

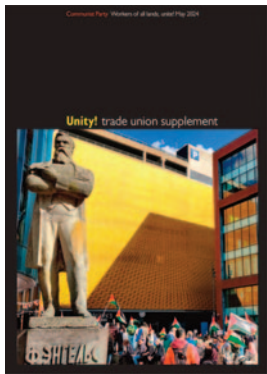
# Unity!

**Unity!** trade union supplement





# It's time to build a united, fighting working class



Welcome to the first in an occasional series of supplements to the Communist Party newspaper Unity! prepared by the party's Industrial Committee.

We welcome original contributions, letters and commentary.

The cover image by Eddy Redmond depicts Manchester May Day marchers under the vigilant gaze of Frederick Engels.

## Communist Party Industrial Committee UNITY

**B**ack in the mid 19th century, as the world's first capitalist economy got going, Karl Marx and his great friend Friedrich Engels laid bare how the inner workings of this new economic order forced workers into struggles to defend their livelihoods: the search for profits leads business owners to press down on wages; technology is introduced to cut workers out of the production process, chaotic competition results in mergers, takeovers, the destruction of jobs, the creation of unemployment and so on. As workers are driven to resist, they combine, form unions and wage struggles can lead them to question the entire basis of their society and generate the fight for its replacement with a more rational socialist economic order.

The same pressures are at work today. The words we use may be new (precarity, automation, AI, low-productivity, wage stagnation, 'Great Recession' and cost of living crisis) but the things they describe are the latest versions of the same forces that Marx and Engels studied 150 years earlier.

### strike wave

And in 2022-23, the British working class was pitched into struggle once again. Faced with a catastrophic collapse in living standards on the back of years of wage stagnation, with big businesses and speculators profiteered on rising prices, the bank of England ratcheting up interest rates and the Tory government doubling down on austerity, hundreds of thousands of workers from across the public and private sectors were thrown into a wave of strike action on a scale not seen since the 1980s. Hundreds of thousands of workers experienced collective action in defence of their living standards alongside their fellow workers in rail, communications, education, the Health Service, logistics firms and so on.

The strike wave ebbed, inevitably and its immediate results were uneven. The pay increases won were modest, though important in the context of the crisis in family incomes. The major weaknesses in the trade union movement were exposed once again: its concentration on the public sector; its limited reach into huge swathes of the economy, the age of its base of reps.

Nevertheless, large sections of the organised working class took action and began to experience and understand themselves as taking part in a struggle of

classes – of those who work against those who live on the proceeds of their work. The action commanded sympathy across British society, frustrating attempts by the Tory government to play workers off against each other. The action also united workers across all the ways in which capitalist societies and their political representatives attempt to divide them: along sex, racial, generational lines and across public and private workplaces.

This was the most important enduring legacy of the strike wave. For the Communist Party, building on, widening and deepening this understanding is an urgent task for the movement. The crisis gripping the capitalist economies of the world has not gone away and its pressures will continue to be felt by workers. The peculiar weakness of British capitalism – the dominance of the City of London and finance capital, the low investment by its businesses, the predominance of service employment – will all continue to shape workers' lives.

### defeat the Tories

The electoral defeat of the Tories is crucial and an incoming Labour government will change the terrain for the trade union movement. Unions are right to push for the New Deal, however modest its reforms. It will address some of the worst abuses of Britain's employment laws. But there will be little challenge to the fundamentals of Britain's capitalist economy unless there is sustained extra-parliamentary pressure from a united working class of growing confidence and militancy that understands itself as a class.

For unions, the struggles will continue, if not in the form of strike waves of the intensity of 22-23, in new forms. An incoming Labour government committed to 'ironclad fiscal discipline' will resist demands to raise public sector pay. Private sector employers whose sole aim is to generate profits to support dividend payments to their City shareholders, will continue to starve businesses of investment, hold down pay, automate workers out of jobs or simply scrap and relocate factories and plants at the cost of jobs. What is to be done?

