

# #our NHS - NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION

4 March 2017

Tavistock Square to Parliament Square

We are Campaign Choirs, which include several political choirs  
from around the country singing together:

<http://campaignchoirs.org.uk>

Thank you to all who contributed to this song sheet.

## 1 WE'LL FIGHT ON (A call/ten, F#sop, Dalt/bass)

*We'll fight on We will fight on against the cuts (x2)*  
*We won't pay We will not pay the bankers' debts*  
*The poorest Why should the poorest foot the bill?*  
*The NHS We will defend the NHS (repeat Verse 1)*

## 2 BELLA CIAO (NHS VERSION) (A)

*NHS version by Raised Voices with additions*

Oh we are marching, for all the nurses.  
Oh bella ciao, bella ciao, bella ciao ciao ciao.  
They have worked to care for patients,  
and we'll work to save them now

Oh we are marching, for all the doctors  
Oh bella ciao.....  
They have fought to save their patients,  
and we'll fight to save them now

Oh we are marching for all the patients  
Oh bella ciao .....

They need a good & local service  
and we'll march to save it now

The public sector is for the people,  
Oh bella ciao...  
The public sector is for the people  
Not for sale to profiteers.

Oh we are marching for all the workers.  
Oh bella ciao ....  
You are the people who keep things running,  
and we'll fight to keep you now

They cut the funding, they cut the workers,  
Oh bella ciao..  
They cut the funding, they cut the workers,  
Ain't no 'Big Society'!

## 3 WAVE BYE BYE TO PFI NHS Version (C)

*Tune Hokey Cokey (trad/Tabor)*  
*New Words by Liverpool Socialist Singers*

They take our taxes in, they pay our taxes out  
They give them to the bankers and they shake them all  
about  
They build some swanky hospitals and close the rest  
That's why we want them out! (OUT)

### Chorus

*Oooooh Tories are pollution*  
*We've got a cool solution*  
*Bring on the revolution*  
*Wave bye bye to PFI*

They've got our hospitals and our adult care  
Our nurseries and meals on wheels, it just isn't fair  
They put them out for tender and they fell apart  
That's why we want them out! (OUT) **CHORUS**

## 4 TORY TOFFS (E)

*Tune: John Brown's Body tradnl.*

Young and old and white and black,  
Join the march today.  
We must defend our services  
And make the bankers pay.  
We're fighting for our future now  
And this is what we say:  
No ifs, no buts, no public sector cuts!

**Chorus: Tory, Tory cuts no thanks, Ma-am,  
Fox and Hunt love the ban-kers  
We think they're a load of (.....)Tory Toffs,  
No ifs, no buts, no public sector cuts.**

Our hospitals and nurseries  
Are there for human need.  
Our libraries and schools are there  
To help our children read.  
They're not there to make profit from  
Or serve the bankers' greed.  
No ifs, no buts, no NHS cuts. (**Chorus**)

## 5 SIYA HAMBA (BassD, TenB, AltD, SopD)

*Tune: Trad. South African Arrangement: Niels Erlank/  
John Hamilton. Words: Trad. South African (additional  
Liverpool Socialist Singers)*

Siya hamb' ekameni lokolo. (x 4) (kolo)  
Siya hamba, hamba, siya hamba,  
hamba siya hamb' ekameni lokolo (kolo).

1. We are singing out against the cuts...
2. We are fighting for the NHS...
3. We demand the best social care...
4. We are marching for health care for all

## 6 TORY BOYS' PICNIC (A)

*Words: Liverpool Socialist Singers*  
*Tune: Teddy Bears' Picnic;*

### Tune A:

If you go out for a walk today  
You'd better not catch a cold.  
You'll end up going to hospital  
And finding that it's been sold,  
The Tories have cut the National Health  
And sold it off to private wealth;  
Today's the day we're gathering for a fightback!

**Tune A again:**

All health workers who have been good  
Are in for a big surprise  
When every part of the NHS  
Will vanish before their eyes.  
They'll have to watch their patients die,  
While PFI is pie in the sky;  
Today's the day we're gathering for a fightback!

**Tune B:**

Boom time now for companies,  
The private sector spivs are having a lovely time today;  
Public sector wages freeze  
And lots of jobs for them to take away.  
We won't let our service die  
You told a lie, that's why  
We're making a lot of noise.  
Your time is up, Grim Reaper is coming  
To take you all away  
Because you're sick little Tory X3..... boys!

