

## Podcasts for progress When a Labour minister banned a May Day rally The origins of May Day Housing Charter Election campaign

# Unity!

## May Day greetings from Britain's party of working class power and liberation Make the rich pay!

**'The law in our country protects bosses not workers' and 'insecurity in the workplace is not an accident'.**



**Saturday  
18 June  
Portland Place  
London**

**Assemble  
from 10.30am**

**March departs  
12pm**

**Rally 1pm**

**Working people  
have had  
enough.  
Everything's  
going up but our  
wages.  
Join the trade  
union  
movement in  
London to tell  
government:  
we DEMAND  
better!**

**Sign up for info:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/2jrdad32>

**Andy Bain & Sean Cannon  
CLASS STRUGGLE**

**W**HEN BARRY GARDINER MP – in his 13 April *Morning Star* article – exposed the class nature of our employment law he showed how this is at the core of what it is to be working class in Britain today. Collective rights for workers have been significantly worsened over the last 40 years.

Barry Gardiner's attempt to make 'fire and rehire' illegal was opposed by the Tories. Their early words protesting at the outrageous actions of P&O are not backed by action.

Fine Tory words about building back better after Covid mean little when our divided society sees the rich getting richer and the vast majority losing out.

The tragedy is – that as many working people face fuel poverty, rising prices, job insecurity and agonising choice between eating and heating – we hear little from the Labour leadership.

The enormously popular policies put forward by Labour under Jeremy Corbyn are abandoned by the new leadership that is now advised by the likes of Lord Mandelson who sabotaged Labour.

The new Labour leadership is silent on offering an alternative and offers no hope to the young, no alternative to NATO's warlike posture or the never-ending transfer of wealth and power from the majority to the already super-rich.

Where today parliament is a deadzone for alternative socialist policies real resistance must come from our working class communities and our class.

Over the last three years delegates to the Trades Union Congress have backed **A New Deal for Workers** proposed by the Communication Workers Union.

The TUC has called a national demonstration – **We demand better – enough is enough** for 18 June.

Millions of people who oppose this corrupt Government are looking for a lead to transform anger into action for real change.

Every campaigning community group and tenants' association, NHS campaign and trade union branch or workplace organisation has a part to play in making the rich pay for the crisis.

Trades union councils at local level combined with the People's Assembly Against Austerity can provide local leadership. The PA – Britain's pioneering umbrella of protest groups, political parties and trades unions – was set up in 2013 to fight the austerity policies that followed capitalism's 2008 financial crisis.

It has a proven capacity to organise up to a quarter of a million strong demonstrations and can do this again. Where once the Jeremy Corbyn factor drew activists from anti cuts and other campaigns into the Labour Party and shifted the focus towards the electoral and parliamentary struggles this route is now blocked. Our extra-parliamentary struggles to make the rich pay are now the priority.

Over recent weeks the PA's cost of living protests have helped change the atmosphere. In order to shift this government masses of people need to be inspired by ideas of a better future and mobilised to take action, to take power from the employers, the government and the institutions of monopoly capitalism.

Millions are angered by the corrupt giveaway to corporations in Covid-related contracts. The arbitrary sacking of P&O seafarers via social media and the hikes in energy charges and company profits show to millions the class character of the profit system.

We knew months ago that energy prices

were to rise and benefits go down. This was long before the Ukraine war.

The NATO strategists who want the war to be a long one know that it will lead to even more arms industry profits and Ukrainian and Russian deaths and may spread. Ukraine and Russia are bread basket states and continued conflict and sanctions mean grain prices are rising and with them food prices.

The warmongers calculate that the public will pay the price while they aim for a NATO victory and a Russian failed state, at the cost of Ukrainian and Russian blood.

Both Tory government and Westminster Labour's 'opposition' back NATO expansion and runaway arms expenditure rather than filling NHS vacancies, investing in environmental benefits like rail over road or providing decent housing and social security.

