to the UK peaked in 2024 at 108,138.

In 2024, the total UK asylum accommodation bill was £4.7 billion, of which £3.1 billion went on hotel accommodation, costing an average of £158 per night. Three contractors – Clearsprings, Serco, and Mears – made £380 million in profit from accommodation contracts over five years from September 2019 to August 2024. Britannia Hotels alone has profited over £150 million from asylum accommodation since 2014.

More government failure

When Labour came to office in July 2024, Chancellor Rachel Reeves pledged to “end the costly use of asylum hotels in this parliament,” claiming it would save the Treasury £1 billion annually. However, her own “fiscal golden rule” is the main obstacle to doing so. Ending the use of asylum hotels and integrating asylum seekers into communities requires public spending now and an end to austerity in local government.

The Home Office must also invest in safe and legal routes for refugees. A “safe and legal route” is a formally approved journey, either without a visa or with a visa granted for that purpose. The 2022 UK Nationality and Borders Act forbids asylum claims unless a person is physically present in the UK. In a Catch-22, it is impossible to come to the UK for the purpose of seeking asylum in any way allowed by the government’s own immigration rules. No safe and legal routes are available to refugees with the notable exceptions of those from Ukraine or who worked for the UK in Afghanistan.

We don’t turn our backs

UN Reports warn that Britain is in danger of breaking UN Conventions and must do more to curb hate speech. With more far-right provocations planned, how should the labour and trade union movement respond?

We celebrate the magnificent mobilisations by tens of thousands of anti-racists in recent weeks. Our successful anti-racist, anti-fascist mobilisations brought together pro-Palestinian and Black Lives Matter campaigners, trade unionists, faith groups, anti-racist organisations, and political parties. We stopped fascist-inspired attacks in many towns and cities, though not all. Several vulnerable asylum seekers were targeted and physically attacked.

Violent provocations by race-baiters on our streets are a consequence of years of state racism – racist, Islamophobic,

anti-migrant state policies and deliberate media narratives dehumanising and scapegoating those deemed as disposable. By recognising the reinforcing loop between official UK state racism and the opportunist far-right, we strengthen our resistance to it.

Unions must hold the state to account. We support trade union campaigns for workers now threatened with deportation by changes to working visa income thresholds due to what Liz Saville Roberts MP has called “a procedural peculiarity”.

In July 2025, almost 200 London Underground staff were put at risk when the Home Office raised minimum salary thresholds for skilled worker visas. At a stroke, safety-critical jobs of London Underground Station Assistants were removed from the Home Office skilled worker list cutting off visa pathways for existing workers. These workers now face likely deportation and this has the makings of another Windrush Scandal.

Their union, RMT calls the threshold changes “arbitrary” and has pledged to support affected workers and push for a fairer outcome. On 17 September 2025, RMT has called a protest to defend our workmates at the Home Office in Marsham St, London.

The PCS union points to the government’s White Paper ‘Restoring control over the immigration system’ launched on 1 July 2025 which raised salary thresholds from £34,675.20 (£15.88 per hour) to £41,800 for workers employed on skilled worker visas.

PCS says at least 500 DWP staff are caught in this visa trap, but the Department for Work & Pensions currently facing a staffing crisis says it employs roughly 1,500 staff on visas. PCS believes the figure may be nearer 2,000 and points out that losing this number of experienced staff will impact on delivery of social security.

PCS DWP group president, Angela Grant said, “The impact on our members cannot be understated especially those on skilled worker visas whose only crime is to accept a job which doesn’t value their work highly enough to pay them appropriately.”

These latest injustices highlight the working visa trap, which is linked to the lack of a single status definition of worker in UK law. This has created a legal limbo in which migrant workers can be employed, pay tax and national insurance, raise a family, drive a car and own property for years in Britain while dependent on their employment for a working visa and on the stroke of a ministerial pen for the continued inclusion of their job on the Home Office’s skilled worker list.

A Status of Workers Bill proposed in 2021 by Lord John Henty, aimed to create a single legal status of ‘worker’ and abolish the current system. The Bill defines workers as “any individual who is engaged by another to provide labour and is not, in the provision of that labour, genuinely operating a business on his or her own account”.

The trade union movement must redouble the demand for ‘a single status of worker for all but the genuinely self-employed’ as promised in 2021 in Labour’s ‘New Deal for Working People’. The Labour government’s failure to include single status in their Employment Rights Bill (2024) is a

concession to the worst employers and makes all workers vulnerable. A single status of worker unites every worker from the gig economy, to outsourced and labour-only supply agencies where migrant workers are most vulnerable of all. A class-wide approach will unite workers irrespective of race, religion, or nationality. A rising tide lifts all boats.

An ‘All-in the tent’ approach

The Communist Party’s Anti-Racism, Anti-Fascism Commission welcomes the role of trade unions, community groups, and anti-racist organisations such as Stand Up to Racism in defending migrants. We support calls to build a broader anti-racist and anti-fascist campaign linking defence of refugees with workers and trade union rights.

To succeed, such a campaign must not only defend our communities against fascist-inspired mobs but also end austerity and low-wage exploitation and win investment in public services, decent union jobs, and above all, decent, affordable housing.

Racists see society through the prism of race. Socialists see it through the prism of class. This means challenging racism at its roots: the government policies and media thematics that demonise migrants and confine them in detention centres and hotels. Far-right calls to “take back our hotels” only heighten racist discourse. Our communities never owned these hotels.

Anti-racist campaigners must link with anti-cuts campaigners to call for an end to government austerity policies and reverse cuts to local authority funding. Labour’s failure to lift the two-child benefit cap to alleviate child poverty, while helping privatised energy and water companies to make massive profits, can and must be challenged politically, industrially, and locally by trades councils and the People’s Assembly.

Build a united front against racism and fascism

Trades unions and trades councils should strengthen links with the many longstanding organisations of diaspora communities in Britain, such as the Indian Workers Association, Bangladeshi Workers Council, and Caribbean Labour Solidarity, and black-led anti-racist organisations including the Liberation Movement.

Anti-racism is necessarily linked with opposition to imperialism and war. Interventionist wars are preceded by denigration of the people to be invaded. Racist rhetoric is used to legitimise western imperialism’s resource wars on poorer, resource-rich countries. Anti-racist movements must oppose imperialism, war, and sanctions – war by another name – imposed by rich nations for their economic and political gain.

We must broaden and unite our campaigns to argue for progressive policies based on unifying working-class communities to resist the far right and the resolve of trade unions to support our fight means we can build a united front against racism and fascism. Let’s grasp this opportunity.

TONY CONWAY IS A FORMER PCS NATIONAL OFFICER AND ALEX GORDON WAS TWICE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE RAIL, MARITIME AND TRANSPORT UNION

CHALLENGE

March 2026

INSIDE

Ethan Chan on Sharpeville and apartheid
Annie Cogan-Thomas on violence against women and girls
Georgina Andrews on the role of the YCL
Twm Draper on Wales as a nation

Young Communist League

JOBS NOT WAR!



With youth unemployment hitting its highest in over ten years, at 16.1% of 16-24 year olds, many are looking for who to blame.

Businesses and opposition politicians have taken aim at the Labour government, blaming the national living wage, the Employment Rights Act's equalisation of pay for under-21s, or the rise in National Insurance.

Philip English says that they are pointing to the wrong things. The solution to unemployment is not to reduce wages, we need a government that is investing in job creation and public education.



STARMER'S LABOUR government is instead choosing to invest only in warfare, depriving a generation of the opportunities we deserve.

Youth unemployment is not some accident of the market, it is the result of deliberate choices.

Despite their name, this Labour government has chosen not to invest in the labour force of today and tomorrow, but in militarism.

At the release of the Strategic Defence Review last summer, Starmer was clear that the nation should become a "battle-ready, armour-clad nation"

Instead of investing in key, growing and jobs rich industries, our government doubles down on

the road to war. The Alternative Defence Review highlights how military spending has one of the lowest employment multipliers – 70th out of 100 sectors – outperformed by sectors such as agriculture, energy, transport, and construction, with health the highest ranking sector of them all.

Instead of developing a mass programme of apprenticeships and publicly funded universities, they offer military gap years and a deluge of adverts that sell the military as some kind of summer camp.

