



Workers of all lands, unite!
 CP BRITAIN
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 www.comunistparty.org.uk
 December 2020

Labour Crisis **inside**



Unity



Against racist immigration and nationality laws

The Communist Party has slammed the new Immigration Act and the latest deportation flights from Britain as 'imprecise, callous and biased in favour of the wealthy'.

As last minute court orders allowed deportees, some of the Windrush generation, to disembark from a Home Office charter flight 13 people were deported to Jamaica the party announced it was discussing plans with other bodies to launch a campaign against Britain's racist immigration and nationality laws.

ABOVE
 Ground-breaking 1979 pamphlet by the late Vishnu Sharma, now reissued with an introduction by Tony Conway convenor of the party's Anti-racist, anti-fascist commission. £2

Covid-19 costs of Tory incompetence

PANDEMIC POLITICS

MARTIN LEVY

THE TORY GOVERNMENT'S response to the Covid-19 pandemic is an incompetent and corrupt disaster. The government puts big business profits before public health, delaying vital protective measures and handing test-and-trace contracts to its big business mates.

Thousands more people have lost their lives, jobs are being destroyed and small businesses are going to the wall.

But worse is on the way unless Tory policies are stopped.

Mass unemployment means our economy urgently needs a boost in demand and production. But the

Tories plan a public sector pay freeze and increased taxes on everyday household spending.

The government refuses to fund a pay rise for NHS staff but spends an extra £4 billion a year on the military as part of a new Cold War against China and Russia.

Britain's Communists have called on our trade unions to unite in a fight for public sector pay rises.

Decent pay in the public sector should set the standard for private sector pay but skinflint bosses are using the pandemic to cut wages and hours.

The party calls for solidarity with workers taking action to defend jobs, hours and wages in private businesses.

The Communist Party backs legally enforced pay negotiations

and minimum pay standards in each each sector of the economy.

This was Labour policy under Jeremy Corbyn but Starmer has gone silent.

Communist Party leaders have condemned the Labour Party's new leadership's 'dereliction of duty' in failing to resist Tory policies.

Instead of attacking Jeremy Corbyn and the Labour left, Labour leader Keir Starmer and general secretary David Evans should be discussing with trades unions, the People's Assembly, the peace movement and civil liberties campaigners how to build an alliance against this big business government of the bosses.

MARTIN LEVY IS NORTHERN DISTRICT SECRETARY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY

60,000 dead, the fifth highest death rate in the world

CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

COMMUNISTS HAVE launched a stinging all-round attack on the Tory government's record.

The roll-out of the Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine should not divert attention from the government's deadly mismanagement of the coronavirus crisis Tony Conway told the Communist Party's political committee.

Ministers hope the vaccine roll-out will rescue it from the shambles of its test-and-trace and multi-tier systems he said

He pointed out that only Labour's abstention in the crucial Commons vote had prevented Tory rebels from scuppering

the government's latest emergency plans.

'The Labour leadership could have extracted vital concessions such as a public sector find-test-trace-isolate policy, Covid-safe plans and workers' rights in every workplace, a real-terms public sector pay rise, a freeze on Universal Credit repayments, adequate sick pay for all working people who need it and comprehensive financial support for small businesses', he said.

Former PCS union national officer Tony Conway said the elements are emerging for a 'popular front' against unemployment, poverty and imminent cuts in funding to local government and the Welsh and Scottish parliaments.

He welcomed action by trade unionists, Unite Community branches and Young Communist League students and their allies in Manchester against Tory policies, pointing to the People's Assembly and its 'Zero-Covid Charter' as a basis for growing solidarity and unity.

The Communist Party called for Covid vaccines to be distributed cheaply and fairly through the World Health Organisation and criticised the 'anti-vaxx' movement for ignoring the 'game-changing impact' of vaccinations in the fight against smallpox, measles, polio, rubella, TB, hepatitis B, flu, tetanus, meningitis, Diphtheria, whooping cough and other crippling or lethal diseases.

sisterhood
socialism
& struggle

see back page

RED
APPEAL

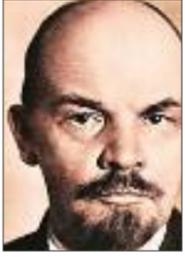
£100,000 'Centenary for Socialism' Appeal

Help fund

- ★ digitalised IT infrastructure at Party Centre
- ★ bulk email and phone bank facilities
- ★ Renovation of party and YCL premises
- ★ election fund for English local, Scottish Parliament and Welsh Senedd elections
- ★ a new unemployment campaign.

