

# COUNTERFIRE

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# FIGH T TO WIN



## BUILD THE RANK-AND-FILE ORGANISING CONFERENCE

Read what rank-and-file trade unionists have to say and find out more about the conference on Pages 4-5



**SATURDAY 10 JUNE**  
**RICH MIX, BETHNAL GREEN ROAD**  
**LONDON, E1 6LA**



ISRAELI SOLDIERS. PHOTO: ISRAELI DEFENSE FORCES / CC BY-NC 2.0

## THE RISING TIDE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST PALESTINIANS

**SUSAN JONES**

As the Israeli government rapidly slides towards the far right, anti-Palestinian violence is on the rise.

Tensions are incredibly high in Palestine, and 2023 has so far been one of the deadliest years in the occupied territory since the millennium.

A horrific attack on Huwara at the end of February saw Israeli settlers set the small town in the West Bank ablaze. Hundreds of Palestinians were left injured, and one died, after a violent mob flanked by Israeli soldiers marched through the town. This came after two Israelis were killed there by a Palestinian.

Settlers have since threatened another attack on the town, and the finance minister Bezael Smotrich has argued that the Israeli state ought to 'wipe out' Huwara. He has since been condemned by the US, and there have been calls for him and other far-right MPs to be investigated.

Anti-Palestinian violence has been ramping up for the last few months, as both the Israeli state and settlers have made often deadly attacks on Jenin, Nablus and East Jerusalem.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the Israeli government isn't particularly interested in stopping far-right mobs of settlers from attacking Palestinians, and it is incredibly worrying that these mobs

have had support from within the Knesset.

While Benjamin Netanyahu attempts to keep both his and the US government happy, the far-right is becoming more powerful in Israel.

This has had deadly consequences, and anti-Palestinian violence will likely continue, backed by the Israeli state. The Knesset is even in the process of passing a new law that would allow the death penalty for terrorism offences, and has been condemned by groups such as Adalah for targeting Palestinians.

It is crucial that we continue to demonstrate solidarity with Palestinians, who face increasingly intense state-sanctioned violence, but who continue to fight back.

At the end of February, Palestinian workers went on strike to protest against a deadly attack on Nablus, with shops, banks and restaurants across the West Bank closed for a day. Protests continue, and it is likely that we will see even more violence.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Nakba, which saw 750,000 Palestinians driven into exile and never allowed back to their homes.

In order to stand with Palestinians, and defend their right to self-determination, joining the protests in this country is key.

The Palestine Solidarity Campaign has called a national demonstration around Nakba Day, on 13 May, assembling at 12pm on Portland Place in central London.



ROTHERHAM ANTI-FASCIST PROTEST. PHOTO: JOHN WESTMORELAND

## Knowsley is a warning: anti-racist unity has to be fought for

**JOHN WESTMORELAND**

After the fascist riot in Knowsley in February, there was a widespread anti-fascist mobilisation to confront the Patriotic Alternative and Yorkshire Rose in Rotherham, and fascists in Liverpool, Oxford and elsewhere in February.

Trades councils and trade-union branches, alongside Stand Up To Racism appealed to supporters to take a stand in defence of refugees and against the fascists.

In Rotherham, over four hundred people answered the call, and the small number of fascists was reduced to pitiful provocations. Some prominent trade unionists

were present from Aslef and the NEU. Many of the protesters were young and vociferous, drowning the fascist obscenities with slogans espousing human solidarity. "Refugees are welcome here," echoed down Manvers Way.

The banners on the demo showed a genuine labour movement response, and the organisers need commending for the turnout. The fascists themselves had little local support, and their extreme hatred must have turned off some that hold anti-immigrant views. However, it is a mistake to think that can't change.

Patriotic Alternative is a growing fascist organisation committed to violence.

The current Labour leadership is in danger of turning former Labour voters to the right through its willingness to sell out any commitment to social justice beyond electoral sloganeering.

Extreme poverty doesn't necessarily breed solidarity. It might be wrong, but workers who perceive that asylum seekers are getting better treatment can start to be impressed with the anti-immigrant message.

The fight against racism and fascism cannot be divorced from the fight against poverty and war. The left has to work together in every town and city to dominate the discussion about the problems

working-class communities face.

