

## SHOPS

ANANDA, 19 Bond St.  
Odds and ends to make  
your life good.

\*INFINITY FOODS Macro-  
biotic/wholefood  
supplies. 25 North Rd.  
B'ton. 63563. Open  
9.30-5.30 Mon-Sat,  
Closed Weds.  
INFINITY BAKERY AND  
PIE SHOP Bread, Hot  
Pies and Cakes. 23  
North Rd. B'ton  
63563. Open 9-5.  
Weds 9-1.30.  
INFINITY BULK STORE  
Supplies in Bulk.  
Open 9.30-1; 2-5  
Tues-Sat. Call at  
Infinity, or go  
round the corner to  
entrance in Regent  
Street.

\*B'TON WORKERS BOOKSHOP  
Marxist-Leninist classics  
and working class history.  
9.30-5.30 Sats; 37 Glouces-  
ter Rd, B'ton. 684404.

OPEN CAFE VEGETARIAN  
RESTAURANT is closed  
for renovation. But  
it will shortly re-  
open and the food  
will be even better!

\*PUBLIC HOUSE BOOKSHOP  
More than just another  
bookshop - books, mags,  
records, coffee. Also  
'Basement' events.  
Member of the Fed. of  
Alternative bookshops.  
10.15-6.00, Mon-Sat. 21  
Little Preston St, B'ton.  
28357.

\*SIMPLE SUPPLIES Whole  
food, cast iron, jar and  
paper recycling scheme,  
publications, etc; Whole  
Earth Environmental  
Centre. 11 George St,  
B'ton. 691318.

\*SUNRISE RESTAURANT  
Wholefood.vegetarian. Run  
by Friends of the Western  
Buddhist Order. 12.00-  
5.00, Tues-Sat; 16 North  
Rd, B'ton. 63188.

\*THREE ROOMS CAFE  
Vegetarian cafe. 10.00-  
3.00, Mon-Sat. 14 Blatch-  
ington Rd, Hove. 779933.

\*WIND HORSE BOOKSHOP  
Buddhist literature and  
info; incense, posters,  
cards, etc. 10.00-5.30,  
Mon-Sat; 19 George St.

info...  
ADVICE

\*AGE CONCERN Old people's  
welfare. Mon-Fri 10.00-  
12.30 & 2.00-4.00, 57  
Ditchling Rd, B'ton 683275

\*BIT-BY-BIT Info and  
help service; 7 Victoria  
Rd, B'ton. 27878.

\*B'TON PREGNANCY ADVISORY  
SERVICE Pregnancy testing,  
counselling, abortions,  
vasectomies; Wistons,  
138 Dyke Rd. 509726.

\*B'TON RIGHTS CENTRE  
Advice on legal problems.  
Free, confidential  
service by the Centre's  
workers and solicitors.  
12.30-2.00 & 5.30-7.30  
at 2 Prince Albert St.

\*CANCER PREVENTION 29801

\*CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU  
B'ton: 17 Ditchling Rise,  
61664, 10.00-4.00 Mon-Fri,  
6.00-7.30 Tues; 2 St  
Georges Place 10.00-12.00  
Mon-Fri.  
Hove: Town Hall (Tisbury  
Rd), 734811, 10.00-4.00  
Mon-Fri.

\*FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC  
B'ton: 18/19 Western Rd,  
734258. Lewes: 4403. Also  
University Health Centre.

\*FREE VET (PDSA) 6 Oxford  
St, B'ton, 63606; open  
daily except Thurs and  
Sat afternoons.

£30 Reward For finder  
of rural home/studio  
for woman artist & two  
kids. Can pay maximum  
£18.00 and renovate if  
necessary. Please write  
Pritchard, 26 Wessex  
Gdns, London NW 11.

## VOICE SELLERS

\*CENTRAL BRIGHTON  
ANANDA: 19 Bond St.  
ECCOTT'S: 52 Surrey St.  
INFINITY: 25 North Rd.  
OPEN CAFE: 7 Victoria Rd.  
CHURCHILL SQ: News Stand.  
SYMPOSIUM BOOKS: Wherever they are.  
LONDON RD: News Stand (Sainsburys).