**7 STAND UP (round)**

Stand up people make a choice  
Create a world that's fair for us all  
all together we are strong  
Break the austerity chain

**8 BAMBA-LE-LA / NEVER GIVE UP (Bass G, tenor B, sop/alto D)** Xhosa, S.Africa: 'Hold on'

(Call) Sizo bamba-le-la, Oh  
(Tune) Bamba-le-la, bamba-le-la  
Oh, bamba-le-la, bamba-le-la,  
Bamba, bamba, bamba, bamba  
Bamba, oo-oo, bamba  
Bamba-le-la. (Repeat verse)

(Call) You must never give up – Oh  
(Tune) Never give up, never give up...etc.  
(End by repeating verse 1)

**9 NOT IN MY NAME (C)**

Words and music Mal Finch. Updated John Hamilton

We can see the forces gathering  
Like so many times before,  
Working for us, they say,  
As they cut more and more.  
They are claiming to be standing  
For democracy,  
But their voices would be silenced  
If democracy could speak.

**CHORUS: You're not doing it in my name x 8**

Politicians from their pedestals  
Talk of 'big society'  
For 'community' and 'self-help'  
Read 'bonuses' and 'greed'  
We're the champions of justice  
Of that there is no doubt.  
But if justice could speak we tell you  
Justice would shout! **CHORUS**

**10 SAVE OUR PUBLIC SERVICES (B)**

Tune: Congolese folksong: Si Si Do-le-da  
Words: Raised Voices

Save our public services This is not the only way out (x2)  
Dashing hopes, crushing dreams.  
This is not the only way out (x2)  
Stand up and shout. This is not the only way out (x2)

**11 SOS**

Tune: John Jordan. Words: Mavis Cook

SOS, SOS, Nurses, patients in distress.  
Help to save the NHS

**12 OH! MS THERESA (E)**

Tune: Oh Mr.Porter  
Words: Norma & Alun Parry  
New version (Lotte, Cor Gobaith)

Oh, Ms Theresa, what can I do  
I don't know how it happened that I ended up with you  
with Boris, Hunt and Amber messing up the land  
Oh, Ms Theresa, I just don't understand.

**CHORUS (starts C#):**

Oh Ms Theresa, please don't think me mean  
But I really think we should bring back the guillotine  
For you and Hunt and Amber & Boris Johnson too,  
They're the only kind of cuts I want to see from you.

Oh Ms Theresa, you may be stinking rich  
That doesn't make it fair to throw  
Our healthcare in the ditch  
Pawn it all for profit and it isn't hard to guess  
We'll rot away if we can't pay: **hands off our NHS!**  
**CHORUS**

Oh Ms Theresa, I know what I'll do  
We'll have a revolution, a-and we'll get rid of you.  
You and all your cronies banished from the land  
We'll have the workers run the show -  
Now wouldn't that be grand! **CHORUS**

**13 NHS CONGA (E)**

Afro-Cuban trad. tune. Words: Strawberry Thieves

They want to axe our A & E.  
They've really got it in for me.  
**Na na na na CH! x 2**  
They want to steal all that's free  
to bolster private equity  
**Na na na na CH! x 2**  
When there's need for mental care  
The service is in disrepair  
**Na na na na CH! x 2**  
John Major, Tony, Tories,  
you told us bedtime stories  
**Na na na na CH! x 2**  
You stitched us up with PFI  
and now you want to bleed us dry  
**Na na na na CH! x 2**  
All Tory li-es leave us cold  
You want us in a stranglehold  
**Na na na na CH! x 2**

You think you are such bright sparks  
But really you're just loan sharks!  
**Na na na na CH! x 2**  
So now you've got us in this mess  
We'd better save our NHS  
**Na na na na CH! x 2**  
And then you hit tax-dodgers  
like Google & McDonalds  
For axing health is not the way  
Perhaps you'll sell Big Ben one day  
**Na na na na CH! x 2**  
We came, we saw, we conga'd,  
and we will see them conquered  
**Na na na na CH! x 2**

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#### 14 FAT CATS (Bfl)

*Tune: Top Cat theme Hanna/Barbara/Timmins*  
*Words: Liverpool Socialist Singers original.*

FAT CAT! The indefensible FAT CAT!  
The reprehensible  
Leader of the Tory regime  
She's just like a cat with the cream.  
FAT CAT! You know you want to just  
Run him out of town  
He's unfair, He don't care,  
He's a millionaire  
He's a Tory prat - FAT CAT!

FAT CAT! The indefensible FAT CAT!  
The reprehensible  
Banking bailout scandalous scheme  
Treats him like the cat with the cream  
FAT CAT! You know you want to just  
Tax him 'til he squeals  
He's a cad, He's a toff  
It's the biggest rip-off  
He's a bonus brat - FAT CAT!

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#### 15 WE WILL RISE!

*Dr Vole adapted the song for the times. Jan. 2017 update, short version.*

***In unison, except for v. 2 & 3 with harmonies if known***

Theresa's got a brand-new plan – society should "share".  
But when it comes to sharing out, do Tories really care?  
Who gets the bigger slice of cake when she has done the sums?  
The bosses and the bankers and their usual band of chums!

