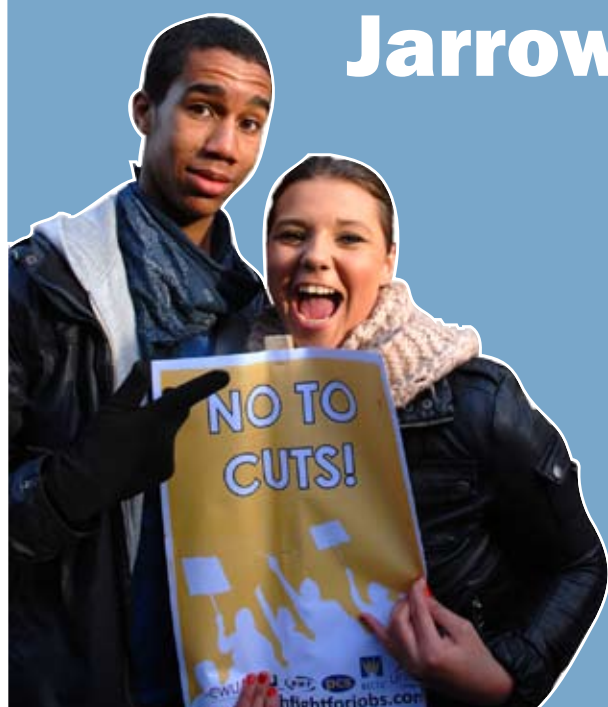


YOUTH DEMAND A FUTURE!

Jarrow march for jobs starts its 330 mile journey



If the trade union movement doesn't stand by the young people in the frontline of the Con-Dem attack on jobs and services we will witness a re-run of the Thatcher government's cynical dumping of a whole generation onto the scrap heap. This ideological government of millionaires, backed by big business, could not care less for those who get trampled in their dash to drive a bulldozer through our communities.

The betrayal of Bombardier shows in graphic terms what's at stake - apprentices and a state-of-the-art training centre sacrificed in order to appease global finance capital and the EU. RMT's fight for the future of manufacturing jobs in train building, and the apprenticeships that run alongside them, rages on.

RMT is totally behind the Youth Fight for Jobs Jarrow march and will support it in the towns, villages and cities as it heads down from the North East. RMT will not be found wanting when it comes to solidarity with the youth, and any other sections of our community, in the frontline of the fightback.

Bob Crow, general secretary of the RMT transport workers union

See more about the Jarrow march and youth unemployment on pages 7-10.

973,000 16-24 year olds are unemployed and this figure is likely to go over one million during the course of the Jarrow march.

An estimated 750,000 will lose their jobs as a result of public sector cuts, never mind the knock-on effect to private sector jobs.

After a scramble to avoid next year's fee rise, 200,000 missed out on a university place this year because of the cap on student places.

College enrolment across the country is down this year, almost certainly because of the scrapping of EMA.

The average graduate debt for students who start university in 2012 is expected to be £53,400.

The Work Programme and schemes like it are being used to force unemployed people to work (often for private businesses) for no more than their usual poverty benefits.

Over £100 million of cuts are set to be made to youth services over the next three years - the worst hit service according to many councils.

Under-18s can't claim Jobseeker's Allowance or many other benefits. Youth rates are generally vastly lower.

22% of 18-34 year olds have had to move back in with or stay living with parents because of the cost of renting or buying their own home. 20% are delaying having children until they can afford this.

Nearly five million people in England are on council house waiting lists and the government plans to cut funds for building social housing by 63% while 200,000 construction workers are unemployed.

What we stand for

The Socialist Party fights for socialist change - a democratic society run for the needs of all and not the profits of a few. We also fight, in our day-to-day campaigning, for every possible improvement for working-class people.

As capitalism dominates the globe, the struggle for genuine socialism must be international.

The Socialist Party is part of the Committee for a Workers' International (CWI), a democratic, socialist international that organises in over 40 countries.

Our demands include:

Work and income

- Trade union struggle to increase the minimum wage to £8 an hour without exemptions as an immediate step towards £10 an hour. For an annual increase in the minimum wage linked to average earnings.
- All workers, including part-timers, temps, casual and migrant workers to have trade union rates of pay, employment protection, and sickness and holiday rights from day one of employment.
- An immediate 50% increase in the state

retirement pension, as a step towards a living pension. Reinstating the link with average earnings now.

- Reject 'Welfare to Work'. For the right to decent benefits, education, training, or a job, without compulsion.
- Scrap the anti-trade union laws! For fighting trade unions, democratically controlled by their members. Full-time union officials to be regularly elected and receive no more than a worker's wage.
- A maximum 35-hour week with no loss of pay.

Public services

- No to privatisation and the Private Finance Initiative (PFI). Renationalise all privatised utilities and services, with compensation paid only on the basis of proven need.
- Fully fund all services and run them under accountable, democratic committees that include representatives of service workers and users.
- Free, publicly run, good quality education, available to all at any age. Abolish university tuition fees now and introduce a living grant. No to academies and free schools!
- A socialist NHS to provide for everyone's health needs - free at the point of use and under

democratic control. Kick out private contractors!

- Keep council housing publicly owned. For a massive building programme of publicly owned housing, on an environmentally sustainable basis, to provide good quality homes with low rents.

Environment

- Major research and investment into replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy and into ending the problems of early obsolescence and unrecycled waste.
- Public ownership of the energy generating industries. No to nuclear power. No to Trident.
- A democratically planned, low fare, publicly-owned transport system, as part of an overall plan against environmental pollution.

Rights

- Oppose discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, disability, sexuality, age, and all other forms of prejudice.
- Repeal all laws that trample over civil liberties. For the right to protest! End police harassment.
- Defend abortion rights. For a woman's right to choose when and whether to have children.
- For the right to asylum. No to racist immigration laws.

New workers' party

- For a new mass workers' party drawing together workers, young people and activists from workplace, community, environmental and anti-war campaigns, to provide a fighting, political alternative to the pro-big business parties.
- Trade unions to disaffiliate from the Labour Party now and aid the building of a new workers' party!

Socialism and internationalism

- No to imperialist wars and occupations. Withdraw the troops immediately from Iraq and Afghanistan!
- Tax the super-rich! For a socialist government to take into public ownership the top 150 companies and banks that dominate the British economy, and run them under democratic working-class control and management. Compensation to be paid only on the basis of proven need.
- A democratic socialist plan of production based on the interests of the overwhelming majority of people, and in a way that safeguards the environment.
- No to the bosses' neo-liberal European Union! For a socialist Europe and a socialist world!