Precarious work or joining the armed services

If the only viable options for many young people is precarious work and benefits, or joining the military and arms industry, we cannot be surprised when people choose the latter. It is not a moral failing of these individuals, but a systemic failing of our economy and politics.

Communists not only make the case against the drive to war, but the case for a better alternative.

We need a just transition for workers in the arms industry, creating equivalent or better jobs for their technical skills in industries that do not serve imperialism.

Furthermore, we must fight for investment in key public industries, green and high tech sectors, and in free cradle-to-grave education designed to equip us for such industries.

Young people need good jobs ready to take them, and an education system designed to get them there.

Raising wages does not harm the economy

The issue of youth unemployment has already been used to argue against the national living wage as well as the equalising of the minimum wage for under-21s, introduced in the Employment Rights Act.

The argument goes that the increased cost of labour is hurting businesses, and suggests that a way to get more young people in work could be to bring their wages lower down, or risk businesses raising prices to counteract.

This argument misunderstands the relationship of wages to value, prices, and profit. The value of a commodity is determined by the social labour necessary to make it. Marx explains this in *Value, Price and Profit* and, more extensively, in *Capital*.

In this situation, how do businesses make a profit? They have to pay workers less than the total value of their labour. If they didn't, they would be spending as much money as they make – and under capitalism's 'free market', a business breaking even will be out-competed by a company making profit – i.e. one paying its employees less than they are worth. This is why the label of 'ethical employer' is laughable under capitalism.

The exact price a product or service sells for fluctuates with supply and demand, but this price is always some amount below or above the actual value, orbiting around this amount.

Therefore, the suggestion that businesses will simply increase prices to counter the increased costs of wages is mistaken. If businesses start charging more, we will buy less. Increased costs kill the demand for 'non-essentials'. It means less trips to the pub, club, bar, restaurant; less presents for our friends, family, and loved ones on holidays and birthdays; and so-on.

For many of us, it even means buying less essentials. We are already in a 'cost of living crisis', the cost of essentials have already gone up, never mind luxuries. These increases in prices were not driven by higher wages, quite the opposite, the struggle for higher wages has been fought in response to higher prices. Accounting for this inflation, many fights for 'higher' wages has been in truth just a fight against real terms pay cuts.

Similarly, if businesses keep prices the same but manage to lobby the government into lowering either the minimum wage in general or the youth minimum wage again, then with less income, we still will have

to cut our spending further. When so many of us are already choosing between heating and eating, there comes a point where we must ask, what even is there left to cut?

Jobs under socialism

Our nation is far too wealthy to justify a single person living in poverty, yet poverty has become a normal part of life for so many young people. We have known nothing but austerity, privatisation, and an endless waste of money and life for the military and arms industry. Be it in Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Ukraine, Palestine – or the possible future wars that our government seems determined to see come about.

There is an alternative, however. Instead of the road to war, we can take the road to socialism.

Under socialism, our economy will no longer be planned by the unelected, unaccountable heads of monopoly corporations. It will be planned democratically by the workers ourselves, with shared prosperity – not private profit – the goal.

With socialist planning, we can develop our public education system in tandem with the needs and vacancies of our industries. Sectors would be integrated, meaning any surplus from profitable sectors could be invested in areas that may not be immediately profitable, but serve a social good. The notion of cutting wages or raising prices because the minimum wage was 'too high' would be unthinkable.

Youth unemployment would be a relic of the past, because our education would have been designed specifically to provide clear pathways into needed jobs. The public investment in industries would ensure such jobs existed in the first place.

Today's farce of the overqualified generation would end. Too often graduates find their few career options not only don't require a degree, but don't even require A-levels. No wonder so many of our generation are left asking "what did I just go into over £40,000 of student debt for?"

We are not overqualified, we are under-invested in!

We must fight against any attempt to reverse the Employment Rights Act, link up the struggles against youth unemployment and student poverty with the wider struggle against war and imperialism, and build the fight for peace, jobs, and socialism in our lifetime.

PHILIP ENGLISH, IS THE EDITOR OF CHALLENGE MAGAZINE

Remembering the Sharpeville massacre and the fight against apartheid



Ethan Chan

SOLIDARITY

SATURDAY 21 MARCH was the 66th anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre in South Africa when near 5,000 people gathered to demand that the police arrest them for contravening the law that compelled black people to carry a pass. Without a warning, the police fired 1,344 rounds into the crowd. The massacre was met with international condemnation and the global movement against apartheid took a new turn.

Britain's Young Communists met with the Young Communist League of South Africa to hold an online seminar to exchange revolutionary greetings and remember the struggle against apartheid.

We were reminded not only of the struggles of South Africans during the fight against apartheid but also the current battle against its legacy, including continued issues of land ownership, deep racial and income inequality, and the interference of outside right-wing individuals. Both organisations also expressed their solidarity for our brothers and sisters in Cuba and Palestine, under current escalated aggression from the United States and Israel.

We heard from renowned academic and anti-apartheid activist professor Rasigan Maharajh, London Recruit Bob Newlands, and the manager of the Sharpeville Memorial Centre Mam Lillian, giving insightful historical and

political context on apartheid in general and the Sharpeville massacre in particular.

Overall, the programme was an opportunity for an exciting academic and political exchange.

The audience included not just young communists from across Britain and South Africa, but also former London Recruits – British volunteers, many Young Communists – who worked secretly in South Africa to aid the ANC propaganda and sabotage campaign.

This was a real celebration of our active progressive and working-class internationalist solidarity and cooperation.

As well as being an event sharing our collective living history, this commemoration had a view to the future, emphasising the need for continued collaborative work between the two organisations and progressive forces at the international level, and elevating our joint political education, grassroots organising, and campaign work.

Moving forward, the YCL of Britain and the YCLSA affirmed their unshakeable foundations of socialist fraternity, and will continue to engage in comprehensive exchanges of ideas and actions.

The state and instruments of apartheid in South Africa may have been destroyed, but the fight for socialism in our lifetime continues.

ETHAN CHAN IS THE YCL'S INTERNATIONAL OFFICER



On the march

The Young Communist League is an essential factor in the class struggle for socialism in Britain. While communist parties are characterised as vanguard organisations, their affiliated youth organisations are characterised as mass organisations. Georgina Andrews looks at history and examples from around the world and asks why is this, and what does it mean for the YCL and its work?

IN 1941 as the war to defeat fascism reached a crisis point, Britain's Communist Party issued a statement – *The Role and Character of the Young Communist League* – in which it emphasised that the Communist Party arises from and is based upon the working class.

It said: "There is only one working class (young workers are part of this class), therefore there can only be one party of the working class, and only one Marxist-Leninist theory and science. The YCL, therefore, is not a youth party."

"The Communist Party is the vanguard of the working class and its youth wing, the YCL, is its reserve and instrument, necessarily capturing a wider membership than the Party due to differences in function. The YCL is not a mini Communist Party. The Party is the highest form of working-class organisation and should consist of the most advanced, politically conscious sections of the working class. It is a united, centralised organisation to provide strategic leadership to the working class movement, thus there can only be one vanguard for the working class. Working-class youth are part of this working class and some make up the membership of the Party, hence there is no need for a separate youth 'vanguard'.

Today we continue to argue that the Party is the vanguard, therefore the YCL is a mass organisation "spiritually bound" to the Party. The primary goal of the YCL is educational. It is, at its crux, "a mass school of communism" for youth, particularly working-class youth, where they can learn communism theoretically and



▲ Step ahead Komsomol generation. 1938 Soviet poster by Elena K Melnikova

practically, and begin their political development. Most, if not all, applicants will not be fully-fledged communists; it is their duty to learn communism as members of the YCL.

The Soviet experience

Much earlier, in 1924 as Soviet power was established, the Soviet leader Joseph Stalin in his speech *On the Contradictions in the Young Communist League* described the YCL as a "reserve...from which the Party augments its ranks...at the same time, an instrument...in the hands of the Party, bringing the masses of the youth under its influence...the active League membership is an instrument of the Party for influencing the youth not organised in the League."

Our conception today is that the YCL is an organisation that can extend the Communist Party's ability to influence youth in the battle to win working class state power and establish socialism.