**Chorus:**

**We will rise, we will rise**  
**We will not accept those politicians' lies**  
**So come on get out and fight**  
**Unite against the right**  
**We will rise, we will rise!**

The students and the workers march in solidarity  
No messing with our NHS and no tuition fee.  
Public sector services are everybody's right  
And trying to steal our pensions  
That is just an act of spite! **Chorus**

**Chorus:**

**We will rise, we will rise**  
**We will not accept those politicians' lies**  
**So come on get out and fight**  
**Unite against the right**  
**We will rise, we will rise!**

So come on women, workers, claimants, speak up one and all!  
We're telling Thatcher's groupies that their empire's going to fall,  
And though we may be kettled by police brutality  
We won't give up until we have a fair society! **Chorus**

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#### 16 OH WE DO WANT TO KEEP OUR A&E (C)

*Tune: I Do Like to be Beside the Seaside by J Glover-Kind (1907)*

*New words: 2017 Strawberry Thieves*

Oh we do want to keep our A&E now  
At a hospital down the road from you and me.  
And we do want to have a lot of health, health, health  
Without lining pockets with private wealth.

Oh I don't want to go to another hospital  
They should listen to the patients and the staff.  
There is plenty stuff besides  
Which they're trying hard to hide  
About their health plans; they're not for me!

Oh they Trumpet their plans will make us happy,  
They prom-ise our health care will be free  
And they say that democracy is real, real, real,  
Well we'd like to know how just how that feels!

Oh they're lying through their teeth, don't we know it  
Cutting money doesn't give us better care  
So it's easy to decide  
We'll be standing side by side  
Against the Tories, they're not for me!

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#### 17 I WANT TO HAVE AN NHS LIKE YOU

*Leslie Barson from Red & Green NHS version*

Says everyone who has a view  
I want to have an NHS like you  
Health for all not just the few  
I want to have an NHS like you  
Priceless care for you and me,  
When it's needed, completely free  
I want to have an NHS like you (x2)  
Health for all not just the few  
I want to have an NHS like you  
Keeps us healthy, happy too  
I want to have an NHS like you  
Priceless care for one and all  
Keep it free is the best call  
I want to have an NHS like you (x2)  
Everybody says it, too,  
I want to have an NHS like you  
Public health is what to do  
I want to have an NHS like you  
Priceless care for you and me  
Where it's needed, completely free  
**I want to have a National Health like you x2**

## 18 ANTI-PRIVATISATION SONG (D)

To the tune of 'The Wild Rover'

Some rich politicians whose main love is wealth  
Have been selling our sěr-vĩ-cěs for profit by stealth  
From public control, with not one word of thanks  
To cöm-pă-nĩes, shareholders, financiers and banks.

### Chorus

For its no, nay, never  
(1-2-3-4) No nay never, no way  
Will they sell public sěr-vĩ-cěs  
No never, no way!

After selling our coal, they took bids for our gas,  
And power and water, and transport, en masse.  
Then schools, local sěr-vĩ-cěs with job cuts apace  
The-y all disappeared in the 'sell UK' race. **CHORUS**

Now it's the turn of our dear NHS  
A service for all in the public int'rest.  
Selling surgeries, scans, operations for knees,  
With our hospitals mortgaged to experts in sleeze.  
**CHORUS**

The time has now come for the people to say  
"No more sales, private profit, no-more-cuts any way!  
"We'll defend our own sěr-vĩ-cěs from grasping and greed  
"And sell off the Tories to serve public need." **CHORUS**

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## 19 POWER IN THE UNION

(BassD, TenorG, AltoB, SopG)

Composer: Billy Bragg. Arr: Jane Edwardson

There is power in the factory  
There's power in the land (oh)  
Power in the hand of the worker.  
But it all amounts to nothing  
If together we don't stand  
There is power in the union.

Now the lessons of the past  
Were all learned with workers' blood  
The mistakes of the bosses we must pay for.  
From the cities and the farmlands  
To the trenches full of mud,  
War has been the bosses way, sir.

**Chorus 1: The union forever,  
Defending our rights  
Stand with the picket, all workers unite  
With our sisters and our brothers  
In many far off lands  
There is power in the union.**

Now I long for the morning  
When they realize  
Oppression and injustice can't defeat us.  
But who'll defend the workers  
Who cannot organize  
When the bosses send their lackeys out to cheat us.

**Chorus 2: Money speaks for money  
The devil for his own.  
Who comes to speak for the flesh and bone?  
What a comfort to the widow  
A light to the child  
There is power in the union.**

Repeat Chorus 1

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