\*WEST BRIGHTON & HOVE  
CORDELLS: 99 Western Rd, Hove.  
PUBLIC HOUSE BOOKS: 21 Little Preston St.  
THREE ROOMS CAFE: 14 Blatchington Rd,  
TGWU CONWAY STREET BUS DEPOT Hove.  
\*NORTH BRIGHTON  
TEMPLE'S Flyways  
SCHOFIELD'S: 44 Lewes Rd.

\*GAY SWITCHBOARD Info  
and advice 202930 8.00-  
10.00 every night.

\*HOUSING ADVICE CENTRE  
(Council) 9.00-4.30,  
Mon-Fri, 73 Grand Parade,  
B'ton. 681919.

\*ICEBREAKERS Gay coun-  
selling, 8.00-10.00 every  
night. Brighton 202930

LABOUR WEEKLY ADVICE  
CENTRE 179 Lewes Rd  
Saturday 10.30-11.30  
Quintin Barry and Dave  
Hill, prospective par-  
liamentary candidates  
for Kemp Town and Pav-  
illion.

\*OFF THE RECORD Help and  
info for young people; free  
and confidential. Call in  
or phone 8.00pm-10.00pm,  
Tues-Thurs, 6 Marlborough  
Pl, B'ton. 63080.

\*RENT TRIBUNAL Rent  
disputes, security of  
tenure, etc; 137 Preston  
Rd. 506381.

\*SAMARITANS For those in  
despair 733333 24 hours;  
102 Clarendon Rd, Hove.

\*VOLUNTARY SERVICE CENTRE  
17 Ditchling Rise, B'ton.  
681919.

\*WOMEN'S AID Refuge for  
battered women; contact  
Women's Centre 27612.

\*WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTION  
GROUP Temporary contacts  
Gina 737791 or the Women's  
Centre 27612.

## POLITICS

\*ANARCHIST WORKERS ASSOC  
689897

BRIGHTON YOUNG COMMUNISTS  
Contact Colin Murray, c/o  
71 Richmond St Brighton.

\*COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRITAIN  
(MARXIST-LENINIST) Meets  
every other Weds, 37  
Gloucester Rd, B'ton.  
684404.

\*COMMUNIST PARTY OF GT.  
BRITAIN ('The' Communist  
Party) M. Chaplin, 83  
Edburton Ave, B'ton.

\*CO-OPERATIVE PARTY  
B'ton: 86 London Rd 683076  
Hove: Jean Cattell, 29  
Foredown Drive, Portslade.

\*FABIAN SOCIETY Dot Voller,  
49 Southdown Ave. 556185.

\*INTERNATIONAL MARXIST  
GROUP 687783

\*SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY  
19 Elm Grove.

\*LABOUR PARTY  
B'ton: 179 Lewes Rd. 62592  
Sec Marylyn Hill, 22 Port  
Hall Pl, B'ton. 557704.  
Hove: 40 Cowper St. Sec  
Jean Cattell, 29 Foredown  
Drive, Portslade.  
Lewes: 3 North St. 4312

\*LABOUR PARTY YOUNG  
SOCIALISTS  
B'ton: Pat Byrne, 64  
Coleman St, or 61559.  
Hove: Mark Morton, 64  
Victoria Rd, Portslade  
417843.

\*LIBERAL PARTY  
B'ton Pavilion: Frances  
Hix, 143a Western Rd,  
B'ton. 27960.  
B'ton Kemptown: Alan  
Horner, 3 Lustrells Vale,  
Saltdean. 38532.  
Hove: Ruth Davison, 286  
Hangleton Way, Hove.  
738425.  
YOUNG LIBERALS Robert  
Eggleston, 56 Valley Drive  
B'ton. 507403



TOBIAS STORES: 167 Elm Grove.  
DARLING'S, 53 Beaconsfield Rd.  
CONSTABLE'S: 37 New England Rd.

