

# JACKDAW

FOR REVOLUTIONARY ANARCHISM

**BACK OUT ON  
THE STREETS!**



ISSUE NO 16 FREE

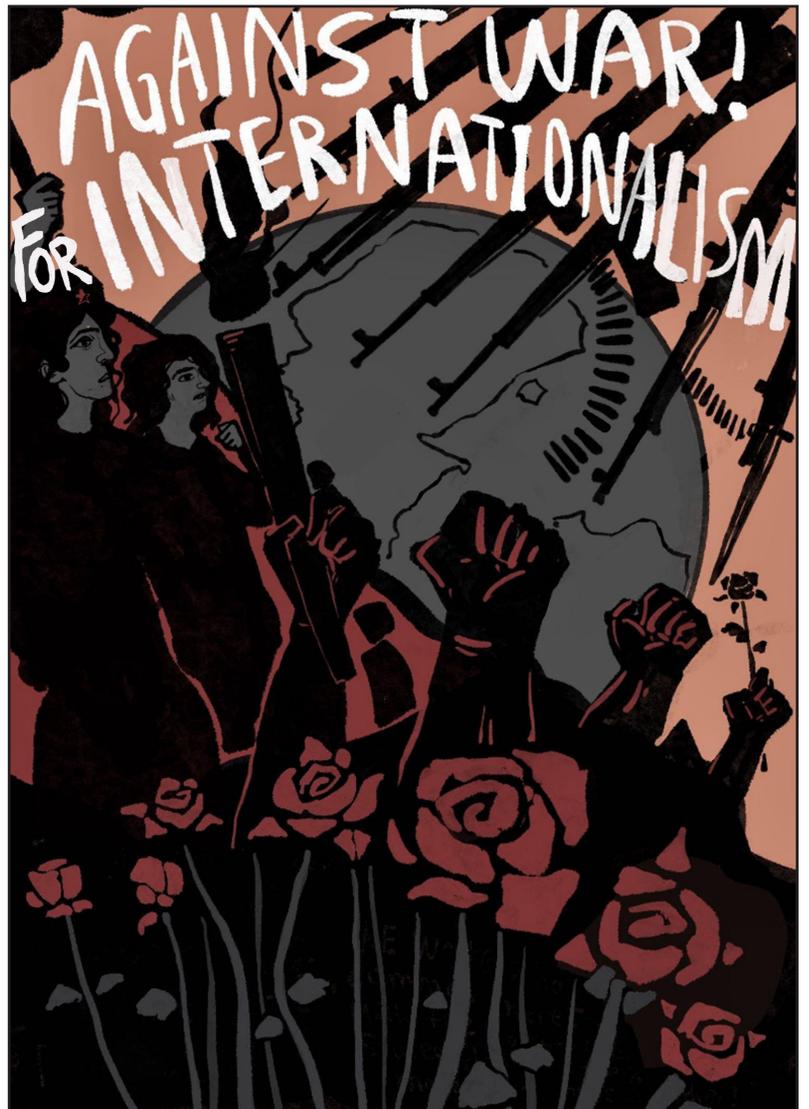
## **Make 2024 a Year of Resistance!**

This coming year will undoubtedly prove to be as 'interesting' a year as 2023. All the problems created by capitalism, the state and patriarchy are ripening even more: escalation to war, the ecological crisis, the attacks on the working class worldwide through wage and social wage cuts, the increasing poverty of many. These can only be countered by our actions, with a vision of a new society, one without classes, without borders and nationalism, without oppression and inequality. This is libertarian communism. Join with us in helping to make this come about!

### **Cost of Living**

The working class will continue to see attacks on its living standards. We had the biggest strike wave seen for decades, with hundreds of thousands involved in industrial action, many for the first time. Yet practically all of these strikes ended in defeat and in pay deals still below the rate of inflation. The trade unions signally failed to deliver, actively sabotaging struggles.

One sign of hope was the action of workers on oil rigs in the North Sea. They organised a strike committee, independent from union structures, and carried out two wildcat strikes across 19 rigs. This brought results, with new collective bargaining agreed this December. The North Sea workers provided a shining example of how strikes can be fought successfully. These lessons need to be noted by any workers going into struggle in this coming year. They must rely on themselves, creating their own independent organisations such as strike committees and mass assemblies.



### **INSIDE**

- Stop the Slaughter
- Environment and jobs
- Universities fight back
- Food for all

**VOICE OF THE ANARCHIST COMMUNIST GROUP**

# It's Too Darn Hot

The Sunak administration has launched an all-out attack on net-zero policies with a slew of bizarre scare stories in the media, with a removal of plans to tax uninsulated buildings, the approval of Rosebank, the delaying of the phase-out of petrol and diesel vehicles by five years, amongst other policies detrimental to the planet. Labour if elected will do little to reverse this situation.