Fascists are the rats that dwell in the sewers of capitalism, feasting on prejudice and hate and infecting those with whom they come into contact. We need to destroy the rats of course. But if we don't destroy the sewers, the rats will always be breeding. Ensuring the fascists never have a bridgehead into the wider working class has always been one of our key duties. The fascists have nothing to say about the cost-of-living crisis and nothing to offer the picket lines; all they have is hate and fear.

All of this adds an extra edge to this year's Stand Up to Racism 18 March demonstration in central London.

## Editorial



NEW POLLY MACGREGOR PHOTO: SHABBAR LARSA

# The strike wave at a turning point

### COUNTERFIRE

In the biggest strike wave Britain has seen in a generation, hundreds of thousands of working people are downing tools to fight for decent pay and conditions, from nurses, ambulance drivers, teachers and rail workers, to bus drivers, civil servants, lecturers and postal workers. More than that, they are defending the social goods that most people hold dear: health and education, pensions, and a decent standard of life.

Most people feel sickened by the obscene levels of wealth in this country alongside growing poverty, homelessness and hardship, the corruption and sleaze at all levels of government, and they are worried about the future. In standing up for their own pay and conditions, strikers are giving expression to these concerns about the distribution of wealth across society and the value of welfare.

They are challenging the values of a system responsible for utter dysfunction in society and the current cost-of-living crisis that is causing appalling misery. They are, as a result, raising the possibility of standing the whole status quo on its head.

This is the first strike for unions like the RCN, which looks to more seasoned strikers for inspiration, those in the RMT, for example. For others, such as the CWU and UCU, the onslaught of privatisation and marketisation have seen strikes for several years now.

What has become clear over the past decade at least is that conditions are increasingly similar across sectors: wages are stagnating while prices rise, pensions are under attack, contracts are being casualised, employers are using fire-and-rehire tactics, and workloads are unsustainable. Further anti-trade-union legislation is being rolled out.

Yet unions are generally managing to smash the 50% threshold when they ballot members for industrial action, and workers are becoming more confident as more and more unions take action.

The sheer number of workers that have been striking together in recent weeks – over half a million were out on 1 February and now again on 15 March – has been hugely inspiring. But the strike wave is reaching a crunch point.

With the exception of the two days of coordinated action, union leaders have relied on a series of sectional one-day strikes. This on-off strategy risks dissipating the strikers' anger and energy, and draining away popular support. It throws away the huge potential of joint action across the whole of the working class, and it make it much easier for the government and employers to ride out the disputes and pick off groups of strikers one by one.

This is the new employers' strategy: promise talks and a little extra money to try and persuade individual groups of workers back to work. Unfortunately, some union leaders are playing into the

bosses' hands by calling off strike action the moment negotiations are offered.

The RCN called off a planned 48-hour strike on the promise of talks with the government; Unison, GMB and Unite have similarly called off ambulance strikes; while UCU paused strike action in the middle of a programme of eighteen days during talks with ACAS with no promises from the employers.

Both the RMT and CWU have also called off strike action as employers have hinted at concessions. This is a disastrous tactic and it's becoming a precedent. The only time workers should release the pressure – and striking is all about pressure – is when they've got a deal with which they're satisfied.

This is the kind of working-class good sense that is in danger of being lost if the current strategy is maintained. The rank and file repeatedly vote to strike, the mood for action is spreading, the feeling on the picket lines and joint protests is of solidarity and generalisation. But the danger is that the great potential of this workers' revolt is squandered at the merest whiff of compromise.

The strike wave is reaching a turning point, and it is essential rank-and-file workers from different unions come together to analyse the current conditions, learn from each other and push for a different strategy. We need more escalation, more co-ordination, not a retreat into shoddy, section-by-section deals

way below the level of inflation, and way below what is possible.

To that end, a rank-and-file conference, 'How we Fight, How we Win', is being organised in London to seize the opportunity to build solidarity among striking workers and discuss how to fight to win.

During a previous mass strike wave at the start of last century, the Clyde Workers' Committee in Glasgow issued a famous declaration. It said:

'We will support the officials just so long as they represent the workers, but we will act independently immediately they misrepresent them.'

These words are as relevant now as they were then. We need to start developing the kind of independent rank-and-file organisation that can make them meaningful once more. This won't just happen, it will have to be fought for by the most militant minority in the class. It's always militant minorities that make decisive turns in the working-class movement, now is no exception.

Book your ticket for 10 June conference today and get your union branch and trades council to back it. But don't stop there. Contact strikers and activists across your industry and your areas and invite them to come to join the discussion and get organised to fight to win.