\*KEMPTOWN  
BOOKS: BOB St James St.  
WINDHORSE BOOKSHOP 19 George St.  
KEMPTOWN BOOKS: 91 St George's Rd.  
SIMPLE SUPPLIES: 11 George St.

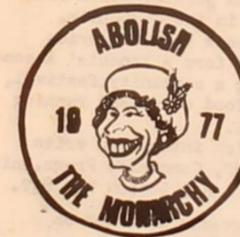
\*PALMER  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.  
UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP: Main Counter  
HILL'S NEWSAGENTS.  
WHOLE EARTH BOOKSTALL.

67 COMMUNITY CENTRE Moulescoomb

BRIGHTON  
VOICE

10p

June '77 No.38

A RIGHT ROYAL EVENT:  
OCCUPATION RULES BRITANNIA

50 Brighton Squatters and C.A.C.T.L. supporters staged  
what promised to be the first of a summer season of  
"Stuff the Jubilee" squats, when they took over the palatial  
Brittania House in Queens Road.

The squatters met, as arranged, at the Resource Centre  
and moved on to Brittania House. Entry was quite law-  
fully effected through a conveniently open ground floor  
window, much to the astonishment of passers-by.

Once inside, the squatters were surprised to discover  
that the building contained deep pile carpets, hot  
showers, cloakrooms, kitchens with waste-disposal  
equipment etc.. All these had been lying unused for five  
years. However the Squatters Union flag was soon hoisted  
on the penthouse pole on the top of the building and the  
building plastered with slogans about empty property,  
homelessness and office blocks. On the pavements,  
squatters distributed leaflets explaining the reason why  
the building was being occupied, and the threat posed  
to all forms of direct action by the government's  
Criminal Trespass Law Bill.

file all this was going on  
we were all anxiously awaiting  
arrival of the law boys. As  
expected news travelled fast and  
they all zoomed in in panda-cars  
and jam sandwiches etc.  
Initially they were aggressive  
and confused, restrained in their  
activities only by the very public  
nature of the occupation. Not  
all the cops kept cool and the  
video camera-man, who kindly  
made a film of the event, was  
physically threatened and told by  
Sergeant M71, that if he  
continued filming in the presence  
of the law he could expect  
to have his equipment smashed.  
The officer concerned appro-  
ached him, wrenched the mike  
jack-plug from its socket  
and tried to prevent pictures  
being taken. M71 can expect to  
have an official complaint  
lodged against him in the  
near future.

A special feature of the police  
appearance at this stage was

the subtlety of questioning.  
Such as "I suppose yer all  
squatters" and "how did you  
effect entry?" Occupiers  
also received friendly  
encouragement like "OK let's  
be having you then" and "What's  
all this then?" For a while  
things cooled, we worried a bit  
and then two black marias  
pulled up. One empty, one full.  
"Oh God" we thought, they aren't  
stupid enough to break in and  
pull us all. They just sat there  
and after a while it became  
obvious their confusion had  
turned to stupid intimidation.  
By about 12 they called off the  
black boxes and about half an  
hour later they all went. We  
received hourly visits and  
enquiries, just to keep us on  
our toes - a sort of truce.  
It did seem though that they  
can't wait for the imminent  
change in law. One copper  
actually said that they "wouldn't  
be friendly much longer." → P.5

Jackboots  
over  
Crawley

It is no coincidence that  
the media is full of attacks  
on minority groups such as the  
blacks when unemployment is  
rising and public expenditure  
is being cut. The powers that  
be will always try to find  
scapegoats when there is a  
crisis in their system. In  
the 1930s it was the Jews  
and today it is the Blacks.  
An article inside describes  
how the fascists are being  
allowed to spread their nasty  
ideas in Crawley, a community  
which is being hit particularly  
hard by unemployment and public  
expenditure cuts... → P.5

ENVIRO FAIR AND

KIDS CARNIVAL

UNIV.

