

# WORKERS

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APRIL 2005 £1



## FIGHT FOR PENSIONS



Class organisation and health workers

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IF YOU WANT TO REBUILD BRITAIN, READ ON

# WORKERS

## “ First thoughts: pensions puzzle

ONE-AND-A-HALF MILLION public service workers must be scratching their heads at the government's sudden about-face over so-called pension reform (see article, p4), leading to the cancellation of the planned 23 March national strike.

And well they might. It looks for all the world as if the whole scenario was planned to give the false impression, in the run-up to a May general election, that trade union leaders have the “ear” of government and that government actually listens to them.

Even the origin of the government's proposal three days before Christmas to extend retirement ages is mired in mystery. No one will accept responsibility for it, blaming “poor communication”. Up steps the bold TUC with a campaigning day on 18 February, and some

unions ballot – not too many, certainly not the GMBATU (What? Consult members?), nor the teaching unions, as the strike had been set (deliberately?) for the school holidays.

Now the government turns round, says sorry, we never meant it like that. The union “generals” trumpet a victory, and talk of meaningful negotiations – which, inevitably, will stretch past the general election, whenever it is held. Yet both government and TUC know the negotiations are a farce as long as their beloved European Union dictates policy – because the EU's Occupational Pension Scheme Directive of 2002 insists that the British public service pension schemes must be scrapped.

So do they really think we are just there to be marched halfway up and down again? Workers must prove them wrong.

## Second opinion: productive values

BELATED GOVERNMENT figures for 2002 indicate that the contribution of manufacturing to the creation of value in Britain was in the region of £150 billion – or just one-seventh of Britain's wealth. And the decline has continued to the present day.

The Engineering Employers Federation recently indicated that 60% of manufacturers had already or were intending shipping some

production out to China, where wages are far lower and strikes outlawed.

Meanwhile, other industry simply closes down. The 1,000-year-old Kirkstall Forge site in Leeds, founded by Cistercian monks, disappears into a welter of skyscrapers, offices, shops, hotels, fitness centres and restaurants. How can an economy maintain itself if value-creating manufacture continues to decline?



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# Rebuilding Britain

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## Bad month for spin machine

IN THE LEAD-UP to the general election, March was a disastrous month for the Labour government's spin machine. New education secretary Ruth Kelly "bombed" in her speech to head teachers, antagonising her audience with a patronising and risible piece about parental choice and influence in running schools. Using Blair-speak just won't do in front of an audience of professionals. She retreated amid jeers from the floor.

In the teeth of advice from an executive keen to cosy up to government, the headteachers' union, the NAHT, voted on March 16 to pull out of the teachers' workload agreement at an emergency conference demanded by the membership. The heads organised opposition through a grassroots network, building from Essex to Nottingham, Salford, and beyond. The government will not fund qualified teachers to cover release time for staff and is pushing for the use of teaching assistants at a fraction of the cost. Heads were furious at being told at a recent DfES conference to fund the changes by considering staff redundancies or selling their services as consultants to other schools! The NAHT executive choice for new general secretary, David Hawker, currently head of children's services in Brighton and Hove, warned he would not stand in the coming election if heads voted to pull out. Although from September heads will be legally bound to enforce the agreement, they have now declared their intention not to cooperate. With the NUT's longstanding refusal to sign up, these two unions make a formidable alliance against the government's desire to push ahead with remodelling on the cheap.

Labour's much-vaunted city academies performed badly in their key stage 3 results. Academies are independent state schools backed by private sponsors and religious fundamentalists, but largely funded by taxpayers. Nine out of eleven academies were among the bottom 200 schools in England in last year's tests for year 9 students.

The Business Academy in Bexley, Kent, opened by Blair and hailed as the future of secondary education, was in the bottom 200. Capital City in Brent, north London, performed worst with just 28% reaching the level expected of 14-year-olds in English, 35% in Maths and 23% in Science – against national figures of 75% in English and Maths and 68% in Science. Unity City Academy, Middlesbrough, was 26th worst in the country using an alternative "value-added" measure. The government wants 200 academies by 2010.

Teachers do not wish to see their professionalism destroyed and neither do parents, whose children's future is at stake. The government's partnership with teaching unions has been holed badly and is sinking – it needs finishing off with a proper alliance between teachers and parents. Who knows what else we might do with real unity?

**If you have news from your industry, trade or profession we want to hear from you. Call us or fax on 020 8801 9543 or e-mail to [rebuilding@workers.org.uk](mailto:rebuilding@workers.org.uk)**

### MOTOR INDUSTRY

#### EU manipulation

EUROPEAN UNION manipulation has stalled a £200 million investment grant for Peugeot's Ryton plant in Coventry for over two years. The grant, to assist in building the Peugeot 207 range, was scheduled for 2002. Its delay has meant that production of the 207 series has now gone to France and Slovakia. Ryton, which employs 3,000 workers, will become the sole producer of the 206 series, a car which obviously has a limited shelf life.

Why such a delay? Because the cheap labour and high profit returns of Slovakia provide the blueprint for a manufacturing region as far as EU bureaucrats are concerned. Coventry obviously does not exist.

### MOTOR INDUSTRY

#### Rover dismantled

ON HIS recent visit to China Gordon Brown pontificated about the deal between Rover and Shanghai Automotive Industry Corporation. It was hinted that China will be able to defer VAT payments on production for an unquantified number of years – worth tens of millions of pounds.

SAIC then announced a further investment into Rover of £130 million – not £1 billion as had been trailed. China has bought the design, the technology and production of Rover. Powertrain engine production is already moving to China. This piecemeal transfer will reduce Rover either to a dealership or at best a badge fitting company. How long Longbridge and other Rover sites, with 6,500 workers, can survive is debatable. Safe perhaps until the May General Election but what then?

## EUROTRASH

### The latest on Brussels

#### Bush for EU Constitution

THE US AMBASSADOR to the EU, Rockwell Schnabel, says President Bush supports the EU Constitution. Schnabel reported that the President believed "America supports a strong Europe because we need a strong partner in the hard work of advancing freedom in the world". Clearly the US government thinks its foreign policy will be more effective in alliance with a militarised EU created by the EU Constitution. The USA and the EU have just agreed on new NATO cooperation including training Iraqi police forces and prison guards.

#### Spanish nutters?

CHARLES GRANT, director of the Centre for European Reform, thinks the result of the Spanish referendum on the EU Constitution is irrelevant. "This referendum was a non-event. The whole point about referendums is to settle an important issue where there are fundamentally different opinions. In Spain only nutters are against the constitution."

#### EU for worse

THE NEW European Commission tried to relaunch its pro-employer Lisbon agenda in February. The European Trade Union Confederation, led by John Monks, responded, "This is a disappointing start for the new Commission because it risks presenting Europe as an agent for lower social standards, worse welfare states and poorer environmental standards." Wake up, John: that's exactly what the EU does – the EU Constitution would reinforce these trends.

#### They said it...

Anand Menon, Director of the European Research Institute, wrote to the FINANCIAL TIMES, on 1 March: "...the European Commission is appointed and not elected. If it were elected, British business would have what it now lacks – a good reason to be sceptical of the merits of European integration. As it is, the main regulatory and bureaucratic authority in the European Union remains – mercifully – free from electoral pressures... continued British resistance to the notion of an elected Commission has been one of the reasons that such elections have never occurred."