Please give what you can by bank transfer to Unity Trust, Communist Party of Britain, 60-83-01 account number 50725694; by cheque (CPB) or online at www.comunistparty.org.uk or p/o to CPB (Dept CFS) Ruskin House, 23 Coombe Road, Croydon CR0 1BD

Unity! is the online and print newsheet of the Communist Party published monthly with special, local and union conference editions and with daily editions at the TUC
 www.comunistparty.org.uk



LABOUR

'However, whether or not a party is really a political party of the workers does not depend solely upon a membership of workers but also upon the men that lead it, and the content of its actions and its political tactics.' Lenin's speech on Communist affiliation to the Labour Party 1920

LABOUR AT WAR

Defend socialism and democracy in Labour

Keir Starmer's decision to refuse Jeremy Corbyn readmission to the Parliamentary Labour Party is yet another attack on the left in the labour movement.

NICK WRIGHT

THE COMMUNIST party has called upon all socialists and trade unionists to rise to the challenge thrown down by Starmer and his hand-picked Labour general secretary David Evans to purge their party of socialist influence.

Evans' record when assistant general secretary of the Labour Party under Tony Blair revealed him as notorious for his hostility to the left, with an open contempt for representative democracy in the party along with an enthusiastic support for the Israeli state's policy of oppressing the Palestinian people.

Party democracy

It is in the interests of all socialists to defend the democratic principles of Britain's labour movement and its mass organisations, says Communist Party general secretary Robert Griffiths.

Jeremy Corbyn was re-elected as a Labour MP last December, is a Labour Party member today and – according to the party's rule book – 'All Labour MPs shall be members of the Parliamentary Labour Party

(PLP) and play their part in its work.'

Not only have Labour's leadership excluded Jeremy Corbyn from the parliamentary party, it has banned discussion of it. Local Labour parties up and down the country are defying the ban and the list of people suspended for permitting local discussions is growing.

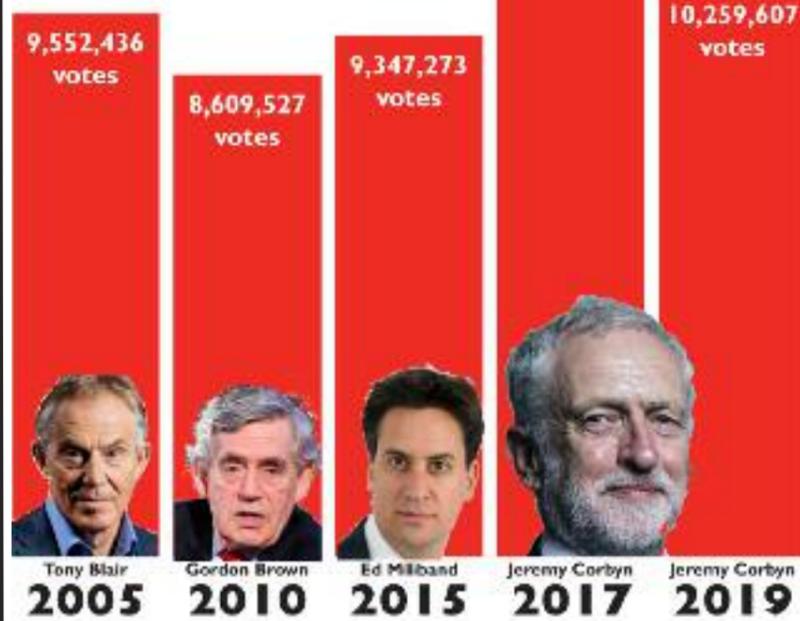
Turncoat former left winger Angela Rayner – elected as deputy leader as a supporter of Jeremy Corbyn – now talks of suspending "thousands and thousands" of members if they refuse to submit to the ban.

Flashback!

Corbyn was suspended for telling the truth that the scale of anti-semitism in Labour was "dramatically overstated for political reasons."

