

CLASS WAR DAILY

WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL 2020



TORIES TOUT ANOTHER DECADE OF CUTS



GET READY FOR MORE AUSTERITY

YESTERDAY the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rishi Sunak, told the media that he wanted to be “honest about the hardship ahead”. This is more evidence that the Tories have not suddenly swung to the left just because they’ve increased public spending to such levels it even gets Momentum members aroused.

Once the virus is no longer the only news story, we are going to see headlines about austerity, public sector job cuts, tax rises, pension cuts and pay freezes. **We must not let the Tories get away with it.** They will not unleash this hardship on their donors and the multi-millionaires they speak for. They will try to

force the hardship on to us. Ironically, they all claim to suddenly embrace public service and all the workers associated with keeping the country ticking over during lockdown. What are they going to do to reward the nurses, care home staff, delivery drivers, postal workers and so on? We aren’t going to be fobbed off.

It is these workers that have

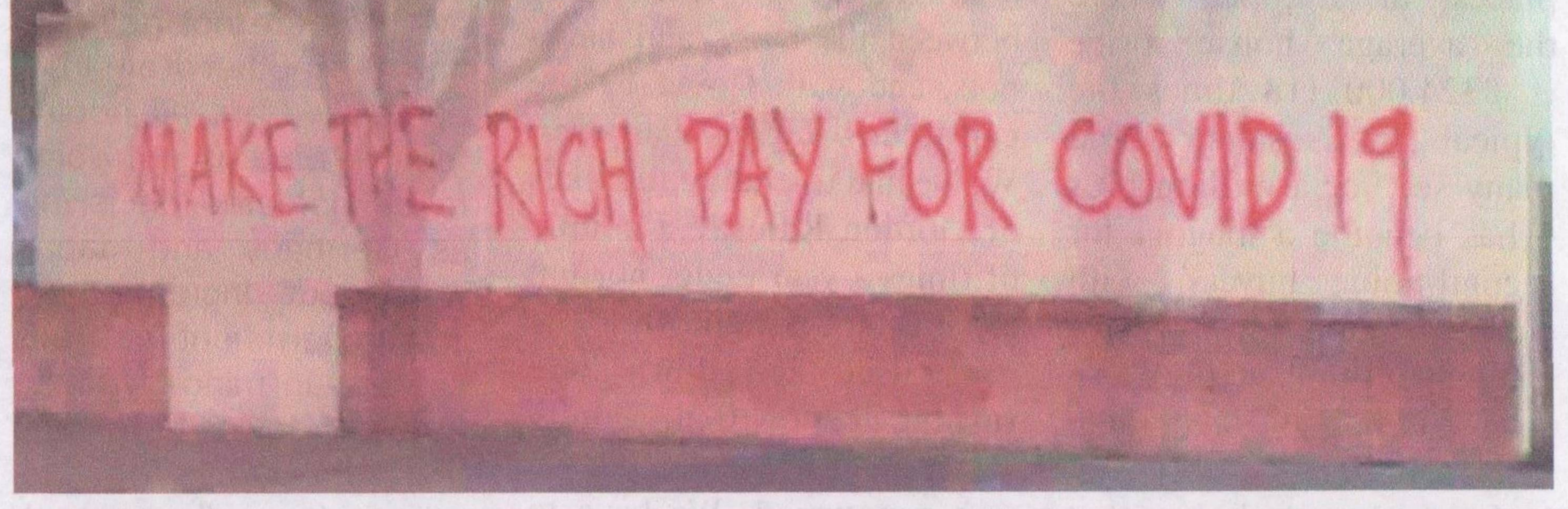
been denied vital equipment to keep themselves and others safe. It is these workers who are at greatest risk because the government, led by that fucking oxygen-stealing clown, Boris Johnson, failed to stockpile the equipment they needed despite ample warning the virus was coming.

Just like Sunak, we also intend to be honest. We want

this government of cunts and chancers out of office and made to pay for their negligence over the virus. By hook or by crook, we must get them. We must all keep shouting about what they’ve done.

We shouldn’t be surprised either that the bastards who fiddled their expenses, unleashed austerity on us, kept their money in offshore tax havens, failed to act on Grenfell and destroyed lives through Brexit suddenly want to be “honest” about the hardship they intend to hand to us as a reward for surviving a global pandemic. The Tories are fucking sick.

At the first available opportunity we need to be on the streets to bring down this government of utter bastards. We owe it to every worker and we owe it to all those who have suffered this virus. We will not forget the dead and we will not forgive the Tory gobshites who made this disaster worse by their actions and their inaction.



Where is the ANGER?

