Socialist Alliance
Against the War

VOTE: THURSDAY 1 MAY

Bloody and unnecessary. That's what former cabinet minister Robin Cook called the war on Iraq. And he's right. Thousands have died and thousands more have been maimed, injured and orphaned.

There is a humanitarian catastrophe rapidly emerging in Iraq. Authoritative reports warn that up to half a million children face death from disease as a result of the destruction of the infrastructure.

This follows the deaths of more than half a million children since 1991 as a result of US-imposed sanctions.

This war wasn't to liberate the Iraqi people. The US and Britain supported and armed Saddam's brutal dictatorship for many years.

Bush intends to replace Saddam not with democracy but with a US colonial governor, who will oversee the carve-up of Iraq's assets between Bush's friends in assorted US multinationals.

This was also not a war to get rid of weapons of mass destruction. In the Middle East only Israel is known to have nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and yet it continues to receive billions of dollars of aid from Bush despite the continued slaughter of Palestinians and defiance of UN resolutions.

The war on Iraq was simply intended to establish US control over oil and dominance in the Middle East.

Millions of people opposed and still oppose the war on Iraq, but no major party in this country represents these views.

The Liberal Democrats have shown the same lack of principle as Labour cabinet minister Clare Short. Having said they were against the war without UN authority, they have backed Blair all the way through the war.

Millions are also no longer represented on many other central issues: over opposition to privatisation, the disgusting treatment of pensioners, student tuition fees, the degrading treatment of asylum seekers, low pay for nurses and firefighters and so much else.

There is enough wealth in Britain to begin to sort out all these problems. This is the fourth richest country in the world. The wealth is just not being used properly.

For democracy, peace and equality

The Socialist Alliance is proud to have played a central role in building the anti-war movement in this country which has seen the biggest ever peacetime protest and the biggest ever protests against war after a war has begun.

We remain implacably opposed to the war. We continue to demand there is an immediate withdrawal of US/UK troops from Iraq.

We believe the billions of pounds being wasted on war, and the billions the rich and the big corporations have received in tax breaks over the last 20 years, could be used to raise the state pension and to renationalise the rail and give it the investment it needs.

This money could be used to abolish student tuition fees and restore student grants, to invest in state education and reverse the rundown of the NHS.

It could be used to end low pay for nurses, firefighters and other public servants.

It could be used to fund local government properly, to provide decent council housing, decent social services—including care for the elderly—and decent public facilities like swimming pools and sports fields.

We want an end to privatisation in local government. We want local government that is properly democratically accountable to the people who elect it, in which corruption and self-seeking are firmly rooted out.

The Socialist Alliance stands for the values of peace, democracy and equality which many thought the Labour Party represented but which have been so thoroughly betrayed by Blair, Brown and New Labour.

We desperately need a socialist alternative to New Labour. That's why we urge you to vote Socialist Alliance Against the War.

WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

- ● Stop Bush & Blair's war
- ● Tax the rich to fund public services
- ● Stop privatisation & renationalise the rail
- ● Fully fund the NHS
- ● Defend council housing & comprehensive education
- ● Stop attacks on asylum seekers & fight racism
- ● Put people before profit

FOR WELFARE, NOT WARFARE

Socialist Alliance