Even more laughable and at the same time more tragic, has been the recent COP28 conference, hosted in Dubai by the United Arab Emirates, a main oil

producer, and presided over by Sultan al-Jabr, head of the UAE state oil company.

This was a conference attended by at least 2,456 fossil fuel lobbyists, and where the UAE took the opportunity to make deals of £175 billion for their oil industries!

The conference, not surprisingly, achieved less than nothing.

2024 should see more of this refusal to take action on the ecological crisis.

Hopefully, the environmental movement will continue to grow in strength and make links with the workers movement to directly challenge corporations who put profits before any serious actions.



## War, What is it Good For?

The conflict in Gaza and the campaign of genocide against the Palestinians is likely to continue into the foreseeable future with a serious risk of the conflict escalating into a full-scale war in the Middle East.

The Biden administration has approved \$150 million sales of arms to Israel. This is happening in the context of Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli prime minister, calling for the seizure of the Philadelphia corridor, a buffer zone between Gaza and Egypt, and declaring that the Gaza offensive will last "for many months."

The Israeli war cabinet has declared that it is engaged in a "multi-front" war: Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, the West Bank, Iraq, Yemen, and Iran. Netanyahu has often stated that he is ready to take on Iran.

Iran has acted through its proxies in the region-Hezbollah, Hamas, the Houthis in Yemen, and Tehran-allied groups in Iraq and Syria. These have all been armed, trained, and supplied

by the Iranian theocracy, which preferred an arms-length strategy, using its allies without directly involving itself in the conflict.

This changed with strikes against targets in Iraq, Pakistan, and Syria. A former Israeli prime minister, Naftali Bennett, writing in the US paper the Wall Street Journal, declared that the "evil empire of Iran" must be brought



down. He expresses the views of many in both the US and Israeli administrations.

Israel has undertaken strikes in Syria against Iranian commanders there, the latest being the targeting and killing of Sayyed Razi Mousavi, a senior military official in the Iranian regime, and of 11 senior members of Iran's Revolutionary Guard at

Damascus airport.

On November 8th, the US Air Force undertook an attack on a weapons storage centre of an Iranian-backed militia in Syria

On the last day of the year, the US destroyed three Houthi boats. All these actions are bringing the area closer to all-out war.

There have been massive demonstrations and protests around the world against Israeli's offensive. These will certainly grow and strengthen as the bombing and atrocities continue.

At the same time, the war intensifies in the Ukraine, with both sides exchanging bombardments. More civilian casualties, more destruction.

Both these battlegrounds risk escalating beyond the regional. Capitalism is threatening more and more carnage as the result of inter-imperialist rivalries.

We must continue to oppose these capitalist wars - **Against War, For Internationalism.**

# Gaza: The Nightmare Continues

The demonstrations across the world continue with hundreds of thousands on the streets every weekend in cities and towns, big and small. They have, in many places, become angrier, more desperate as Israel's armed forces continue to murder with immunity. Certainly, the Israeli Defence Force (IDF) has taken losses, estimated at just under 1,400 dead and many more injured. The economy of Israel, missing its imported Palestinian labour and 350,000 reservists, most of whom are 'economically productive', has taken a hit, estimated at \$600m a week by the Bank of Israel. Globally, boycotts of companies based in, or associated with Israel, are in place. Everywhere, eyes are upon Israel and anger and disgust grows.



And yet, the Israeli government continue with its plans, which, at the moment, appears to be killing a very large number of Gazans, pushing the vast majority of Palestinians into the south of Gaza and thereby creating untenable circumstances forcing them to take refuge in neighbouring countries and beyond. Northern Gaza, meanwhile, looks like it will become effectively controlled by Israel, an international force or both and re-developed with only as many Palestinians as are needed to undertake the reconstruction and carry out menial labour.

And Israel is able to do this because, for all the anger and opposition its genocidal actions

are creating amongst ordinary people, there are not, so far, any allies amongst the nation states of the world, notwithstanding South Africa's filing a case of genocide against Israel at the International Court of Justice, that might intervene meaningfully on their behalf. Iran and their Hezbollah allies have refrained from any full-blooded commitment, despite provocation from Israel, because they know the consequences of an escalation. And, of course, military intervention from anywhere would potentially end in a regional bloodbath and we all know whose blood would be overwhelmingly spilled: the already dispossessed and those who are always the greatest victims of inter-imperialist wars, of colonialism and exploitation: the working class.

