

ORGANISED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF IRELAND

2020

*Friday
6th*

March

Time

19.00-

21.00

*Venue
Ramada
Encore
Hotel
Talbot
Street
Belfast*

©CC



SPEAKERS

Sandra Trotter

**CLARA ZETKIN
OUR
HERITAGE**

Jennifer
McCarey

**WOMEN
IN
SOLIDARITY
STRIKES ON
THE RED
CLYDESIDE
AND
BELFAST 1919**



Chairperson
Dr Jenny Farrell

**RECLAIMING
INTERNATIONAL
WORKING WOMEN'S DAY**

Reclaiming International Working Women' Day

The roots of International Women's Day, born in the early part of the 20th century reflects the struggles of women in all parts of the world, opposition to the sweatshops, sexual injustice, inequality, imperialist wars and opposition to the capitalist barons.

These roots are still valid today.

The speakers and the topics



Women in Solidarity : Strikes in the Red Clyde and Belfast-1919

1919 represented a seminal year for the labour movement beginning with coordinated strike action across industries in Scotland, Ireland and internationally. In Glasgow the events of 1919, the general strike, particularly the riot that took place on 31 January which became known as 'Bloody Friday' or 'the battle of George Square' are part of Glasgow's historical



DNA. Following Bloody Friday Lenin referred to Glasgow as "the Petrograd of the West". Often under-examined is the role of women as workers and as political activists alongside young people and children in participating in the general strike and the role that the community had played in establishing an infrastructure that brought another layer to the workers' organisation during that strike and beyond. Red Clyde was born in 1919, but its legacy is not only of industrial militancy, but a labour movement that extended to the whole working class community including women and the unemployed.

Jennifer McCarey is chair of Glasgow Trades Council. The trades council, along with the Joint Shop Stewards Committee, and the Scottish TUC, were the three organisations that called for the General Strike of 1919. She is a full-time Official with Unison

Bread and Roses- James Oppenheim

As we come marching, marching, in the beauty of the day,
A million darkened kitchens, a thousand mill-lofts gray
Are touched with all the radiance that a sudden sun discloses,
For the people hear us singing, "Bread and roses, bread & roses."

As we come marching, marching, we battle, too, for men—
For they are women's children and we mother them again.
Our lives shall not be sweated from birth until life closes—
Hearts starve as well as bodies: Give us bread, but give us roses!

As we come marching, marching, unnumbered women dead
Go crying through our singing their ancient song of Bread;
Small art and love and beauty their drudging spirits knew—
Yes, bread we fight for—but we fight for roses too.

As we come marching, marching, we bring the Greater Days—
The rising of the women means the rising of the race—
No more the drudge and idler—ten that toil where one reposes—
But sharing of life's glories: Bread and roses, bread and roses!

The meeting will be chaired by
Dr Jenny Farrell (CPI)

Clara Zetkin-Our Heritage



August 1893 2nd International, Zurich

Left to Right-F. Simon, Frieda Simon. (Lucie & August Bebel's daughter), Clara Zetkin, Friederich Engels, Lucie & August Bebel, Ernst Schaffner, Regina & Eduard Bernstein

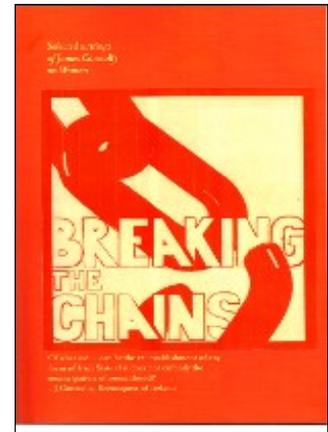
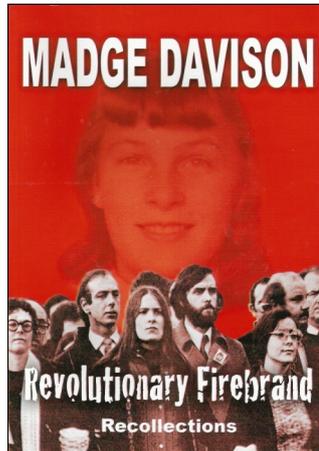
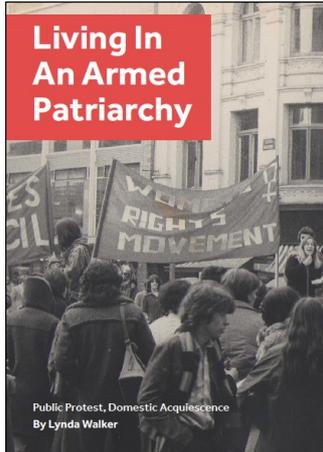
CLARA Zetkin was a Marxist and revolutionary whose lifetime spanned from 1857 to 1933. During that time she was a founding figure of the International Socialist Women's Movement and a member of the communist and labour movement. In Copenhagen in 1910 she seconded the motion to establish a day for working women, becoming popularly known as *International Women's Day*. Clara was an anti-war activist and during the First World War she was imprisoned in Germany for her opposition to the imperialist war. Clara Zetkin famously said "All the many brands of suppression, racism, sexism, heterosexism, ageism, classism - are historical; they have not been always with us. It was not ever thus. And it's not going to be this way, come the revolution." A woman of vision who inspires other women to this day.