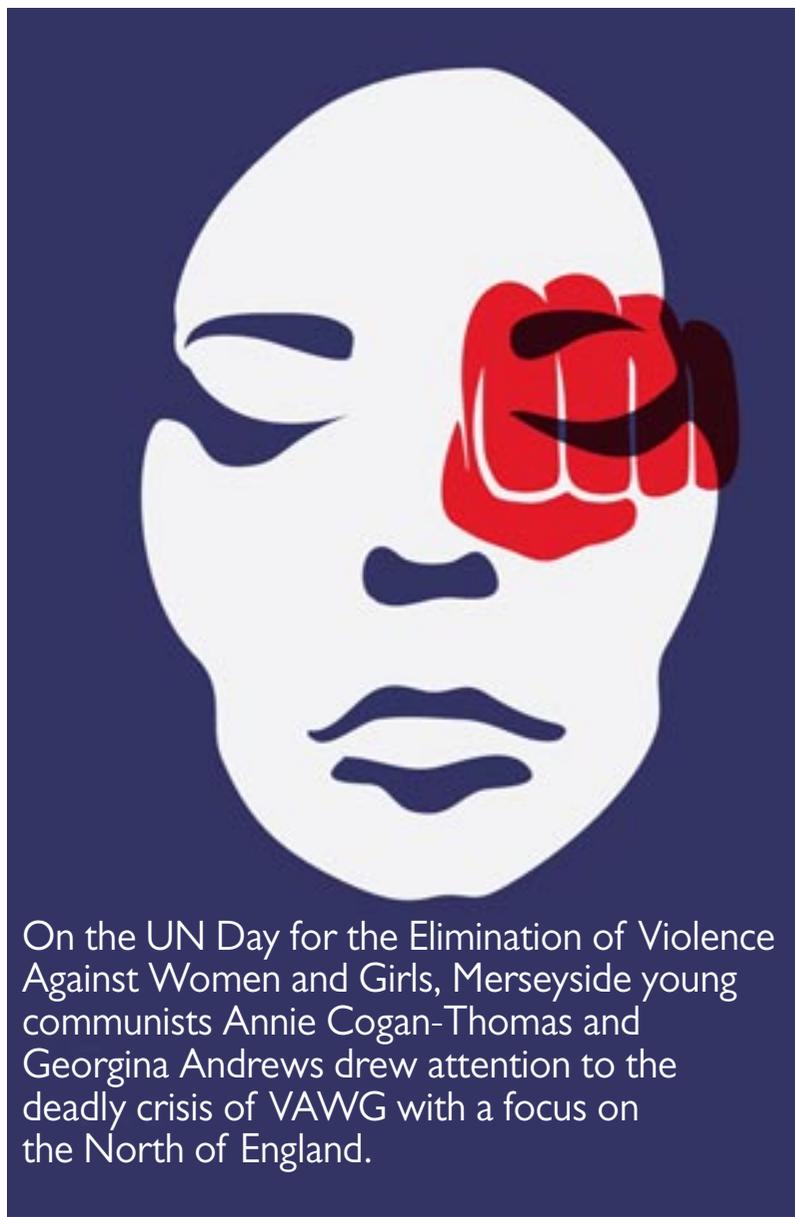
The role of the Party is complex,

hence the YCL provides the space where young people can learn the ropes of democratic centralism and other concepts. It is unrealistic to expect young people to come fresh into Party life and know what is going on otherwise we struggle to retain members, who could feel overwhelmed and excluded.

The Cuban experience

On the anniversary of the Young Communist League of Cuba (UJC) in 1962, Che Guevara delivered his address *What a Young Communist Should Be*, in which he said, "The Young Communist League must define itself with a single word: vanguard. You, comrades, must be the vanguard of all movements. The first to be ready to make the sacrifices that the Revolution demands, whatever the nature of these sacrifices. The first in work. The first in study. The first in the defence of the country..."

The notion of vanguard in his speech is related to the role young



VIOLENCE AGAINST Women and Girls in Britain is on the rise and data published by the National Police Chiefs' Council in July 2024 states that recorded VAWG-related crime went up by 37% between 2018 and 2023.

In 2022, 122 women were killed by men in the UK. Almost half of women murdered by their male partner had either attempted to leave or had ended their relationship and in 70% of cases women were killed in their home. Women in the North of England have the highest rates of domestic violence in the country. The highest rates are in the North East, Yorkshire and the Humber then the North West.

Socialists understand that VAWG is intrinsically linked to the structure of capitalist society. Marx and Engels explored in *The German Ideology* that the ruling ideas of any society are the ideas of the ruling class and patriarchal ideology is just that for the ruling capitalist class.

Patriarchal ideology maintains the class relations necessary to uphold capitalist exploitation. Through the super-exploitation of women's labour, more profit is extracted for capitalist gain, and women suffer under the double burden — exploitation in the workplace and responsibility over domestic labour in the home. We see this in unpaid labour such as unpaid care.

Women in the North of England provide the highest amount of unpaid care and in one year will contribute

£10bn of unpaid care to the UK economy.

Subordination of women originates and is deeply rooted in class society and the oppression of women. Women's oppression has become so universalised that it is divorced from its class origins and therefore seen as the "natural" order of things, which explains the prevalence of VAWG under capitalism.

Statistically women in the North of England work more hours and for less pay. They also suffer with worse housing and are likely to have worse health.

The same areas of the North of England that have higher rates of domestic violence also have the highest rates of poverty. This is no coincidence.

In March 2023, The Femicide Census identified Knowsley, a constituency in Merseyside, as the constituency with the highest rate of killed women in the UK that year. In a 2019 spending review Knowsley Council stated Knowsley's funding has been cut by £485 for every person in the Borough compared to the England average of just £188 per person.

The destitution of the working class is particularly acute in Knowsley, impacting women already economically and socially disadvantaged by the capitalist system.

Neoliberal policies of austerity ravage the most deprived areas of the country. As we see cuts to public services including children's services, housing, mental health services,

women's charities and more. This has a direct correlation to the increase of VAWG.

As the state continues to aid and abet the capitalist elite to extract more money from these vital services, violence turns inwards to the home and its working class women who bear the brunt of a failing economic system in perpetual crisis.

Women's oppression is maintained by the ideology of gender. Social expectations of masculinity and femininity, including stereotypical and exaggerated ideas around what it is to be a woman or a man, are reproduced through state institutions and capitalist-owned media. We are seeing a rise in online discourse around "traditional family values" and more, social media is flooded with male YouTube influencers promoting masculinity, misogyny and anti-feminism.

Structural analysis of inequality is being replaced by reactionary identity politics dangerously shifting the focus from the collective experience to individualism. In order to resist violence against women and girls the left must deepen and develop our understanding of the material basis of women's oppression and exploitation and make clear our position that VAWG is a consequence of the crisis of capitalism and will only be fully defeated with the dismantling of it.

ANNIE COGAN-THOMAS IS A MEMBER OF THE YCL'S MERSEYSIDE BRANCH
GEORGINA ANDREWS IS THE YCL GENERAL SECRETARY



▲ The Cuban YCL has 300,752 members and over 33,000 local committees

people played in the revolution and in the defence of the revolution.

Foreign aggression from the US against Cuba meant that the entire population had to be trained in guerrilla strategy and revolutionary spirit as a whole-of-society approach to the defence of the revolution.

Cadre development – making working class leaders – can happen outside of the Party in Cuba because they draw from the masses and endless supply of the working class, and therefore "transmission of political orientation" from the Party to the masses is required.

This differs from the British approach due to the different material conditions of two different Parties. In Britain the YCL was identified as the 'transmission belt from the Party to the masses of youth.'

Young communists should be given every opportunity to develop through study programmes and practical work in political, theoretical and economic struggles.

The watchword of the UJC being *Study, Work and the Rifle* indicates the material reality of Cuba at the time in developing a socialist nation able to defend the Revolution through education, development and defence. Youth are especially important because they are the "malleable clay from which the new person can be built," highlighting the importance of educating youth.

Reflecting the British assessment that the YCL is 'spiritually bound' to the Party, Che also described the UJC as the 'younger brother of Cuba's Integrated Revolutionary Organisation.'

Our YCL's task is to turn the Party's strategy into activity that resonates with the real lives of young people, to build mass support for the fight for peace, jobs and socialism in our lifetime.

This is vital during a time when the capitalist drive to war for market and resource dominance, and increase profits from the war machine.

Britain today

The Labour government is impoverishing the working class through its austerity policies and cuts to public services to fund defence spending.

