

Cape Town WASP: Here to stay!

January 2018 saw the launch of the WASP Cape Town branch. Comrades have been eager to roll up their sleeves and immerse themselves into the difficult, but rewarding, task of building working class-led movements in the country's most politically fragmented city.

Rose Lichtenstein
Cape Town WASP

Cape Town Water Crisis

From the initiation of a coalition to the present time, WASP cadre have devoted time, energy and resources to fighting the draconian by-laws and punitive measures the City of Cape Town, Western Cape, and National governments have pushed onto communities. With the arrival of a promising rainy season and dam levels higher than last year already, WASP will work with working class-led movements to keep-up the fight against resource privatization and bring an end to the continued 'Day Zero' measures forced onto



WASP activists at one of the many Water Crisis Coalition protests



WASP's banner held high by workers on Saftu's April marches

the poor and working class by means of dehumanizing Water Management Devices (WMDs) and unaffordable punitive tariffs.

GIWUSA

The strong supportive force of WASP comrades in Cape Town has resulted in an exponential increase in membership of the General Industries Workers Union of SA (GIWUSA) in the Western Cape. Reaching from as far as George to the West Coast, GIWUSA membership and political consciousness is increasing every day, laying strong foundations for a GIWUSA Western Cape branch launch in the coming weeks. From security, to food sector, to manufacturing, restaurant and EPWP workers, GIWUSA is proving to be a militant worker-led trade union.

SAFTU

Our WASP and GIWUSA comrades in the Western Cape have proven that we are some of the most organised and militant members

of the working class. While WASP cadre have played a crucial role in the steering committee of the highly successful Saftu general strikes and marches on the 12 and 25 of April against the LRA amendments and slave-rate minimum wage (see editorial and page 5), GIWUSA stood out in its mobilization efforts at the main transport hubs and communities like Philippi and Nyanga.

Forward

In less than six months WASP Cape Town has already grown a strong membership that have engaged and supported several working-class struggles emerging in the area. We have had strong political discussions in our branch meetings, on topics such as feminism, the role of a workers' party in South Africa, and the country's road to socialism. It is clear that armed with our revolutionary political programme and dedicated cadre we have come to elevate the workers' voice above the stale noise of opportunist and populist politics in Cape Town.

Build the struggle – build WASP's finances

WASP has no big business backers. We are a party funded by the cents and Rands of our members and supporters. We ask readers of *Izwi* to donate and support our work.

Account name: Workers and Socialist Party **Bank:** ABSA **Acc no:** 4081935745 **Branch code:** 632005

WASP members should use this account to pay in their monthly subscriptions.