OF

SUSSEX

11 JUNE



## Bowden-Benyon-back-street-boys

As Andrew Bowden, the notorious MP for Brighton Kempton, sat in the Conservative Club gleefully counting the rolling heads of Labour ex-councillors, he was rudely awakened from his reverie by loud shouts from the street outside.

Thirty supporters of the National Abortion Campaign were peacefully, albeit raucously, picketing his fortnightly advice session. Bowden voted in favour of the infamous Benyon Bill which aims to prevent working-class women from getting abortions.

Five of us went inside - we thought that since we were his constituents, we had as much right to see him as anyone else. He disagreed, surprise surprise! He made totally unfounded allegations that we were intimidating people coming to see him, and threatened to call the police if we didn't go away. Who was intimidating whom? Needless to say we stood our ground. The police apparently don't think any more of Bowden than we do as it took them the best part of an hour to roll up.

"Take me to your leader" said the policeman - they never learn, do they? Ad-hoc leaders were hastily elected and informed that we were obstructing the footpath. They were told not to argue or we would be booked. The police acted as a go-between, and an appointment was made for two of us to go back and see Bowden later that evening.

The interview was a waste of time for all concerned. We asked why he had voted for the Benyon Bill and an intellectual debate ensued on the difference between a representative and a delegate.

## Cannabis Lobby

The legalise Cannabis lobby on the 15th. June at the House of Commons will be attended by local MP's Tim Sainsbury, Andrew Bowden, Julian Amery, all Conservative.

A coach will be leaving at midday from Open Cafe, 7, Victoria Rd. Anyone wanting to ensure a seat should phone BIT BY BIT at B'Ton 27878 anytime and be at Open Cafe by 11.30 on the 15th.

This is an important event and will be very beneficial to all those who believe that the legalisation of Cannabis will not necessarily mean that the human race will be condemned to the bowls of hell for eternity.

It boiled down to the fact that he doesn't consider himself accountable to his constituents. He demands the right to choose for M.P.s but denies it to women! We asked him if he considered his moral judgement superior to ours, he seemed strangely reluctant to answer this question.



N.A.C. Brighton.

However - our intention was not to change the views of entrenched Tories but rather to draw attention to this new legislation which may restrict legal abortion by 50%. The real target is working class women's rights. We demand a woman's right to choose, to control her own body and define her sexuality. We are fighting for the defence and extension of abortion facilities so that women are not forced to back street abortionists.

If you support our demands for safe, legal, free abortions, please come to our meetings, sign our petition. Details from Sally, 57a Preston Street, or Sue, 26b West Hill Road, 'phone Brighton 21060.

## No menace Denys

The University Vice-Chancellor Sir Denys Wilkinson has sent a strong letter to Shirley Williams protesting at the massive increase in student fees. Opinions vary as to whether it is five or six months too late, but everyone agrees that he has led his troops quite magnificently from behind.

## Drugsters

Brighton Police Station was recently asked by the Voice for the names of the officers in charge of the local Drug Squad. The police refused to tell us anything, but here are the officers names anyway: Detective Inspector Westwood, and Dt. Sgts Pratt, Carter, Dunkerton and Whitley. Why the secrecy?

## Grapevine

"Grapevine is" and we quote "a new kind of television programme" to be launched by the BBC in June. The basic idea is to publicise a wide variety of self-help and community based projects, so that others can see how easy it is to try for themselves (!).

The programme-makers claim that the content of the programmes will "be very much" dictated by the response from viewers, and are inviting suggestions and participation from anyone active in the community. Possible subjects for the series include how to form a tenants' association, running a community festival, organising a food co-op and running advice centres.

If you're interested write to: "Grapevine", Community Progs. Unit BBC TV, Wood Lane, LONDON W12 8QT.

The first programme goes out on BBC 2 on June 13th.