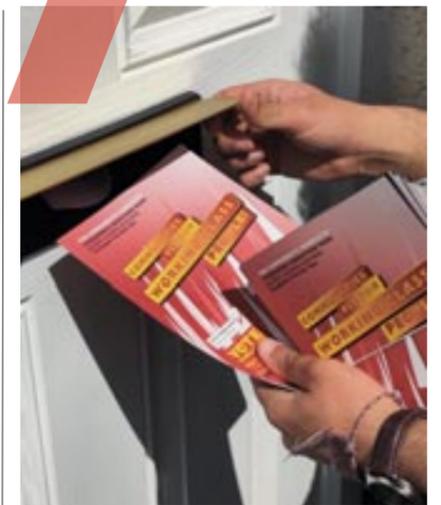
In the medium term it is important for the survival and growth of the trade union movement that organising initiatives like Sheffield Needs a Pay Rise spreads and this is slowly happening.

The Communist Party has committed its resources to helping build – in every city, major town and rural area – an organising hub around trade unions and local campaigns.

The unions at national, regional and local level have the resources to give strength to these initiatives. Imagine the impact on local people and Labour if every city, town and rural district was a centre for mass action to back workers in pay disputes, stop evictions, save jobs, fight against NHS privatisation, school academies built around a working class community resource for trade unions and campaigns to agitate, educate and organise?

We are living through a series of capitalist crises. Only a mass movement can shift the burden of paying for the crisis on to the rich. ★

ANDY BAIN IS THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S INDUSTRIAL ORGANISER. SEAN CANNON IS CONVENOR OF THE PARTY'S ANTI-AUSTERITY COMMISSION.



**Ruth Styles  
MAY DAY GREETINGS**

**O**N BEHALF of the Communist Party greetings on International Workers' Day to all working people throughout the world and in all the nations of Britain.

For workers, May Day has a special significance as it owes its origins to the struggle by working women for a reduction in working hours.

This most reasonable demand was met with the full force of the capitalist state and brought home sharply for generations the necessity for the capitalist system of exploitation and oppression to be ended.

In the century and more since the working class movement has seen great victories – the establishment of working class power, the tide of national liberation and advances in the developed capitalist countries.

It has also seen great defeats with the dismantling of socialism in the Soviet Union and Europe and a new imperialist offensive.

Today the tide is on the turn with the existing socialist countries making great strides in living standards, while capitalism is gripped in a series of crises and responding with war, and intensified exploitation.

With the 5 May elections we have a chance to land a blow on the Tories. Vote communist and for candidates who stand up for the working class. ★

RUTH STYLES IS CHAIR OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY



# DEMOCRACY & CLASS POWER

‘... the first step in the revolution by the working class, is to raise the proletariat to the position of ruling class, to win the battle for democracy’

Karl Marx and Frederick Engels *The Manifesto of the Communist Party* 1848



## Straight left

from Stewart Mcgill

I'm just back from Argentina (writing a book about left-wing football supporters): someone I got chatting to over there had heard the podcast I hosted with Rob Griffiths about the Ukraine war. The guy loved the cast and expressed serious gratitude for it: "somebody had to say that," he said, "and thank you so much for doing so."

Travel often reveals how small the world is,



but this also shows the power of the spoken word. Since that initial Ukraine podcast we have recorded seven more, all of which are now available on the Party's YouTube channel.

We did three on the housing crisis covering (i) how we got to this point, (ii) how bad the situation actually is plus the sheer vandalism behind the crisis and (iii) the solutions.

We also covered inflation, another pressing issue of our time and one that requires comprehensive demystifying, an extract:

"This is straight forward victim blaming, even the FT pulled him up on this, Martin Sandbu asked why did he not call on powerful businesses to 'moderate' their profits, rather than asking less powerful workers to 'moderate' their wage demands. Perhaps, as Sandbu observes, because mainstream economics has a 'blind spot' for the power of capital, and correcting this would mean asking uncomfortable questions about 'who bears the cost' of rising inflation and who benefits.

In the US, where corporate power is even more concentrated than in the UK, commentators warn that the real danger is not a wage-price spiral but a 'profit-price spiral'. US corporate profit margins are at a 70-year high, and have risen 37% in the past year alone. In one survey, more than half of retailers admitted to raising prices by more than their increase in costs – with larger firms most likely to be doing so. The narrative about inflation offers a convenient smokescreen for fattening margins, as investors brazenly admit."

We also recorded a cogent indictment cast on the raging inadequacies of the education system, particularly on its failure to teach people to think critically.