**100,000 people marched through London on 19 March against the occupation of Iraq. A coffin, carried by two soldiers who had left the Army in protest, was ceremoniously left outside the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square.**

Photo: Andrew Wiard / www.reportphotos.com

# The pensions battleground

IN RESPONSE TO the attack on their pensions, local government workers and civil servants, including Crown prosecutors, government lawyers and special advisers had been set to join school dinner ladies and refuse collectors on 23 March in a one-day walk out – one of the biggest since the General Strike of 1926 – against the government's attack on pensions. Ballots for action produced results of between 73 and 83% in support.

Comments from workers such as "It's really important to get this message to national government that we're not going to let them do this to us", illustrate the depth of unity and show the British working class at its very best. A UNISON member sums up the position: "Many members are relatively low paid but the reason they continue to serve in the public sector is at least partly because they have had the promise of a decent pension at the end of it".

This is a wages fight despite the government's attempt to hide behind nonsense. The dead hand of the European Union also should not be overlooked. Rather than break EU guidelines, the government has attacked the "final salary" pensions promise. The empty slogan of "only borrowing to invest" is a play on words to mask the EU dictat that Britain's borrowing must not exceed 3% of GDP. This imposed constraint has one purpose, to deliver an ongoing attack on workers' living standards, pushing us back politically and economically. The downgrading of pensions is a vital part of this attack.

The so-called crisis is government- and EU-sponsored to rid Britain of its collective pensions approach. The lie put about is that pension costs have spiralled because we are living longer. In fact, today's mortality rates show a modest improvement. Men born between 1925 and 1945 (today's 60- to 80-year-olds) are likely to live 11 months longer than previous expectations. This improvement is then projected forward and multiplied at the same rate to apply to the years from 2030 to 2035, producing the fiction that by then we will all be living to between 95 and 100. The years 2030 to 2035 are chosen to try to make the position look even worse because these years represent the "pensioner peak" caused by the post-WW2 baby boom.

In fact, the problem has nothing to do with longevity or dependency ratios and everything to do with Britain's de-industrialisation, where less wealth is now created to pay for pensions, compared with the 60s. To put this "crisis" into further perspective, a leading pensions annuity provider, when factoring in the "11-month mortality improvement", reduced its company net embedded value by £160 to £180 million, the equivalent reduction of less than 3p on its share price – big deal!

Reaching old age is something that happens to us all. A senior civil servant has put it thus: "We are sometimes encouraged to look on the elderly as a rather tiresome burden on the wealth creators. But that is to ignore the moral claim the elderly are entitled to make on those in work. They, after all, created the stock of physical assets, the factories, the roads, the houses, the schools and so on which their children use to generate their own incomes. The claim of the retired is the legitimate claim of those who have collectively saved out of past income, not in any narrow financial sense, but by forgoing consumption when they were at work." It is this civilised approach that is being attacked, and at long last we are showing that we are up for the fight.

**SEAFARING****Scots fight privatisation**

SCOTTISH SEAFARERS providing a lifeline to the far-flung populations on the many islands to the west of Scotland have voted to strike against an EU-inspired move to privatise the company they work for. The strong feelings of the RMT members involved were reflected in a ballot for strike action announced on 14 March – 66% in favour in a turnout of over 59%.

The ferry company they work for –

Caledonian MacBrayne – is publicly owned, but the EU has directed that it and services like it must be privatised. Now the seafarers working on the ships find their hard-fought wages, jobs, conditions and pensions under threat as the Scottish Executive has thrown the employer into an open tendering process – despite a vote against tendering in the Scottish Parliament last December.

The seafarers are receiving strong support from the various island communities, and the campaign brings together workers from NUMAST, TGWU, TSSA as well as the RMT.

# When a break is not a break

A SPIN-OFF from the Agenda for Change agreement within the ambulance service has led to an interesting debate: When is a break not a break? Currently, ambulance workers have a paid meal break within their shift and are available to respond to an emergency call should one come in throughout that meal break. If they are called out from their break to respond to an emergency call there is a labyrinth of regulations regarding payments which also include "spoilt food allowance" and "no break allowance".

Agenda for Change promises to make it simpler and clearer. Under this agreement ambulance workers will have unpaid meal breaks when they can't be called out and will have to work an extra half hour on top!

The management side at first hailed this as "modernisation" and a "huge step forward" until it suddenly dawned upon them that the very people they are there to serve, patients and the public, would suffer. To ambulance workers in UNISON it was a patient care issue, but the Department of Health saw only a balance sheet.

Negotiations are now under way to agree a system that would enable the employer to pay the meal break, have ambulance workers available to respond to emergency calls throughout their shift and develop an arrangement to have payments if crews have "spoilt food" or "no break". Next – reinventing the wheel!

**MINING****The only strategy is closure**

ELLINGTON PIT in Northumberland has closed due to geological problems with a loss of 520 jobs. Kellingley in West Yorkshire is at death's door, having haemorrhaged jobs from 3,000 to 300.

If a new coalface had been opened as demanded by the miners' union this problem would not exist. Because Kellingley is being destroyed, Drax Power Station, Britain's largest coal-burning station, which sits on top of the now closed Selby coalfield, cannot be supplied by UK Coal! To import foreign coal will cost Drax an additional £16 million over the next two years.

Wellbeck Colliery in Nottinghamshire was also to be closed due to 'geological' reasons, but then was miraculously reprieved when the miners agreed to a new 40% increase in productivity.

To the sound of violins UK Coal announced losses of £52 million – strange

when the world price and demand for coal continues to rise. You cannot sell coal if you do not mine it. You cannot sell coal if you do not invest or simply close mines. Yet these are the strategies adopted by UK Coal.

UK Coal has blamed industrial action by the miners for the drop in profitability. But the industrial action at Kellingley was to save the pit, save the production and, ironically, save their profits. The real problem is UK Coal, which manages an industry and production it does not want. UK Coal openly acknowledges that the management of maintenance programmes was terrible. No maintenance means no pit.

As the 20th anniversary of the 1984-85 miners' strike passes by, with the subsequent privatisation of a decimated coal industry, no strategy for coal means that the only strategy is closure. The number of pits is less than ten and dropping. UK Coal sits on the largest real estate portfolio in the country, which is where they see their future market role and profitability.

**WHAT'S ON****Coming soon****APRIL**

Thursday 7 April, 7pm

**The Trade Union Case against the Constitution, Glasgow**

Public meeting in Glasgow at the Scottish TUC, Woodlands Road. Speakers: Graham Copp (Centre for a Social Europe), Jane Carolan (UNISON executive). Chair: Eddie McGuire (Musicians Union).

Tuesday 19 April, 12.30pm

**Against the EU Constitution, Dundee**

Lunchtime meeting at the annual Scottish Trades Union Congress, in the Apex Hotel. Speakers include Bob Crow (RMT), Ian Davidson MP and Mike Kirby (UNISON). Organised by Trade Unions against the European Constitution and the Scottish Campaign against Euro Federalism, sponsored by Unison.

