

Fifty years ago, Czechoslovakia was about to enter a period of 'normalisation' following the invasion of that country by the Soviet Union and its allies. Mike Waite and David Parker will draw upon their recent publications to reflect upon the significance of this event for the communist movement and socialism for which it was both a major set back and a turning point. It acted as a spur to Eurocommunism, to rethinking the relationship between Communism and Democracy and to new strategies for the achievement of Socialism. Mike will offer some overall perspectives on the significance of 1968 as a turning point for left wing politics and prospects. David will draw on the remarkable correspondence of his Communist father with a disillusioned Czech - conducted in defiance of the censors from 1968 to 1971- to illustrate the human and political costs of 'normalisation', the aspirations of the two men for a better future and the continuing relevance of their thoughts about how to get there.

The Legacy and Lessons of 1968

Speakers:

Mike Makin-Waite and David Parker

Socialist History Society Public Meeting

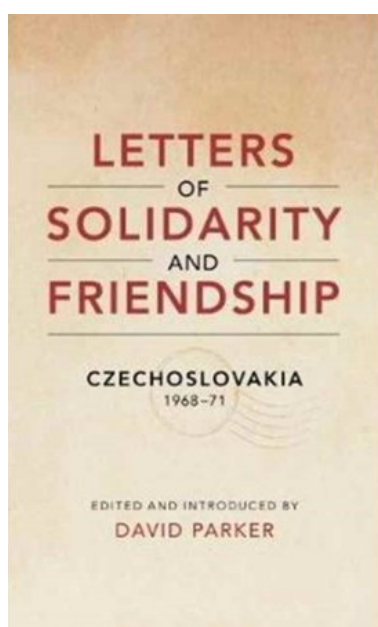
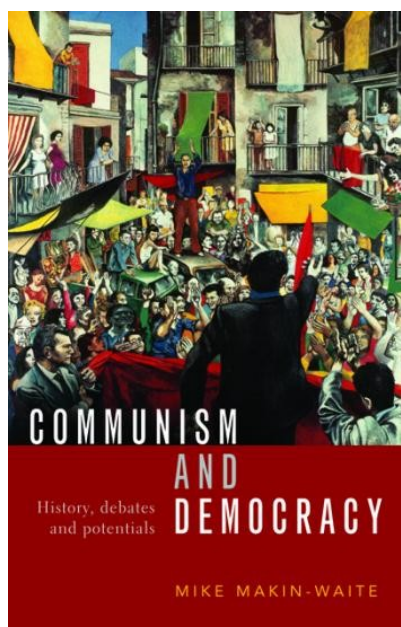
Saturday 17th November 2018 at 2pm

MARX MEMORIAL LIBRARY

37a Clerkenwell Green EC1R 0DU

nearest tube Farringdon

FREE TO ATTEND – ALL WELCOME



Mike Makin-Waite,
Communism and Democracy: history, debates and potentials,
Lawrence & Wishart 2017

David Parker,
Letters of Solidarity and Friendship: Czechoslovakia 1968-71,
Bacquier Books 2017

**SOCIALIST
HISTORY
SOCIETY**