### socialism

The Communist Party is an openly revolutionary party that aims at the transformation of society to a socialist order in which wealth is socially owned and goods are produced to plans on the basis of need. But that change

# Trade unions and young workers



Micaela Tracey Ramos,  
**YOUTH**

**O**VER THE YEARS, the trend and the nature of work has changed with new services such as call centres developing and retail/hospitality becoming major employers. The expansion of these new sectors and the anti trade union laws has left the trade union movement behind and left a period of weak trade unionism. The more general trend across all sectors is an increase in precarious, low paid employment with a much higher turnover which is used to weaken working conditions and the collective power of workers. Young workers bear the brunt of this. The cost of crisis disproportionately affects us and we are more likely to be in low paid, precarious work.

It is vital that we are active in our trade unions not only to improve working conditions in the workplace but to fundamentally change the wider society that we live in and challenge the unjust and exploitative capitalist system. The workplace is where we participate in the class struggle at the point of exploitation. Our colleagues at work share the same experience of exploitation as we do and there is a shared understanding of the issues that we face every day.

Trade union membership among young workers (aged 20-29) is 14.1 per cent, falling by almost half to 7.5 per cent in the private sector where the vast majority of young workers in the Britain work. The average age of a rep in my union is 57 with a similar picture across the trade union movement. It is vital for us to be active in our unions to not only to build a militant trade union movement but to ensure the sustainability of the trade union movement. It is essential then, that we focus on recruiting, training, and educating young workers into the movement.

For too long the trade union movement have relied on the servicing model of trade unionism- relying on members to join based on individual protection rather than joining to collectively change our working conditions. The servicing model of trade unionism alone isn't an ineffective in recruiting an strong activist base and relied on a passive lay membership.

Only an agenda which involves organising on political and material issues can recruit and educate young workers. Young people have been going out in their droves to campaign against the Israeli genocide in Gaza – it is important then as a movement that we are leading on this front as this again is an opportunity to reach young workers, who otherwise wouldn't have much contact with the labour movement. In this spirit, trade unions should organise campaigns based on political issues which matter to young workers and that disproportionately impact young workers – issues like renting, fully funded public services and against the drive to war. Additionally, creating trade campaigns that are relevant to young workers will make those recruitment conversations easier as members can point out that unions care about young workers' interests.

One issue that is particularly relevant to young workers is the enshrinement of age discrimination into law. Currently, 16-year-olds can legally be paid as little as £5.18 an hour for labour of equal value to that of older workers. That will only rise to £6.40 in April. Employers use this fully legal age discrimination to squeeze every drop of profit out of young workers and to drive down costs. It is a travesty that in Britain employers by law can pay younger workers less than their older colleagues that are undertaking the same work. By creating a campaign centred on this issue, the labour movement can demonstrate to young workers why they should join a trade union and that young workers are valued members of our movement.

It should be clear however that 'young worker' issues are issues for all workers and that young workers are no harder to recruit than your average worker.

We must be able to as a movement empower young workers to struggle for themselves. With a trade union movement in crisis, this must be a priority for us as communists and for the wider movement. To unite workers in the struggle we must see this as a priority not only in the fight for better material conditions but to ensure that the next generation can carry the struggle on.

MICAELA TRACEY RAMOS IS THE YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE INDUSTRIAL ORGANISER, AND A UNISON REP

can only happen when working people consciously unite and begin to fight for it. Communists work to analyse the precise nature of the concrete situation, understand what the next step forward is and what are the right demands for the moment, then work to build working class unity and win support for the positions it offers.