**MAY**

Sunday 1 May, London

**May Day March – Assemble Clerkenwell Green 12pm, move off to Trafalgar Square 1pm.**

Under the slogans "Fight for trade union rights", "Make poverty history" and "Support public services", this year's march aims to be the biggest yet.

Sunday 1 May, London

**CPBML May Day Rally and Celebration, 7.30pm.**

Celebrate May Day with the CPBML. Speeches, refreshments. Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1. Nearest tube, Holborn. See notice, p16.

**ENERGY****Running out of gas**

WITHIN WEEKS of British Gas announcing a 64% increase in profits (on the back of a 22% price increase in gas and 18% increase in electricity to domestic consumers), gas manufacturers said Britain had less than 3 days' gas reserves if the wintry conditions persisted. Prices, it was said, could rise 30% more.

Britain operates the most unregulated gas market in the European Union, and reserves have been depleted by top-up buying by EU countries. The government has powers to restrict such buying but has never shown any willingness to use them.

## The referendum question

THE EUROPEAN UNION Act started the government's campaign to get us to accept the EU Constitution. The Act does not set a date for the referendum. Until a date is set the government, EU bodies and campaign organisations can spend as much as they want. This is why the government is delaying announcing dates for the referendum and the general election, keeping the formal campaigns as brief as possible.

The referendum question is; "Should the United Kingdom approve the Treaty establishing a Constitution for the European Union?" This presents only one option, to "approve" the treaty. But the Electoral Commission's guidelines for a fair question warned, "Words such as 'new' and 'approve' may in some instances imply that something is a positive concept."

The question refers to "the Treaty establishing a Constitution for the European Union". This wrongly implies that answering 'Yes' would merely approve a treaty clarifying existing EU institutions. The correct title is 'the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe'. A vote in favour would be accepting a new constitution for Britain as part of the new state of Europe. By contrast, the question for Dutch voters in their 1 June referendum is fairer and more accurate – "Are you for or against the Netherlands agreeing to the treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe?"

This act allows the government to combine the referendum with another vote, for example with the local elections due in May 2006. The Electoral Commission recommended against this, saying, "We believe that referendums on fundamental issues of national importance should be considered in isolation. Cross-party campaigning on a fundamental referendum could cause significant confusion among the electorate if combined with normal party election campaigning. There is a risk that the dominance of the referendum issue would influence other polls to an extent that may compromise the electorate's will in those other polls."

• See the focus on the European Constitution, p8

# Measured in numbers employed, health is t health conference, NHS workers must face u

## How healthy is class organis

APRIL LOOKS AS THOUGH it will be the month before the general election. It is definitely the month of the UNISON Health Conference. Hopefully, not too much time will be spent by the latter on the former.

But will they leave us alone? No doubt one of Labour's ministers will be haranguing us on some subject or another, no doubt connected to the election, and you just know what it will be: Vote for us; NHS not safe with Howard; slow but steady progress; more yet still to be done; radical third term; flying pigs visit Plymouth.

So what should class-conscious, or even unclass-conscious, health workers be exercised about at this election time? What is the state of the NHS, and the wider healthcare arena? Of our union organisation? Of our prospect for progress?

The fate of that great step forward 50+ years ago must not be mirrored now. We cannot allow this head of steam to be sidetracked into lining up behind Labour, fooling ourselves that the only way to maintain our gains is to vote for them. The only way to maintain these gains is to make new ones. Our conference must pursue these.

Compared with, say, manufacturing industry, health gets a lot of what is usually described as positive government attention. Lots of money, they say, is being spent on health over and above the rate of inflation. True, but how much of it is going straight into the pockets of otherwise struggling private companies, increasingly foreign-owned?

How much is going into bodies established to "regulate" the workings of hospitals, which should just be straightforwardly managed, instead of being floated off into the Neverland of Foundation status?

How much has been spent to prove that the government welcomes independent scrutiny (as opposed to that of the "regulators") of its activity? On this point we know exactly. Community Health Councils, the bodies established in 1974 to provide the means by which patients and other members of the public could keep track of and complain about the



Money is coming into health, but how much is g

NHS, and which were summarily abolished with zero consultation, cost about £13.5 million in their last year of operation. Their notional replacement, the clumsily entitled Commission for Patient and Public Involvement in Health, consumed more than £63 million in its setting-up costs alone. Which wouldn't have been so bad except the commission proved so inadequate that plans were announced to wind it up, just before its first (yes, first) anniversary.

Some of those long-suffering souls who have spent most of the past 30 years helping patients complain are up for being sacked twice in the space of as many years. That's what you get for being patient...nearly five times the amount is spent to achieve about a fifth of the result. So what was the point of that extra money being spent? None whatever.

### PFI

After PFI, the Private Finance Initiative, has bled tens of millions into the hands of the profit-mongers (see previous WORKERS) now we have Independent Treatment Centres (ITCs). These are surgeries specialising in elective procedures that are relatively easy to plan and carry out, and which are in the main, although not exclusively, run by the private sector.

the largest single industry in Britain. As UNISON prepares for its  
to the challenge of controlling the country that produced it...

## ation within the NHS?



straight out into private companies' pockets?

There is no medical or surgical case to be made for the development of these centres, and a lorryload of arguments against.

A squad of foreign-owned companies, usually coming from places that haven't got a healthcare system worth the name, come here to cream off millions of pounds which really could help bring down waiting lists (the stated aim of ITCs). If they're so very good at providing healthcare why don't they try A&E? Actually, hang on a minute, better not give them any ideas....

But surely, the growth in nursing and some other staff – a net increase of about 40-50,000 nurses since 1997, is a great step forward? For whom? For Malawi, which has had most of its newly trained nurses seduced away from their impoverished country and its almost non-existent healthcare system to come and work here? Or are they over-provided with nurses in Africa, as they say they are in the Philippines? Actually, training nurses for export is not proof of over-provision, rather of not giving a damn about the needs of your own people, for which the pro-US Filipino government has long been known. And the words "net increase" hide the fact that the number of British-trained nurses leaving to work in North America

doubled last year.

So what we have is a kind of carousel where nurses from one country move to another country for higher wages, to replace nurses from that country who move to yet another country for higher wages. New nurses are being trained, but much of the training is for students from elsewhere coming here who may well move on when they have completed their studies.

The only country that is genuinely exporting nurses, and can do so because it has a sufficiency at home, is Cuba. It is doing the same thing with doctors. It is doing it for the good of the people in the countries where the nurses are sent, countries less developed than Cuba, and not for the benefit of the millionaires who run international nursing agencies. Cuba does not send doctors and nurses to Britain or the US, but to countries that Britain and the US have ignored, abandoned or consciously brought to the brink of ruin: to Mozambique and Venezuela, to Honduras and Haiti. Theirs is internationalism of the highest order.

### Peddling people

The kind of people-peddling we are witnessing is the selfishness typical of modern-day colonialism covered up by a smokescreen of blather about free movement of labour. Movement of labour will only be free when labour, that is workers, not the party that has nicked the name, is in charge, in power. When workers run the show then we'll see whom we should invite in and to whom we can afford to offer help abroad. In the meantime, while capitalism has the whip hand, there is nothing free about the movement. It is only happening to make somebody, somewhere, rich.