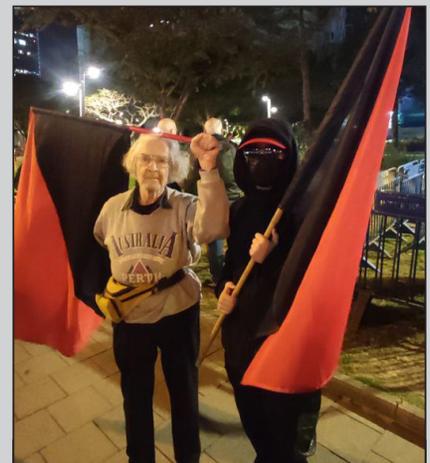
And, ultimately, the only force that has the potential power to end this, and any other war, is the working class - those who have the very least to gain from the cycle of destruction. In Gaza, the working class, that is the vast majority of those dying under Israeli rockets and bombs, is in no condition to express its independence - it is too busy trying to stay alive - and in Israel we are only beginning to see the embryo of an anti-militarist movement that is willing to fight no war but the class war - expressed through military service refusal and small, but growing, demonstrations that, amongst the pacifism and calls for ceasefire, we are beginning to hear calls for a different society and for an end to our present one and its reign of terror.

We must do everything we can to encourage the growth of this movement in Israel, in the Middle East and globally.

In Britain, actions against arms factories show the way forward for practical solidarity through

direct action. In December four arms factories in the UK producing Israeli fighter jets were shut down by hundreds of trade unionists protesting under the banner "Workers for a Free Palestine". Eaton Mission Systems in Bournemouth, BAE Systems at Samlesbury Aerodrome in Lancashire, the L3Harris factory in Brighton and Hove and BAE Govan in Glasgow produce parts for the F-35 stealth combat aircraft currently being used by Israel to bombard Gaza. The protesters included health workers, teachers, hospitality workers, academics and artists. They called for an end to arms sales to Israel and for the UK government to support a permanent ceasefire. The protests were organised in coordination with workers in France, Denmark and the Netherlands, who also blockaded arms factories. While much, much more is needed, it is only workers' direct action that can stop the slaughter.

For more info see:  
<https://workersforafreepalestine.com/>



## Ilan Shalif

An Israeli anarchist since 1966 and still protesting.

Follow his story on our Instagram page:

<https://www.instagram.com/p/C2hbIXuCRXV/>

# The Ecological Em

In these two articles- one on job losses at Port Talbot and the other about supposed new jobs in the North Sea, there is a central problem; many industries that provide jobs for thousands of workers in the UK and millions around the

world, are major producers of CO2 emissions.

The government's attitude towards climate change is largely based on ensuring corporations can continue to make profits. At Port Talbot they allow 3000 jobs to go so

emissions will be reduced and then in Northeast Scotland and the Shetlands they support more drilling in the North Sea which will provide jobs and increase emissions. Many talk about a 'Just Transition'- but clearly that is not happening.

## Workers left out in the cold once again

Indian-owned Tata Steel in Port Talbot South Wales, with the help of £500 million of government money, are converting steelworks from its current Basic Oxygen Furnaces to Electric Arc Furnaces. The former produces virgin steel from iron ore, heavily relying on coal for the chemical reaction. Electric Arc Furnaces recycles scrap steel without needing coal. Port Talbot steelworks is currently the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest source of CO2 from any single site in the UK. Transitioning this steelworks is expected to make a significant impact on the UK's emissions. The steel works creates high levels of PM10 air pollution that blows all over the area. So good news?

Decarbonising steelworks is necessary in order to tackle the climate emergency but what about the workers? 3000 jobs are to be lost as only a few hundred workers are needed for the new operation. This will have a devastating impact on workers, their families and the community. Already employment in the steel industry has declined from 250,000 in 1971 to under 34,000.

So what is the way forward? Unions have agreed that steel-making needs to be greener. They argue, however, that workers should be kept on with one of the furnaces still operating during the 4-year transition. It is not obvious that Tata Steel is actually interested in doing

anything about climate change. They say that the steel works are making a loss and now with the government's £500 million pound giveaway, they have a way of making the business profitable- but at a cost to the workers and the community.