Youth unemployment is at 15.3%, is rising and young workers are more likely to be in precarious, temporary and part-time work with age discrimination enshrined in law.

The YCL aims to be an instrument of the Party in extending influence over youth, especially working-class youth, to inspire them to join in the class struggle.

Reinforced by our congress decisions our mission should be to win over the majority of the working youth. Youth are exploited in specific ways and are largely out of touch with the labour movement. Lenin observed that they are often "seething, turbulent and enquiring," often more willing to participate in the class struggle because they have only experienced crisis rather than reformism.

Take Generation Z for example, who the vast majority have only ever known life under austerity.

Generation Z have not lived during a period of a strong, organised trade union movement winning concessions for the working class, nor the concessions won in the post-war period, which saw mass council housing and the introduction of the NHS. Successive governments have only offered managed decline and crisis.

Today young people are not easily tempted by limited reforms because their lived reality is one of crisis.

The drive to war and austerity that

is all-consuming in our society doesn't promise youth anything better under capitalism, thus youth are in a position to reject capitalism more.

The climate crisis, war, and precarious work means many young people feel hopeless about the lack of a secure future. They have little to lose in revolting against capitalism.

This doesn't mean that young people automatically become revolutionaries but it presents plenty of opportunities for the YCL to build upon. The YCL offers a convincing analysis of the material reality of youth in Britain and is well positioned to win over masses of youth and raise their political consciousness in our workplaces, campuses and communities.

Our members and branches should be leading campaigns against fascism and war, against austerity, for peace and fully funded education and services.

Raising the political consciousness of youth, relating communism to youth and drawing young people into the struggle for socialism is our job.

Organisation

The branch is the centre for this activity. Branches must not only study the reality in their area but also organise and campaign to improve the material conditions for working-class youth in the struggle for socialism.

For example, young communists are leading the Toothless in Yorkshire campaign, linking this to austerity and cuts to public services, whilst fighting for fully funded dental care.

Many young communists are leaders in the trade union movement,

which is a focal area of developing and training workers in the class struggle, and is positive for the League in that it has increased particularly in the last two years.

Viewing the YCL as a vanguard is a mistake because it sets the bar for membership unrealistically and unnecessarily high.

A consequence of this view is that we turn away potential members before we can nurture and develop them and thus cutting ourselves off from the masses of youth.

Furthermore, this fake 'vanguardism' muddies the role of the Communist Party as the vanguard party, which leads the entire working class, including working-class youth.

To intensify our work, we must refocus our efforts to train, educate and raise the political consciousness of young people in communism to win them over to achieve socialism in Britain.

We must constantly reach those who want to struggle against war and austerity and for socialism.

Every YCL member is tasked with bringing more youth into struggle and training themselves and others to be the future generation of communists.

The 1925 vision that, "The time is not far distant when the League will embrace no less than nine-tenths of the entire working-class youth," is impossible if we do not set out to organise the masses of working-class youth.

GEORGINA ANDREWS, IS GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE



A nation once again

Twm Draper reports on a path-breaking discussion on Welsh nationhood

SAINT DAVID'S Day is an important day in the Welsh calendar because of the suppression that Welsh culture and the language have faced over hundreds of years.¹ The Welsh culture continued to be mocked by the British ruling class, even accusing the Welsh language as being the reason for lawlessness!² So their solution was to shame any child in school who dared to speak Welsh.

The Welsh Language Act 1967 permitted the use of the Welsh language in legal proceedings and has been a continuing battle to ensure the Welsh language, not only survives, but grows in numbers who use it in their everyday lives. Notably, in 1980 Gwynfor Evans' threats of a hunger strike forced Thatcher's Government into a U-turn, seeing the creation of Welsh language channel S4C. The Eisteddfod³ plays a significant role as an annual cultural event in persevering the Welsh culture and language, with its roots going back to 1176.

Welsh independence

With the suppression Wales has faced by the British ruling class, this raises the question of Welsh independence. The party held its biannual Communist University of Wales and explored this question

from a class perspective, with speakers who were pro-independence or pro-progressive federalism.

We also heard from an Irish comrade as to whether Ireland is a model to base an independent Wales on. Pro-independence sentiment in Wales is still quite small although it is growing, especially among young people.

The rise of Plaid Cymru as the main party (at least on the left) recently will sharpen the contradictions in Wales and make the national question unavoidable. Would Wales be better served as an independent country broken away from Britain?

Britain's Road to Socialism outlines the position of communists in Wales. We recognise it is for the people of Wales to decide their future, and should the preference be to secede from Britain then that must be respected. For us, the question of separation is one of revolutionary strategy for united working-class struggle against the British ruling class, not of supporting or opposing the union of the three nations of Britain in principle.

The conference started with the Gwyn Alf Williams Memorial Lecture, with personal recollections of the Welsh Socialist Republican Movement (WSRM), of which Robert Griffiths, former Communist Party general secretary, was a leading member. Along with Gareth Miles, he wrote *Sosialaeth i'r Cymry/Socialism for the Welsh People* providing a Marxist analysis of the situation in Wales. Guto Davies,

who gave the lecture and was also a member of the WSRM, explained that the organisation only lasted a couple of years and that the Irish Republican hunger strikes had an influence on its development.

There were lessons learnt from this experience and the naive misconception that events in Ireland could be replicated in Wales. The movement, despite its Marxist ideology, failed to galvanise the support of a Welsh working class which was being systematically attacked by Thatcherism. Guto finished off by saying that the aim of a Welsh Socialist Republic was still a valid one, which can be achieved through a policy of progressive federalism.

Fionn Wallace, Communist Party of Ireland (CPI) member, tackled the question 'Would the Republic of Ireland be a model for an Independent Wales to follow?'

In a nutshell, no. Firstly, six counties of Ireland are still under British rule and until there is full Irish reunification with the return of the six counties to Ireland, this is not a republic that they could support. The Irish government is abandoning neutrality to cosy up to neoliberal imperialism, and their economy is ruled from outside of Ireland.

In 2016, communists in Britain campaigned to leave the EU as they recognised its neoliberal regulations undermined national sovereignty and enforced austerity measures, which the burden always falls on the working class. Fionn explained the EU are pushing for no neutral states following the Ukraine war. The Irish government are being pushed to follow Finland and drop neutrality, and a bill is being passed that will allow the government to send

soldiers to war without any mandate. Whilst many of the demands in the EU is also being put into play here in Britain, being an independent Wales and rejoining the EU is not going to pave the path for a socialist Wales.

Progressive federalism

The discussion then turned to 'Independence or Progressive Federalism?' Luke Fletcher, Plaid Cymru MS and Rick Newnham, CPB member put the case forward for what they say is the future for Wales.

Luke stated an independent socialist Wales is a clean slate, wealth has been extracted from Wales for the British state over decades and we see no return. For example, not a single inch of the HS2 railway lines will reach Wales, yet we are told it is an England and Wales project. It's estimated Wales are owed £4 billion which could be used for investment in public services in Wales.

Luke argued that an independent Wales based on the needs of the people where we take control of our renewable energy resources and keep the capital in Wales. Under devolution, renewable energy projects like the Swansea Bay tidal lagoon have been axed by the UK government because it 'was not value for money.'⁴

Luke recognised there were many questions still to be resolved such as whether we would look to rejoin the EU, membership of NATO, international order and creating our own currency, although a bank note with Shirley Bassey on it is welcome. An attempt to follow other smaller independent nations can't be a blanket policy because many are embedded in neoliberal policies.

Rick gave his analysis and laid out the problems facing the working class in Wales, many which are shared right across the British working class. The top 25 companies in Wales, all operate from outside of Wales. If Wales was to become independent tomorrow, then this fact would still remain the case.

Class consciousness

There is not the level of class consciousness required at the moment to take on the imperialist forces, so the main focus should be building an anti-monopoly alliance to expose the contradictions that the ruling classes drive to war is seeing tax payers money prioritised for war preparations, rather than investment in the NHS, social housing and local communities. Without a change in the economic system, whether Wales is independent or not, the working class will continue to face austerity measures and exploitation for the ruling class to keep increasing their wealth.

The question was raised, if Wales was to become independent, we would still have to fight against the British state, so why make the road to socialism more difficult by trying to fight two states?

