

Some of

# RAISED VOICES

London Political Choir  
singing at the

## People's Assembly National Demonstration – Nurses not Nukes

26<sup>th</sup> June 2021

### 1. THE RIGHT TO PROTEST (A, F#, D)

*S.African, 'Amen Siakadumisa', attrib. S.C.Mdefe.*

*Words: Raised Voices, Strawberry Thieves*

*(Call)* Protesting!

*(Tune)* We defend the right to protest (x2)

We will defend (x2)

We defend the right to protest

*(Call)* We'll fight on

*(Tune)* We will fight on against the Bill (x2)

We will fight on (x2)

We will fight on against the Bill.

*(Call)* Stop Trident!

*(Tune)* We support the Nuclear Ban (x2)

No mass destruction (x2)

We support the Nuclear Ban

*(Call)* No arms sales!

*(Tune)* Don't arm repressive regimes (x2)

Stop selling arms (x2)

Don't arm repressive regimes

*(Call)* The NHS

*(Tune)* We will defend the NHS (x2)

We will defend (x2)

We will defend the NHS.

*(Call)* Sing loudly!

*(Tune)* Protesting has to be heard (x2)

Sing loud and clear (x2)

Protesting has to be heard

### 2. BLOOD MONEY (round – starts E)

*Camilla Cancantata*

Blood money, blood money, End the trade in murder

No more profits from war crimes

No more profits from war.

*End in unison on "End the trade in murder"*

### 3. BURY TRIDENT (A, C)

*Leon Rosselson & Robb Johnson*

*Chorus:*

Trident, Trident, money down the drain

It can kill all living creatures

And then kill them all again

It's time we got together and it's time we made a fuss

So that we can bury Trident before it buries us.

Who are you trying to target?

Who are you going to kill?

Who are you deterring? Tell us if you will.

Does it make you feel like Tarzan?

Do you get a manly thrill?

While we poor bloody suckers are picking up the bill.

*(Chorus)*

Johnson is our leader, a fellow you can trust

He's got his finger on the button

And he'll press it if he must

Then the enemy will do the same

And we'll have to adjust

To being tiny particles of patriotic dust. *(Chorus)*

You're against proliferation but everything you do

Is an open invitation to join the nuclear queue

There's Israel and India and Pakistan, too,

Soon everyone will want to have

As big a bomb as you. *(Chorus)*

### 4. GIVE THEM PROPER PAY (E, C#, A)

*Tune: John Brown's body*

Last / year we clapped for carers,

Such an / easy thing to do

But / what they need is real support

For / helping me and you

Nurses' / pay-rise is a pittance,

Nothing / like what they are due

Give them a / proper pay rise / now!

*Chorus:*

/ Thanks for everything you / do, now

But / far, far more than thanks are / due, now

/ We're all out today

Demanding / "give them proper pay"

Not just / cheers for the N-H- / S!

They / struggled without PPE,

Worked / many a long shift

Their / total dedication meant

Their / own health was at risk

Some / had to stay away from home,

Their / families they missed

Give them a / proper pay rise / now!

/ Some have left, they'd had enough,

Ex- / haustion took its toll

/ Some have died, this tragic loss

Now / leaves some gaping holes

/ Those still left have more to do,

How / can we fill these roles

Without a / proper pay rise / now!

## 5. THE WAR MACHINE (starts D)

*Sue Gilmurray*

In eastern skies the great hawks fly  
Over bloodied hills where children die  
And the instruments of tyranny  
Were bought from Britain plc  
As the war machine rolls round

*Chorus:* And the war machine  
Rolls round and round  
And the poor and the weak  
Get trampled on the ground  
And from where we stand  
Their cries are drowned  
By the clink (and the) clank  
(of the) dollar (and the) pound  
As the war machine rolls round

And the prisoner sleeping where he fell  
Will awake to one more day of hell  
From a US baton's searing pain  
His body bound by a Sheffield chain  
As the war machine rolls round. (*Chorus*)

We've an industry that lives and thrives  
Making tools to shatter human lives  
And our honest workers ply their skill  
Helping distant tyrants maim and kill  
As the war machine rolls round. (*Chorus*)

It is time my friends for us to say  
We will not sell death to earn our pay  
It is time for arms exports to cease  
For the world can never live in peace  
While the war machine rolls round. (*Chorus*)

## 6. NO MORE WAR (round – starts C)

*Camilla Cancantata*

No more, no more, no more war no more (x 2)  
No more, no more war, no war no more  
We dissent, we dissent, we dissent  
From the violence and hate of the military state

## 7. I'M GON' STAND (starts G)

*Bernice Johnson Reagon, Sweet Honey in the Rock,  
based on words spoken by Rev. Benjamin Chavis*

We will not bow down to – uh-huh – racism  
We will not bow down to – injustice  
We will not bow down to – exploitation  
I'm gon' stand, I'm gon' stand.

We will not obey – uh-huh – racism  
We will not obey – injustice  
We will not obey – exploitation  
I'm gon' stand, I'm gon' stand.

I just can't tolerate – uh-huh – racism  
I just can't tolerate – injustice  
I just can't tolerate – exploitation  
I'm gon' stand, I'm gon' stand.

## 8. BUILD A BETTER FUTURE (starts A)

*(Tune: Bella Ciao. Words: Sea Green Singers)*

We need to wake up, we need to rise up  
We need to open up our eyes and do it  
Now! Now! Now!  
We need to build a better future  
And we need to start right now.

We've got a problem on our planet  
We've got to solve it, get involved and do it  
Now! Now! Now! We need to build...

Make it greener, make it cleaner  
Make it last, make it fast and do it  
Now! Now! Now! We need to build...

No point in waiting or hesitating  
We must get wise, take no more lies and do it  
Now! Now! Now! We need to build...

*Rpt final chorus*

## 9. TRIDENT, TRIDENT (starts C, A)

*Tune: 'Daisy, Daisy'.*

*Origin: Rip Bulkeley, extra verses RV.*

Trident, Trident, what an insane idea  
Thousands homeless all for the cost of fear  
We can't afford medication or proper education  
But we must pay six million a day  
So that Britain can disappear.

Health care, health care isn't a luxury  
Health not weapons should be the priority  
The Chancellor is stealthy, he dare not tax the wealthy  
But our taxes pay without our say  
For unusable weaponry.

Trident, Trident, the whole thing has gone too far  
If we don't stop them we're sure of a nuclear war  
We have to send them packing,  
Before they start attacking  
And pull the chain on all who gain  
From the criminal arms bazaar.

Trident, Trident, give us a break please do  
We'll go bankrupt all for the price of you  
We'll lose even more employment  
And most of life's enjoyment  
You're a travesty of 'security'  
And no-one will cry for you.

### RAISED VOICES

London Political Choir

At present we are rehearsing on Zoom,  
please see our website for further details.

We welcome new members.

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