The Communist Party is arguing and fighting for:

- A rejection of the employer offensive and public sector austerity and for unions to adopt a broad-based militant agenda to fight for better wages and better jobs. Businesses and the public sector must be forced to increase spending and investment in workers by the maximum possible levels of collective action.
- Building the widest possible unity among organisations of the working class. That means unions acting as part of a class, agreeing on joint action where appropriate, mutual support and creative initiatives for organising among the millions of workers we don't represent. It also means unions uniting with campaigns and organisations who fight the effects of capitalism beyond the workplace, in our communities.
- A rejuvenated working-class education agenda in the movement. We need to build on the experience and understanding won in the strike wave to rebuild an education for our class about the class basis of society and our economy.
- Support for an alternative economic and political strategy to raise living standards and tackle the structural weaknesses of our economy and democracy. Economic and political power is accumulated among a handful of monopolies and financial institutions who exert a vice like grip on our economy, strangling investment, preventing broad-based and sustainable economic growth and trapping working people in low paying service industry jobs: a united, organised working class can build pressure for policies that can tap the vast concentrations of wealth among the monopolies and in the City and use it to take control of investment, as well as using public ownership to direct wealth toward developing a new generation of manufacturing industries, renewal of our infrastructure and funding for public services.

A stronger Communist Party in the unions will make this fight easier. If you're interested by what you read, join the Communists.

**If not you, who?**

**If not now, when?**

[www.comunistparty.org.uk/join](http://www.comunistparty.org.uk/join)



# Amazon workers at Coventry are breaking new ground

**Nigel Flanagan**  
**ORGANISING**

**G**MB MEMBERS AT Amazon Coventry have achieved what up until recently would have been seen as an almost impossible success. Fresh from a number of strikes and improving membership and union density they have now gained a ruling from the 'Central Arbitration Committee' for a statutory workforce ballot on union recognition. This means that Amazon have to facilitate a ballot of the workforce at the Coventry Centre of the approximately 3,000 workers at the plant on whether or not the GMB should be a recognized trade union. GMB members and all non members will vote on it with the result expected soon. GMB currently has about 38% membership. GMB are confident that they will win the ballot and be granted recognition – the first time in Amazon in the UK.

The implications of this for the rest of the union movement are very significant - but not yet decisive. Only if this success can be repeated across Amazon – which has a total of 16 Coventry type sites and approximately 66,000 directly employed workers – can this be a decisive moment.

It shows that a union can win an organising campaign even in the most robust of anti-union companies. Amazon has a record of world wide International Labour Organisation (ILO) violations registered by trade unions in the USA, Spain, France, Italy, Germany, Poland and many others. In the USA they have deployed trade union 'busting' companies and even resorted to the closing of plants and worksites in order to thwart union recognition. On sites they employ a mixture of soft power – using the language of paternalism and patronage, highlighting the so called advantages of flexible working and being part of a fast expanding futuristic company. But they also use a more aggressive active anti-union management style by sacking activists and closing down unionized plants. Unions can resist, push back and defeat these type of employers.

This shows that the kind of casualized, high turnover, low paid workforce of the gig economy can be organised by unions. Rather than concentrating on their diminishing existing areas of union density in parts of the public sector, trade unions should move into the new economy where trade union presence is in single figures. Recent self organised strikes in such as Deliveroo and Uber show that the workers in these sectors are able to employ more informal and more imaginative organising and campaigning styles than more traditional union approaches. Sectors such as retail with an average density of 8%, hospitality with an average of 5% and IT with 8% cannot be ruled out as

unreachable. To rebuild the union movement these cannot be deemed too difficult to recruit and organise.

Amazon will push back. They have already closed down the nearby Rugeley site in order to avoid the spread of active union campaigning that was taking place there. In Birmingham they are campaigning actively against similar union agitation organised by GMB. The UK is their largest market in Europe and they will work hard to keep a non-union workforce. They have previously been shifting work from unionised parts of Germany over the border into the non-unionised parts of Poland. This started as an attempt to undermine strike action in Germany in 2017 by members of the German union Ver.di as orders and deliveries were transferred across the border. In response Polish drivers boycotted deliveries into Germany on strike days. They are currently using a 'one click to quit' tool in Coventry to push workers into leaving the GMB. It is easier to cancel your trade union membership than it is to cancel your prime membership of Amazon.