Though we accept that the popularised version of "IWD" is used the world over, in recent years the Communist Party of Ireland has reverted to the original title that Clara Zetkin used 110 years ago: *International Working Women's Day*, an acknowledgment of the fact that this is a day for working class women, whether in paid work or unpaid work. Not to be hijacked by the over privileged classes.

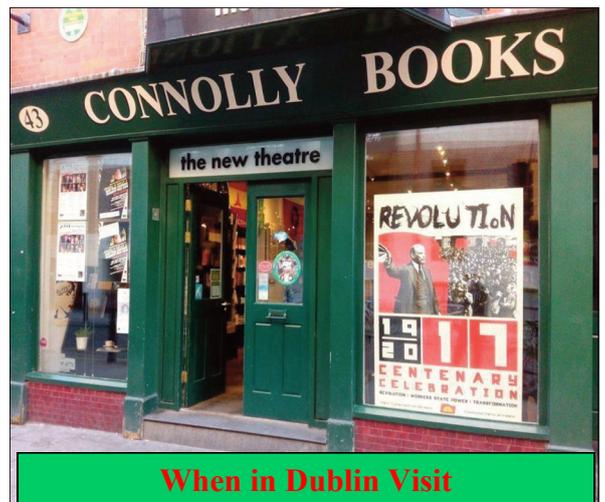
This is a historical topic but we also want you to join us in a discussion about contemporary politics; about women in Ireland and internationally, gains, losses and the future.

Speaker: Sandra Trotter will talk about Clara Zetkin our heritage. Sandra was born in 1973 in Rüdersdorf, a small town in the German Democratic Republic, she attended the Clara Zetkin nursery School. Aged 17 she moved to the then unified (or annexed) city of Berlin and became active in the anti-fascist movement. In 1999 aged 25 she came to Scotland and is now employed in social care and mental health care. She joined Unite and the Communist Party of Britain. She is currently vice chair of the Scottish Committee of the CPB, chair of Dumfries and District Trade Union Council and branch secretary of the Dumfries and District Unite branch"

Greetings from the Communist Party of Ireland keeping International Working Women's Day alive down the years



To know more about the Communist Party of Ireland
Please contact
Northern Area: PO Box 85, Belfast, BT1 1SR OR
Southern Area: Connolly House, 43, East Essex Street, Dublin 2.
www.comunistpartyofireland.ie



UNITY
Printed & Published by the Communist Party of Ireland
25.1.20 Vol. 52 No. 3 (Print Day Wednesday) WEB page

Response to the New Approach
By Lynda Walker

Unity is the weekly paper of the Communist Party of Ireland. Order *Unity* by post every week.

Subscription rates: 6 months £20; 12 months £40 Ireland and Britain, Rates for elsewhere on request.

To order *Unity* by post Send to Unity Subscriptions: PO Box 85, Belfast BT1 1SR

Take out a subscription to *Socialist Voice* by sending €15 (£10) to *Socialist Voice* 43 East Essex Street, Dublin D02 XH96, for one year. (10–12 issues).

This rate includes postage within Ireland; rates for other countries on request. Free subscription to the email edition of *Socialist Voice* by sending us an email

Socialist Voice
The world is at a crossroads. We can change the system, or the system will change our climate catastrophically. The World Meteorological Organisation has shown that global warming is increasing in pace—along with the growth in capitalism—despite measures being taken to stop it. Jimmy Doran reports