The government is trying to make out that they are doing something to tackle climate change, but it doesn't ring true. Britain will still need steel. So instead of using the steel that is



home-produced, they will import cheaper steel from abroad. The only other steel works in the UK is in Scunthorpe, owned by Chinese firm Jingye. They also want to make the transition to green steel and are asking the government for money and threatening major job losses. UK is about to find itself the only country in Europe that cannot make its own steel from scratch. Unions have been divided in their response which has weakened the resistance. The Community union and the GMB are recommending support for the plan put forward by the Syndex consultancy firm,

which would still lead to several hundred so-called voluntary job losses, and mean that the smaller furnace would run to 2032 only. Meanwhile, Unite, which represents a third of workers there, have voiced opposition. They originally backed the Syndex plan, but were forced to change under pressure from their members and their proposals are now more far-reaching. But at the time of writing, Tata has rejected all alternative proposals. Whilst Community and GMB's response has been one of complete capitulation to Tata, Unite's campaign to save jobs has been feeble. So far this consists of a petition from local shops and sports clubs, that lamely asks for a "fairer deal", paying for commission of murals, a banner drop, and one rally. There seems to be no urgency to this campaign, and workers are naturally disturbed.

Workers at Port Talbot need to take the struggle against job losses into their own hands, fighting for a transition that doesn't mean their sacrifice. They need to organise rallies themselves, organise for all forms of industrial action, step up the local agitation, and look towards a massive demonstration in Port Talbot supported on an UK-wide basis. The threat of go-slows and strike action should send a message to Tata and the government that Port Talbot workers will resist.

# Emergency and Jobs

Workers in Port Talbot can hardly move to the north of Scotland to get these new jobs that are meant to appear. What both actions have in common is supporting big corporations in their drive for more profits.

Workers need to take control of the transition, not leave it in

the hands of corporations and government. See the example of the Italian car workers. But as long as corporations and profits are the main aim of the economic system and the government, there will be no Just Transition.

In fact, there will be the worst

of both worlds- no serious action against climate change and any greenwashing actions will be at the expense of the workers.

<https://labourhub.org.uk/2023/12/22/italian-car-workers-fight-for-alternative-green-production-plan/>

## The Drilling ain't Thrilling Corporation profits first!

The UK government has granted 27 oil and gas licences for projects in the North Sea. The licences have been issued for projects in central and northern areas of the North Sea and west of Shetland to allow oil and gas resources to be explored and developed. This decision is typical of the government: profits for corporations is more important than taking the climate emergency seriously.

The government and its supporters in industry put forward the usual arguments: the need to boost the economy and to create jobs. By doing this they are addressing the concerns of many people as they struggle to survive. However, anyone who is serious about addressing the ecological crisis knows that fossil fuels need to stay in the ground. It is already unlikely that the world will meet climate targets and the evidence of global warming is there for us all to see: increased fires, flooding, and soaring temperatures. Much of the effect of climate

change is being felt by those in low-income countries who have contributed the least to the problem. In addition, more than a quarter of the offshore oil and gas sit within marine protected areas (MPAs) prized for their rare habitats and species.

This is another example of greenwashing as governments and corporations pay lip service to the ecological crisis but continue with business as usual, amassing huge profits without actually providing the benefits they claim. They have never acted in our interests so why will this latest decision be any different?

The 'jobs argument' is often used to justify giving power and money to corporations. It seems that any form of production is ok as long as it provides jobs. We need to seriously challenge this argument and demand jobs that are socially and environmentally useful.

For example, improving insulation on all buildings would both create jobs, help reduce emissions, and reduce energy costs. So not only no more fossil fuel extraction but also no more arms production (sent to countries like Israel and Saudi Arabia), and no more production based on exploitative and unsafe labour practises both in Britain and around the world.

The current system- capitalism- is not capable of solving any of our problems, whether it be the ecological crisis or economic and social injustices. It is time for a change.

For info about resistance see: [www.stopcambo.org.uk/](http://www.stopcambo.org.uk/)



# Food for All

The Covid pandemic showed up the failures of the capitalist food system. Food shortages and empty shelves made people more aware of where food comes from and how it is produced. Price increases and profiteering revealed the role supermarkets play in dominating the market. Tesco is predicting between £2.6bn and £2.7bn profits in 2023-24, as many people struggle to afford even low quality food. As a result, many people have decided to take things into their own hands.

People all over the country are seeking food growing spaces, for allotments, community growing projects and market gardens. The waiting list for allotments in England has risen by 81% over the past 12 yrs as more than 150,000 people seek a place to grow fresh food.

There has been an upsurge in guerrilla gardening where people take over a site and grow food for the community and a massive increase in food growing projects mainly on local council-owned land. For example, Incredible Edible is just one network and they have 150 growing groups. Social Farms and Gardens estimates that there are over 1000 community food growing projects across the UK.