The next stages are crucial. GMB are confident that they will win the ballot and there is no reason not to be. If they do and even if they don't there are two areas that must be developed much more fully to unionise Amazon. Amazon is a key employer for the union movement. It is a market leader. It is truly global with a turnover higher than the GDP of all but the top 30 states in the world – just behind Egypt and Denmark. It is what every other company wants to be.

The unionized workforce must develop a robust and sizable lay leadership inside the sites. Outsider Organiser work can only go so far. Organisers cannot permanently substitute themselves for shop floor power. Building that leadership is crucial to sustainable union strength and to empowerment. A shop stewards style committee and trained representatives with control of their strategy and resources are essential.

The unions must pool resources to defeat a company like Amazon. Turf wars and inter union competition are a huge mistake in a campaign like this. If GMB lacks the resources to tackle Amazon in the UK on its 16 sites and along its supply chains it is necessary to create an alliance that works. Other unions could be part of the campaign in different parts of Amazon, delivery drivers for example. All unions and all workers would benefit from a unionized Amazon in the UK.

The spirit of the Coventry workers reminds us of its most famous trade union son Tom Mann – who saw the need for robustly organised workers. Coventry Amazon could be the start of a new surge of union growth.

NIGEL FLANAGAN IS AUTHOR OF *OUR TRADE UNIONS* (MANIFESTO PRESS, 2022)



# The fight against racism must be at the heart of our work

Tony Conway

## RACISM

**T**HE PASSAGE INTO Law of the Rwanda Deportation Act puts Britain into an outlier when it comes to immigration policy. Other countries have outsourced their immigration centres to third parties but any applicants are still processed by that nation's laws and still have a right to settle in that nation. Britain is the only nation that has transferred its international obligations to another country. If successful people will be expected to remain in Rwanda if unsuccessful in their application no one really knows! It is no surprise that both the National Rally in France and the Italian Brothers of Italy have welcomed the actions taken by the British Government. The Labour Party has called it a gimmick, but whilst even the Home Office believes the measures will not succeed in 'stopping the boats' they have not called it out for what it is.

The Conservative Party are seeking to blame those escaping war, persecution, poverty and environmental degradation. They believe this will alter the model by stopping the people smugglers. At the same time they the legislation drives a coach and horses through their own modern slavery legislation. They have expanded the searches for those in work. They have not improved safe routes. It is the case that the victims are once again blamed.

By singling out those seeking the right to live and work they have given succour to the far right who continue to attack people placed in hotels. These attacks often spread to homeless hostels and into Black Communities. They feed xenophobia and racism.

The Communist Party has called with others for Anti Racist Immigration and Nationality Laws. We support the call for those without status to have access to health care. We call for the end to the hostile environment and the repeal of racist legislation. We call for more safe routes and a reduction in immigration fees. People should not be put prisons aka detention centres. Income thresholds should not be used as a means to cut immigration numbers. We support the right to work and for unity of our class the working class. People where needed should have access to public funds.

We are supported in this call by the Bangladeshi Workers Council, Caribbean Labour Solidarity, Indian

Workers Association and Jewish Voice for Labour.

The Communist Party welcomed the work done by the TUC. The working class and our organisations must be the main means that we oppose racism and fascism. Uniting workers in common struggles is the key. Exposing the capitalism's attempt to divide us through the struggle we must be engaged in. This means doing more than shouting but taking on the arguments and if needed standing with those under attack from racists and fascists. The Communist Party welcome the TUC Anti-Racism Manifesto. The actions contained must be taken into all organised workplaces and also into workplaces where Unions are not currently recognised or organised. Race must be fundamental to collective bargaining, Organising must be about getting those not in a Union not just in places where Unions traditionally organise. Unions must recruit and retain in membership black members. Unions must demand better public policy challenging racism and ensuring those companies that bid for state contracts have clear anti racist and union recognition agreements. Finally, Unions are employers and the Communist Party will challenge discrimination here also.

