

Defend jobs, services, education and pensions

Say NO!

to vicious ConDem cuts

Join the campaign to save the welfare state

Andover Trades Union Council invites you to a

public meeting

Wednesday March 2, 7:30pm



Andover Guildhall

with

Paul Barnsley

National officer, PCS union

Megan Dobney,

Secretary, Southern & Eastern TUC

Julian Jones

Student activist - UCL occupation

National Pensioners' Convention Andover branch

Ian Woodland,

Unite union organiser

March for the Alternative

Join the TUC demonstration

London

Saturday March 26

**Join the FREE buses from
Andover**

Call Derek at Andover TUC on 07939 595 092
to book your FREE place

andovertuc.wordpress.com

Saturday 26 March 2011

MARCH FOR THE ALTERNATIVE

Jobs • Growth • Justice

Assemble at 11am at Victoria Embankment, between Temple Place and Blackfriars, to march to a rally in Hyde Park

Stop the ConDems **destroying** our lives

Andover, like every community in Britain, is being rocked by massive service cuts, job losses and pay freezes imposed by a Tory-led government of millionaires bent on destroying the welfare state, and for every public-sector job cut, at least one private-sector job will follow - with up to 1.3 million jobs in jeopardy.

With VAT at 20 per cent fuelling inflation, student fees tripled, the Education Maintenance Allowance scrapped, fuel and heating bills soaring, benefits slashed and wages and pensions under attack, working people are being told they must pay for a recession we had no part in creating.

Hampshire County Council is cutting 1,200 jobs and has told 5,000 staff to take pay cuts or be sacked ● Children's and Adults' services are being slashed ● Class sizes are creeping up ● Mobile libraries are being cut by 60 per cent ● Cuts in bus grants will hit the poorest as services are cut and fares rocket ● Train fares will rise by a third in the next few years ● Test Valley's budget has been cut by 30 per cent over the next two years - even its Tory leader says it's a "scrooge settlement" ● Health cuts and privatisation threaten the very existence of a free NHS ● Andover Birth Centre is under threat and the patient-bus between Andover and Winchester has already been axed ● Council housing, still reeling from the mass sell-off started by Thatcher, will also be hit, with rents hiked, tenancies made temporary ● The housing benefit cap will force people out of wealthier areas.

But for the bankers whose reckless greed sparked the crisis it is obscene bonus as usual, while mortgage rates are way ahead of the base rate and they're refusing to lend to small businesses, despite pocketing billions in public money.

And as the cuts push the economy into reverse the Tory Chancellor has the cheek to blame it all on the weather.

Bank of England boss Mervyn King admits it is

biggest attack on working people in since the 1920s - yet it is completely unnecessary.

Between 1918 and 1961 Britain's national debt was DOUBLE what it is today - but in the years after the second world war we created the NHS and built hundreds of thousands of council homes.

The government's slash-and-burn policy was tried in Ireland - and Ireland's economy is now in tatters.

There is an alternative

- End the £120 BILLION tax-dodging industry
- Create a fair tax system in which the richest pay most
- Harness the banks to play a socially useful role supporting the economy
- Invest in public services that people need
- Build desperately needed council homes - creating jobs and preventing a return to the madness of a hyper-inflated housing market
- Cancel Trident and end unlimited spending on pointless and unwinnable wars

Together we CAN stop them

Come to the public meeting in Andover on March 2
Join the London demonstration on March 26