But good things there are, brought about by the persistence and ingenuity of health workers. Hundreds of millions of pounds is being wrenched from Blair to pay for improved terms and conditions, better wages, of health workers. The new pay system, Agenda for Change, is now being rolled out across Britain, and the difference is being felt. For the first time, perhaps ever, workers in the NHS are fighting to implement something positive,

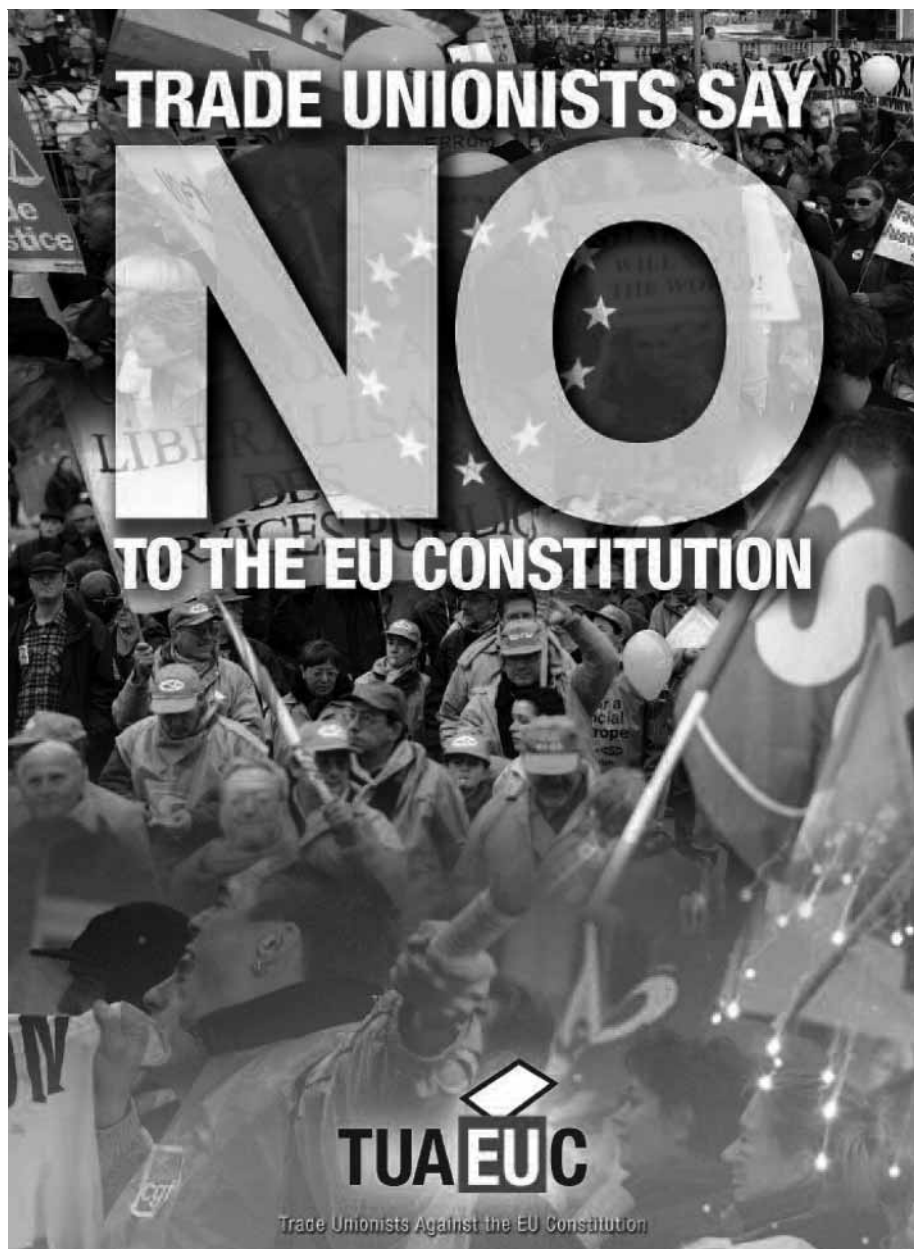
**'A squad of foreign-owned companies, usually coming from places that haven't got a healthcare system worth the name, come here to cream off millions of pounds which really could help bring down waiting lists...'**

rather than fighting off something negative. Unsurprisingly there are many so used to the negative that they cannot see the positive in front of their eyes.

This shows that taking responsibility is now critical. It is not possible to be class-conscious and sit on the sidelines, without taking steps to exert control. Sometimes that responsibility has to be taken by seeking to stop what is bad. Sometimes it has to be taken to promote what's good, and it is crucial to be able to tell the difference between the two.

The new pay system is not something proposed by the government. It is the brainchild, in detail as well as in conception, of workers. It is so breathtakingly bold that it has left many lagging behind in their understanding of it. The fact that many employers are left behind is an advantage that must not be lost through indecisiveness on our part. We have the opportunity now to embed something so effectively that no successor government, Labour or Tory, could undo it. We also have the chance to use it as a platform for greater progress and class consciousness, including the opportunity for a significant rise in trade union membership.

Who knows what might follow? So we look to the future, confident in our struggle to control the largest single industry in Britain (measured in numbers employed, not in wealth created), and posing ourselves the challenge of controlling the country that produced it.



## In a special focus on 1 plans for propaganda public services and, o The coming ca

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION is to spend eight million euros especially earmarked for information campaigns on the EU Constitution. Is anyone left doubting that this is taking our money to pay for propaganda?

Look at what is being planned. The Commission has two different funds. Five million euros will be spent according to member states' populations, so Germany will get around 900,000 euros, Malta about 5,000 euros. In a second wave, 3 million euros will go to member states according to the Commission's three criteria: the quality of proposed projects, people's level of knowledge of the Constitution in any particular country, and whether parliament or people take the decision.

The countries whose people know least about the Constitution would get most. In

**Trade union opposition has hardened with the creation of Trade Unionists against the Constitution. Its pamphlet, Trade Unionists say No, can be downloaded from [www.tuaeuc.org.uk](http://www.tuaeuc.org.uk).**

## The Constitution and the end of public service

**WHAT RELEVANCE has the EU Constitution to public services in Britain? Hidden in its mind-numbing pages is a takeover bid.**

The EU Constitution makes the basic principle of laissez-faire free competition across national borders on the basis of the unimpeded movement of capital, goods, services and labour, into a constitutional obligation. This means that public services must be traded across national borders.

The Constitution calls public services "services of general economic interest". Article III-122 states that EU laws shall establish the principles and conditions under which governments can provide these services in compliance with the Constitution.

The Constitution encourages privatisation, which it calls liberalisation. Article III-147 would allow the EU to

enforce the liberalisation of public services like health, education and social services. Article III-148 says, "The Member States shall endeavour to undertake liberalisation of services beyond the extent required by the European framework laws adopted pursuant to Article III-147(1), if their general economic situation and the situation of the economic sector concerned so permit. To this end, the Commission shall make recommendations to the Member States concerned."