*More information on the conference on pages 4-5. Book on Eventbrite: [tinyurl.com/rankandfileconf](https://tinyurl.com/rankandfileconf)*



## WEEKLY BRIEFING

Cut through the mainstream media bias with Lindsey German's analysis on the latest political developments straight in your inbox every Monday morning



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# VOICES FROM THE RANK & FILE



STRIKING AMBULANCE WORKERS PHOTO: LEWIS BAKER

## Ambulance worker, Unison

**Strengths:** The support from the general public; honking every time they go past us, waving, and saying that they would give us double what we are asking for if they were in charge – we have the public on our side. Obviously, the support amongst my colleagues is 100%. I don't think we've got anybody that's not striking.

A lot of people were very happy to be on strike and it's the first time they've ever done it. It left a positive effect on them; realising that they do have the power to make a difference.

The weaknesses have been that the strikes have been very limited; only for a few hours per day and very scattered through the month.

and I think it's not making a big enough impact. Take into account that the Fire Brigade workers said that they would go out on strike indefinitely and they got an offer of a pay rise after a few days of negotiation. We need to escalate to the point of saying 'we're going out and we're going out indefinitely': let's do that and see what the effect of that is.

At the moment, we don't really know how our union is battling for us or what they're trying to get for us. That's the problem, Unison officials are not talking to us enough for us to understand what their strategy is, or even if there is a strategy.

Many of us want to go further

and we want to go harder, and it's very difficult when they're not really talking to us or calling off strike action without consultation.

We don't even have an opportunity to say this to them. They send people down to the picket line and seem to be more interested in making sure that there's nobody on the picket line that shouldn't be there.

Even to a point where they are saying to us that you can't talk about the strike on the picket, you have to refer it all back to the union if you're having an interview. They seem to have divorced politics from strike action. I would say politics is strike action. It seems very bizarre at times, very odd.



STRIKING POSTAL WORKER PHOTO: STEVE EASON / CC BY-NC 2.0

## Postal worker, CWU

I think it's been difficult for the CWU, simply because it's been so long since we've taken any national action; 2009 was the last time we had a national dispute with Royal Mail, since that, we've been privatised, which has obviously changed the relationship quite a lot.

In terms of where the dispute is at right now; it's been a bit of a confusing period in the dispute for me. It looks to me like, the national union have been trying to resolve this without putting on more strike dates. It all points towards that, and some of the language used by the union recently regarding the union recognising Royal Mail's financial position is somewhat perilous. It seems to me like there's a bit of a rush now to settle before the new financial year starts.

The second ballot result (a 95.9% Yes vote for further action) was unexpected for me. By Christmas time enthusiasm was waning, and Royal Mail have already been

implementing executive action in quite a lot of workplaces and just forcing through change. Some of it is not too harmful, but some of it is. But ultimately them just bypassing the union. It was all done around the start of the second ballot, but I think it actually boosted the strike ballot because it just made people more determined to vote yes.

If you just think about winning, just as in changing the company's position on quite a few big issues, then I think now after the second ballot mandate, I think are in a position to do that. It's about negotiated change isn't it. Not just having change imposed upon you. From that perspective, I think we're in a position to stop Royal Mail bringing in wholesale changes which would completely smash up the job and our terms and conditions.

In terms of rank-and-file organising, our union is very much top heavy, all the leadership comes from the top of the union, nationally. Yes, we've proven that there's solidarity, but what I would be trying to build upon is collectivism on the shop floor.

## CICI WASHBURN

The strike wave is spreading. Levels of industrial action are higher than at any time in the last 30 years - and are continuing to grow.

The strikes have helped foster a renewed confidence in working-class people to organise and fight back. From Amazon workers to teachers, a diverse section of the workforce is resisting the cost-of-living crisis.

While the strikes have shown the power of collective action, they have also opened up debate on whether a series of sectional one-day strikes is an adequate strategy.

I spoke to a number of trade unionists about what they thought the strengths and weaknesses of the strikes they are involved in are and the need for rank-and-file organising.

On 10 June, workers across unions and industries will come together to discuss how we organise and how we fight to win. This conference was launched at a meeting of Amazon workers, app-based workers, health workers and activists and is open to every trade unionist who wants to see strike action coordinated and escalated.

