

events and education london

october - november - december -2007

Today one class, the working class, lives by selling its labour power to another, the capitalist class which owns the means of production. Society is shaped by the capitalists' relentless drive to increase their wealth. Capitalism causes poverty, unemployment, the blighting of lives by overwork, imperialism, the destruction of the environment and much else.

Against the accumulated wealth and power of the capitalists, the working class has one weapon: solidarity.

The Alliance for Workers' Liberty aims to build solidarity through struggle so that the working class can overthrow capitalism. We want socialist revolution: collective ownership of industry and services, workers' control and a democracy much fuller than the present, with elected representatives recallable at any time and an end to bureaucrats' and managers' privileges.

We fight for the labour movement to break with "social partnership" and assert working-class interests militantly against the bosses.

Our priority is to work in the workplaces and trade unions, supporting workers' struggles, producing workplace bulletins, helping organise rank-and-file groups.

We stand for:

- Independent working-class representation in politics.
- A workers' government, based on and accountable to the labour movement.
- A workers' charter of trade union rights - to organise, to strike, to picket effectively, and to take solidarity action.
- Taxation of the rich to fund decent public services, homes, education and jobs for all.
- A workers' movement that fights all forms of oppression. Full equality for women and social provision to free women from the burden of housework. Free abortion on request. Full equality for lesbian, gay and bisexual people. Black and white workers' unity against racism.
- Open borders.
- Global solidarity against global capital - workers everywhere have more in common with each other than with their capitalist or Stalinist rulers.
- Democracy at every level of society from the smallest workplace or community to global social organisation.
- Working-class solidarity in international politics: equal rights for all nations, against imperialists and predators big and small.
- Maximum left unity in action, and openness in debate!

An important part of our activity is to educate ourselves and to discuss and debate issues of historical and contemporary political importance, to clarify ideas and learn from Marxist revolutionaries that preceded us to guide our action today and in the future. We invite all of those who share our aims to get involved.



conference on education



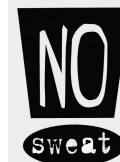
socialist-feminist reading group



marxist education courses



two nations - two states pickets



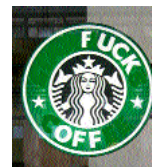
no sweat annual gathering



feminist fightback conference



tubeworker bulletin distribution



baristas unionisation campaign

www.workersliberty.org



Basic educational programme

Thursday evenings 6.00 - 7.15pm

Camera Cafe, 44 Museum Street,
(nearest tubes: Tottenham Court Road, Holborn)

This first term provides a framework for understanding the basic aims of socialism and why socialists, now more than ever, see the working class as the force that can overthrow capitalism and create a new world. We will look at some of Marx's basic economic writings on wages, prices and profits within a capitalist system. Marxism is a living and developing philosophy and revolutionary theory - and all our 'tutors' are active in the socialist and labour movement. Sessions will be participatory so reading the short extracts and articles beforehand is important. There are links to all the reading on our website, under the 'resources' section. We ask that comrades register for this course - and expect to attend all sessions. If need be, we'll try to book a larger room across the road. **E-mail brent@workersliberty.org**

Week 1. Thursday 4th October

What is socialism

*The two souls of socialism - Hal Draper (1966)

Week 2. Thursday 11th October

Why the working class?

*Sections I and III of the Communist Manifesto by Marx and Engels

*Why the Working Class - Hal Draper

*The Workers and the People - Chris Reynolds

(Workers Liberty forum - Thursday 18th October)

Week 3. Thursday 25th October

Why capitalism means "a sacrifice of life" for the great majority, the working class

*Sections from Wages, Labour and Capital by Marx. See web for recommended extracts

Week 4. Thursday 1st November

Why labour produces all values; how profits come from unpaid labour

*Sections from Wages, Prices and Profits by Marx

*Engels' introduction to Wage Labour and Capital. See web for recommended extracts

Week 5. Thursday 8th November

Why the class struggle over wages and hours is central to capitalism; why we fight for the abolition of wage-labour

*More reading from Wages, Prices and Profits
See web.