The day was rounded off with an excellent analysis by Alex Gordon Communist Party general secretary and Roger McKenzie, *Morning Star* international editor on 'Patriotism, Nationalism and combatting the rise of the far-right.'

The far-right are not a new phenomenon, they have been about for a long time, and many are currently funded by US tech giants. In *State and Revolution* Lenin says "A democratic republic is considered the best possible political shell for capitalism".⁵

So why would the likes of Christopher Harborne shift from backing the Tories to Reform UK, and a donation of £9 million?

Alex explained prior to suffrage the ruling class didn't need a system to hold workers back, whereas today we have a vote in this so-called democracy and the two-party model is failing. With AI being promised as the saviour of capitalism, the ruling class are preparing for the likelihood of another financial crash and see Reform UK as being prime position to 'restore order' and attempt to keep capitalism alive. Contrary to the 'working class, pub going' multimillionaire leader they portray to people as the solution to their problems.

Roger explained how the far-right are organised and meet across Europe. Previously the far-right would often split and then be weaker as a result, but we can't rely on this happening again. The media normalise leading politicians rubbing shoulders with far-right figures. So, how do we combat this and why is this an issue for Welsh independence?

Reform UK are projected to do well in the upcoming Senedd elections and this would give them a presence in Wales.

The working class in Britain are not well enough organised, and we must use our trade unions, progressive movements and allies to bring workers and their organisations together to build a united front, be rid of individualism and build a collective force. The crisis of capitalism is deepening so the working class must organise, be united across Britain to raise the level of class consciousness.

TWM DRAPER, IS A MEMBER OF THE YCL'S WALES BRANCH

Notes

- https://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/history/sites/themes/periods/tudors_04.shtml
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/history/sites/themes/society/language_education.shtml
- <https://museum.wales/curatorial/social-cultural-history/online-collections/what-is-the-eisteddfod/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-south-west-wales-44589083>
- <https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1917/staterev/ch01.htm>

UNITY! INTERNATIONAL

reports



Shut down British bases in Cyprus

AKEL
BRITISH BASES

AKEL, the Cyprus Party of Working People has reiterated its long-standing demand for the dismantling of the British bases on the island and says it is more relevant than ever.

Speaking for the AKEL central committee Giorgos Koukoumas said: “The consequences of the situation for all the peoples and states in the region are truly unpredictable and ending the war must be the top priority.

Giorgos Koukoumas stressed the need to de-escalate the whole situation through diplomacy, as the secretary general of the UN himself has underlined.

At the same time, Giorgos Koukoumas said: “It has been proven, despite all the talk we have been hearing about the government’s foreign policy and about how much the government has been upgrading our country geopolitically that Cyprus is in danger from the presence of the British bases, and this has been confirmed by the attack on the British military base in Akrotiri.”

Giorgos Koukoumas noted that when bases, airports, schools, and communities are being evacuated insecurity and concern are provoked.

He said that it is evident that the British bases not only constitute a remnant of colonialism, but also act as a

magnet for threats and dangers to Cyprus because the British bases are used by the West in waging their military operations.

The AKEL spokesperson added that, according to the agreement establishing the bases for use by non-members of the Commonwealth, the Republic of Cyprus must be informed and give its consent, but this has not happened, as neither the Americans, nor the British take any notice of it.

AKEL, he said, has called on the government once again to convey to Britain in no uncertain terms that Cyprus and its people oppose any kind of military involvement of the bases in the ongoing conflicts in the region.

AKEL statement

3 March 2026

The recent attack on the British bases on our island confirms the dangers that their presence poses to Cyprus and our people. We call on the government to convey to the British government that Cyprus and its people oppose any kind of military involvement of the bases in any conflicts in the region.

In any case, our people’s demand for the dismantling of the British bases on our island is once again proving to be timely and enduring. Furthermore, the government must ensure that the infrastructures of the Republic of Cyprus will not be used for any military operations and attacks in the region.

The military escalation in the wider region, following the US-Israeli attacks against Iran and Iran’s military responses, poses unpredictable dangers for all the peoples and states in the region, including Cyprus and its people. Ending hostilities, returning to the path of diplomacy, and the respect for international law is the only way forward and the principal priority. AKEL supports the relevant calls in this direction issued by the Secretary-General of the UN António Guterres.

Today’s declaration by President Christodoulides that the country is not involved in any way in military operations in the region must in practise govern our country’s foreign policy, in all its diplomatic positions and actions, in the political choices it

makes and the messages it chooses to convey. It should now be self-evident to everyone that aligning ourselves with the US and Israel does not safeguard the interests of the Cypriot people, nor does it ensure peace in our region.

AKEL reiterates once again that the consistent upholding of international law and peace is the only option that protects Cyprus and the only option that is morally and politically correct.

We call on the government to take all the necessary measures to protect Cyprus and repatriate Cypriot citizens who are in the war zone. We also call on the government to continuously inform and guide residents in areas located in or adjacent to the British bases and not to leave them in the dark, as was the case yesterday.

Freedom for Omar Awad, Osama Zain Aldin and Bahaa Aldin

Unity news team

JORDAN

BRITAIN’S COMMUNISTS have called for the freedom and safe release of Dr. Omar Awad and comrade Osama Zain Aldin, leading members of the Jordanian Communist Party abducted and arrested by Jordan’s security forces on Sunday 8 March.

The party’s general secretary Alex Gordon said: “These crude and arbitrary arrests were carried out without any legal justification. The Jordanian Communist Party is a lawfully registered political party in Jordan. The arrests of Dr. Awad and Comrade Aldin, following the arrest four days earlier of a university

student, Bahaa Aldin Hisham Ahmad, exposes Jordan’s repressive policies aimed at restricting the lawful activities of political parties and targeting public freedoms.

“The arrests of leading Jordanian communists is a desperate attempt to pressure the Jordanian Communist Party to abandon its principled positions on national and regional issues at a time when the whole region has been plunged into an imperialist war sponsored by the United States.”

The Jordanian Communist Party demanded the safe release of its detained comrades and called on the Jordanian authorities to end the repression of political parties and trade unions.

Epic Fury is a war crime

Unity news team

WAR ON IRAN

THE ILLEGAL and treacherous attack on Iran launched by the US and Israel on 28 February while diplomatic talks between the US and Iran were taking place in Geneva highlights imperialism’s disastrous consequences for the people of Iran, the Middle East and the working-class globally, the Communist Party declared at its 9 March meeting.

The committee focussed on the terrible human cost inflicted on the people of Iran; the murder of over 160 Iranian schoolchildren at Minab along with dozens of school staff and rescuers in a double-strike by US Tomahawk missiles, US targeting of desalination plants aimed at crippling water supply and bombing of oil storage facilities causing catastrophic environmental damage.

The imperialist motivation behind the aggression is linked to US efforts to control energy resources and maintain dominance of the petrodollar in commodity trading, particularly in response to the de-dollarisation threat from BRICS members including Iran.

However, the economic impact of the conflict includes sharply rising oil prices, driving inflation and potential stagflation, due to the UK economy’s reliance on US energy imports.

The Communist Party’s political committee emphasised the need for British trade unions to build a militant response to cost-of-living pressures as in 2022 during Britain’s last inflationary crisis.

It pointed out that the Labour government’s short-term economic decision making led it to cut promised investment in 2024 in renewable energy transition from an original pledge of £28bn annually in green projects to a smaller, phased-in commitment and that a so-called British Jobs Bonus to incentivise green technology manufacturing in industrial areas is not due to start until the 2026-27 financial year.

The meeting underlined the Communist Party’s role in presenting an alternative to imperialist adventurism and the far-right’s solutions of scapegoating immigrants while welcoming wars that cause mass migration.

The party emphasised the need to build support for peace movements, welcoming the call by the Progressive Party of Working People (AKEL) to close British military bases in Cyprus.

The Communist Party restated its call for an independent foreign policy, calling for Britain to leave NATO, remove US bases from Britain and close British bases in Cyprus, Bahrain and Diego Garcia.