**HUGE PROFITS FOR SUPERMARKETS**

In 2022 Tesco made a profit of £56.7 billion  
Sainsbury's £327 million  
Asda £886 million

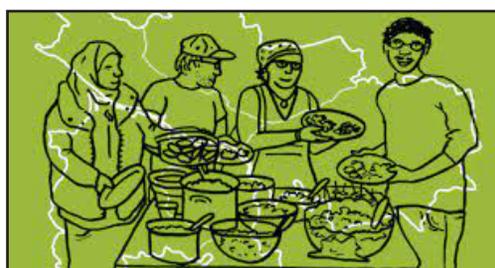
**FOOD POVERTY FOR US**

[anarchistcommunism.org](http://anarchistcommunism.org)

**ACG**  
Anarchist Communist Group

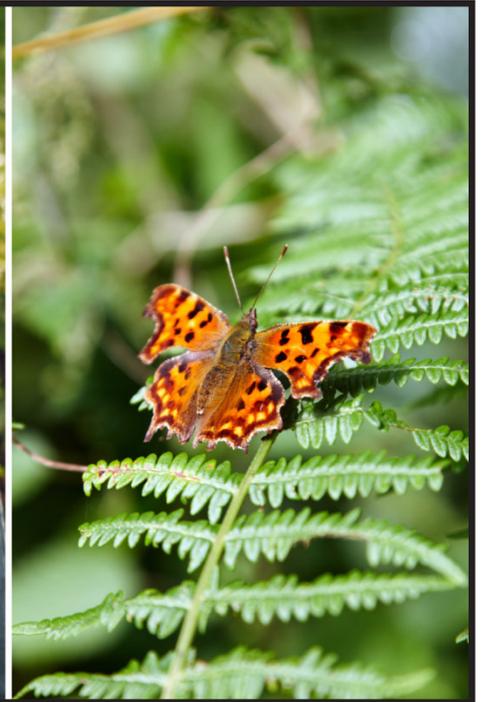
Hull is set to become the first council to give people the 'right to grow' on unused council land. This is largely the result of a campaign by a strong food growing movement in Hull. Many food campaigners think this is a good first step and would like to see all councils do this.

Other cities such as Glasgow have a Food Growing Strategy. However, it relies on groups identifying appropriate land and then applying for it. The Glasgow Community Food Network (GCFN) has produced a very useful document to help people address the problem of getting access to land.



One issue is not even knowing who owns the land. Despite the requirement of all landowners to have registered their ownership by 2025, only 50% is known. Another obstacle is people having the knowledge, resources and capacity to work out all the intricacies of getting hold of the land. There is not enough funding or support for people to go through what is a complicated process.

The other issue is there is not that much land available. Most land is in private hands. Councils usually prefer to sell off land to private developers and can easily take the land back if they want, so there is no long-term security. The only way to both get hold of land from the local council, and keep it, is to have strong grass roots organisation, based on local communities.



Another issue arising from the limited amount of land is that there is often conflict over how that land is to be used. Recently Glasgow council closed Ruchill Golf Course. It is unclear how much the golf course was used by the local working class community but there was some opposition to this closure. The course is now earmarked as a place for food growing and nature restoration, with Glasgow Community Food Network taking the lead.

“We believe that Ruchill Golf Course has huge potential. We think part of it could be well used as a food growing space... just imagine locally grown fresh fruit and veg on your doorstep! But we also think that the site could be better managed to promote a healthier green space for both nature and people and provide a model for what integrated and balanced living practices between humans and nature could look like.”

owned by corporations and large private landowners-urban and rural- to make huge profits for themselves. And land owned by the State- local or national- is not under our control. **All land** needs to be directly in the hands of the people, which means getting rid of capitalism and private property.

As the Digger Winstanley said: *“Was the earth made to preserve a few covetous, proud men to live at ease, and for them to bag and barn up the treasures of the earth from others, that these may beg or starve in a fruitful land; or was it made to preserve all her children?”*

**Resources:**

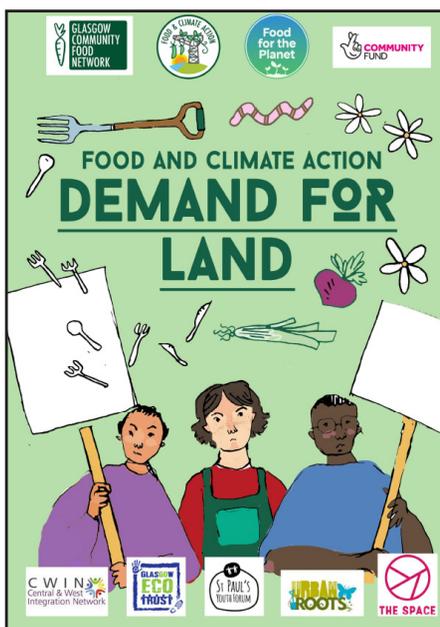
<https://www.incredibleedible.org.uk/>

[https://glasgowfood.net/assets/documents/Demand-for-Land\\_Route-Map.pdf](https://glasgowfood.net/assets/documents/Demand-for-Land_Route-Map.pdf)

<https://www.sowthecity.org/>

It will be a challenge for the GCFN is to put the local working class community at the centre of planning how this land will be used. According to someone from the GCFN, it is not easy to do this because people have been disempowered for so long.