Rob Griffiths joined us again to talk about how to re-build communities and combat crime which was full of interesting insights. And with this being local election time we did a cast on democracy, our progressive federalist philosophy and how it can contribute to bringing the workers across the nations of the UK together with genuine empowerment: a very clear message here was that there can be no real democracy under capitalism.

Give these CommieCasts a try, and share them on your social media.

<https://tinyurl.com/CommieCast>



**LEFT:** Communist MP Brindi Karat puts her body on the line to stop an illegal demolition of buildings in the Jahangirpuri area of Delhi.

This followed a spate of chauvinist attacks and an intimidating march through the area by Hindu nationalists carrying sticks and swords. After the demolition drive was halted following the Supreme Court order, the CPI(M) leader urged people to maintain peace and harmony.

Meanwhile, as right wing mobs attacked mosques in several Indian states, Boris Johnson, fleeing 'partygate' revelations in Britain, symbolically mounted a bulldozer while meeting India's right-wing leader Narendra Modi. ★

## Real democracy for all our nations

Darren Turner  
**DEMOCRACY**

**F**OLLOWING ON from the strong lead taken by Scottish and Welsh communists in campaigning for a devolved democracy that respects Britain's multinational character communists in the East of England – the country's bread basket – have launched a pioneering programme for the democratic development of their region.

At last week's launch of the Communist Party's *Eastern Rising* pamphlet I was proud to speak alongside Jo Rust independent councillor and Save QEH campaigner, Lucy Wood of Colchester Communist Party and Ben Ughetti of the Young Communist League.

I argued that Britain is three nations in one country. Scotland and Wales have their own parliaments, achieved after years of struggle. But England's local government is a mess of different and often competing layers of government, growing ever weaker and with less clout, partly because it is starved of funds by central government in Westminster. The Communist Party has campaigned for Scots and Welsh Parliaments and devolved government for Cornwall since 1933. Our contribution is well recognised, so much so that the leading Communist miner Mick McGahey, is buried in the foundations of Holyrood, in recognition of that contribution.

But what of England and its districts or regions?

We have been discussing in the Party how to radically reshape local government in England so it can stand up to the powerful and deliver for the people.

*Eastern Rising* is an attempt to bring together and strengthen the labour movement in the east. The way we do this is through solidarity and unity across the six counties that make up the region.

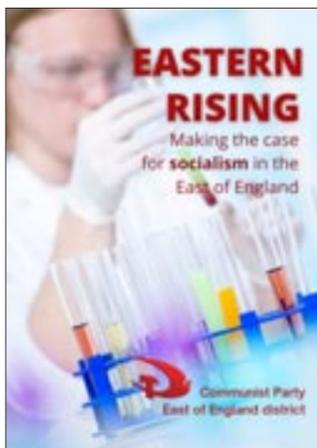
Currently none of the local councils are working together on the problems the region faces. Some wish the big issues would go away so they can get on with choosing what colour flowers to display for the Spring Show.

Yet we have significant centres of poverty in our cities and rural towns such as Norwich, Luton, Ipswich, Colchester and Cambridge.

This is not being addressed by local councils that are beyond control and accountability, stuffed full of vested interests.

Tories in Suffolk refused to put in serious bids for government funding for local buses – as if people don't need to get to work or meet family or look after those they care for. In Norfolk they refused to fund free school meals over the easter holidays. In Suffolk they ride roughshod over local opinion on Sizewell C and the concreting over of Minesmere nature reserve.

In Lakenheath the council say nothing as it is turned into a NATO staging post for nuclear weapons, making us all targets.



Fewer people are taking part in the democratic process as many feel there is little chance of change or little choice between the main parties. The Labour Party is reduced to a shadow as thousands of members across the region leave as the party returns to its establishment policies and distances itself from its hugely popular manifestos of the Corbyn era. Without socialist ideas and an organised mass movement, there is no chance we will be able to make the change that are needed.

Our unions are weaker and face constant attacks from the anti trade union laws pushed by both major parties. Precarious work stops many from even joining a union.