Unity! is published by the Communist Party

Ruskin House 20 Coombe Road
Croydon CR0 1BD
unity@communistparty.org.uk



ENGELS AT THE GRAVESIDE

'Bourgeois, whether conservative or ultra-democratic, vied with one another in heaping slanders upon him. All this he brushed aside as though it were cobweb, ignoring it, answering only when extreme necessity compelled him. And he died beloved, revered and mourned by millions of revolutionary fellow-workers – from the mines of Siberia to California, in all parts of Europe and America – and I make bold to say that though he may have had many opponents he had hardly one personal enemy.' **Friedrich Engels** speaking at the graveside of Karl Marx *Der Sozialdemokrat* 22 March 1883



Marx oration 2026

On 15 March 70 years ago, the Highgate memorial to Marx was unveiled

Mary Davis

ORATION

ONE OF THE speakers at the unveiling of the Marx memorial was Arthur Horner, foundation member of the Communist Party, general secretary of the NUM (from 1946) and honorary treasurer of Marx Memorial Library (MML).

Horner pointed out that 'the perpetration of Karl Marx's ideas does not require a monument', and yet here we are! But not for grave worshipping, but rather to remind ourselves of Marx's key concepts and their application to our understanding of capitalism and how to change it.'

One of the best summaries of Marx's contribution was given by his friend and collaborator, Friedrich Engels, in the eulogy he delivered to Marx three days after the latter's death in 1883.

Engels argued that Marx made two major discoveries:

1 the law of development of human history – that is, historical materialism, and 2 the special law of motion governing the present-day capitalist mode of production

I want to concentrate particularly on historical materialism and its application. In a much-misunderstood passage, Engels defined Historical Materialism as follows:

'Just as Darwin discovered the law of development of organic nature, so Marx discovered the law of development of human history: the simple fact, hitherto concealed by an overgrowth of ideology, is that mankind must first of all eat, drink, have shelter and clothing, before it can pursue politics, science, art, religion, etc.;

I say much misunderstood because this passage is often used by those who reject historical materialism to assert that Marx was a crude economic determinist: the misinterpreted base/superstructure contention. Anyone who has read the *18th Brumaire*, *Class Struggles in France* or the *German*

Ideology (and much more) will know that there was nothing crude about Marx's analysis.

Thankfully Marx was not misunderstood by a group of British Communist Historians in the mid-20th century, and I hope it's not misunderstood now. A major contribution to a historical materialist understanding of British history was made by a remarkable group of Marxist historians in the period 1946-56, established by the communist party, this was the Communist Party Historians group. The membership of this group comprised a galaxy of now famous Marxist historians, all of whom were then members of the Communist Party. The group included among others, Eric Hobsbawm (buried here), Christopher Hill, Edward Thompson, Dorothy Thompson, Rodney Hilton, Maurice Dobb, Victor Kiernan, John Saville, A.L. Morton, George Rudé, George Tate, and many others.

Although acknowledged at the time, but until now hidden from history is the fact that a communist woman historian – Dona Torr – (above) was a mentor and key influence on this predominantly male Communist Party Historians' Group. Torr, a foundation member of the CPGB, played a crucial role in guiding and shaping the work of her contemporaries. As such, it is now clear that she had a profound influence on many of the influential books authored by members of the Group through her extensive historical knowledge, but above all as a Marxist with a firm grasp of historical materialism as the basis for all historical research and interpretation.

The recent re-discovery and current cataloguing of a Dona Torr archive in Marx Memorial Library has substantiated these claims. The archive was donated by Torr's husband Walter Holmes after her death in 1957. This archive reveals Torr's extensive involvement in the conceptualisation of the work of the Communist Party

History Group, and her influence on many key works produced by the Group (particularly and directly those by Maurice Dobb, Christopher Hill and Edward Thompson), thus affirming her status as an indispensable figure in the annals of Marxist historiography. This was succinctly expressed in the foreword to a volume of essays in her honour, published in 1954,

[Dona Torr] 'has been a pervading influence for a whole generation of Marxist historians... So fertile has she been of ideas that a whole school of Marxist historians has grown up around her.'

For myself, as secretary of MML and as a historian, it was a massive privilege, in both these capacities, to be the first to mine the Torr archive. The Communist Party History Group's association with MML (known in their day as Marx House) is well known, so it's appropriate that the Torr archive and that of her husband, Walter Holmes have been deposited here.

This is appropriate because since its establishment the Marx Memorial Library has been the intellectual home of generations of scholars interested in studying Marx and Marxism. It remains as a leading centre for the study of Marxism and socialist history, promoting research, education and broad engagement with revolutionary ideas to inspire the interpretation and transformation of today's world.

It is clear that Torr framed the work of the Communist Party History Group which, from 1946, was divided into four sections: the ancient group, the medieval group, 16th and 17th centuries group and the 19th century group.

Her own specialism was the 19th century. Aside from her translations of many Marxist classics into English – in particular Marx Engels correspondence – she is perhaps best known for her unfinished two-volume biography of the important labour movement leader, Tom Mann. Her book *Tom Mann and his Times*, volume 1, although unfinished,

is of significance for the attention it pays to the pre-Marxist sources of English radical thought,

One of the major contributions of Dona Torr to the work of the Group was her grasp of Marxist theory. She noted that 'the wholeness of Marxism' 'makes very great demands upon Marxists... the Marxist historian who can only repeat abstract definitions is like the early socialists condemned by Engels for making Marxism into a dogma instead of a guide to action ...'

She also pointed out that this was not easy – that like life itself, the making of history is 'dangerous work'. This was because the reality of life 'is creative and many sided, perpetually renewing its contradictions' and thus 'our understanding gropes behind it, clinging to old familiar forms'.

In addition, she asserted that Marxists 'have to be diligent in considering all the specialist 'refutations' of Marx's views by bourgeois intellectuals because in so doing they often increase and clarify their own knowledge of history and their own grasp of Marxism.'

She insisted, as she always did, that it was essential to see the capitalist era as a single continuum.

Starting, as Marx did, with the 16th century, tracing the revolutionary transformations toward a fully realised capitalist society after the Industrial Revolution, and through to the current imperialist phase.

Within this framework, it was, she argued, essential to record the endless sacrifices, bravery, and camaraderie of the British working. She said that there was a special reason for this approach to history, namely, 'our wish to serve the Labour Movement'.

Although her importance was acknowledged at the time, written history usually fails to record the role of women even when they have, through sheer tenacity and ability, emerged as leaders or Marxist theoreticians (often unacknowledged) from the shadows of patriarchy.

Such is the case of Dona Torr. Torr's work as a historian is a case study of the creative application of historical materialism.

Dona Torr stands as a central yet often underappreciated figure in the intellectual and political history of British Marxism during the twentieth century. It is to be hoped that her legacy and that of the group will inspire a new generation of Marxist historians in this, the 21st century, to continue this work. Marxism didn't die with Marx in this grave. It is a living theory with historical materialism at its core – its study and application is vital to understanding the world in order to change it.

PROFESSOR MARY DAVIS IS SECRETARY OF THE MARX MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND WORKERS SCHOOL

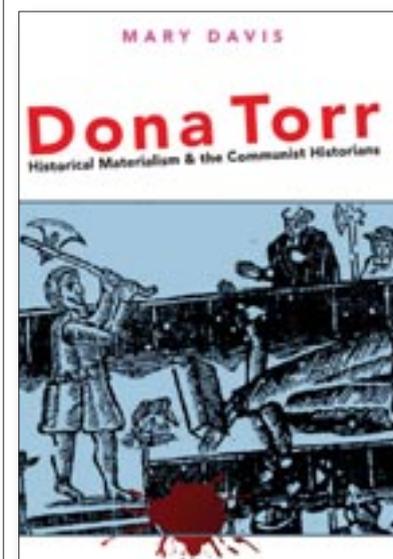


Dona Torr

DONA TORR helped shape modern Marxist historical perspectives — but her contribution has remained largely invisible. A founding member of the Communist Party of Great Britain, she played a decisive role in directing the Communist Party Historians' Group, whose members' work transformed the study of British history.

Drawing on newly catalogued material from the Marx Memorial Library, Mary Davis reveals Torr's intellectual influence through her articles, briefing notes, letters, critiques and unpublished research. These writings show her active engagement in major debates on class, revolution and historical method.

This book offers the first account of Torr's life and work, highlighting her rightful place at the centre of Marxist historiography and her enduring importance for historians and political activists alike.