Racism is based in Britain on our colonial past. This directly led to slavery on an industrial scale. Slavery was used to maximise profit. We call for reparations to paid on a class basis. Britain's past led directly to the treatment of those disgracefully singled out by decisions of the British State from the Caribbean. This fed into the Windrush scandal and also the discrimination all apparent in Britain's Justice System, The British State wants to increase the amount spent on war, further hollowing out vital public services. Further cuts in public services will see more Local Authorities being declared bankrupt, cuts in schools and health. More people will get disillusioned with politics possibly swinging to the Right. This has already happened in Europe. A rise in military spending will inevitably see more bombs falling seeing more people being displaced and an increase in the numbers of refugees.

If we are to challenge racism and fascism we must challenge imperialism, Workers of all Lands Unite we have nothing to lose but our chains.

TONY CONWAY IS ONVENOR OF THE CP ANTI-RACISM AND ANTI-FASCISM COMMISSION



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# Peace is a trade union question



## CP Industrial Committee IMPERIALIST WAR

**B**RITAIN'S INTERNATIONAL role on the 'world stage' is being increasingly exposed as that of a promoter of international instability and war.

British jets are shooting down Iranian missiles to ensure that Israel is free to conduct its genocide in Gaza. British aircraft are bombing Houthi controlled targets in the Red Sea. British special forces are active in Ukraine, helping to prolong the disastrous war with Russia, while its politicians keep funds and weapons pouring into the country. The main political parties race to pledge allegiance to NATO and to raise defence spending to 2.5% of GDP, while maintaining austerity policies on their populations. A constant barrage of government sponsored press stories is attempting to manufacture hostility toward China as an enemy state, despite Chinese insistence that it wants peaceful relations, softening up the population to support Britain's alignment with the US pivot to Asia.

The British people have no interest in this. Attempts to increase defence spending are being paid for through attacks on public spending, with direct threats to civil service jobs. While 'public opinion' broadly sympathises

with Ukraine, there is little support for increasing arms exports or military support for what is seen to be an increasingly intractable and unwinnable war. A clear majority of people want Britain to stop sending weapons to Israel. The dangers of Britain's recklessness are massive. British servicemen and women are being placed in direct danger in several global spheres. The danger of misunderstandings and a nuclear exchange over the war in Ukraine is acute and the consequences would be catastrophic. The lives of millions of British people and the fabric of our society are being gambled with.

Why is Britain involved in these wars? Why are all main parties pledging allegiance to NATO and its increased international belligerence? The answers go beyond policy and personalities to the deep relationships between a small group of economically and politically powerful arms, oil and mining, food and finance capital companies and their relationship with the British state. Shell, BP, Anglo-American, Rio Tinto, Unilever, HSBC, Lloyds, PWC, Deloitte and BAe all have huge overseas investments or markets and push governments of all hues to use diplomatic, legal and military means where necessary to shape 'global markets' around their interests. They substantially overlap with similar complexes of companies in the USA, which has significant investments in banking and arms production in Britain.

This nexus of companies and sectors is the economic basis of Britain's new imperialism and it is the real basis of our 'special relationship' with the USA, explaining why the UK plays the role of faithful deputy to the self-appointed global sheriff in Washington. As significant employers in Britain, with domestic supply chains, and major export markets, these companies throw their weight around and use their extensive embedded lobbying power in political parties and the civil service. This is the complex of companies and interests that have driven Britain's geopolitical positioning and who lie behind previous disastrous interventions in Iraq and Libya, for example. Now they are pushing the people of Britain into the front line of global war.

It doesn't have to be this way. Britain could play a constructive role in the world economy, building a new generation of industries geared toward solving humanity's escalating problems from climate change, through multilateral relations with the countries of the global south and China. But the economic basis of our current alliances instead drives us toward a cataclysmic war in which millions will die even assuming that generalised nuclear exchanges don't render the planet uninhabitable.