We are calling for the formation of a powerful regional wide assembly – based on six constituent shire assemblies – that can intervene in our local economies in favour of working people, and deal effectively with the big issues such as Sizewell C, rampant land profiteering, second homes, the gutting of rural villages, poverty, the loss of local post offices and banks and the dire threat from climate change bringing flooding and coastal erosion. The six counties should be working together.

We oppose the Council Tax and campaign for a local income, property and wealth tax. This would provide economic firepower for a programme of youth employment and a real future of good, unionised, well paid jobs and decent housing. In strong vibrant local communities with a sense of civic pride in our region.

A strong region that is able that is able to withstand and fightback against the capitalist class war that is being waged on working class communities across the region.

As communists we will put in the work to rebuild our movement. But we cant do it alone. Nor do we want to. But it can't be done without us. ★

★ For a copy of *Eastern Rising* please email us at [eastern@communistparty.org.uk](mailto:eastern@communistparty.org.uk) and pass it on to your friends, family and colleagues.

DARREN TURNER IS A COMMUNIST COUNCILLOR IN BURY ST EDMUNDS

## Stop the Tory refugee scheme

Tony Conway  
**REFUGEES**

**C**OMMUNISTS STAND with all those who oppose Priti Patel's latest asylum and refugee scheme. Her hare-brained idea to off-shore to Rwanda in East Africa both the processing of asylum seekers and the legal obligations of this country is dangerous and against international law.

Britain, with its long history of colonial exploitation and imperial war should be a welcoming country for refugees.

The Communist Party wants to see a united campaign for non-racist immigration and nationality laws. All refugees should have access to social security and be allowed to work.

Refugees are not illegal but are compelled to travel by unsafe routes because they have no other option.

The three main safe routes to the UK for refugees and their families are, one, refugee family reunion – but the Tories' Nationality and Borders Bill will all but destroy this vital route. Refugee resettlement is a second – such schemes almost ground to a halt during the pandemic and has failed those escaping the Taliban. The third – humanitarian visas – are where people can only apply when arriving or via special arrangements available, for example, those fleeing the war in Ukraine.

The government must grant many more humanitarian visas and open safe routes. These two measures would undermine the brutal economics of people trafficking and put the criminals out of business.

Since the start of the government's 'hostile environment' policy in 2012 refugee have been demoralised with the 'go-home' buses, invasion scares and health panics. These Tory tactics dovetail with far-right fantasies like the so-called 'displacement theory' which racists and fascists promote to suggest that alien hordes are set to replace the 'British'.

Communists want this Nationality and Borders Bill defeated and a recall of Parliament.

Johnson originally stated that the announcement would be challenged in the courts. Then he said he expected the first removals within weeks. This has dire consequences for people already waiting for decisions on their applications. Home Office ministers then said it would only apply to adult men. The detail of the scheme with Rwanda were published on 14 April. We can predict that the commitments then made will be broken. Measures were rushed through during the Easter parliamentary recess.

The Communist Party backs the call for a properly resourced immigration department based on international principles of justice.

Off-shoring asylum seekers and refugees to Rwanda shirks UK international legal obligations. Those arriving 'irregularly' may be sent on a one-way ticket to Rwanda and, if recognised as refugees, will be granted refugee status there.

Offshore processing is immoral, cruel and ineffective. It creates a two-tiered system, discriminating on mode of arrival, where the status is claimed based on threats of persecution or serious harm.

Australia's similar system has caused years of suffering, with 12 people dying since 2013. Inhumane treatment, medical neglect, and years of indefinite detention resulted in suicides and an epidemic of self-harm. Detaining each asylum seeker costs Australians GBP£1.8 million annually.

Rwandan forces shot dead twelve Congolese refugees protesting a cut to food rations in 2018, and prosecuted over 60 more on rebellion charges and 'spreading false information with intent to create a hostile international opinion against the Rwandan state.'

Rwanda has a track record of extrajudicial killings, suspicious custody deaths, unlawful or arbitrary detention, torture, and abusive prosecutions. This lack of respect for human rights led to the UK government directly raising concerns with Rwanda. As a consequence Britain even offers asylum to Rwandans.

