

UNION CITY NEWS

BULLETIN OF NOTTINGHAM TRADES COUNCIL

ISSUE 2

GOODBYE & GOOD RIDDANCE

Thatcher has gone, and it didn't come a day too soon for the Trades Council. Her Government was responsible for many attacks on trade unions - steel workers sacked, pits closed & miners sacked, unions banned at GCHQ, wages driven down, funding for local councils cut, health service weakened, poll tax introduced.

John Major was supported by Thatcher, Tebbit and the rabid right - however he got less than 50% of the votes of Tory MP's. There is no indication whatsoever that trade unionists will fare any better under major. We should demand an immediate General Election but at the same time keep fighting - there should be no let up against the Tories



DIG DEEP FOR SACKED MINERS

We are now approaching the seventh Xmas without a wage for the remaining 65 sacked miners and their families. Seven years during which their children wondered if they too would get the Xmas presents their friends at school would be getting. Seven years of victimisation by British Coal and their UDM sweethearts. Seven years of non-recognition of their union the NUM. Seven years of decimation of the coal industry.

Remember 966 men were sacked during the miners strike, setting off a chain reaction of similar victimisations of trade unionists in other deliberately provoked strikes - 6,000 sacked printworkers at Wapping, 1,000 P&O seafarers, GCHQ civil servants and hundreds on the oil rigs.

All 14 sacked Notts miners remain sacked. They must not be forgotten. Notts Trades Council salutes the Justice for Mineworkers Campaign for its continued and principled fight for the reinstatement of all sacked miners.

Help to continue the tradition of a dedicated, fighting, socialist trade unionism by supporting the 'Justice' Xmas Appeal. Cheques payable to 'Notts Hardship Fund' to Ida Hackett, NUM, St. John Street, Mansfield.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Thurs 13th Dec

7.30pm ICC

Stop the ICC Closure
Public Meeting

Sunday 16th Dec

1pm Queens Walk
Community Centre
Fighting Wage
Arrestments of Poll Tax
Org. by APTF

Weds 19th Dec

Trades Council
7.30pm ICC

Fri 21st Dec

Trades Council Benefit
at Marcus Garvey
9pm-2am
Proceeds to Sarmcol
strikers

Sat 22nd Dec

Forest Fields APTC Disco
at Indian Centre, Noel St
£2/£1

SUPPORT THE PERGAMON 23

On May 24th 1989 23 journalists employed by Robert Maxwell at Pergamon Press in Oxford were sacked for staging a one day strike for union recognition. They have remained sacked ever since. The NUJ has been funding the dispute for 18 months but due to financial difficulties has now had to cut back on strike pay. Money is desperately needed. Send cheques payable to "NUJ Pergamon Press Chapel No 2 A/C" & send to Pergamon Press NUJ, 60 Cricket Rd., Oxford. OX4 3DQ.

GOODBYE CENTENARY YEAR

The biggest Mayday march for years was the highlight of our Centenary year when over 1,000 people marched behind the Trades Council banner - demanding 'No Poll Tax' - Arthur Scargill was raptourously recieved in a rally at Victoria Leisure Centre. Other speakers included strikers from South Africa.

Many other events, meetings and socials took place during the year, a tree was planted in the Arboretum in November to permanently mark the centenary year.

Copies of the Trades Council Centenary handbook, badge & mug are still available and make excellent Xmas presents - order yours from 204 Noel St. £2 each or all 3 for £5 - cheques to Nottingham Trades Council. Finally thanks to all those who helped to make this such a good year



REMEMBER BLOODY SUNDAY

On January 30th 1972 14 peaceful civil rights marchers were shot dead by British soldiers in Derry. The Derry City Coroner described the killings as "sheer unadulterated murder". None of the soldiers responsible were prosecuted.

The demonstrators were marching for justice and an end to discrimination. 18 years on their demands are still not met. Although Nationalists now have the vote, their democratically elected representatives are denied proper access to the media; and the British public are denied the truth about what the Government is doing in their name.

In 1991 the annual march to commemorate Bloody Sunday is being held on SATURDAY 26TH JANUARY assembling at 12 noon at Hyde Park and marching to a Rally in Kilburn. It is organised by the Committee for British Withdrawal from Ireland (071 609 1743)

Please take part in and sponsor this event. Notts TUC will be organising a Public Meeting early in the New Year to mobilise for the Demo and arranging transport down to London. If you are interested please write to Box 5, 118 Mansfield Road, Nottingham. NG1 3HL