Article III-166 gives the EU the power to decide by majority vote what counts as a public service and which areas of public education and health services could be opened to private sector competition:

"1. In the case of public undertakings and undertakings to which Member States grant special or exclusive rights, Member States shall neither enact nor maintain in

force any measure contrary to the Constitution, in particular Article I-4(2) and Articles III-161 to III-169.

"2. Undertakings entrusted with the operation of services of general economic interest or having the character of an income-producing monopoly shall be subject to the provisions of the Constitution, in particular to the rules on competition, insofar as the application of such provisions does not obstruct the performance, in law or in fact, of the particular tasks assigned to them. The development of trade must not be affected to such an extent as would be contrary to the [European] Union's interests."

The Constitution forbids social controls on capital. It forbids public enterprises and state aid to serve national social purposes (Articles III-161, 162, 166 and 167).



the European Constitution, we expose the European Union's influence referendums across Europe, detail the effects on the leaf, outline the Constitution's main points...

## Campaign on the European Constitution

In the most recent Eurobarometer survey, the lowest awareness was in Cyprus (35%), Britain (50%) and Greece (51%). States deciding by referendum will also get more. Us again! The Commission has earmarked more than 650,000 euros for us, but the government is frightened to accept the money. "We don't want any of this money spent in the UK. It would clearly be utterly counterproductive," an official said. It pledged that not a single penny of EU money would be spent in the campaign.

But it can't stop the Commission, which has already spent hundreds of thousands of pounds here on a pro-constitution campaign of seminars, leafleting, theatre activities and celebration days about the Constitution being held in schools, libraries, think tanks, local government and pro-EU pressure groups. It gave 10,551 euros to Hull University to

raise awareness and understanding of the Constitution, 25,000 euros to Liverpool Hope University College to help school pupils and students to find out about the Constitution, 38,318 euros to the Foreign Policy Centre for a conference on the Constitution, 48,601 euros to the Institute for Citizenship in London for a series of seminars, 27,291 euros to Yorkshire Forward, the regional development agency, to fund a conference called Europe Alive with Opportunity, 18,233 euros to Europaworld, a Welsh company, to set up a website to educate people about the Constitution and to send information to secondary schools, and 42,005 euros to the Federal Trust, a think-tank, to promote EU enlargement, including the production of 100,000 information cards. The Trust's advisory board includes Blair's policy adviser Andrew Adonis.

The Commission will continue to fund the Europe Direct Information Network here, at 840,000 euros a year, to raise local and regional awareness of the Union's policies and programmes, the Spring Day for Europe to celebrate the Constitution in our schools and will spend more than 1,000,000 euros a year on a network of think-tanks and pressure groups that promote the EU state, including the International European Movement, the Union of European Federalists, Friends of Europe, Young European Federalists, the Centre for European Policy Studies and the European Policy Centre.

A Commission spokesman said, "We have every right and obligation to promote information about our activities, and we will continue doing that. We are not going to shy away from our duty."

## ...and they say this isn't propaganda!

**EARLY IN MARCH, the Commission identified the components of a structured communication and information strategy on the Constitution to support the ongoing ratification process. What follows is the Commission's own words.**

The Commission has made it clear that it will not: issue propaganda on the Constitution; campaign during election periods or breach national rules on referenda or distribution of information.

The Commission will seek to ensure that Europe's citizens are able to take informed choices on the Constitution. To do so, it has become increasingly clear that the Commission needs to do more to demonstrate the benefits of Europe.

The Commission will be more proactive in setting out the political case for the adoption of the Constitution — and demonstrate its concrete benefits to citizens. The entry into force of the Constitution would enhance the ability of the European Union to deliver on its strategic objectives over the next five years. The Commission and individual Commissioners cannot therefore stand on the sidelines or refrain from entering the political debate.

The Commission's approach will be

guided by three objectives: Getting people informed; Getting people mobilized; Respect for national and regional specificities.

- 1) Wider distribution of the Constitution text for free. The Commission will not charge citizens that make a specific request for a copy of the Constitution text.
- 2) A new website on the Constitution so that citizens can easily obtain the text of the Constitution; the position of the Commission, details of the ratification process; key speeches and rebuttal of the main myths on the Constitution.
- 3) Informed Journalists: The Commission will increase the number of training seminars for national and regional journalists.
- 4) Roundtable discussions with civil society. Each Commission Representation Office will organize roundtable discussions on the Constitution with civil society
- 5) Engaging Europe's students. The Commission will produce a Constitution Pack for distribution to Universities, Colleges and voter age students. The Commission will further promote the Spring Day initiative for schools.
- 6) Audiovisual. Radio and Television

programmes will be produced to inform citizens about the Future of Europe.

7) Constitution Direct. The Commission will respond to questions on the Constitution at the EuropeDirect call centre. An advertising campaign will promote the Constitution Direct free phone number.

8) Mobilising the network of multipliers. Within each policy area a network of multipliers exists that can promote the benefits of the Constitution. The Commission will mobilize these information networks at regional and local level (e.g. TeamEurope, information relays, European documentation centres). The Commission will work with the Member States to mobilize the Youth Convention network created by the Convention on the Future of Europe.

9) Accurate research and polling. The Commission will work with Member States to undertake detailed opinion poll analysis and focus group research.

10) Making PRINCE [a communications programme] work. The Commission will intensify its contacts with Member States to speed-up delivery of country allocations under the PRINCE programme.

**So not really propaganda at all!**

As the French referendum on the EU Constitution approaches, it seems that the more the French people learn about the Constitution, the more likely they are to reject it. Read on...

## This is what the Constitution would do...

**1. ...change the EU from a Union based on treaties agreed between independent countries** to a supra-national state based on its own Constitution (Article I-1); give the EU for the first time legal personality to make legal agreements in its own right (I-7) and formally give EU laws primacy over all national, including constitutional, laws (I-6). Members would have to transfer sovereignty to the EU and give its constitution primacy, the foundation of a centralised EU state. Member states would be reduced to provinces of the EU state. As the Belgian Prime Minister, Guy Verhofstadt, says, "The Constitution is the capstone of a European Federal State";

**2. ...create a full-time EU President** (I-22) who would be a much more powerful figure than the existing rotating Council president, yet would not be directly elected by voters or the European Parliament;

**3. ...give the EU the power to "define and implement" a common foreign and defence policy** (I-12), covering "all areas of foreign policy", which members would have to "actively and unreservedly support in a spirit of loyalty and mutual solidarity" (I-16). An EU Foreign Minister would be created, responsible for the "common foreign and security policy" (I-28);

**4. ...remove our elected government's right to make laws** unless the EU decides not to in a loosely worded list covering almost all areas (I-14) including the internal market, social policy, agriculture and fisheries, environment, consumer protection, transport, energy, "freedom, security and justice", and "common safety concerns in public health matters";

**5. ...give the EU more power** to take "supporting, co-ordinating or complementary action" in a further range of loosely defined areas including the "protection and improvement of human health", industry, culture, education, youth, sport, vocational training, "civil protection" and "administrative co-operation"(I-17);