We do not oppose this scheme because it is Rwanda – although as a country it clearly has human rights issues. We oppose it because the scheme is both anti-working class and racist. ★

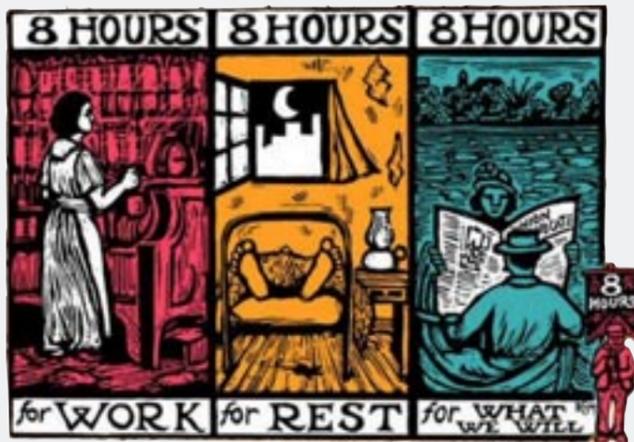
TONY CONWAY IS COVENOR OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S ANTIRACIST AND ANTIFASCIST COMMISSION.



# ON MAY DAY

*'Comrade workers! May Day is coming, the day when the workers of all lands celebrate their awakening to a class-conscious life, their solidarity in the struggle against all coercion and oppression of man by man, the struggle to free the toiling millions from hunger, poverty, and humiliation. Two worlds stand facing each other in this great struggle: the world of capital and the world of labour, the world of exploitation and slavery and the world of brotherhood and freedom.'* VI Lenin 1904

## The origins of International Workers' Day



'Ten thousand times the labour movement has stumbled and fallen, bruised itself, then risen again, been seized by the throat and choked into insensibility, enjoined by the courts, assaulted by thugs, charged by the militia, shot down by regulars, frowned upon by public opinion, deceived by politicians, threatened by priests, repudiated renegades, preyed upon by grafters, infested with spies, deserted by cowards, betrayed by traitors, bled by leeches and sold out by leaders. But, notwithstanding all these, it is today the most vital and potential power this planet has ever known!'

**Eugene V. Debs**, 1912 (Leader of the Railway Union, Socialist Party leader—candidate for US president, received over one million votes while imprisoned, for the crime of opposing the World War I, as a 'capitalist war against the workers of all nations').

from the US People's World  
**MAY DAY 1886**

**T**HE MOVEMENT for an eight-hour day began, in earnest, in 1884 when the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions, the predecessor of the American Federation of Labor called for the beginning of a nationwide movement on 1 May, 1886.

Workers across the USA were inspired, as this movement spread. Workers ate '8-hour lunch,' wore '8-hour shoes' and smoked '8-hour tobacco.' The "8-hour song" swept across the nation:

'We mean to make things over; we're tired of work for naught

But bare enough to live on; n'ere an hour for thought

We want to feel the sunshine; we want to smell the flowers

We're sure that God has willed it; we mean to have 8 hours

We're summoning our forces, from shipyard, shop & mill

Eight hours for work, 8 hours for rest, Eight hours for want we will!

When 1 May, 1886 arrived, the movement had become huge. Over 350,000 workers, from 12,000 shops struck for the eight-hour day. In Chicago, home to one of the largest labor movements, over 40,000 workers walked out and 80,000 marched down Michigan Avenue on a beautiful sunny day.

Demonstrations also occurred in New York, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Columbus, Milwaukee, Seattle, San Francisco, Boston, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, St Louis, Washington, Philadelphia and many other cities.

The wealthy were terrified and attacks

on the workers were organized. In Chicago, another peaceful demonstration was held on 2 May.

But on Monday, 3 May, the peaceful scene turned violent when Chicago police attacked and killed picketing workers at the McCormick Reaper Plant. Workers and their allies responded by calling a solidarity rally on the evening of 4 May at Haymarket Square.

Some of what happened then remains a mystery. The peaceful demonstration was almost over when Chicago police brutally attacked it. Then someone, unknown to this day, threw the first dynamite bomb ever used in peacetime history of the United States. The police panicked and, in the darkness many shot at their own men. Eventually, seven police and at least four workers died, although the true number is not known since many families took their wounded and dead home to avoid persecution.