For saying these words Keir Starmer suspended Corbyn from party membership in breach of the very Equality and Human Rights Commission report which forbids political interference by the party leadership in 'disciplinary' cases. The report upheld Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights the right of Labour Party members,

THE RISE AND FALL OF LABOUR



... who express their opinions on internal party matters, such as the scale of anti-semitism within the party, based on their own experience and within the law."

A widespread purge is threatened. Not for anti-semitic acts or words, but for democratic debate over Starmer's high handed attack on the former Labour leader.

Just as Boris Johnson is on the ropes, with his own party divided against him, Starmer has thrown him a lifeline. Instead of Labour campaigning for income protection for laid off workers, action to save jobs in our High Streets and move faster to beat the Covid-19 virus Starmer has ignited a divisive internal war for factional reasons.

Whatever problems Labour might

have with anti-Semitism – a real enough problem but ridiculously exaggerated for factional gain by Labour's right wing and the media – they won't be solved by a civil war in Labour and thousands of expulsions.

False pretences campaign

But none of this is a bid to deal with anti-semitism. Every real life measure to deal with the issue; Shami Chakrabarti's report, general secretary Jennie Formby's reformed procedures, even the adoption of the highly contested IHRA definition of anti-semitism met with a renewed attack by the Labour right wing, the liberal and reactionary media and Labour's opponents among the most reactionary elements in zionism here and abroad.

It was not only an attack on Jeremy Corbyn – the first political party leader to take UN resolutions on Palestinian rights seriously – but on the whole socialist left and the possibility of a government that would shift the balance of power and wealth to working people.

The ferocity of the attack on socialism and democracy in Labour is already dividing the Socialist Campaign Group of Labour MPs with some surrendering to Starmer and other frightened into silence.

The anti-semitism slander against Labour combined with the retreat from Corbyn's original pledge to respect the Brexit vote saw Labour's 2017 record-breaking rise in electoral support – which deprived Theresa May of her majority drop at the 2019 election. But, as the graphic above shows, that election still saw Labour votes at a level still higher than that achieved by Blair, Brown and Miliband in years.

Clear out the right wing

A deeper understanding is growing in the Labour and trade union movement and among many Labour supporters that socialist advance and democracy cannot be won without filling the parliamentary Labour Party with clear-sighted and courageous socialists and clearing out this rotten gang of cowards and careerists.

Eight out of ten Labour affiliated unions have condemned the attack on Corbyn.

Resolute action by trade unions combined with a strong grassroots resistance by Labour's membership can start to root out the right in the Parliamentary Labour Party and the party machinery. But this is impossible while Labour MPs have tenure for life.

Time now for a conference decision to bring in mandatory reselection.

NICK WRIGHT IS EDITOR OF UNITY!

The US election

A VIEW FROM THE USA

ROGER KEERAN

MY GRANDPARENTS, kept a large portrait of Franklin Roosevelt on the wall. Each election night when Roosevelt won, my grandfather would make my Republican grandmother sit at the piano and play, Roosevelt's anthem, *Happy Days Are Here Again*. This year after Biden won, I sang it to my grandchildren.

Was this joy justified? Was the spontaneous dancing in the streets that occurred in New York, Philadelphia and elsewhere justified? Of course, most elections are contradictory, and this election changed nothing fundamental about capitalism and the two party system. Nevertheless, a sober analysis of the 2020 election shows that the joy is justified by more than just the relief at the defeat of Trump. Though the election results contain some definite warning signs that it would be foolish to ignore, they also point to increased prospects for progressive politics and independent political action.

First, nothing in this election changes the basic view we expounded after the 2016 election. The Trump movement represents a dangerous form of right-wing populism that was fueled by the corporate liberalism of Clinton and Obama that failed the interests of the working people.

Secondly, even though Biden won the by

six million margin of the popular vote, and a margin of 306 to 232 in the electoral college, the election was actually close. In Arizona, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and Georgia, Biden won by one percent or less. In Wisconsin that went for Trump in 2016, Biden flipped just two of 72 counties. In Georgia that went for Trump in 2016, Biden flipped just one county.

No dramatic shift occurred in any demographic category except independents. In 2016 Trump won the independent vote by four points. This year he lost the independent vote by 13 points.

Under these circumstances, the pandemic and Trump's irresponsible response to it may have been what turned the election.