**6. ...give the EU new powers to co-ordinate economic, employment and social policies** (I-15). Article III-210 lists the almost unlimited areas of social policy where the EU would have the right to "support and complement" the activities of member states. It would make free competition across borders on the basis of free movement of capital, goods, services and labour – into a Constitutional obligation (I-3 and 4, III-130, 166 and 167). The European Central Bank's sole brief in setting interest rates and controlling the eurozone's money supply is to ensure price stability, not rebuild industry, achieve economic growth or create full employment (III-185). Article III-147 allows the EU to enforce "liberalisation" of public services like health, education and social services. Article II-88 provides that workers have rights only "in accordance with [European] Union law and national laws and practices". These powers would make Thatcherism a constitutional obligation;

**7. ...abolish the national veto in 63 areas.** Article IV-444 allows the Council of Ministers to end national vetoes in further areas, with no need of new Treaties. Article I-18 allows EU Ministers to take new powers wherever they think that the Constitution does not give them enough powers to achieve the EU's aims;

**8. ...allow movement towards a Continental-style criminal justice system,** with no juries or habeas corpus, through harmonisation of national laws and mutual recognition of judicial and extra-judicial decisions (I-42) and the power to set common definitions of criminal offences and sanctions (III-271). It strengthens the role of Eurojust from co-ordination of criminal prosecutions to include their initiation and permits the extension of its "structure, operation, field of action and tasks" (III-273). An EU Public Prosecutor's Office is proposed (III-274). It gives the EU the right to extend the powers of its rapidly-expanding police force, Europol (III-276), which enjoys immunity from criminal prosecution;

**9. ...make the EU's Charter of Fundamental Rights legally binding,** including Article II-112 which sinisterly allows limitations of basic rights "if they are necessary and genuinely meet objectives of general interest recognised by the Union". Article II-114 forbids any political campaigning to reverse any aspects of the Charter;

**10. ...give all these new powers to the EU, fundamentally altering the powers and nature of the EU,** and hugely centralise the powers of the EU oligarchy, while setting in stone the EU's current undemocratic structure. The unelected European Commission would keep the sole right to propose new EU laws (I-26). The European Central Bank would remain unaccountable since MEPs, EU officials and national governments are obliged "not to seek to influence the ... European Central Bank" (III-188).

**NO TO THE  
EU CONSTITUTION**  
[www.workers.org.uk](http://www.workers.org.uk)

## Say it with stickers

Let Britain know what you think. No to the EU Constitution stickers are now available free of charge from WORKERS. Just send a self-addressed A4 envelope and two first class stamps to:

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[Not to be used in contravention of any by-laws]

You'd think everyone going to school in Britain should be learning English. Not if the new colonialists have their way...

## The language of division in the schools



City Hall, Bradford, where ignorance of English is fostered, and standards are appalling

THE GOVERNMENT is to put £190 million into schools in England to finance the achievement of minority ethnic children, a massive increase on last year's funding of £150 million. As these funds are "ring-fenced" – in other words may only be expended for specific purposes – we have the potential for divisiveness between schools and between provision for pupils in those schools.

How can the Department for Education and Skills countenance such a discriminatory scheme? The idea has its origins in Britain's colonial past and current imperialist manoeuvring. Divide and rule has ever been the currency of capitalism and underlies the differential funding and discriminatory activities it

fosters. And it reveals a mentality towards minority ethnic British people which effectively says that they don't belong; aren't truly part of the whole.

Some people do very well thank you out of divisiveness. "Experts" in the field of education who peddle such tripe as so-called "mother tongue" or "first language" teaching by which they assert that children should not be learning English when they enter school, for example.

These education workers are at best misguided, at worst, mischievous. They create a profession and consultancies for themselves at the expense of other workers' children. Recently, moves have been put in train to develop a concerted

campaign – yet again, a campaign to dissuade teachers and parents from their insistence on the teaching of English in nursery and early education settings. Those "experts" involved often display their own post-colonial heritage rather than their membership of the British working class. They act as recruiting sergeants for racist groups.

Bradford is laughingly quoted as an example of where such actions have led to success at precisely the time when Bradford Education is under scrutiny for appalling performance. When local MP Ann Cryer has continued her brave campaign to break down the ghetto mentality which sets so many British children at a disadvantage, in particular girls and women, we find the practice of denying English to new school entrants being lauded to the skies.

### Equitable

If the government were serious about tackling underperformance in our education system it would be preparing equitable funding for all our schools. It would be recognising that the biggest factor in the failure of many children to succeed at school is poverty. All the indices on diet, housing, health care and unemployment show that these are the determinants, not race. The percentage of white boys on free school meals who achieve 5 A\*-C grade GCSE passes is the same as that of black Caribbean boys who receive free school meals.

Understandably, many headteachers and teachers refuse to discriminate and apportion funds to all in their school. They ensure that all children have the opportunity to use the language they will need to survive in modern Britain, forged from the coming together of people from many backgrounds over time. Of course migration has to be dealt with. Like most countries, we should not hold open house. But nor can we create a mentality which treats with some of our class as "guest workers", cheap labour to be used as a weapon by employers. Learning the language of where you live is a key step to belonging.

Two-thirds of the world's proven oil reserves lie under the sands there. But the US is not the only country that needs energy...

## Oil, imperialism, environmentalism – and t



Photo: Workers

**Dungeness nuclear power station: a target for the European Union as it aims to make Britain dependent on external energy sources**

RESOURCES, NOT DIFFERENCES in civilisations or identities, are behind most conflicts. Most important is oil, which drives economies, international politics and the deployment of armed forces.

The US government made its position clear as far back as 1941 in an official document which urged a “more and more aggressive foreign policy aimed at assuring access to petroleum overseas”.

Sixty years later, in August 2001, the US Department of Energy could be seen reporting where it reckoned action was needed: “Afghanistan’s significance from an energy standpoint stems from its geographical position as a potential transit route for oil and natural gas exports from central Asia to the Arabian Sea.”

Vice-President Dick Cheney says, “You’ve got to go where the oil is,” summing up much of world history since 1900.

The US state treats oil as a matter of

national security. Petroleum provides 41% of its energy, two-thirds of it for transport (petrol fuels 97% of its transport). Since 1998, it has depended on foreign sources for over half its oil. The US state wants all the oil-producing countries that it dominates to increase their exports to the USA. But Europe, Russia, Japan and China also depend on foreign supplies, sharpening imperial rivalries.

Oil drives dictatorships in Saudi Arabia, the Gulf States, Nigeria, Colombia and Central Asia. It drives coup attempts in Venezuela. It drives wars and occupations such as Yugoslavia (with the permanent US base Camp Bondsteel

astride the pipeline route from the Caspian), Afghanistan (a handy pipeline route), Iraq, which the US state intends to occupy permanently, and Iran next.

Proven global oil reserves were 68 billion barrels in 1947, 600 billion in 1980 and 1,064 billion in 2000, 43 years’ worth at 1998 consumption rates. The Middle East has two-thirds: 25% in Saudi Arabia, 12.6% in Iran, 10.7% in Iraq, 9.3% in UAE, 9.3% in Kuwait and 1.5% in Qatar. Oil companies and governments struggle to control these resources and pipeline routes, leading to more wars, US occupation of the Middle East – and rising terrorism.