The next day martial law was declared, not just in Chicago but much of the nation. Authorities rounded up labor leaders and smashed trade union offices. The capitalist press called for blood and eight labor leaders were arrested and charged with murder, even though none were present at the time of the violence.

Those radical union leaders: Albert Parsons, Oscar Neebe, Samuel Fielden, August Spies, August Fischer, George Engel, Louis Lingg & Micheal Schawb never had any chance. The capitalist press called for their death, and was sure to get it. Seven of the eight were foreign born, but most were US citizens, from Germany, England & Ireland. Parsons was a former Confederate officer, who hated slavery and deserted. He later

married the former slave, Lucy Gonzalez Parsons, who became a labor leader in her own right. After they were convicted, August Spies, a great orator stood and told the court in these immortal words:

'If you think that by hanging us you can stamp out the labor movement, that movement from which the downtrodden millions, the millions who toil in want and misery, expect salvation, if this is your opinion, then by all means hang us! But you cannot stamp this movement of humanity out! Here you will tread upon a spark, there and there, behind you and in front of you, everywhere flames will blaze up. It is a subterranean fire! You can never put it out!'

On 11 November, 1887, the hangings of Fischer, Engel, Parson and Spies were carried out, in spite of a massive worldwide movement for their freedom. The day before the hangings, Lingg was found in his cell, his head half blown away by a dynamite cap.

Soon thereafter, the International Workingmen's Association, an early labor movement that had representatives from many nations, issued a call to "observe 1 May as a day of remembrance of the martyrs of May Day, and in solidarity with workers in struggles throughout the world!" The American Federation of Labor and the Knights of Labor, the union organizations in our nation, also adopted this call.

On 26 June, 1893, Illinois Governor Peter Altgeld issued a full pardon for all the May Day defendants. He stated, "The defendants, leaders of labor, were not guilty of any crime!" They were, he said, "completely innocent, victims of a packed jury, public hysteria and a biased judge!" ★

## When the Labour government banned the May Day march



Nick Wright  
**MAY DAY 1948**

**M**AY DAY 1948 saw a massive rally in Trafalgar Square organised by the London Trades Council under its legendary secretary Julie Jacobs, later to be an industrial organiser for the Communist Party.

But a May Day march was banned by the Labour Home Secretary Chuter Ede on the spurious grounds that Oswald Mosely's fascists had planned a provocation for that day. In parliament East End Communist MP Phil Piratin asked Chuter Ede why he was imposing this ban on all organisations merely in order to protect Mosely's Fascists?

He then asked: 'Is the Home Secretary aware that the figures he has just given must astound the House—nearly 1,000 police being used on May Day in order to protect the Mosley Fascist.'

Chuter Ede was the man who earlier had facilitated a safe haven in Britain for 8,000 Ukrainian Nazi collaborators from the SS Galician Division who had fled the Red Army.

Just three years after the war London's working class was in no mood to tolerate restrictions on its freedom to protest and predictably masses of May Day demonstrators began a march down Whitehall and equally predictably Chuter Ede's mounted police attacked the demonstrators.

These tensions reflected the changing international situation where a rising national and colonial liberation movement was challenging the imperial world order and the

capitalist states were responding to the socialist advance with a ramped up Cold War.

On 1 May 1948 itself People's Korea was established while the US commander in occupied Korea refused to recognise it. In British-occupied Greece a justice minister—who ordered the execution of hundreds of communists—was assassinated and another 24 communists were shot by firing squad four days later.

Within the month the US House of Representatives passed the repressive Mundt-Nixon Communist Control Bill.

### The 'Welfare State' threatened

Springtime in 1948 saw Britain's first majority Labour government set on its widely supported domestic programme. Plans for the inauguration of the National Health Service were well advanced with its launch planned for July. The Tories had opposed its formation by left wing Labour health minister Aneurin Bevan who included dental, ophthalmic and hearing services within the NHS integrated mental and physical health services. Bevan's Bill gave local authorities the job of providing health centres, care for pregnant mothers, health visitors, home nursing and an ambulance service.

A massive emergency housing programme was underway. In the decade after 1945 1.5 million council houses were built. Secondary education became free and school reform opened up more opportunities for working class children and the proportion of children going on to higher education tripled to three per cent.