Community food growing projects point to how we could be doing things in a future society. However, the vast majority of land is



# A Blast from the Past: Miners' Resistance in 1984-85

Speak to any anarchist activist in their 50s or older about important moments in their lifetime and invariably they will talk about the Miners Strike of 1984/85. Indeed, it has almost become a cliché. But the truth is, this struggle, which lasted almost a year and reached near-insurrectionary intensity, was of profound importance and had consequences that are still keenly felt today.

The establishment history has reduced the strike to a battle between the Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and the President of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), Arthur Scargill, the latter leading an army of worshipping miners. This official history hides the dynamics of the struggle and reduces it to a power struggle between two dominant

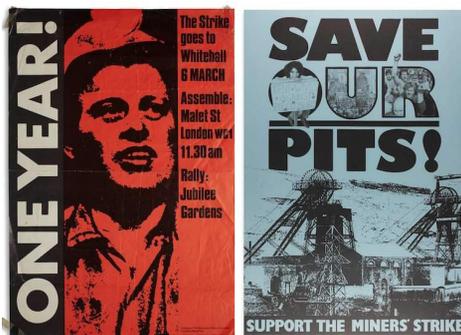
personalities rather than a struggle between classes.

The Conservative government had released plans for the closing of 20 pits with 20,000 job losses, but the intention to decimate the coal industry with the closure of 70 pits was believed to be the real aim. This was finally proven with the release of Cabinet papers in 2014. The miners, whose solidarity had brought down a previous Tory government with strike action, could see they

were faced with the loss of their jobs and the devastation of their communities.

The strike started in Yorkshire, at one colliery, Cortonwood, in March 1984 and rapidly became a national walk-out. Flying pickets, from Yorkshire and elsewhere, closed pits across the UK. The strike quickly became solid in Yorkshire, Lancashire, South Wales, Scotland, Kent and the North East, effectively a national strike but with a large number of strike breakers in Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and North Wales.

The state mobilized and used local police forces to make sure that coal left the collieries that kept working. The Metropolitan Police were drafted in to supply additional aggression and muscle.



## University and College Union Cheats:

Since 2018 there has been a series of running industrial disputes in the UK higher education (HE) sector. Like many disputes currently ongoing the response of bosses to wider sectoral problems has been to attack workers and push conditions down even further than before.

The rumbling conflict between workers and bosses was initially brought to the boil with the attack of employers and trustees on the USS (Universities Superannuation Scheme) pension scheme in 2017/2018. The response from workers (primarily those in the UCU union) in the spring of 2018 was much stronger than employers, or the union, anticipated. With the result that the bosses were

pushed onto the back foot for the first time in a long time.

Unfortunately at this point when workers held the edge, rather than taking the opponent out, the establishment of UCU, led by the then General Secretary Sally Hunt, manufactured a stitch up to end the dispute and kick the issue down the road. This selling out of members produced a significant backlash. Many newer members, invigorated by the 2018 USS dispute, challenging the leadership of the union to the extent that a vote of no confidence was to be brought against Hunt at the 2018 UCU Congress. Through a variety of manoeuvres Hunt managed to avoid an actual vote of no confidence but was

terminally damaged and stood down (officially due to ill health) shortly after.

While UCU was dealing with an internal struggle, employers were not passive and coordinated their attack on the pay, pensions and conditions of workers in HE. The pay of an average workers had decreased by 25% in real terms over the last decade, and the high inflation of the last two years compounded the loss in living standards. The response from the unions - UCU, Unite and Unison - was to try and organise a series of strikes post-Covid. Initially the success was limited, but a breakthrough of sorts was achieved in 2022 when, for the first time, UCU beat the 50% threshold required for industrial

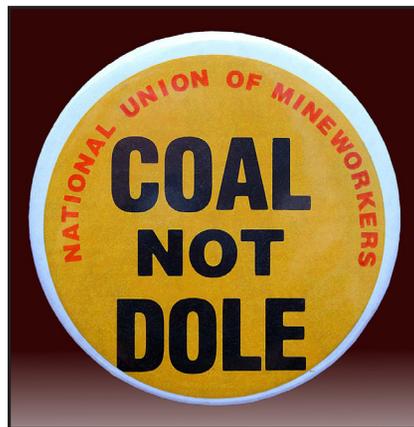
Picket lines became increasingly areas of conflict, arrests of pickets multiplied into the thousands.