No wonder the group Project for a New American Century said, “The United States has for decades sought to play a more permanent role in Gulf regional security.” All these countries’ governments are now pro-US, except Iran.

The cloak for aggression used to be anti-communism. Now it is anti-terrorism. The current wars have nothing to do with

**‘The cloak for aggression used to be anti-communism. Now it is anti-terrorism...’**

## of the Middle East. No wonder that the US is intervening

# The new politics of energy

terrorism or democracy or rebuilding. The promise of \$4.6 billion to rebuild Afghanistan, for example, has not been kept – only \$112 million of that has been delivered.

### Greens

Oil money directly intervenes in politics, funding among other things the Green and anti-nuclear movements. The Rockefeller Brothers Fund financed the 1970s Club of Rome report *LIMITS TO GROWTH*, which predicted that the world was heading for disaster because of unfettered population growth and industrial expansion, exhaustion of stocks of natural resources, environmental destruction and food shortages.

The Club of Rome report proposed a post-industrial policy, meaning we should destroy industry and stop development. The oil-funded International Institute for the Environment and Development (with Roy Jenkins as board member) produced the book *ONLY ONE EARTH*, which also promoted post-industrialism. The German Green Petra Kelly worked for the National Resources Defense Council, funded by the Ford Foundation.

Oil companies funded the Aspen Institute (with the war criminal Robert McNamara as board member), whose operatives ran the 1972 UN Environment Conference. The Atlantic Richfield Oil Company funded Friends of the Earth, and bought the *OBSERVER* to spread the anti-industry message.

During their period in office, Thatcher and Reagan carried out the anti-industry programme, destroying industries and causing record debts and deficits, yet still paying Wall Street bond dealers and their clients record sums in interest income.

Now Blair tells us the two top priorities for us all are reducing global warming and ending African poverty. But these are code for destroying industry and rebuilding empire, just as weapons of mass destruction was code for attacking Iraq.

Whether there is significant global warming is debatable. The earth is indeed warmer than between 1300 and 1850, but only by an estimated one degree. Average temperatures are two degrees lower than they were during the medieval warm

period of 900 to 1300. The UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says, "There is no evidence that extreme weather events, or climate variability, has increased, in a global sense, through the 20th century." (*CLIMATE CHANGE*, 1995)

Under the Kyoto Pact the USA would have to cut its energy use by 25% by 2012, costing it an estimated \$325 billion. Hardly surprising that the US government did not want to sign! To put it in context, this is far more than the cost of providing the whole world with clean drinking water (\$165 billion) and with sanitation for all (\$30 billion).

### Nuclear power

Britain has signed the Kyoto Pact, but the government has failed to do what would be required to cut greenhouse gas emissions. To do that we need to build further nuclear power stations – well-constructed nuclear power plants produce almost no greenhouse gas.

About 16% of the electricity produced globally is generated using nuclear energy. If it had all been produced from fossil fuel power stations, about two billion tonnes more carbon dioxide would

have been produced, an extra 8% in global greenhouse gas emissions.

Our 16 nuclear power stations produce about a quarter of Britain's electricity. But European Union directives reducing the lifetime of our power stations start to take effect this year, seriously reducing our ability to produce our own dependable energy supply.

Under current plans, by 2023 only 4% of Britain's electricity will come from nuclear power. No nuclear power station has been built in Britain since Sizewell B in Suffolk came into operation in 1994.

The idea is that other sources will replace nuclear power production and relieve Britain's reliance on fossil fuels. But we could not meet our energy needs with renewables alone. They currently produce only about 2% of the world's energy. The planned wind farm in Wales would produce at best 6 megawatts; a typical nuclear power station produces 1000 megawatts.

We must face the fact that nuclear power will provide a significant part of our energy needs for the foreseeable future, and resist interference by the EU aimed at making us energy-dependent upon other countries.

## Life, death, and the Greens...

GREENS APPLY CONCEPTS from zoology and biology to human societies. But human societies are resource creators, not resource destroyers, so we cannot be reduced to zoology. Last century, the world's population grew from 1.5 billion to six billion, but contrary to the Greens' ideas, more does not mean worse: world life expectancy rose from 30 years to 60. Infant mortality fell from 167 per 1,000 in the 1950s to 60 per 1,000 in 2000.

Our industries have created many processes and products that benefit us all – water chlorination, for instance. The Greens oppose this: under their pressure, the Peruvian government decided not to chlorinate the water supply, causing a cholera outbreak that infected 300,000 people and killed thousands. Yet Greenpeace still aims to stop all use of

chlorine-based compounds.

In the 1950s, India cut malaria cases from 75 million to 50,000 by using DDT, the best tool for controlling the spread of malaria-carrying mosquitoes. But because of the Greens' successful campaign against DDT, worldwide malaria now infects 400 million people a year, and kills two million. South Africa, Zambia and Uganda all recently reduced malaria by about 80% by using DDT. No peer-reviewed study has ever linked DDT exposure to a single case of harm to humans.

Cancer incidence and cancer death rates are both down, contrary to Rachel Carson's predictions in *SILENT SPRING*. Similarly, despite all the Green hysteria about GM foods, there are no documented cases of harm from them.

# A new book chronicles the songs of Dave Rogers, longstanding Birmingham Banner theatre – and chronicles 30 years of strugg

## Singing the changes

FOR THE BIRMINGHAM Banner Theatre's 30th Anniversary celebrations, a book of songs by Dave Rogers, a leading member of the group, has been published. They are presented as 85 songs of resistance and celebration, spanning over three decades of events. Interspersed between the songs are concise, informative historical accounts of the events recalled in song, together with interviews with workers and photographs

Dave Rogers, a self-proclaimed political activist, wrote most of the songs for political documentary theatre productions. They are stuffed with social purpose and are classified in the book as part of a tradition of political songwriting. The foreword quite correctly defines them as social documents.

From THE HOUSING GAME production of 1979 with its demand for publicly owned building departments came THE WORLD OF PROPERTY containing a stark fourth verse:

This is the land of hire and fire,  
where "skins" are bought and sold

The fit alone can stand the pace,  
and young men soon are old

For muscle is the currency to earn  
your daily bread

And craftsmen who are past their  
prime, they might as well be dead.

In 1980, a production called ON THE BRINK examined the plight of workers in the Birmingham car industry at a time when Michael Edwards at British Leyland was pushing through his rationalisation plans and the song LIFE ON THE TRACK explores the pressures of working life there. We reproduce the first two verses:

Life on the track's a battlefield, life  
on the track's a war

You fight all day to earn your pay  
and then come back for more

Day after day you face that track,  
with never an end in sight

The only thing you learn in there is  
never forget to fight.

You clock on in the morning and  
switch on with the track  
Human body, robot brain, they'll  
work you 'til you crack

You have to fight to hold your own,  
where speed up is the creed  
You face an iron master, Messrs  
Avarice and Greed.

From the same production Rogers wrote a clever song, EVENING MAIL BLUES, attacking the BIRMINGHAM EVENING MAIL, a local newspaper well known for its contempt for organised workers. This five-verse song opens with:

We bring you all the latest news,  
served upon a plate

With all the best ingredients, to  
tempt and titillate

We process and we purify and  
safely sterilise

To satisfy the interests of private  
enterprise.