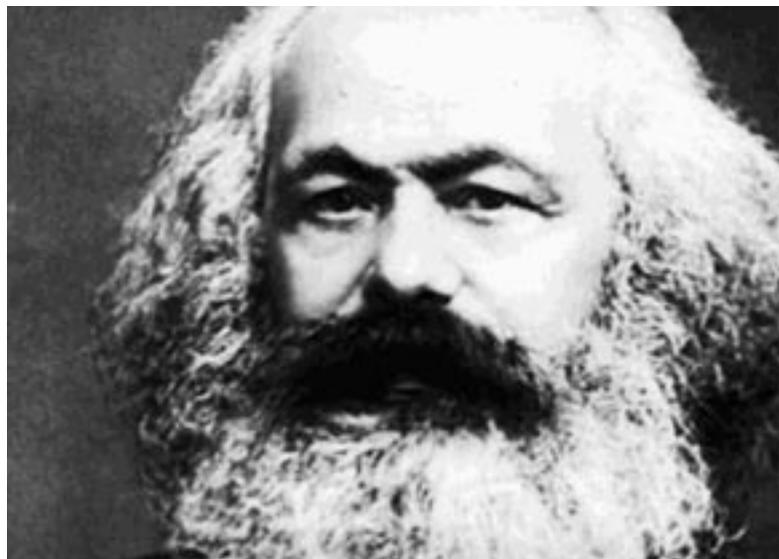


▲ £15 <https://redletterspp.com>



MARX AND ENGELS ON CLASS

“The modern bourgeois society that has sprouted from the ruins of feudal society has not done away with class antagonisms. It has but established new classes, new conditions of oppression, new forms of struggle in place of the old ones. Our epoch, the epoch of the bourgeoisie, possesses, however, this distinctive feature: it has simplified class antagonisms. Society as a whole is more and more splitting up into two great hostile camps, into two great classes directly facing each other: Bourgeoisie and Proletariat. **Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels** *Manifesto of the Communist Party* 1848



The importance of class

Gawain Little

ORATION

The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles.”

THESE WORDS open chapter 1 of the *Manifesto of the Communist Party*, written by Marx and Engels in 1848 and forms the cornerstone of their understanding of the world. But what do they mean by class? Engels described the two main classes, in the 1888 English edition of the *Manifesto*, in the following way: “By bourgeoisie is meant the class of modern capitalists, owners of the means of social production and employers of wage labour. By proletariat, the class of modern wage labourers who, having no means of production of their own, are reduced to selling their labour power in order to live.”

Lenin generalised this definition, arguing that a class was defined, “by the place they occupy in a historically determined system of social production, by their relation to the means of production, by their role in the social organisation of labour”

This understanding of class is objective, dependent on the real concrete role that members of a class play in the social organisation of labour. It is also relational, corresponding to definite relations of production and the essential contradiction between those who stand in different relations to the means of production. Thirdly, it is broad, dependent on relationship to the means of production, not the specific role played in one aspect of production.

This can be counterposed to sociological definitions of class as inherent in practices, which argue that the working class is what the working class does, implying that we can change our class by changing our behaviour. Similarly, arguments for class as inherent in consciousness, that our class position is dependent on what class we think we

belong to, implying that we can change our class by changing our consciousness. It is also opposed to theories of class as determined by the division of labour or the specific job that workers do, dividing the working class into ever-smaller units and emphasising the divisions between them, whilst ignoring the exploiting class entirely. What all of these approaches to class have in common is that they mistake the observable phenomenon of class society – class practices, varying levels of class consciousness, division of labour – for the explanations of class.

Understanding class as determined by relationship to the means of production returns us to the worker Marx speaks about in *Capital*, the worker who is free in a double sense: “that as a free man he can dispose of his labour-power as his own commodity, and that on the other hand he has no other commodity for sale” and is therefore free of any other means of surviving. That this applies to the vast majority of the population under capitalism is a simple observable fact.

However, to understand that class is determined by relationship to the means of production is very different from saying that people’s behaviour can be reduced to purely economic motivations. Engels argued against this economism, in a letter to Joseph Bloch, when he said, “according to the materialist conception of history the determining element in history is ultimately the production and reproduction of real life. More than this neither Marx nor I have ever asserted. If therefore someone twists this into the statement that the economic element is the only determining one, he transforms it into a meaningless, abstract and absurd phrase.”

Social relations are complex, and it is this complexity which is ignored by economism and class reductionism. There are a huge number of factors that affect social interactions, some of which are intertwined with class, such as sex and race, but which cannot all be reduced to class.

For example, the failure of a class reductionist approach to take account of the triple oppression of Black women, a theory developed by Claudia Jones, whose grave lies next to Marx’s, is a failure to recognise the link between oppression and exploitation. It is the failure to understand the fundamental intertwining of race, sex and class that is key to how we understand capitalism, as an historic phenomenon and as our day-to-day reality. There is no understanding of how capitalism functions without an analysis of the role played by women’s unpaid labour in the home, of colonialism and neo-colonialism, of the super-exploitation of Black workers and women workers in the workplace, and of the role played in all of this by racism and sexism as ideologies of oppression which act to maintain and sustain this super-exploitation.

One response to class reductionism is to focus instead on the complexity of human interaction and to argue that it is impossible to capture this through any kind of structure or framework. This reaction against class reductionism ends up dissolving class into complexity and abandoning the explanatory principle of class in favour of a descriptive methodology which explains nothing. At its most extreme, this becomes the kind of post-structuralism which argues that the social world is essentially unknowable and inexplicable.

This has real consequences for working class and socialist strategy. Without a clear understanding of class relationships, class power and, crucially, the role played by class consciousness, we cannot understand, as a movement, how to change the world and are therefore left trying to ameliorate the worst consequences of the system, often on a fragmented and individualised basis. This descent of the Left into a fragmented politics of individual protections, as opposed to collective demands, weakens and fragments our movement and puts us permanently on the defensive.

So, what alternatives does Marx himself offer to these dead ends?

In the debate between structure and agency, Marx refuses to reduce everything to the structural impact of class, ruling out the actions of individuals, whilst also refusing to dissolve class into the complexity of individual decision-making. Instead, he insists that it is precisely through the complexity of individual decision-making that the structural basis of class asserts itself. This approach is set out in Engels’ letter to Bloch quoted above:

“We make our own history, but in the first place under very definite presuppositions and conditions. Among these the economic ones are finally decisive... history makes itself in such a way that the final result always arises from conflicts between many individual wills, of which each again has been made what it is by a host of particular

conditions of life. Thus, there are innumerable intersecting forces, an infinite series of parallelograms of forces which give rise to one resultant – the historical event.”

Class then, is not a crude, reductionist approach to understanding the motivations of the mass of people, but quite the opposite. Class is what reveals itself as the underlying determinant of an infinite number of individual decisions, and therefore the resultant as they cancel and average each other out.

“There is an interaction of all these elements in which, amid all the endless host of accidents... the economic movement finally asserts itself as necessary.”

There is a clear parallel here with the way in which Marx, in *Capital*, when talking about the relationship between price and value, refers to capitalism as “a mode of production whose inherent laws impose themselves only as the mean of apparently lawless irregularities that compensate one another”.

Understood in this way, the crucial question becomes how we develop the basic understanding of exploitation inherent in trade union consciousness into class consciousness – the recognition by the working class of its place in society, of its historic role in changing society. How do we shift from simply being subject to the inherent laws of class society and instead become conscious