(Workers Liberty forum - Thursday 15th November)

Week 6. Thursday 22nd November

Why capitalism constantly tends to increase inequality and domination

*Sections from Wage Labour and Capital. See web

Week 7. Thursday 29th November

Why capitalism produces crises and unemployment Socialism: Utopian and Scientific

feminist fightback

A free activist conference for
feminists of all ages and political backgrounds.
**Saturday 20 October, University of
East London, Docklands Campus.**

Back for a second year, the Feminist Fightback activist conference is organised by a group of socialist feminists, including the Education Not for Sale student network. It aims to bring together feminists from a wide range of perspectives to debate ideas and develop practical strategies for fighting women's oppression and exploitation. Fightback 07 will build on the success of last year's conference, attended by over 220 people, which gave rise to several activist initiatives, including the March 3 2007 Torch-Lit March for Abortion Rights. This year we will continue our campaign to defend and extend abortion rights and our discussions will include...

IS SEXY ALWAYS SEXIST? FEMINISM, LADS MAGS AND PORNOGRAPHY

ECOFEMINISM

FEMINISTS AGAINST BORDERS

ISLAMIC FEMINISM

RACE, SEX, CLASS

THE GENDER PAY GAP, LOW PAY AND THE CLASS STRUGGLE

WOMEN AGAINST SWEATSHOPS

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIALIST FEMINISM

Plus film showings...

LOVE, HONOUR AND DISOBEY: A FILM BY SOUTHALL BLACK SISTERS

A PLACE OF RAGE: WOMEN IN THE BLACK CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Feminist Fightback's supporters include the National Union of Students Women's Campaign, the RMT Women's Committee and the International Union of Sex Workers.

For more information, or to register, ring 07890 209 479, or email feminist.fightback@gmail.com.

www.feministfightback.org.uk



educating for freedom

Sunday 21st - UEL

This year's ENS gathering looks directly at the challenges facing radical and socialist activists in the education sector. From nursery through to post-graduate studies, the capitalist drive to profit from the education sector has found ready allies in the New Labour government. Under the auspices of the Global Agreements in Trade and Services, signed by governments around the world, state education systems are being wrenched open, privatised and put on the market. While new barriers to education - and the commodification of knowledge itself - have to be fought, can we simply defend state education under capitalism? We think not. Workshops will also look to ideas and perspectives generated by students, teachers and workers in struggle, today and historically, here and internationally to inspire us in our fight for free education in a free society.

www.free-education.org.uk

Workers' Liberty London Forum

1917- 2007

The October Revolution

Ninety years after the Russian Revolution of October 1917, we look at its lessons for today. Was the revolution a "people's tragedy", a

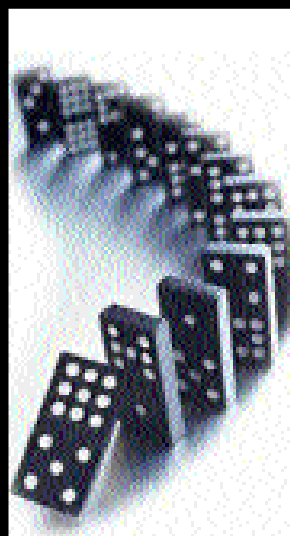


"coup", or an artefact of Lenin's "lust for power", as mainstream modern authors say? Does the subsequent rise of Stalinism prove that we must aim to change the world "without taking power", as some leftists say? Or was October 1917 the world's first great experiment in working-class revolution, defeated but not discredited by the subsequent counter-revolution?

7.30pm - Thursday 18th October
Central London
www.workersliberty.org

Workers' Liberty London Forum

Capitalism in crisis?



A splurge of dodgy mortgage lending in the USA has led to a credit crunch which has already produced bank crises in Germany and the UK. What is it about the modern financial system that makes trouble spread so wide and unpredictably? How do the claims that "the new economy" has made the crises of capitalism

obsolete stand up now? How likely is it that the financial chaos will spill over into big disruptions in trade and production?

7.30pm - Thursday 15th November
Central London
www.workersliberty.org

Two Nations



Two States

Trade Unionists for Two States has been picketing the Israeli Embassy regularly on Monday evenings, and calls on all supporters to join these protests. Assemble 6pm at the corner of Kensington Court and High St Kensington, opposite Palace Green. About 300 metres from High St Kensington Tube, east down High St Kensington.