One of the worst instances of police violence was at Orgreave. Thousands of police, including mounted police and dog handlers, many police armed with shields and truncheons, chased, battered and incapacitated people at random. Flying pickets were physically prevented from entering the Midlands and other areas by the police and areas became effectively locked down in a selective police state. Miners and their families were refused welfare benefit payments. The state knew how important it was to crush them and knew they had allies in the 'labour movement'.

The Labour Party refused to support the miners, the TUC resisted calls for a symbolic general strike. Some unions, such as EETPU, the electricians unions, openly undermined the strike. In Nottinghamshire, a breakaway scab (strike breaker)

union, the Union of Democratic Mineworkers was formed. Whilst there was significant support from working class people; hundreds of thousands attending local and national marches and rallies, the Miners were unable to extend the struggle to other sectors, as union leaderships paid mostly lip-service to the struggle, making donations but not taking action.

Self-organised initiatives in mining communities and organisations such as Women Against Pit Closures emerged, mobilising and facilitating mutual aid and provision for



the strikers and their families. Miners Support Groups, including the now famous Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners, emerged. It felt like a movement was emerging: class against class.

The failure of the strike to extend to other sectors and the state's isolation of the miners eventually led to a slow drift back to work by increasing numbers and the eventual defeat of the strike. The Conservative government's desire to decimate the coal industry, to smash the miners and their collective strength and thereby intimidate the whole working class was fulfilled, albeit not without a serious fight and not immediately.

But without doubt it was a serious blow to morale and had chilling effect upon a generation of working class militants. The lesson for workers struggles has to be the necessity of taking control of the fight from below and the need for extending the struggles to other sectors and groups of workers.

## Zero for Conduct

action on an aggregated national ballot - this meant that all HE workers were able to take action, rather than only workers at certain sites.

Despite this success, which was repeated six months later in another ballot to extend the industrial action mandate, key factions in the union refused to make full use of the mandate authorising only sporadic, broken strike action, and refusing to join up with the (more localised) strike actions of Unite and Unison branches. By the time a marking and assessment boycott was declared at Easter 2023, member morale is already weakening. While some members showed incredible determination over the summer,

losing thousands of pounds, the ultimate effect of the marking boycott was limited. Morale was further damaged by the delay to call another ballot, meaning about a two month lapse in the mandate for industrial action, with the result of a poor turnout of 43% when the ballot was finally held in November 2023.

The loss of morale and the dispute has quickly been taken advantage of by employers. Even before the dispute ended some universities were facing significant redundancies.



The list of institutions where workers are threatened with redundancies has grown and will grow even further.

In 2024 there will be an election for the General Secretary of UCU. But more important than selecting the 'right' candidate will be

to build a genuine grassroots network of members - not limited to a single union. Only by constructing their power from the ground up can workers ensure that they are able to hold both employers, and union establishments to account, a lesson that applies not only in universities but across all sectors.

# Two Cheeks of the Same Arse!

As Labour and Tories prepare for the coming General Election, we look at possible scenarios as to what might lie ahead.



The first scenario is that the Conservatives remain in power after the next election. This seems increasingly unlikely, as this Tory government reaches new depths of unpopularity and is riven with divisions, not least with the sacking of Suella Braverman and the revelations during the Covid enquiry, which further exposed Boris Johnson and Dominic Cummings. If the Tories did win, they would represent a government

hurtling to the radical right, and would be similar to the Orban government in Hungary, and the Meloni government in

Italy. However, we repeat that this is now not very likely.

The second option is that a majority Labour government is elected. For many in the British ruling class, an incoming Labour government would act as a social fire brigade that would extinguish the flames of discontent that are spreading through

British society. Starmer received the endorsement of Larry Fink, chairman and chief executive of BlackRock, the biggest asset manager in the world.

Fink commended Starmer, saying, "I'm very pleased to see how the Labour Party in the UK went from an extremist

party with a Marxist leader to Keir Starmer, who has shown real strength." Alongside this we saw the large business turnout at the Labour Party Conference in October 2023, with Deliveroo sponsoring many events, and another event sponsored by Zilch, the buy now, pay later finance company. 300 executives and chairs of UK companies attended the conference, which exceeded the number under the Blair leadership. There were 287 business stalls at the conference.

Former Bank of England governor Mark Carney has endorsed Shadow Chancellor Rachel Reeves as "a serious economist" signalling his support for Labour.