Looked at more closely, the election definitely revealed some troubling signs and negative outcomes.

Most striking of course is that after four years of Trump unabashedly serving the rich, the corporations and himself, after four years of his lies, denials, name-calling, and bullying; after four years of his racism, misogyny, and xenophobia, over 74 million still voted for him. More than four years ago. Moreover, according to exit polls (which doubtlessly exaggerate the numbers for Trump since they do not reflect mail voters and early voters), over 50 percent of white people men and women voted for Trump, and a greater percentage of Blacks and Hispanics and people who identify as LGBT voted for Trump this year than four

years ago. Unquestionably, this is troubling. It shows the potency of Trump's racism and anti-immigrant stance particularly among white males.

Not only are Trump voters not going away, but 70 percent of them believe that Biden won the election because of fraud.

Also, Republicans increased their numbers in the House, and barring an unlikely sweep by the Democrats in the Georgia runoff, the Republicans will hold their majority in the Senate enabling them to block progressive appointments and legislation.

Exceedingly dangerous, was Trump's strong arm attempts to overturn the election. These apparently have failed this time, but what they provided was a test run, a battlefield simulation, that right-wing populists in the future might successfully employ to overturn elections: using of elected officials, right-wing commentators and news outlets to promote a false narrative of a stolen election, pressuring elections officials and state legislators to overturn votes, using thugs to threaten ballot counters, filing lawsuits that try to throw out the votes of entire cities or states, and so forth.

The election result with the greatest potential trouble was the election of Biden. With Biden we have a corporate Democrat identified with the worst aspects of Clinton and Obama's corporate liberalism: criminal law reform, corporate bailouts, foreign wars and interventions, immigrant expulsions,

free trade and so forth. If Biden resorts to the policies of the past with which he is familiar, we are in for more economic inequality, more deaths of despair, and more foreign military interventions. In short, we will be in for exactly the same conditions that fostered Trump's right-wing populism. Trump or someone like him could re-emerge. In spite of the danger signs, the positive outcomes were even more impressive.

First is voter turnout. Voter turnout has rarely exceeded 60 percent since the early years of the 20th. This year the turnout was between 68.6% and 72.1%. The turnout gave Biden more votes than any previous presidential candidate and did more than anything to undermine Trump's attempts to subvert the election.

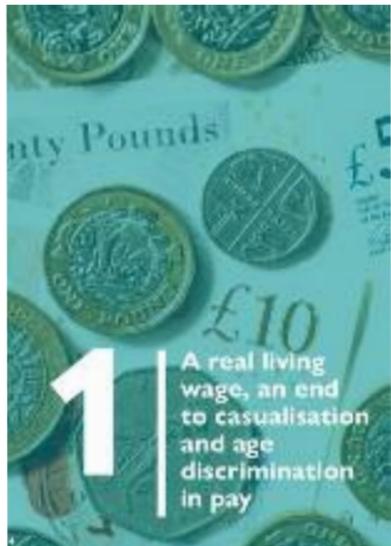
Since those who typically do not vote are the more progressive parts of the population—the workers, the poor, the youth, and the minorities—the large turnout means that these parts of the population are more politically engaged than then have been in over a hundred years. Consequently, even though the vote for the Green Party apparently shrunk compared to four years ago because of the strong desire to defeat Trump, the potential constituency for progressive politics is more politically engaged than ever.

The results show that Biden flipped Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin, thus validating his approach of focusing on the



YOUTH

'The lives of young people in Britain are characterised by insecurity, uncertainty and poverty, regardless of the path we choose or are forced into. A decade of austerity has left our public services, the education system and our NHS stripped to the bone.' Young Communist League



CHARTER FOR YOUTH

Ten demands for dignified life and work

BRITAIN'S YOUNG communists have launched a new Youth Charter – a set of policies to combat the immediate crisis faced by Britain's youth.

The Charter isn't a recipe for socialism. These policies can't cure the underlying problems of capitalism but these demands and the struggle to achieve them raise the fundamental questions about economic ownership and democratic control in our country.

Carried through in government policy they would make a massive difference to the lives of the millions of young people in Britain today.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic engulfed Britain, from any perspective the outlook for young people under capitalism was grim.