# Why we build 'Broad Lefts' in trade unions

**Tony Conway**

**UNITY**

This is why peace is a trade union issue. The finest traditions of the trade union movement include working for peace. We also work for peace and the peaceful resolution of global disputes, recognising that a new era of war will only bring death, destruction and displacement, poverty and a growing environmental catastrophe as much needed resources are ploughed into war.

Some in the labour movement are seeking to drive wedges between the interests of defence workers and the cause of promoting peace. This is a false opposition, promoted by opportunistic people who crave short term results in the form of jobs and investment in exchange for tolerating a race to war in which we all lose.

The Communist Party calls on unions to commit themselves to campaigning for British governments to work for peace and for diplomatic solutions to disputes and crises, and end their role in inflaming conflicts worldwide. The labour movement must reiterate and strengthen its support for all organisations campaigning for peace globally and in Britain and we call for the convening of a labour and peace movement summit to work out the basis of a new foreign policy with the promotion of peace and social justice at its heart.

But we also believe that the labour movement needs a policy agenda to erode the power of those forces that drive us towards imperialism and war. That's why the Communist Party believes that Britain needs an alternative economic and political strategy, to build an economy that works for the people and erode the economic and political dominance of a handful of arms monopolies and finance capital organised in the city of London. We need a new generation of manufacturing industries to support decarbonisation of our economy, based on public investment, public ownership stakes and planning. Part of this alternative strategy must be to reopen the question of defence diversification. Defence diversification will erode Britain's reliance on the exporting of arms across the world, reduce the political influence of arms monopolies in the British state and create broader-based regional economies in which jobs are based on production for civilian needs and exporting for development instead of war. But we need to do this on the same 'Just Transition' basis as trade unions argue for in decarbonisation. There must be a robust defence of jobs, with commitments to like-for-like replacement of skilled jobs. There must be long-term prior planning and investment based on identifying the needs of civilian markets.

**T**HE COMMUNIST PARTY has long argued for the importance of trade unions as vital mass organisations for economic defence of the working class. But more than that, unions are political, not simply in the sense of party affiliation, but in the wider sense of building class consciousness. Trade unionism builds a recognition that the capitalist stage of production consists of two main classes: the capitalists who own the means of production and the working class who must sell their labour.

As part of an orientation towards political unionism the Communist Party has long proposed that socialists should organise together in trade unions to form 'Broad Lefts'. Broad Lefts differ in from union to union, but a 'broad left' strategy, attempts to build the influence of the left in the trade unions by winning leadership and building alliances across the non-sectarian, labour movement left. Broad Lefts in trade unions are not simply electoral vehicles, but should act as a powerhouse of policy making.

Bert Ramelson, industrial organiser of the Communist Party from 1965 to 1977, argued that groupings of the left should come together push through policy issues, set the bargaining agenda and win positions. This Broad Left strategy came out of a general policy of left unity pursued by the Communist Party. Examples of this are successful broad movements such as the People's Assembly, the Stop the War Coalition and CND as well as Anti Racist and Anti-Fascist campaigns.

Linked to Broad Lefts is the need for strong rank and file organisation in trade unions from branch committees to shop steward combines. The Broad Left strategy sought to develop militant rank and file structures such as the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions' in the 1960s and 70s, but did not see rank and file trade union members as necessarily opposed to union Executive Committees and paid Officials - although this is undoubtedly sometimes the case. Part of the process of raising class consciousness is building the mass power of trade union members. All parts of the union have a role to play in this process and positions should be fought for and won but there is no path forward without rank and file strength.

The Communist Party argued within Broad Lefts for an alternative economic and political strategy which had as its central premise that workers involved in economic struggle were more likely to be open to progressive ideas. The attacks by the State on trade union organisation and collective bargaining have made this more difficult since the 1980s and makes the case for revitalising trade union Broad Lefts even stronger. Revitalisation of trade union broad lefts will help progressive trade unionists to join the dots, link up struggles with international campaigns and challenge capitalist ideology which dominates the media. Broad Lefts are also vital in developing extra-parliamentary action.