But already Labour had introduced an 'austerity' budget and pay restraint. Britain remained a world power with the Labour government committed to the maintenance of empire and an imperialist alliance with the USA.

In Europe's desperate economic conditions of post war reconstruction the USA—which had suffered no material damage on its mainland territory—proffered economic 'aid' under terms which would tie nations to its foreign and economic policies and arms expenditure.

Britain's communists fiercely resisted this Marshall Plan as did workers throughout Europe while the party's leading theoretician Rajani Palme Dutt predicted a US slump—it arrived in 1949—and argued that such aid would be consumed in arms expenditure.

The Labour government still maintained occupation and colonial armies in Hong Kong, Malaya, Burma, Ceylon, Aden, Transjordan, Iraq, Sudan, Egypt, Eritrea, Somaliland, Gibraltar, Malta, Greece, Cyprus, Cyreica, Kenya, Tanganyika, Nigeria, Gold Coast (Ghana) Sierra Leone and garrisons in Germany and Austria.

'British foreign policy will not be altered in any way under the Labour government,' said the anti-semitic Labour foreign secretary Ernest Bevin and within a year free dental care on the NHS was abandoned to pay for the war to maintain the division of Korea. The Labour government conceded the first privatisation of NHS services and then crushed popular risings in Greece, Malaya and Vietnam led by our wartime allies. ★





# EVENTS & IDEAS & ACTION

*'I have followed exactly the same line the whole of my adult life. The fight against fascism and the fight against imperialism were fundamentally the same fight.'*  
**Kim Philby** Comintern espionage agent and British intelligence officer.



**Bernadette Keaveny**  
**OUR DAILY VOICE**

THE MAY DAY *Morning Star* reaches many thousands of readers. Up and down the country working people reach for the *Star* when they need to know the real story behind the headlines, when they want to understand the class interests at play in national politics, in the fight for wages and world peace. Unlike all of Britain's capitalist press the *Morning Star* has no millionaire owner and no pages of corporate advertising.

Why would the bourgeoisie pay to support the only daily newspaper in Britain that is dedicated to ending capitalist exploitation and imperialist war. The big-business-owned press has a few things the *Morning Star* doesn't have: mass commercial advertising, cross-subsidies from other parts of the business to cover losses, and banks that are prepared to lend money. But the *Morning Star* has a 92 year tradition of service to the working class and the labour movement and thousands of shareholders in its co-operative, the Peoples Press Printing Society.

It has a dozen trade unions holding shares in the co-op and seats on the management committee, it has a network of readers and supporters groups and many dedicated supporters who make sure the paper is on sale at every Labour movement event and many high streets.

But the newspaper industry is in crisis with rising costs, and a younger generation that has learned not to trust the big business press.

The pandemic has hit workplace and newsagent sales and the *Star* needs to find new ways to serve its readership.

That's why the *Morning Star's* new campaign, **Reach for the Star**, is asking for your help in winning new daily readers.

If half our weekend or occasional readers became daily readers, we could secure the paper's future and invest for growth.

Most importantly, we'd equip more of our readers with the tools to be more effective in their workplaces and communities.

Owned by our readers and backed by 10 national trade unions, our journalists report on the growing number of strikes, protests and community struggles against ruthless bosses and the government that serves and protects them.

With the rest of the press clamouring for war, it is more vital than ever that as many people as possible are armed with the arguments for peace and an analysis that is based on facts and history, not on hysteria and xenophobia.

We've made it easier than ever to buy the *Morning Star* every day. The paper is available at Martin McColls, One Stop shops and many Co-op stores. Ask your local newsagent to stock the paper if they don't already do so or contact [circulation@peoples-press.com](mailto:circulation@peoples-press.com).

For less than £10 a week, you can sign up to our new home delivery service and have the *Morning Star* land on your doormat six days a week. Subscribers also receive the premium e-edition package for free.

