

REST IN POWER

LPGD / ARTPACK 6 // SPRING 2020

SUPPORTING KEY WORKERS 2

Special thanks to:

Jack Chadwick

Robin Wilde

Kevin Kennedy Ryan

Bryan Dowley

Debbie Webbe

Greg Millar

Mick Moore

Liam T. Wright

Sam Marner

Kate Bamford

Victor Smith

James Calmus

Amanda Martin

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FOREWORD

by Kevin Kennedy Ryan

Founder, Labour Party Designers

On March 21, Belly Mujinga was working her shift at Victoria Station in central London with a colleague when they were coughed and spat at by a member of the public who claimed to have COVID-19. Within days, Belly had fallen ill and eventually passed on to the other side, becoming another frontline casualty of this tragic outbreak.

This week, the Prime Minister announced that 312 NHS and social care workers have passed away from the disease. By the time you are reading this, that number will likely have grown.

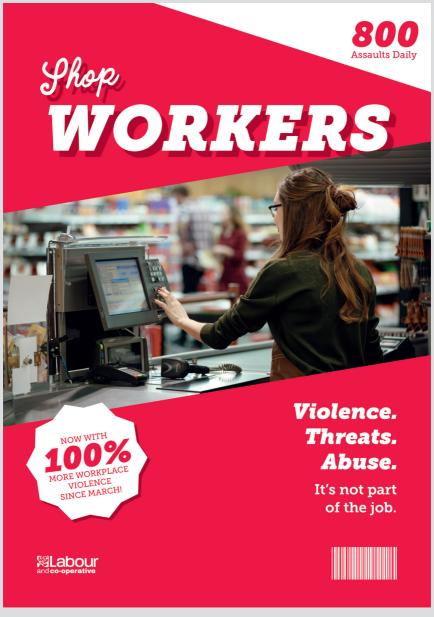
Each Thursday at 8pm, millions of us take to our front steps and applaud the work of our heroic frontline workers. It's become almost a platitude on the left to suffix any mention of this by highlighting the inadequacies of the government's response - repeated so often the words almost ring hollow. However, we must continue to advocate for the safety and wellbeing of all people to be the number one priority in any policy decisions.

We hope you find beauty in these posters despite the bleak landscape they are created in - print them, tweet them, share them, make your own.

We dedicate this series of posters to the memory of Belly Mujinga and our other gallant workers who have become victims of not only this outbreak, but of a floundering response from an incompetent government.



Design by: **Jack Chadwick** Twitter: **@jckchd**



Design by: Robin Wilde Twitter: @TheWildeRobin Instagram: @RobinWilde4 Location: Sheffield robinwilde.me



Design by: **Kevin Kennedy Ryan**Twitter: **@K_47**

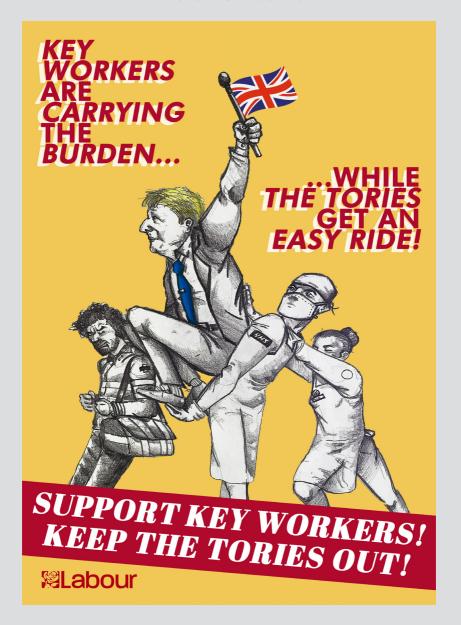
Instagram: @kkennedyryan

Location: Sheffield

www.kevinkennedyryan.com



Design by: Bryan Dowley Instagram: @piratedmaterial Twitter: @piratedmaterial Location: Stoke - on - Trent piratedmaterial.co.uk



Design by: Greg Millar Instagram: @gmillar.design Twitter: @Greg_Millar52 Location: Aberdeen gmillar5252af.myportfolio.com



Design by: Mick Moore Twitter: @apptitu Location: London

WORDS FROM THE FRONTLINE

I am a teacher.

I am not an enemy of promise nor am I divisive and seeking to drive a wedge between the community that I work in, my profession and the Government.

Twenty-two years ago I entered this profession.

I am proud to have made a difference and have nurtured and developed young minds. I'm privileged to have seen those fantastic eureka moments when that penny drops.

I am proud that I have fought for my pupils in

raising concerns around assessment, funding and accountability. All things that we must change if we are to truly have an equal and fair education system.

On 23 March, life in the UK change dramatically. We now lived in unprecedented times and we heard about the need to pull together, to be kind, to look out for each other, to act responsibly to save lives and protect the NHS and so I and my colleagues did.

Schools remained open for key workers' children and our most vulnerable pupils. We put together staff rotas, measures to make sure our schools were safe, we set about planning and uploading online lessons, we delivered care packages, food parcels, paper packs of work and craft bundles to our pupils and their families.

We made weekly contact with our vulnerable students, worked with outside agencies, made referrals to social care, food banks and other avenues that could provide our community with support. We set about teaching our own kids at home and caring

Penned by: Amanda Martin,
Teacher. National Education Union President

The National Education Union is the largest education union in Europe, supporting and representing more than 450,000 members, including the majority of teachers.

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for our own families. And we did it because we wanted to because it was the right thing to do and because, as a profession, we make promises. We protect and we care.