Then the chorus sums up ironically:

Evening Mail, Evening Mail

We always tell the truth, we never  
ever fail

Evening Mail

Later the succeeding choruses rise in a crescendo of hyperbole about the paper's disregard for the truth:

Evening Mail, Evening Mail

We could turn a puff of wind into a  
roaring gale  
Evening Mail, Evening Mail  
We could turn a little fish into a  
killer whale.

Evening Mail, Evening Mail  
We could wash the crime squad  
whiter shade of pale  
Evening mail, Evening Mail  
We will do most anything to make  
another sale.

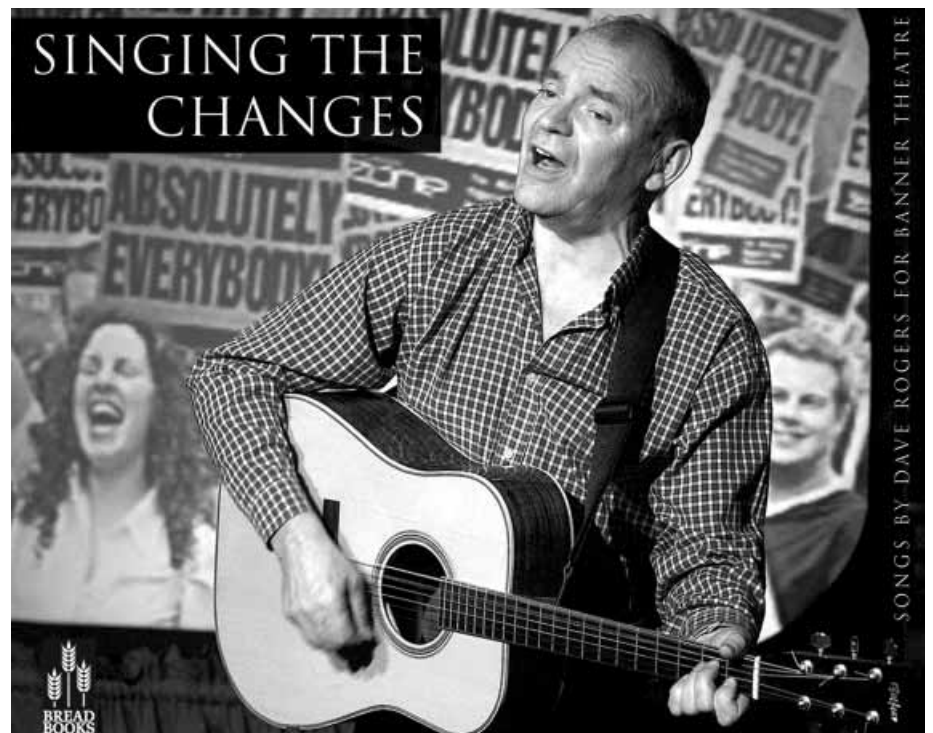
IN THE REIGN OF PIG'S PUDDING was a two-man play produced in 1989 which dealt with the growth of the "I'm alright Jack" Thatcherite ideology in the 1980s. The play included a bitter, poignant song entitled MONDAY MORNING RAIN. The last two verses read:

Sick of trailing grimy streets,  
there's no job for me

Sick of queueing at the dole, no  
security

Sick of all the broken dreams, will I  
work again?

Looking out my window, Monday  
morning rain.



ember of the  
as well...

Wish I was a blackbird, I'd spread  
my wings and fly  
Wish I was an old man, the sooner  
I would die  
Wish my heart could open and  
empty all the pain  
Looking out my window, Monday  
morning rain.

In 1992, Rogers penned a charming  
song about when his daughter left home  
for the first time entitled NOT MY LITTLE BABY  
ANY MORE.

In 1993, BELLY OF THE BEAST was written  
in much more metaphorical style,  
examining the beast of capitalism from the  
vantage point of three women blockaded  
in Trentham Colliery. It starts

So we lie in the belly of the mighty  
beast  
And hear the groans of the earth  
beneath  
And wonder why as we lie inside  
The beast still lives but the pit  
must die  
The beast still lives but the pit  
must die

and ends:

So we stand in the belly of the  
mighty beast  
And hear the groans of the earth  
beneath  
But there'll be no peace on the  
great seam bed  
There'll be no peace 'til the beast  
is dead  
There'll be no peace 'til the beast  
is dead.

In 1998, recycling the old Ray Davies of  
The Kinks song, Rogers attacked the  
politics of Blair in DEDICATED FOLLOWER OF  
THATCHER. A one-verse sampler gives a  
flavour of the whole:

He met the rich, he took his axe  
He cut their corporation tax  
Because he's such a carer, to them  
he's even fairer  
'Cos he's a dedicated follower of  
Thatcher.

•SINGING THE CHANGES, SONGS BY DAVE ROGERS  
FOR BANNER THEATRE. Bread Books. Editor:  
Doug Nicholls. 200pp. ISBN 09542112-2-7.  
Price £12.50 + £2.50 p&p.

# WHAT'S THE PARTY?

**We in the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist), and others who want to see a change in the social system we live under, aspire to a society run in such a way as to provide for the needs, and the desires, of working people, not the needs and desires of those who live by the work of others. These latter people we call capitalists and the system they have created we call capitalism. We don't just aspire to change it, we work to achieve that change.**

We object to capitalism not because it is unfair and unkind, although it has taken those vices and made virtues out of them. We object because it does not work. It cannot feed everyone, or house them, or provide work for them. We need, and will work to create a system that can.

We object to capitalism not because it is opposed to terrorism; in fact it helped create it. We object because it cannot, or will not, get rid of it. To destroy terrorism you'd have to destroy capitalism, the supporter of the anti-progress forces which lean on terror to survive. We'd have to wait a long time for that.

We object to capitalism not because it says it opposes division in society; it creates both. We object because it has assiduously created immigration to divide workers here, and now wants to take that a dangerous step further, by institutionalising religious difference into division via 'faith' schools (actually a contradiction in terms).

Capitalism may be all the nasty things well-meaning citizens say it is. But that's not why we workers must destroy it. We must destroy it because it cannot provide for our futures, our children's futures. We must build our own future, and stop complaining about the mess created in our name.

Time will pass, and just as certainly, change will come. The only constant thing in life is change. Just as new growth replaces decay in the natural world, this foreign body in our lives, the foreign body we call capitalism, will have to be replaced by the new, by the forces of the future, building for themselves and theirs, and not for the few. We can work together to make the time for that oh-so-overdue change come all the closer, all the quicker.

Step aside capital. It's our turn now.

## How to get in touch

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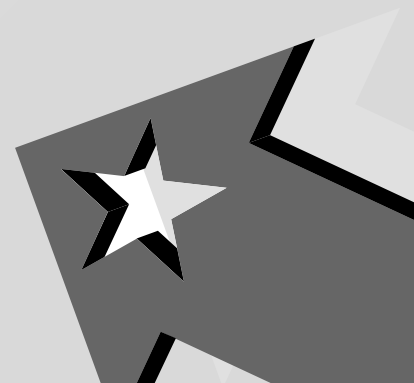
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# WORKERS



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