The Communist Party argues:

- Building a productive and sustainable economy by ending the city of London's dominance, strengthening our productive industry, investing in our public services, assisting developing nations and safeguarding our planet's ecosystem. Full and secure employment with good pensions must be the goal.
- Democratic public ownership must be given real meaning. Organisations such as Defend Council Housing, Keep Our NHS Public and We Own It have done much to popularise the case for public ownership in public services and across the rail, bus, water and energy industries.
- Social Justice and a democratic culture must row back the attacks on pensions and social welfare protection. The so-called sick note culture stems directly from cuts in public services and liberalisation in wage negotiations, housing and the continued attacks on workers rights to organise.

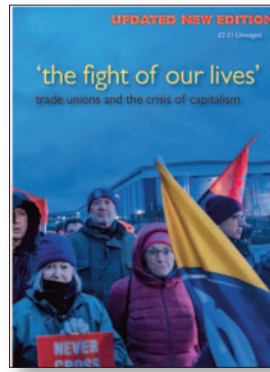
This is why the Communist Party calls for lefts in trade unions to develop such a programme in our workplaces intrinsically linked to active Broad Lefts.

TONY CONWAY IS A PAST MEMBER OF THE PCS NEC, HE IS A MEMBER OF PCS LEFT UNITY AND SERVED ON ITS NATIONAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE.





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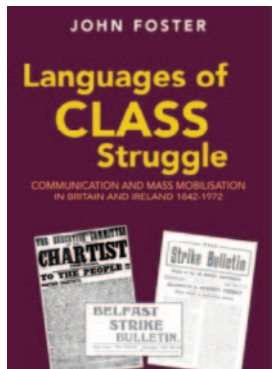


A recording of **Trade Unions, Imperialism and the Fight for Peace - Resisting AUKUS, NATO & the drive to war**, which was held both online and in-person at the Marx Memorial Library & Workers' School, is now available. Speakers included Warren Smith *Communist Party of Australia*, Kevan Nelson *Communist Party International Commission* and Andrew Murray *deputy president of Stop the War Coalition*). The meeting was hosted by Alex Gordon from the Communist Party's Industrial Commission.



An updated edition of **The fight of our lives: trade unions and the crisis of capitalism** is now available in digital and print. Author of the best-selling Manifesto Press book **Our Trade Unions** Nigel Flanagan says this pamphlet is recommended for all working class and trade union activists.

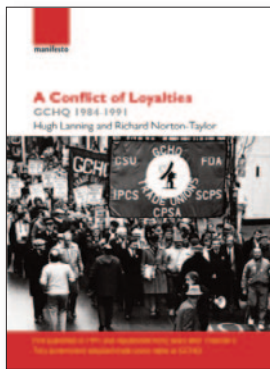
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This is a study of five key moments in the history of the British and Irish working class movements.

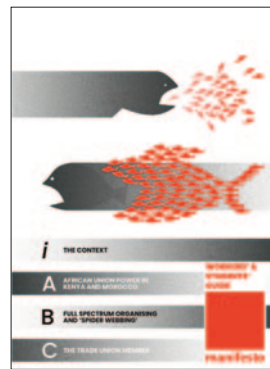
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The removal of trade union rights at the GCHQ intelligence organisation and the campaign for their restoration became a cause celebre. The spirit with which GCHQ staff resisted the Thatcher government's attack and remains an inspiration for all those fighting for the repeal of the Tory anti trade union laws.

*A Conflict of Loyalties* by Hugh Lanning and Richard Norton-Taylor – now an epub recreates the events and atmosphere of the day.  
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Nigel Flanagan in *Organising in Our Trade Unions* expands on his 2023 book *Our Trade Unions*. *Organising in Our Trade Unions* attempts to "create a new debate and new energy, with inspiration from successful trade union struggles. These are in our own history and in the Global South in countries like Kenya and Morocco." Flanagan considers union power in Africa and argues for a revitalised role for the trade union membership.  
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