

LIVING MARXISM

FIRST ISSUE
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IS THATCHER'S BRITAIN
GOING BUST? ●

IRELAND: HOW THE
WAR BEGAN ●

GORBACHEV'S *GLASNOST*

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same
old
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LIVING MARXISM

Living Marxism is a new monthly magazine that can help you to understand how the world works—so that you can help to change it.

Today many people think Marxism is either a dirty word or a dusty old dogma. *Living Marxism* aims to show that the revolutionary method is as relevant now as it ever was, by applying it to the problems that we face on the eve of the nineties.

What's Gorbachev's game? Why have the Tories been able to dominate British politics for a decade? Is the economy booming or going bust? What's next after Ronald Reagan? How can we end the Irish War? All of these pressing issues and more will be taken apart and analysed in the pages of *Living Marxism*.

At a time when the right seems rampant and the left is in retreat, *Living Marxism* can become an effective weapon to help us start winning some victories in the battle of ideas. The first issue, out at the start of November, will take on some of the unresolved debates that have dominated politics this year. Here is a sample of what it has to say.

Gorbachev's glasnost: Everybody from Margaret Thatcher to Tony Benn is full of praise for Mikhail Gorbachev's policies of *glasnost* and *perestroika* in the Soviet Union. FRANK RICHARDS argues that Marxists should not join in the applause; Gorbachev is not to be trusted either as a force for far-reaching change in the East, or as a beacon of hope in the West.

Lawson's 'economic miracle': The Tory government has convinced many people (including the major opposition parties) that its 'free enterprise' policies have turned the fortunes of

British capitalism around. TONY KENNEDY looks behind the hype to show that the statistics are not what they seem, and that the British economy is close to a major recession.

Thatcherism and 'post-Fordism': In a major critique of the ideas which are emanating from the old Communist Party and becoming increasingly popular on the British left, MIKE FREEMAN points out that they represent a serious concession to the thinking of the right, and offers a Marxist alternative.

Ireland, 1968: It is now 20 years since the emergence of the civil rights movement sparked off 'the troubles' in Northern Ireland. MARK REILLY looks back to show how the peaceful protests for reform inevitably developed into an armed struggle for Irish freedom.

Reagan and Iran: From the hostage crisis of 1979-80 to the 'peace' in the Gulf War this year, Iran has haunted US foreign policy throughout the Reagan years. DANIEL NASSIM analyses why the White House has had a fixation with the Ayatollah, and points out the wider implications for foreign relations today.

Plus: Book reviews, letters, columns and more.

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