## nasty one Albion!

Not that they've got a bad team, but would Albion have gone up if it wasn't for the incredible support they received at the Goldstone? They averaged less than a point a game when playing away but dropped only four points at home all season. So how do the club reward the thousands who cheered the players into the 2nd Division? By putting up the price of a terrace ticket from 70p to £1, that's how! The supporters ought to tell the Prices Commission.

## Up the pole!

Question: If it would cost £1200 to replace the three old flagpoles on the top of Brighton Town Hall with three new ones, and one pole costs £400, how much would it cost to replace them with only one? £800? £400? £1650? Yes that's right, £1650 - and that's the price that the ratepayers are going to have to pay.

The Council Logic runs as follows. The three flagpoles are falling down and need to be replaced. But as only one flagpole is used at a time these days, it must be sensible to replace the three with just one; surely we'll save some money somewhere?

And so we would if it wasn't for the fact that the three poles together also form the lightning conductor system for the Town Hall, and one on its own won't do the job. So with the two other poles removed the building is going to need a completely new system. Cost? £1250 + £400 for the flagpole = £1650.

## COUNCIL'S BAD TRIP-The acid test.

It is always gladdening to see a David worsting a lumbering Goliath, but when the fight threatens to bring into the open the devious ways of the County Council it becomes a matter of real importance. If the Rights Centre case finally gets to the Court - and there have been three postponements so far - it should raise the lid a little on the atrocious goings-on at Lewes, and the cross-examination of people like ex-Cllr. Theobald should be fascinating.

So far the story is that after fighting off the Council for two years the Rights Centre finally received possession summonses in February. Expecting an easy run the County got the case set down for half an hour in the middle of a flock of divorces. To make doubly sure they also tried to scare the Centre by throwing a lot of obscure legal orders at them - orders for interrogatories, orders to substitute defendants, etc.

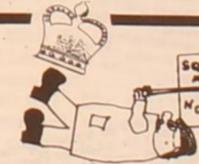
Against their expectations the Rights Centre fought back, and finally showed the quality of its legal muscle. First they got the interrogatories - which are questions that have to be answered - greatly cut down in number by the judge; then they slapped in a Notice to Produce, which listed almost a hundred documents which the County now has to bring along to the Court. This flurry of documents produced the first adjournment, since it was clearly no longer a half-hour matter. Then the Centre issued a clutch of witness summons on people like Theobald, Freddy (the ex-chairman of Social Services Committee) and Reggie Morgan. Finally they slapped in an 8-page Defence, based upon the legal arguments of estoppel and ultra vires actions by the Council.

By this time the judge had had enough and insisted on a hearing for Directions - which decides what to do about handling a case. At this it was revealed that the County had failed to serve the summonses properly despite their legal gimcrackery, so another adjournment was ordered. Now he has ordered the County to file an Answer to the Rights Centre case within 14 days, when he will decide when to hear the matter finally. At the moment it is tentatively set down for June 17th, but this is likely to change.

The County - both the officers and the councillors associated with the Social Services Committee - must be regretting the day they decided to crush the Rights Centre. The Centre claims its case has never been listened to from the beginning of the affair and they have been dismissed as a bunch of politically motivated incompetents. Now the County have found how wrong they were.

What a pity Stanley Theobald won't be around on the County Council to see the end of the fight which he was so instrumental in starting and maintaining. Incidentally Theobald was the only one of the sub-poenaed witnesses who took the five pounds that they are obligatorily offered. That says something for Stanley's persistence.

## JUBILEE SQUAT



(continued from front page)

With the police disappearance the whole mood of the Squat changed. More posters were made, the public more readily took leaflets and talked, the Argus cameraman drew up (timid thing) and people flocked in to look around. The occupiers chatted and finally had a sort of occupation meeting, which resolved to call a Housing meeting, collect money for food and organise an evening of entertainment.

What was really great was public response. Never in my experience has a Squat been so popular. People hooted horns, looked around, gave us the thumbs up and one old boy gave us a 50p donation towards costs. "Bloody disgusting", he said, "used to be a nice furniture warehouse there till it burnt down under suspicious circumstances. Yes, and what about the other blocks, ought to do something about them too. Pull 'em down and build some homes, so's people can find somewhere to live."