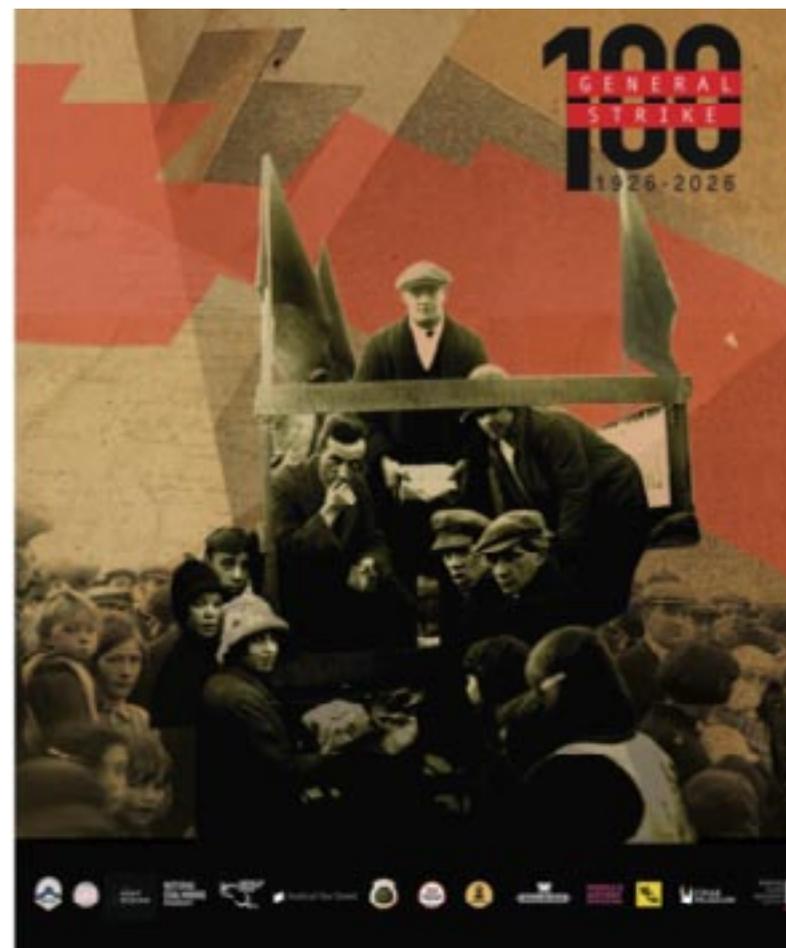
actors in shaping our future? As Marx puts it in the 18th Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte, how does the working class become capable of “enforcing their class interest in their own name”?

Gramsci argued that a crucial role in this development of class consciousness is played by the “organic intellectuals” of the working class, whom he described as “constructor, organiser, ‘permanent persuader,’” whose role is to connect the “elementary passions of the people” to the “laws of history”. This is the challenge we must take on, to take the daily experiences of working class people, our challenges, our triumphs, and connect them to an understanding of how society works and how the working class can win for itself control over the fruits of its own labour.

Only in this way can we, as a class, organise (as it says in the founding document of the GFTU) to determine the economic and social conditions under which we work and live.

Our starting point is to understand the world as Marx did – as dynamic and complex. We must seek not to reduce that complexity, but rather to understand it, to find the laws within the lawless irregularities. And in understanding the world in this way, act to change it.

GAWAIN LITTLE IS GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS



▲ The General Federation of Trade Unions is actively marking the 100th anniversary of the 1926 General Strike in 2026, which was a historic nine-day, 1.7 million-worker protest. A national partnership is organizing events, an interactive map, and educational resources to commemorate the strike’s impact on UK labour history. <https://gftu.org.uk>



WHO GOES TO PRISON?

“The law does not care whether this individual had access to good education or not, or whether he/she lives under impoverished conditions because companies in his/her communities have shut down and moved to a third world country, or whether previously available welfare payments have vanished. The law does not care about the conditions that lead some communities along a trajectory that makes prison inevitable and who does not.” **Angela Y Davis** 2006 *Abolition Democracy: Beyond prisons, Torture and Empire*



Class struggle and the state

What can we learn from history?

9 May 2026 Day symposium on the 1926 General Strike and its significance in 2026

Marx Memorial Library and Workers School

MORNING STAR CONFERENCE

1926 TO 2026: ORGANISED LABOUR 100 YEARS FROM THE GENERAL STRIKE

TICKETS £5

HAMILTON HOUSE, MABLEDON PLACE, LONDON
SATURDAY APRIL 11 9.30AM-5.30PM

SPEAKERS:
 JEREMY CORBYN; SOPHIE BOLT; LINDSEY GERMAN; ANDREW MURRAY;
 FRAN HEATHCOTE; ROGER MCKENZIE; STEVE WRIGHT; EDDIE DEMPSEY; LAURA PIDCOCK;
 ALEX GORDON; LOUISE RAW; SABBY DHALU; BEN CHACKO AND MORE!

tinyurl.com/MorningStar2026

Unity Books

Open every Saturday 10am-6pm

Find us at Unit 15,
 GovanHill Workspace
 68 Dixon Road, Glasgow G42 8AT

WAT TYLER CLUB:

COMMUNISTS AND ELECTIONS

BY OLIVER SNELLING
 Communist Party Candidate for Brighton in May Local Elections

FRIDAY 27th MARCH 7-8PM
 @ THE ROYAL GEORGE,
 TANNER'S HILL, SE8

FREE ENTRY – ALL WELCOME

Communist Review

Issue 132

The Myth of American Freedom and Exceptionalism

2cp

▲ **Theory and discussion**
journal of the Communist Party

- American Myths
- Gangster Imperialism
- Venezuela and the 21st Century
- Anti-China Groups in Britain
- A Socialist Wall Street
- The significance today of Engels' *The Condition of the Working Class*
- Categories in Dialectical and Historical Materialism
- Poetry from the night shift

Socialist Voice

Communist Party of Ireland
 People's Communist Party
 Periodic: Monthly
 www.socialistvoice.ie
 Number 250 March 2026
 €3.00

- 2 Irish neutrality threatened
- 4 US attempts to strike
- 6 International law and imperialism
- 8 Disruption and class struggle
- 10 Disruptive imperialism
- 12 Resistance, imperialism and class
- 14 Culture: Postmodernism/Class
- 16 Obituary: Michael Perle

HANDS OFF IRAN

US missile strike kills 158 in Minab, Southern Iran primary school

Socialist Voice
 41 East Essex Street
 London EC2A 4EJ
 020 7424 1234

▲ **Socialist Voice** is published by the Communist Party of Ireland <http://socialistvoice.ie>

Events March/April

March

- 28 March Together Alliance against the far-Right national demonstration <https://www.facebook.com/people/Together-Alliance/61584438264338/>
- 28 March People's History Museum: "Iron Ladies" film https://phm.org.uk/events_new/iron-ladies-film-screening-discussion/
- 28 March MML Secondhand Book Sale <https://www.marx-memorial-library.org.uk/event/524>
- 29 March (all Sundays & Wednesdays) Defend our Juries Free Political Prisoners! Lift the Ban! <https://defendourjuries.net/lift-the-ban/lift-the-ban-calls>
- 30 March Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC) Land Day Webinar: The struggle against ethnic cleansing <https://palestinecampaign.org/events/land-day-webinar-the-ongoing-struggle-against-ethnic-cleansing/>
- 31 March MML – Intro to Value Price & Profit <https://www.marx-memorial-library.org.uk/event/532>

April

- 1-2 April People's History Museum "On The Line" exhibition of 100 years of working class struggle <https://phm.org.uk/exhibitions/on-the-line/>
- 1 - 6 April CND Lakenheath International Peace Camp <https://cnduk.org/events/lakenheath-international-peace-camp-2026/>
- 2 April Manifesto Press Book Launch "Revolution & Parliament" Will Dry <https://tinyurl.com/RevandParLaunch>
- 4 April MML Creative Activism – Art & Agitation <https://gftuet.org.uk/courses/creative-activism-art-and-agitation>
- 6 – 10 April Culture In Resistance (CiR) Working Conference of Artists, Trades Unionists & Activists <https://www.hanshess.foundation/cultures-in-resistance>
<https://tinyurl.com/ManifestoPressEventbrite>
- 11 April CND Break with Trump – Scottish National Demo <https://cnduk.org/events/break-with-trump-scottish-national-demo/>
- 11 April Morning Star National Conference – 1926-2026 Organised Labour 100 years from General Strike <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1926-to-2026-organised-labour-100-years-from-the-general-strike-tickets-1981333933130>
- 17 April TUC Building a Progressive Future for Working Women <https://www.tuc.org.uk/events/midlands/mary-macarthur-lecture>
- 18 April TUC Young Workers Patrol <https://www.tuc.org.uk/events/south-west/young-workers-patrol>
- 25 April MML Book Launch *Dona Torr. Historical Materialism and the Communist Historians* <https://www.marx-memorial-library.org.uk/event/537>
- 24-26 April TUC Black workers conference <https://www.marx-memorial-library.org.uk/event/524>



I read the Morning Star because I want a paper I can trust. It tells me about the issues I want to read about, the news I want to read about. It touches on issues the other papers don't **Maxine Peake**

Morning Star Ambassador www.morningstaronline.co.uk