We face a looming economic crisis, ten



years in the making, accelerated and made more acute by the economic shock resulting from the pandemic. A climate crisis is unfolding before our eyes that threatens to destroy the world during our lifetimes and leave it unable to sustain human society as we know it.

The lives of young people in Britain are characterised by insecurity, uncertainty and poverty, regardless of the path we choose or are forced into. A decade of austerity has left our public services, the education system and our NHS stripped to the bone. There is no longer even a pretence of providing access to quality public education and cultural and leisure facilities for working class youth.

The options for most of those in work are low-paid, precarious and unfulfilling jobs with little chance of progression, poverty-pay apprenticeships or complete uncertainty in the gig economy. College and university students are forced to place additional financial pressure on their already strained families and jeopardise their studies by working long hours to support themselves. Education has been reduced to a product to be bought and sold for a questionable financial gain.

We are living through an epidemic in mental health problems among young

people. Violent crime and anti-social behaviour are escalating across our society, with a disproportionate impact on the youth.

Capitalism in Britain has presented us with two options: accept the system as it is and a life without dignity, or to fight back and live life with a purpose. Britain's young communists are clear on our choice. Where working people are prepared to struggle there is always hope and the youth have always led from the front.

These aren't just policies for the YCL, these are demands for the broad working class and student movements which can be translated into the thousands of struggles taking place every day in our schools, campuses, communities and workplaces.

- 1 A real living wage and an end to casualisation and age discrimination in pay
- 2 A new apprenticeship system and real jobs with trade union and employment rights
- 3 More council housing and private sector rent control
- 4 Public transport network cards for young people with capped affordable prices
- 5 Free college and university education
- 6 Free access to government and council cultural, leisure and sports facilities
- 7 Free access to all NHS healthcare and improved mental and sexual health services
- 8 Full voting rights at 16 years old
- 9 An end to all forms of discrimination
- 10 Fight to prevent the climate change

Find out more and download your full copy of the Charter at:

www.ycl.org.uk/youth-charter/
<https://yclbritain.files.wordpress.com/.../ycl-youth...>

#YouthCharter #YoungCommunistLeague #YCL100



working class populations of those states that had voted for Obama and then for Trump. Of course, he also won Nevada, Arizona, and Georgia putting a crack in what had in the recent past been solidly Republican states

Even more encouraging than the turnout for Biden was the reasons for the turnout. It occurred not because Trump provoked a wave of disgust or because Biden was such an inspiring leader, but because of the tremendous grassroots mobilization

Stacy Abrams' organization alone registered upwards of 300,000 new voters in Georgia. Black Lives Matter brought thousands of people in hundreds of cities into the streets during the summer, and then got many of them to the polls in the fall. The slogan "Black Votes Matters" energized young, minority voters. Civil rights organizations like the NAACP spent millions of dollars turning out the vote.

Unions also, particularly those hard hit by the economic crisis of the pandemic, engaged in an unprecedented grassroots effort: Unite HERE, postal workers, teachers, auto workers, steel workers, communication workers, healthcare workers and others. The union efforts may have made the difference in Nevada, Arizona, Detroit, Philadelphia and Atlanta. Union members went for Biden by 58 percent this year, compared to 53 percent for Clinton in 2016.

In spite of their reservations about Biden,

the Sanders campaign and the progressive Congresspeople like Ocasio-Cortez threw themselves into the campaign.

There is little evidence for the theory floated by some corporate Dems and conservatives that the Democrats were hurt down ballot by the Left's advocacy of defund the police, the Green New Deal and Medicare for all. As Sanders pointed out, every one of the 112 incumbent members of Congress who supported Medicare for all was re-elected. All of the so-called squad of progressive Congress people were re-elected. And their numbers were augmented by victories in New York and elsewhere, including Missouri were the leader of Black Lives Matter, Cori Bush, was elected to Congress.

Likewise there is virtually no evidence for the idea that the Republican party has become the party of the multiracial working class. In the first place because of the way the working class is defined and discussed in the media (usually to mean non-college educated whites) it is nearly impossible to gauge precisely how it voted. But several things are clear. Union members voted nearly 60 percent Democratic, and Blacks and Hispanics over 70 percent Democratic. These were clearly working class votes. Moreover, what the media definition of working class ignores is that that majority of workers these days have attended some college. Thus, in those suburbs of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Atlanta

and so forth that swung Democratic this time, there were undoubtedly many workers college-educated or not.