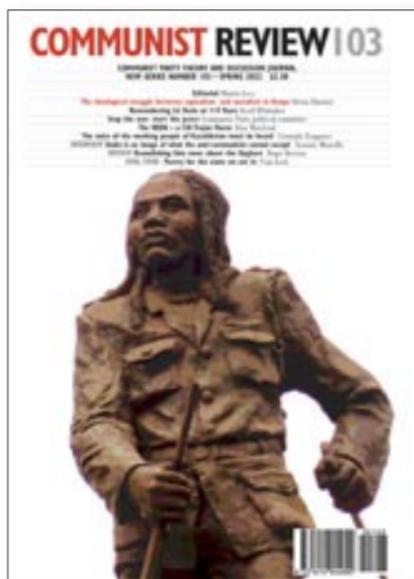
We know that times are hard, and right now spending more on a newspaper may not seem like a priority.

But remember that those that are inflicting the cost-of-living crisis on us bank on getting away with it with the help of the media oligarchs.

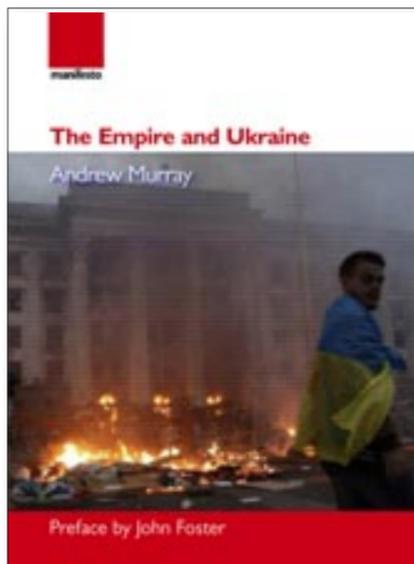
The *Morning Star* will do everything possible to hold them to account. The more readers we have, the stronger the voice of our movement will be. ★



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## Vote Communist!

**Phil Katz**  
**5 MAY ELECTIONS**

TURF OUT the Tories wherever they hold local power and strengthen the fightback against austerity with a big vote for Communist candidates

The communist campaign – 'Communities fit for working class people!' challenges government diktat and cuts to council funds that lie behind the denial of local democracy.

Communists do not pretend for a second that voting will change the capitalist system. For some it's a statement of protest. For others, linked to campaigns, its an opportunity to organise for change.

An election campaign is a chance to unite various struggles and campaigns against food poverty, for council home building and municipal control of local transport, and environmental protection.

Communist candidates aim to return powers to the Scottish and Welsh parliaments so they can rebuild communities. But in England communists want regional assemblies to strengthen local democracy against the power of the big business state. Workers and families are stronger when we all pull together and put pressure on Westminster.

**Policies** The Communist Party aims to  
 ★ move ownership and control to local communities  
 ★ return control of education to local authorities  
 ★ invest in council housing  
 ★ pay rises and rights at work from day one  
 ★ invest in free council-run leisure and making streets safe  
 ★ restore the legal right to run local transport  
 ★ learn the lessons of Covid.  
 Check out the Communist manifesto at [www.communistparty.org.uk/election-2022/](http://www.communistparty.org.uk/election-2022/)

Find out more by reading *Introducing Marxism*, available free for the duration of the campaign and our programme *Britain's Road to Socialism*.

We look forward to meeting you or hearing from you during our campaign and, more, we extend an outstretched hand of comradeship to those who want to join with the communists fighting for working class power and socialism. ★

PICTURE ABOVE: Communist candidate Carrie Hedderwick (second from right) in Shiregreen and Brightside in Sheffield, "Homelessness and the lack of affordable housing to rent or buy, for all age groups, is a chronic and growing political and social crisis across Britain today."

PHIL KATZ IS DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE COMMUNIST PARTY

### A decent, affordable home is a basic human right

If your rent costs more than a third of your household income it is unaffordable.

The Communist Party Housing Commission has produced a campaigning six-point charter for housing activists, tenants, housing and building workers.

- The charter argues for:
- Freeze rents, regulate private landlords, stop no-fault evictions
  - Start a mass council housing development and improvement programme, stop the sale of public land to private developers
  - Bring back Council homes transferred to housing associations and arms-length companies and put them under democratic control
  - Restore council construction, design and development jobs
  - Build a truly independent tenant's movement linked to the trades' unions and local communities all of which should be involved in developing local plans
  - End homelessness. Make the provision of suitable accommodation for all homeless people a legal requirement. ★



**COMMUNIST PARTY CHARTER FOR HOUSING**  
<https://tinyurl.com/2p9acpth>

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