### HOW WE FIGHT SATURDAY 10 JUNE

### HOW WE WIN

A RANK-AND-FILE ORGANISING CONFERENCE

RICH MIX, BETHNAL GREEN RD LONDON, E1 6LA



Book on Eventbrite: [tinyurl.com/rankandfileconf](https://tinyurl.com/rankandfileconf)

## Higher education worker, Unison

I think a main strength has been getting members to have that strike mentality. For many striking it will have been their first time, as it's the first time in nearly two decades that the branch has been on strike. So things like turning up to the picket lines, stressing to non-unionised colleagues not to cross, having a lively, fun and communal ethos.

We have been trying to have targeted days to maximise impact and pressurise management, which can be tricky, given how diverse the jobs of our members are across the uni.

But perhaps a weakness ties into our existing situation; we still need to build up unionised density across the institution and the membership's resolve to potentially take longer strike action in future, as this may be what we need to win.

Prior to striking, I'd been a member for about three years and the difference in the branch

since I joined has been night and day. It had been difficult at times to engage members, but there really is no substitute for activity in the form of striking. There was an outpouring of members energised and actively looking for ways to be involved, it really snowballed.

Our strike mandate has ended,

but people really don't seem dispirited; by and large, they're really up for a bigger fight, and we're in a much better place to have one now with how much the branch has developed existing members and burgeoned in membership - especially younger members.



HIGHER EDUCATION STRIKER PHOTO: CHRIS BERTRAM / CC BY-NC ND 2.0

## University lecturer, UCU

The strengths include the numbers picketing growing – people have become more solidary, aware of their rights and politicised, and student support has built up.

Our local student union is now supportive, despite managerial pressures. To strike alongside other unions has a powerful effect.

The weaknesses are, I think, quite representative of the inherent limitations of trade unions in capitalism, how they are firefighting against increasing encroachments against workers without being able to challenge the law of wages or address the political issues of exploitation.

Then there is the question of democratic and strategic failures by the leadership, which is also characteristic

of trade unions and their contradictory relations with the state and capital - this has been an issue in UCU.

This is a national aggregated strike, and one outcome has been that universities can support each other and make useful comparisons of their managements' playbooks - both against strikes, and in general.

We also need to discuss concerns including financial worries and underhanded management requests, the consequences for students, etc. We are navigating a national strategy that doesn't always make sense for our calendar and which has created uncertainties.

The strength comes from the rank and file, not from the top, and it helps in the fight against an atomised and exhausting workplace.

## Teacher, NEU

There has been a celebratory atmosphere amongst ordinary NEU members. A lot of what has been happening is very new to members. The picket lines have been positive and joyous. Teachers do not get a lot of time to chat to each other and share their feelings and experiences.

After years of feeling beaten down by an oppressive workload and Ofsted culture, it has been a huge release to be away from the classroom and hearing all of the cheers and hoots of support from passing cars and members

of the public.

The members have been very involved in the picket lines and in the marches and rallies. The atmosphere in Newcastle on 1 and 28 February has been incredible, unlike anything that I have experienced for many years.

The weaknesses are shown in the lack of movement from the government. My concern is that the government might be able to ride out the series of one-day strikes and try to impose another below-inflation pay award in the next round of pay

negotiations.

This series of strikes has strengthened and deepened the rank-and-file members' attachment to the NEU. More of them see themselves as 'the union' now, rather than it being an external force that they turn to in times of need.

The current strike action is rebuilding a culture of active trade unionism in the NEU. This government should be very wary of thinking that they can continue their attacks on school workers.



UKRAINIAN TANK (LEFT); SUNAK, BIDEN, ZELENSKY AND PUTIN (RIGHT)

## Vladimir Unkovski-Korica answers five key questions

The war in Ukraine has now lasted for more than a year. Both sides have suffered hundreds of thousands in dead or wounded, and millions are displaced. Socialists condemn Russia's brutal and unjustified war of aggression, but what can we do to stop the conflict?

### What is the state of affairs on the battlefield?

The war is at a stalemate. Russia has seized around a fifth of Ukrainian territory, in the south and east of the country. Fresh with 300,000 conscripts, the Russian army is making incremental progress. But it faces a motivated opponent which is defending its territory and is armed with sophisticated weapons from the West. Meanwhile, Ukraine aims to recover its lost territories. That will be difficult as it includes parts of the Donbas and Crimea, which have pro-Russian majorities. Thus, neither side is likely to achieve full victory.