Moreover, one must not ignore the dialectics of this election, that is the changes and dynamics that the last four years and the election itself have created. President Assad of Syria said whoever was elected would be the CEO of the capitalist class. This is true. But Biden is not necessarily the same Biden of four years ago, and the Democratic Party is not the same party. After four years of Trump (and his popular denunciation of neo-liberalism, free trade, and endless wars) and after the rise of Sanders and progressive Democrats, Biden has given some indications of change. He no longer supports the criminal justice reform he pioneered, no longer talks about free trade, and no longer backs endless wars in the Middle East. Though he has not embraced a Green New Deal or single payer, he has moved in that direction. Moreover, he unquestionably supports rejoining the Paris Accords, reviving the nuclear treaties with Russia and Iran, using a science-based approach to combatting the pandemic, guaranteeing the right of public workers to unionize, paying workers a living wage, and funneling trillions of dollars to workers, small businesses, states and healthcare to combat the economic and health consequences of the pandemic.

Finally, one must not ignore another dynamic of this election, that is the divisions

fostered by the election aftermath. Every day that Trump refuses to accede to his defeat and advances more and more desperate and preposterous claims of fraud, the more his own party and the capitalists themselves turn against him. In the past few days not only have former and current Republican office holders turned against Trump's outlandish claims of fraud and refusal to concede, but also former supportive media outlets like Fox News, the *Wall Street Journal*, and the *New York Post* have turned on him. More significantly, opposition has emerged among the leading financial, industrial, and retail capitalists: the National Association of Manufacturers, the Chamber of Commerce, Morgan Stanley, Chase Manhattan, United Airlines, Walmart, Disney, Boeing, and many others. It would be an overstatement to say that this shows profound divisions in the ruling class, since finance capital seems as happy with Biden as it was with Trump. Still, these schisms are new. At no time in American history, has such a schism appeared between leading capitalists and the Republican officialdom, not even during Nixon's final days. Are capitalists who are used to getting their way by making a phone call happy about having to go publicly against a sitting president and other elected Republican officials? Are capitalists who were forced to turn against Trump now going to be anxious to back him or his son or one of his other minions for president in four years? It remains to be

seen, but in the meantime this schism would seem to indicate that large sections of the bourgeoisie are not ready to cast aside bourgeois democracy that has served their interests so well for two centuries, and it has opened up or at least preserved some running room for the left.

As Marxist-Leninists we have plenty of reasons to celebrate this election, not the least of which is that it may be the harbinger of further progressive change even perhaps among right-wing populists. Also, we should remember that those times in the past when independent politics and socialist movements have grown, it has been under Democratic presidents. This was true of Eugene Debs and the Socialist Party under Wilson, the CIO and Communist Party under Roosevelt and the civil rights, antiwar and New Left under Kennedy and Johnson.

The essence of dialectics is not only that history changes but people change, too. My grandfather once belonged to the Ku Klux Klan and once had been an avid listener of the right-wing populist, Father Charles Coughlin, and that was not long before he sang *Happy Days Are Here Again* for Roosevelt.

PROFESSOR ROGER KEERAN IS AN A SPECIALIST IN LABOUR AND POLICY STUDIES, HE PUBLISHED, *THE COMMUNIST PARTY AND THE AUTO WORKERS' UNIONS* AND, WITH CO-AUTHOR THOMAS KENNY, *SOCIALISM BETRAYED: BEHIND THE COLLAPSE OF THE SOVIET UNION*



AGITPROP

Imagine a city where graffiti wasn't illegal, a city where everybody could draw whatever they liked. Where every street was awash with a million colours and little phrases. Where standing at a bus stop was never boring. Banksy

CENTENARY

A hundred years after Britain's Communist Party was founded its ideological work and propaganda output is reaching new audiences and resulting in a surge of new party members

Avanti!

ALEX GORDON AND PHIL KATZ

A THOROUGH overhaul of party organisation has seen membership break the 1000 plus barrier, with a significant increase of young workers and trade unionists. The party has re-established branches in towns and counties from Scotland and Wales, to the North West, the Midlands and South of England. Membership data is benefiting from investment in new IT systems and training of party officers to a high technical level. The Young Communist League is growing fast with new branches established.