Despite all of this , so called 'left' union bureaucrats like Mick Lynch of the RMT and Sharon Graham of Unite are still calling for a Labour victory as the 'only alternative' despite the watering down of Labour's National Policy Forum's promises to strengthen workers' rights, despite the posturing of Rachel Reeves as a future 'Iron Chancellor' who will continue to offer tight fiscal control and more austerity, and despite Labour's refusal to repeal any of the repressive legislation against workers that the Tories have imposed.

Such a majority Labour government would continue to pursue attacks on the working class like its Tory predecessor.

The third scenario is a minority Labour government. This might

be the likeliest of the scenarios. The Palestine-Israel conflict has caused a crisis within the Labour Party, just as it has with the Tories. The resignation of many Labour councillors and of Labour frontbenchers over a ceasefire vote, has caused widespread consternation.

Labour's backing of Israel's attacks on Gaza and on the Houthis in Yemen have alienated not just the Muslim vote, important for Labour in many constituencies, but many others. The huge demonstrations of the last few months, with a large participation of young people, showed not just a revulsion against war but rejection

and defiance of both the Conservative and Labour Parties, and a beginning of political awakening. This, along with the recent strike wave, indicates a new and growing questioning of the entire system. A Starmer government, with its plans for business as usual, might further radicalise this situation.



## CAN YOU HELP?

The ACG was targeted twice at the same time from two different visual rights companies. We try our best to avoid copyright infringement but it is difficult sometimes to know. One of the photos was put on the website in 2018! Even though we were given a reduction we still had to pay over 900 pounds in fines for the use of two photos. This is money we could have spent on publications such as Jackdaw.

We would like to thank our supporters for donating 178 pounds to our crowdfunding appeal. If you would like to donate to our publications see: <https://www.anarchistcommunism.org/donations-page/>





## Anarchist Communist Group

Email: [info@anarchistcommunism.org](mailto:info@anarchistcommunism.org)

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### WHO WE ARE...

The Anarchist Communist Group (ACG) is a revolutionary anarchist communist organisation which is dedicated to seeking a complete transformation of society, and the creation of anarchist communism.

This will mean the working class overthrowing capitalism, abolishing the State, getting rid of exploitation, hierarchies and oppressions, and halting the destruction of the environment. To do this, we believe it is important to be organised.

We are committed to building an effective organisation that works towards the common goal of anarchist communism, in cooperation with other working class organisations and in grass roots campaigns.

We strive to base all our current actions on the principles that will be the basis of the future society: mutual aid, solidarity, collective responsibility, individual freedom and autonomy, free association and federalism.

If you want to join the ACG, then look first at our Aims & Principles on our website

[www.anarchistcommunism.org](http://www.anarchistcommunism.org)

You can also drop us a line at [info@anarchistcommunism.org](mailto:info@anarchistcommunism.org)

#### New ACG stickers:

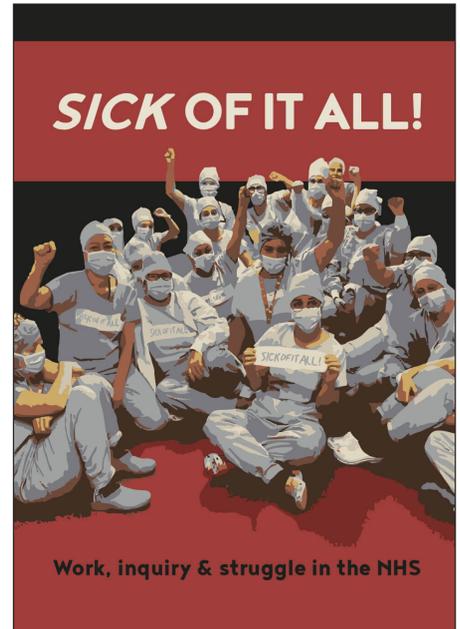
For War Against Nationalism,  
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## Health Workers United

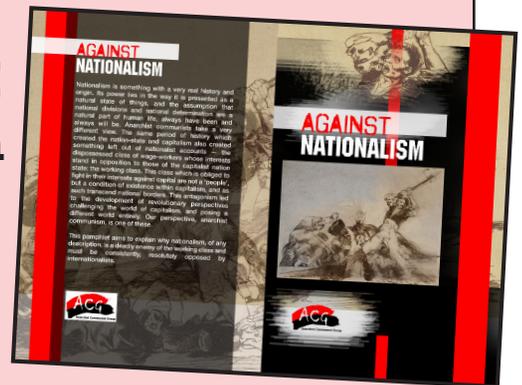
New publication

## Sick of it All!



## Against Nationalism

New ACG Pamphlet



## Stormy Petrel

ACG theoretical journal



All the above available from the ACG website shop

**REVOLUTIONARY CLASS STRUGGLE NEWS**