Yesterday, as the government admitted that its figures for Covid-19 fatalities don’t tell the full story, the Office for National Statistics reported that in the first week of April the number of deaths in England and Wales was over six thousand more than is typical at this time of year. There are now tens of thousands of us grieving the loss of a loved one to

the virus – so many that the sight of people paying tribute to someone they’ve lost is becoming a tragically regular feature on TV news broadcasts. Sometimes these people are stoical, often they’re distressed, but – so far at least – they are never angry.

When you’re dealing with the death of someone close to you, it’s natural to feel angry – especially when that death was avoidable. **But we’re not seeing this anger on the news.**

Where is the anger? Maybe there’s no focus for it – it’s hard to blame something as intangible

as a virus. Maybe there’s a lack of obvious villain to rage against – especially now that Boris Johnson has been recast as a victim, and the various cabinet figures wheeled out to front the government briefings come across as pathetically inept rather than actively despicable. Or maybe the newsrooms filter out anyone willing to have a go at those in power who could have stopped this happening. Maybe relatives who are angry – angry at the government’s lack of action in the early days of the epidemic, angry at the fatal lack of resources in the NHS and care

homes – are not the sort who get invited on TV news programmes.

This isn’t to criticise those who do go on to speak about their loss. Sometimes their pain is so evident that after their interview the presenters will apologise to the audience. But it’s important to air these stories, they tell us, to emphasise how important it is for us to stay at home. The grief is safely contained. Keep it personal, not political. Talk about your feelings. Imply some feckless sunbathers are to blame. Whatever you do, don’t criticise the government.



COME TO CORNWALL

A warning to the rich fleeing to their second homes

DON'T HOLIDAY MAKERS piss you off on a good day? While the pandemic is affecting everybody, it's the lower class getting the brunt end as usual. Today Cornwall – deemed one of the poorest places in Europe, where the average house price is £324,000 (18 times the typical local salary) and many sell for a million plus – has become a magnet for second-home buyers, with council figures from 2015 showing a number of 29,015 second homes recorded. This number does not include the Airbnbs that have sprung up all over the county advertising Covid-19 isolation. Most local youths are forced to leave the county to find homes that they can rent affordably, finding rent and shopping here too expensive.

There has been a dramatic rise in rough sleeping according to the council. Personally I know this has been going on for years, as rough sleepers are only counted if they are on concrete. A few council

houses are being built, but you can guarantee seeing multimillion-pound luxury homes going up, built by the likes of Frogmore Investments, big multimillion-pound investors from London. These investments only highlight the growing divide between the haves and have-nots, and with Covid-19 the gap is now bigger than ever. We've had to endure the likes of Gordon Ramsay a couple of times a year under normal circumstances, but now he has raised hell down here rushing down with his family as soon as the lockdown was announced. We have to stay at home under all sorts of pressure, as the rich go to and fro to their country retreats; this cannot be right. Cornwall only has one major hospital with 12 ICU beds at normal times and we have no Nightingale hospitals to look forward to. And yet we have thousands coming over the Tamar expecting care if they fall ill. Towns and villages are now making people prove they are local. So beware, Emmits – *Class War Cornwall are watching you...*

PROTEST IN LOCKDOWN

WHAT SCOPE IS THERE FOR ACTION WHEN YOU CAN'T TAKE TO THE STREETS?

UNTIL A VACCINE or cure is discovered for the dreaded virus, the political landscape is going to look very different to what has gone before. Lockdown in place until at least the end of July means no actions or demonstrations for months. The government has cannily cast a few sunbathers, tadpole ticklers and cyclists as muckspreaders of the virus. The public will rail against this "antisocial minority", with the usual suspects (Piers Morgan etc) leading the charge. It will not be the oppressive state that gets the blame for the non-starting football matches – it will be people themselves weighing up the risks.

Let's face it: once this is over, we are not going to have the mother of all street parties we are all hoping for. The virus is not going to be defeated decisively as Germany and Japan were, but incrementally. The government has this strategy in mind by lifting the lockdown here and there, bit by bit. The virus will lurk, still present, leaving individual families to weigh up the odds

about going out. Can you hear mum and dad arguing over the bookie's odds – five to one the virus pulling a victim, same as for Hurricane Harry's hat trick. This is all the choice given to you by the government.

I write this not as a gainsayer against taking to the streets but because we need to think carefully about strategy and tactics in the epoch of the pandemic.

One tactic that involves us all staying at home is the general strike – that might be worth a look. Lockdown v general strike – now you see it, now you don't. Britney Spears has advocated a "general strike and wealth redistribution" in the States and was quickly mocked by the misogynists as are all young women who hold and express views.

By August deaths may have fallen to 100 or so a week from the present 6000. The chancers will fancy it – Notting Hill, August Bank Holiday. Dr Alimantado is the funkiest chicken in town. Dr Alimantado says **ALL THEM BIG HOUSES ARE EMPTY..**