The centenary year has seen many thousands of transactions with pamphlets, books, posters, postcards and badges in physical and digital form.

The party's aim is to achieve a shift in its style of work so that our politics can be delivered through a smart phone sitting in the bag or top pocket of every worker in Britain, who wants to know about socialism. The party aims to be the most advanced user of digital and social media campaigning for a working class victory in the class struggle.

We want to have the best informed membership of any political party. We are using technology for discussion, policy formation and campaign activism. Party members will be able to fully participate in their local branch, in party district and nation committees, sector, industrial and union party organisations, regardless of geographical dis-

tance, shift working or family circumstance. We want party members to be expert at using communications technology to support workers in struggle for wages, peace, liberation and socialism.

Where in the past the core of the Communist Party was among miners, engineers, textile workers (and later teachers) now the party also attracts new kinds of young workers, social media savvy and equipped with digital skills from animation, analysing Big Data to data base security. The message of socialism – as evidenced in the discussion at our recent conference on the Future of Work – is relevant to this group of workers who use digital technology everyday in their working lives.

From young workers on poverty pay to those in better paid work the digital world is home territory.

Our party is eager to contest local and national elections to put the case for socialism. For such campaign activity, we have put in place an infrastructure that allows us to combine the powerful established means of propaganda, with the newest. In the centenary weekend period between 1 August and our Battle of Cable Street commemoration for example, the party used street fly-posting, phone banking, text messaging, giant projections, door to door canvassing, street stalls and at one point ran ten online meetings on the same day. During COVID 19 shutdown the Communist Party did not drop its guard. We found many ways to keep the Red Flag flying.

This centenary year has seen a resurgence in publishing of books and pamphlets by the Communist Party. It has been a year where we discovered much about our history and the members who contributed so much to the shaping of the modern union, women's, anti-racist anti fascist, anti-imperialist and peace movements.

The party's revised programme *Britain's Road to Socialism* is on its fourth printing since March. Mary Davis's ground-breaking *Women and Class* has been revised to tackle pressing new issues and its message is making inroads among a new generation of women activists and feminists with its potent mix of marxism and feminism.

It has been a year in which the Party talked for itself rather than let others define our history, or describe our policy. The picture that has been revealed: of a vibrant struggle of ideas, communists as builders of peoples movements and of an unremitting struggle for improvement in the daily lives of workers, their families and communities, has revealed so much about the Party.

Red Lives and *A Centenary of Socialism* are two complementary books, which show how generations of workers were taught by their own experiences and revolutionary theory to transform rage against injustice and exploitation into collective action for working class power. It is a history from below where generations of selfless activity giving of time, money, voluntary labour and effort to build a party. Working people forged a party the rich can never buy.

Red Lives and *A Centenary of Socialism* unlock memories of the role of black communists in the anti colonial struggle and against racism and the colour bar, of women workers who were mass leaders of movements for quality housing, peace, and equal pay campaigns. They are a terrific read for anyone active in today's movements.

Among initiatives planned for the 2021 are a new online centre for members only with training and campaign resources, guidance and sophisticated

organising tools for local and district office holders.

The Covid crisis threatened to wreck carefully laid plans and a brilliant programme of commemoration and struggle. Yet by the second week of March the party had adapted technology for online meetings and within a month had built a new website. The Communist Party executive also went online with increased numbers of meetings. In April and May ten district and Nation online assemblies had been convened, backed by a week of evening public meetings in the Pandemonium series and new online training courses organised.

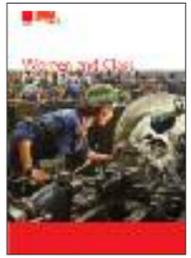
As the centenary year progressed new online events reached new audiences. The party's Facebook page is close to achieving 20,000 followers. A further 17,000 follow us on Twitter. Plans are in place to establish a Instagram presence from January 2021. Across all social media platforms over 2,900 people joined the World of Work conference on 5 December. A Claudia Jones book launch organised by the party's antiracist antifascist commission attracted 700 people. An internationalist event organised by the Manchester Communist Party brought hundreds from Britain and Germany together, to celebrate the bicentenary of Engels. In Glasgow, communists hosted centenary meeting, very much aimed at explaining socialism as part of the future as well as the past.

