



Notts Uncut

Notts Uncut Newsletter - September/October 2011

If you have any contributions for future issues please e-mail nottsuncutaction@gmail.com

There's an old English radical poem that begins like this:

**The law locks up the man or woman
Who steals the goose from off the common
But leaves the greater villain loose
Who steals the common from off the goose**

These lines were written in protest at the various Acts of Enclosure that were being passed at the time. Acts which took the common land and transferred them into private ownership, usually that of the lord of the manor. The chief complaint of the anonymous writer was that whilst the petty villain was caught and punished, the thieves who robbed with a quill pen were usually rewarded.

Two hundred years later and nothing has changed. If you loot a shop you go to prison, but if you loot a nation you get paid a bonus. Although common land is something of an historic anachronism, there still exists today things that we could call common, things that are there for public good rather than private gain: Schools, Hospitals, Youth Centres and Libraries being examples.

The 7th. September 2011 marked the passing of the greatest act of enclosure in living memory. Whilst the news was conveniently focused on events taking place in Libya, The Tory Health and Social Care Bill, passed through the House of Commons, aided and abetted by Nick Clegg's Quisling* Liberals. This bill, should it become law, would remove the duty on the Secretary of State for Health to ensure the provision of comprehensive healthcare for all, whilst at the same time allowing any willing provider to compete in an effective healthcare market. The implications of this are clear, no longer will the NHS be a comprehensive state healthcare provider, it will be reduced to a mere kite-mark—a rubber stamp to adorn the letterheads of private companies who seek to make profit from illness.

Experience teaches that whenever private enterprise enters public service, things turn out badly; prices rise, workforces are de-skilled, and jobs are moved offshore into low wage economies. Since Privatisation our rail network, has become the embarrassment of Europe, energy companies rake in obscene profits whilst millions suffer in fuel poverty, and each year, through the PFI, HBOS bank takes £33 million pounds out of our NHS – money which it then squirrels away in an offshore tax haven.

It isn't too late to spare our NHS this fate. The bill can still be stopped, enclosure of our health service can be prevented. This can only happen if we stand together against this bill. Trade unionists, Anti Cuts Campaigners and most importantly the ordinary people in the street you must raise your voices and take whatever action is necessary to defend our NHS.

The NHS is the pride of Britain and the envy of the civilised world – Let's keep it that way.

**Quisling: A word that seems to have fallen out of contemporary use: it derives from Vidkun Quisling (1887-1945), a Norwegian politician who collaborated with the Nazis during World War II. It has since been variously used to describe politicians who sell out their people and promises to collaborate with the enemy in return for a share of power. It is suggested by the writer that this word should be revived and used to describe the current position of the British Liberal Democrat Party*

King Ludd – September 9th 2011

Youth March for Jobs/Nottingham Anti Cuts March

On Saturday October 15th The Jarrow-London Youth March for Jobs will be passing through Nottingham. Our friends at Notts SOS are planning to march alongside the Jarrow marchers from the Forest Recreation Ground to a rally in the Market Square. Provisional plans are to march from the Forest at 1pm and rally in the square at 2pm. Check the Notts SOS website for further details.

www.nottssos.org.uk
www.jarrowmarch11.com



Diary Dates

18th September—Members of Notts Uncut will be travelling to Birmingham to march and rally outside the Liberal Democrat party conference. This is just a warm up for.....

2nd October—travelling to Manchester for a demo outside the Tory party conference.

8th October—supporting Derby Uncut in their very first action.

15th October—Jarrow march through Nottingham

Please see our website for full details on these events as we get them www.nottsuncut.co.uk