- ✧ We are for the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli state from the Occupied Territories.
- ✧ We support a fully independent Palestinian state on the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem alongside Israel. Israel should come to a generous settlement with the Palestinian refugees that is a true compromise and can be mutually agreed.
- ✧ Whilst we understand the Palestinians are in a desperate situation and recognise that they have the right to fight the Israeli state, we oppose the Islamist suicide bombers who kill themselves and Jewish civilians.
- ✧ We oppose Hamas and Islamic Jihad who are fighting not just against Israeli occupation, but for the destruction of Israel and the creation of a theocratic state.
- ✧ We believe that acknowledging that both Israel and Palestinian people have the right to their own state is a way to help bring an end to the conflict.

<http://2-states.blogspot.com>

Workers' Liberty Monthly Dayschools

Saturday September 29th
Marxists and the Labour Party

Saturday October 27th:
"What is the left?" -Ten Debates

Saturday 24th November:
**Marx's Capital
&**

December week school: 17th -23rd

see web for details www.workersliberty.org/events
or call Martin on 020 7207 3997



Socialist Feminist discussion group

Meets on the last Friday evening on the month. Participants have the opportunity to write for the regular 'Women's Fightback' supplement to 'Solidarity' newspaper. Check website for venue and recommended reading. Contact Cathy on 020 7207 4774 or e-mail solidarity@workersliberty.org

North London branch meetings:

Educational programme for October

Tues 2nd: The Communist Manifesto and "The Communist manifesto and Trotskyism" from 'The Fate of the Russian revolution'.

Tues 9th: 'The Poverty of Philosophy' and 'On the Question of Free Trade' by Marx

Tues 16th: Marxism and Hegel: Engels' 'Ludwig Feuerbach and the End of Classical German Philosophy' and sections from Raya Dunayevskaya's 'Marxism and Freedom'

Tues 23rd: "Marx, the anarchists and the Commune state" - Lenin's 'State and Revolution' and Marx's 'Civil War in France'

Tues 30th: Marx's Paris manuscripts

www.workersliberty.org/northlondon

The "tubeworker" bulletin is produced by Workers' Liberty members and supporters in the RMT and comes out every 2-3 weeks. We welcome more people carrying a few in their bag as they travel around the tube network to give to workers to read and leave in their mess rooms. Contact Robin on 07974 331 053 if you can help distribute them. To contact the tubeworker group, write to tubeworker@btopenworld.com

www.workersliberty.org/tubeworker

The Alliance for Workers' Liberty
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020 7207 3997
020 7207 0706



No Sweat conference

No Sweat conference will be held at the UNITE-TGWU Union offices in Holborn, central London over the weekend of **Saturday 1, Sunday 2 December.**

The theme of the first day will be organising migrant workers, casual and 'precarious' workers. There will be a special showing of Black Gold (www.blackgoldmovie.com) plus big name speakers. We will discuss Starbucks' record, the menace posed by the supermarkets, women workers in central American maquilas, the sportswear brands and the Olympics and much, much more.

The Sunday will be mainly given over to planning workshops and practical training events for activists. Tickets and more details will be available on-line, on this site, soon. Or email us: admin@nosweat.org.uk

www.nosweat.org.uk

Monthly London No Sweat Forums take place on a Monday night at the Plough, Museum Street (Holborn or Tottenham Court Road tube).

The next one is Monday 8th October. Check web for details or contact Karen 07804 891 082 or e-mail karen8johnson@btinternet.com

No Sweat activists are working with the IWW to unionise baristas across London. To get involved call Robin on 07974 331 053 or e-mail robsivapalan@hotmail.com

Contact Workers' Liberty branches in London

North London Branch:

Meets 7.30pm every Tuesday at the Red Rose Club, Seven Sisters Road (Finsbury Park tube). Contact David Broder on 07828 844 695 or e-mail broder@workersliberty.org for NE and central London or Robin on 07974 331 053 or brent@workersliberty.org for NW and West London.

South West London Branch

Meets most Tuesday evenings; public educational meetings start at 7.30pm, The Bread and Roses, Clapham Manor Street (Clapham Common/North/High St). Currently looking at the Russian Revolution. Contact Sacha on 07796 690 874 or e-mail sacha@workersliberty.org

South East London (Lewisham) branch

Meets most Wednesday evenings at the Hobgoblin opposite New X Gate at 6.30pm. Contact Lynne on 07766 525 199 or lynne@workersliberty.org

PCS branch (civil service)

Meets most Thursdays at 6pm in Victoria. Contact Karen on 07804 891 082 or e-mail pcs@workersliberty.org