### How much is the war costing?

The greatest cost is in human life. But the economic costs of the war are also very high, not just for Russia and Ukraine. According to the Wall Street Journal, the war will cost the world economy \$2.8 trillion by the end of 2023. The war is fuelling rises in energy and food prices, as well as an arms race.

Western governments are spending vast amounts in military, financial and humanitarian aid to Ukraine. This reached almost \$130 billion in just one year, comparable to US yearly expenditure on the war in Afghanistan. It is clear ordinary people will pay the price.

### Why will Western arms and sanctions not bring peace?

The US-led NATO alliance is clearly using Ukraine to bleed Russia. While Western governments justify significant military aid by claiming that Russia will negotiate only if it is defeated on the battlefield, this flies in the face of the evidence.

Following the successes of the

Western-supplied Ukrainian counter-offensive last September, Moscow announced conscription, initiated an extended bombing campaign against Ukraine's energy infrastructure, and increased its military budget by an extra US\$13 billion. That stabilised its defensive lines, resulting in the West's recent decision to send Ukraine tanks. Both sides are escalating to win, resulting in a dangerous spiral of violence.

### Is there the basis for a negotiated solution?

We have seen the basis for diplomatic solutions in the past. After the Western-encouraged overthrow of an elected pro-Russian president in Ukraine in 2014, Russia annexed Crimea and a civil war broke out in eastern Ukraine. By 2015, the belligerents signed the Minsk II accords, which sought to reintegrate Ukraine as a federal state.

But both the West and Russia moved to undermine these. According to former German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, the Minsk II accords were just a way of buying

Ukraine time to prepare for war with Russia. Similarly, following the Russian invasion, Ukraine and Russia seemed close to peace on the basis of twelve points which included Ukrainian neutrality, a key Russian demand. But Boris Johnson visited Kyiv in April 2022 to scupper the deal.

### What can stop the war?

We live in a competitive world system in which the world's imperialist states are perpetually in competition. That competition sometimes spills over into war. Left to their own devices, world leaders cannot be trusted with seeking durable peace. That is why anti-war voices in Russia and the West are being muffled.

But major wars in the past often ended when major domestic pressure for peace built up, as populations refused to pay the mounting costs of war. We are now beginning to see a rise in anti-war mobilisation across Europe. This is why it is vital for socialists and trade unionists in Britain to pass motions against war and for affiliation with the Stop the War Coalition.



PEACE TALKS NOW DEMONSTRATION, LONDON. PHOTO: TERINA HINE



"PEACE IS THE HIGHEST GOOD OF THE PEOPLE", BERLIN. PHOTO: MATTHIAS BERG / CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

# LOCAL GROUPS

Our groups distribute our paper, contribute to our website, hold meetings, and plan action.

Become a member and help decide how Counterfire is run and our campaign priorities.

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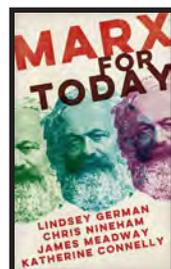
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# GETTING TO GRIPS WITH MARX



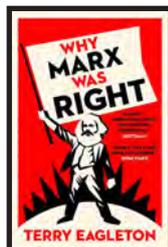
*140 years after Karl Marx's death, Chris Nineham and Dominic Alexander recommend ways in to his work*

Marx's work remains essential for anyone who wants to see fundamental change. He developed the definitive understanding of capitalism as a system based on the brutal exploitation of working people. He was also the first to outline why working-class struggles are the key to liberating humanity. In the process, Marx and his close collaborator Frederick Engels developed an unsurpassed, materialist and historical understanding of human society.



Two recent introductions to Marx's overall thought and practice stand out. The short pamphlet *Marx for Today* contains four essays by leading Marxist activists and authors on Marx's life, his philosophy, his economics and his revolutionary politics. Terry

Eagleton's *Why Marx was Right* is a longer defence of his ideas based on a series of entertaining rebuttals of the standard attack lines against Marx and Marxism.



Amongst his own writing, *The Communist Manifesto*, written with Engels in 1848 as the platform of the Communist League, is the place to start. The manifesto puts class struggle at the centre of historical change. It charts the achievements of bourgeois class power, but also explains that the

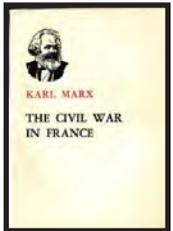
capitalists' defeat of feudalism led not to a free society but to a new even more brutal form of exploitation.

