

## As the Jarrow March for Jobs arrives in London...

# YOUTH DEMAND A FUTURE!



Sarah Wrack

On 5 November thousands will join the Jarrow marchers to take their message right to the government's door. What we're demanding isn't unrealistic and it isn't greedy. We don't want millions of pounds in bonuses like the bankers. All we want is a decent life.

We want an education, a good job and a decent home - without having to live with our parents! The problem isn't that we're demanding too much. The problem is that we have a government determined to put the billionaires first.

We don't accept that 'there's no money'. FTSE bosses have seen their earnings go up 49%. And the new minister of defence has committed billions of pounds to renew Trident nuclear weapons, despite a majority wanting to see it scrapped.

The government will only listen if we force it to. The 330 miles that the Jarrow marchers have trodden through blisters, back pain and more have shown that young people are not 'lazy' - far from it; we're ready to fight for our futures.

The demo on 5 November, like the 'tent cities' we've seen in London, in Wall Street and around the world, is just the beginning of the fightback. But the next stage in our battle isn't far away.

On 30 November the largest strike this country has seen for generations is set to take place. This is public sector workers, including teachers and lecturers, taking action against cuts by refusing to work.

Workers have enormous potential power. On 30 June this year, when 750,000 workers took action, schools and colleges closed while queues formed in ports and airports. 30 November will be even bigger.

That's why young people need to make sure we join the picket lines, rallies and demonstrations that take place on this day. This needs to be a strike day for students as well - to shut down education.

Like last year, when we walked

### ● MARCH:

Assemble 12 noon 5 November at Temple tube, Embankment, London

### ● JOIN:

Youth Fight for Jobs & Education today

### ● ALL OUT:

30 November - shut down education

- Create decent jobs - not slave labour
- Bring back EMA
- Scrap university fees
- Save youth services
- Build good, affordable housing for all

[www.jarrowmarch11.com](http://www.jarrowmarch11.com)

[youthfightforjobs.com](http://youthfightforjobs.com)

out over tuition fees and EMA being cut, this autumn students need to protest. But this time we will have the added strength of hundreds of thousands of workers.

And the fight won't stop there. We need to build a mass movement of young people united with workers to fight the cuts and for our futures.

Youth Fight for Jobs and Education will be organising all over the country. We'll be fighting locally to get EMA reinstated by councils - like it has already been in Southwark in London.

We'll fight to save every youth service and get the ones that have already been closed re-opened.

We'll say no to young people being used as slave labour and protest against employers who want to use 'workfare' schemes to boost their profits or lower their costs.

And we'll be building a national fightback of young people and students linked to workers and trade unions.

Now's the time to join the fight and get organised!

## 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!