As we move to come out of lockdown and there is a push to open schools more widely, and because of the distinct lack of reliable written scientific evidence, there is a push back from my profession. The need to work together to be kind, to look out for each other, to act responsibly, to save lives and protect the NHS has been eroded.

I do not need to be told by ministers, lords and sections of the media about vulnerable pupils and about how the gap of advantage and disadvantage is widening and how education can change lives. I know. It is the reason I became a teacher. I know first hand how vulnerable pupils

When these critics have

draws in their desks full of cereal bars, cupboards of extra coats, clothes and underwear and when their shopping list consists of lunch boxes and pencil cases for children that are not their own, when their washina machine whirrs around at the start of each school holiday full of PE kit – then they can tell me what is it like to know how education and how teachers can change lives.

Stop spouting from the dispatch box, from press conferences, on social media about our pupils. Stop hiding behind empty, nasty and negative rhetoric and start giving us the real scientific evidence as to how we open our schools and colleges and get our pupils back in safely.

The Government told us that we had nothing to worry about with care homes – we are not prepared to be simply told about schools without the science to say it's safe. We need it in writing so

that it can be scrutinised by peer review, so that it can give us all confidence that going to work and being in school is safe and will not cost lives.

If wider opening of schools was really about education and disadvantage, then this Government would have consulted the experts and looked to widen the number of vulnerable pupils in our schools. This is not about introducing a new curriculum or trying to teach with lack of funds. This is about life and death.

Our profession is missing information, missing reasons and missing resources but those who criticize us are missing the point. We want to get back in the classroom but we need to know that the science says it's safe.

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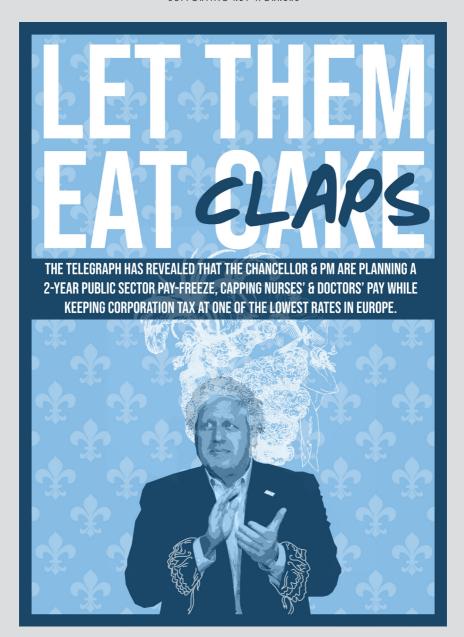


Design by: **Debbie Webb** Location: **Croydon, London** Instagram: **@deepenyourvision** Twitter: **@Debs56225555**

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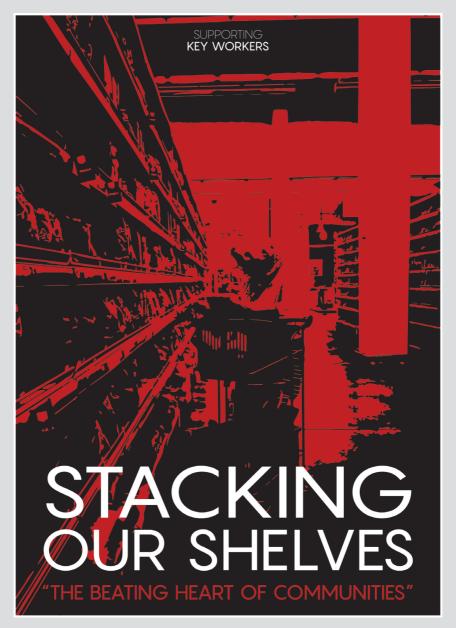
Design by: Kate Bamford
Instagram: @Bam_and_Sheep
Location: Warwick and Leamington



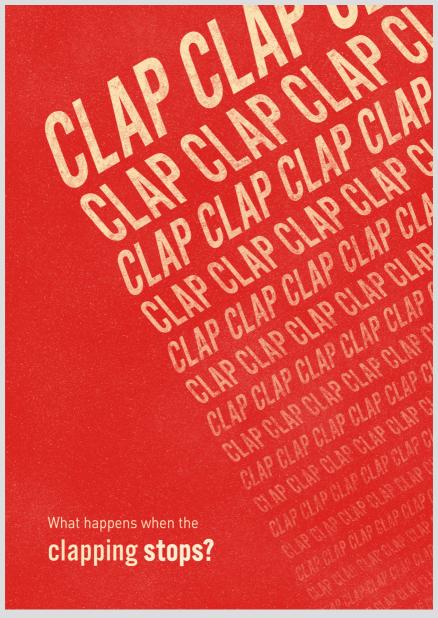
Design by: Sam Marner Twitter: @Marnerbanana

Location: Sheffield

sammarner9896.myportfolio.com



Design by: Victor Smith Instagram: @victorsmithdesign Location: Southampton



Design by: Liam T Wright Twitter: @liamtwright Instagram: @liamtwright Location: Milton Keynes liamtwright.com

Download posters from this artpack

A4 printable versions of most posters in this artwork have been added to the Design Emporium with consent of the original artists.

Print them off, stick them in your windows and show your support for our key workers.

Submissions now open for our next artpack

PUBLIC SPACES

Full brief @ www.labourdesign.co.uk

If you download posters from this artpack, please consider making a donation to the Belly Mujinga fund set up by her colleagues

gofundme.com/f/rip-belly-mujinga

Nourn the dead, fight like hell for the living 99