It's been a year of films and flyers, and socially distanced protest as with the wreath laying ceremonies which took place on the same day in 13 towns and cities to mark the contribution of those communists who fought, with many hundreds killed or wounded, in battles to defend the Spanish Republic.

All of this costs and the party's centenary appeal to raise £100,000 is linked to investment in new technology. Each pound gathered is an investment in the Party and campaigns for socialism.

PHIL KATZ IS THE PARTY'S ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND ALEX GORDON IS ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR MEMBERSHIP

To join the Communist Party go to
<https://www.comunistparty.org.uk/join/>



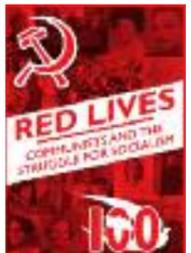
Women & Class

A new and updated edition, for the first time in book form, written by Professor Mary Davis. This book is essential reading for activists in the women's and trade union movements. 80 pages. £4.50



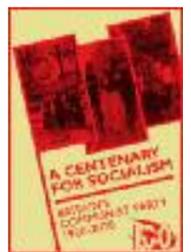
Britain's Road to Socialism

With capitalism in crisis and its champions in disarray what better time could there be to launch an updated, edition of the Communist Party's programme *Britain's Road to Socialism*? £3.00



Red Lives

Read *Red Lives* the amazing and true story of communism in Britain, through the life stories, of the party's extraordinary rank and file membership. 252 pages, with photos. £9.99



A Centenary of Socialism

The first ever, single volume history of the Communist Party. Edited by Mary Davis, with 20 contributors charting 100 years of struggle. £9.99



Winter 2020/2021

★ Sex, Gender and Marxism

Jen Isaakson

★ Britain's informal empire in China

Gordon Scobie

★ Frederick Engels and the English Working Class Movement in Manchester, 1842-1844

John Smethurst, Edmund Frow and Ruth Frow

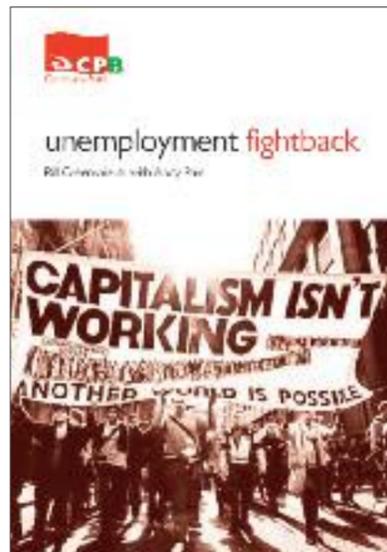
★ Three Problems of Reading Engels and Why We Need To Read them

Prabir Purkayastha

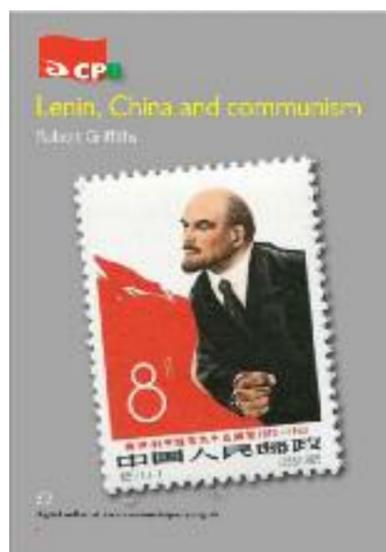
★ Soul Food

Yes, art is work – but is it also art

Fran Lock



▲ NEW pamphlet by Bill Greenshields and Andy Bain. Essential reading for activists and organisers, those in struggle against austerity and job loss. Priced £2.50 print copy comes with a downloadable PDF.



▲ NEW Questions to and answers from the general secretary of the Communist Party, Robert Griffiths. Currently available in digital format only priced at £2 Available at www.comunistparty.org.uk



The Communist Party is organising a new year Marxist feminist festival celebrating 'Sisterhood, Socialism & Struggle' in Britain and across the world.

The free weekend event, January 16 -17 2021, will provide an opportunity for women and men on the left to enjoy culture, discussion and debate focused on the importance of women's liberation for the whole human race.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/comunist-women-rising-sisterhood-socialism-struggle-tickets-131688873967>



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