A workers' revolution, on the other hand, would put an end to class society once and for all by creating 'an association in which the free development of each is the condition for the free development of all'. The pamphlet ends with a fascinating account of other, non-revolutionary, socialist theories of the time and one of the first accounts of revolutionary strategy which still stands today.

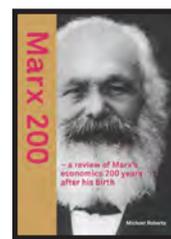
The first part of *The German Ideology*, written a few years earlier, lays out Marx and Engels' method in more depth. To understand society, Marx started not with what people say or imagine about themselves, but from their 'material life processes'. As he says 'consciousness does not determine being, but being determines consciousness'. A brilliant sketch of a history of class society follows the philosophical introduction and part one ends with one of the most stirring calls to revolution ever written.

Marx's history writing is enthralling and makes a mockery of the idea that Marx was a crude determinist. *The*

*Civil War in France* is Marx's account of the Paris Commune of 1871 when workers took power and ran a city for the first time. It is a brilliant piece of writing which explains the circumstances that made the insurrection possible, but also gives a flavour of the working-class creativity and self-organisation that made it happen.



Reading Marx's great economic and political work *Capital* can seem like a daunting project, given its length and difficult reputation. Volume one is the easiest to read, with a considerable amount of historical material, so is its own way into the three volumes. There are also plenty of accessible introductions to *Capital* and Marx's economic thought. One short and very readable introduction is Michael Roberts, *Marx 200 – A Review of Marx's Economics 200 Years After His*



*Birth*, which outlines Marx's key concepts and the main lines of his analysis across the three volumes. He also covers some key controversies among Marxists about aspects of the economic theory. Happy reading!

# OUR NATION

"THE NHS WILL LAST AS LONG AS THERE ARE FOLK LEFT WITH THE FAITH TO FIGHT FOR IT."

- NYE BEVIN



# IT'S

# OUR

# NHS

# DON'T LET THE TORIES DESTROY IT

## COUNTERFIRE

The NHS is at breaking point. This winter saw, predictably, the worst crisis in the NHS's history with an estimated 500 avoidable deaths per week.

Horrible stories of people in need of urgent care having to wait in their homes, on the streets or in the back of an ambulance in hospital car parks because of how under-resourced the health service is have become commonplace.

Shocking as this is, for most people it isn't surprising. The Tories have spent thirteen years relentlessly cutting funding in real terms for the NHS, and increasingly diverting what funds are spent on the NHS directly into the private sector.

As the leaked messages of disgraced former health secretary Matt Hancock have shown, at the height of the pandemic, the Tories were playing political games instead of acting in the interest of public safety. While they clapped for essential workers in front of cameras, they were calling them lazy and plotting how to undermine them privately.

For the Tories, the only priority is the profits of the ruling class. Our health and our lives are expendable. That's why they're never short of money for lucrative contracts for their mates, or for tax cuts for bankers, or for ever more war, but the money's never there to pay health workers or fund our schools.

The Tories are waging an all-out war against working people, and destroying the NHS is very much a part of it. That's why the strikes by health workers have been so important. Fighting for better pay for health workers is key to beginning to solve the recruitment and retention crisis in the NHS that has resulted in over 130,000 vacancies.

As well as that, the strikes have brought to the fore the issues of the wider underfunding and privatisation of the NHS, and highlighted the mass support for the NHS and the workers who run it. They have had a transformative effect on strikers, who are realising the power they hold collectively and forging solidarity with hundreds of thousands of other workers striking against the same enemy.

The strength of public support for striking NHS workers and the threat of escalation

has put the Tories on the backfoot. But now is not the time to release the pressure. The Tories are trying to play divide-and-rule by offering unions separate talks with no promise of actually meeting their demands or addressing their concerns.

Union leaders calling off the strikes and breaking the momentum without anything tangible in hand is a gift for the Tories. The fight to save the NHS is bigger than any one union, and will not be won if the goal is simply to accept a slightly improved pay offer.

We need a political and generalised movement that unites our struggles. The SOS NHS demonstration is an example of the kind of solidarity we need to bring together NHS workers, other striking workers, and the broadest layer of society to confront the Tories, on the streets and in our workplaces.

This is a crucial moment that cannot be squandered. The 10 June rank-and-file conference will be an opportunity for health workers across the unions to come together to organise the kind of fightback we need to beat the Tories. This is a fight for our lives – we have to win.