### WHY DID WE DO IT?

The occupation had two major objectives. The first was to draw attention to the way offices were built rather than houses because of profit and speculation and the second, to publicise the threat to all forms of occupation and direct action posed by the Criminal Law Bill Pt. 2.

The first was certainly achieved as press, TV and radio covered the event and ran stories which drew on the points raised in our public statement. They were sympathetic. Unfortunately, the Trespass proposals, and their relevance were ignored until Monday's Argus when the proposed law was mentioned, but only in passing and without analysis. Was the event a success?

We felt it was and we would like to do another. Perhaps a local squat, an old cinema (showing free films), a dead pub giving out free home brew, or just another block and provide free entertainment for all. We're open to suggestions.

ANY IDEAS?

ANY IDEAS?

### WHO OWNS BRITANNIA HOUSE?

British Land Company! And they own a good deal more. At the last count they had controlling interests in over 60 companies, including famous names such as Dorothy Perkins and Biba. Company House records show their major activity in "Property development and investment, with extensive interests abroad" and others as "fashion shops and merchant banking".

Basically they're in the game of property speculation and selling office space. They have their own estate agents Conrad Ritblat - the agents for Britannia House. The last returns (made in 1974) for the Company quotes £262m. of assets with issued capital of £11m. Major holders of shares are... Ritblats.

For the financial year ending March 1974 they grossed £6m. in received rentals. Generally they didn't do well for that year, losses of £1 were recorded as against the previous years profits of £2m.

The Big Companies they own have parallel companies in all the major Western capitalist countries. It looks as though they are siphoning off profits into what they consider more beneficial investment areas.

Britannia House is probably handy as an empty building to British Land Co. for tax write-off purposes - an unrealisable asset to set against Government claims on Capital Gains. Isn't it nice to know that they can still afford to play tax games at our expense.

how much do you know about SOUTH AFRICA?



(Major gold producer of the free world... industrial giant of Africa... large-scale exporter... major importer of European manufactured goods... vital link in Western defences... scene of a dynamic development in race relations). Time Magazine

### 389 Fascists and a few führers

In the County Council elections on 5 May the National Front in Brighton polled 389 votes spread across 5 wards. In Hollingbury Ms SHAW of 20a Dyke Rd got 116 In Elm Grove H.J.JONES of 11 Southampton St got 66. Jones is the Brighton Branch Chairman of the Nazi Front. In Lewes Rd R.NIXON of 15 Hollingdean Rd got 33. R.Nixon !! You don't mean the R.Nixon? Well, give or take the odd incentive to violence. In Portslade North A.HOUGH - a teacher no less - polled 73. Look out immigrant kids! In Portslade South C.PARKER - regional organiser of the Nasty Front (that's where the power is boys) notched up 101.

So now you know who to look out for. 389 fascists who stood up to be counted and several leaders who gave their occupations (well not all their occupations) and their addresses. They are racists and do not pretend to be anything else. THE NATIONAL FRONT IS A NAZI FRONT. JOIN THE BRIGHTON & HOVE COMMITTEE AGAINST FASCISM. 179 Lewes Rd. THEIR LEAFLET WARNING ELECTORS AGAINST THE LIES AND POLICIES OF THE NF PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN KEEPING DOWN THE VOTES GIVEN TO THE NAZI CANDIDATES. THE PEOPLE WILL NOT BE DUPED.



from LEEDS OTHER PAPER May 14th. - 27th.

Uniformed fascist thugs in brown shirts, black drill trousers and wearing dark ties with swastika emblems, viciously attacked Labour Party and Communist Party members after the Local Election count on May 5th.

Three Communist Party members were taken to St James' Hospital, two being detained overnight with back injuries, another being treated for facial wounds.

The trouble erupted in the Victoria Pub. opposite the Town Hall, which members of various political parties were using as a meeting place during and after the counting of the votes.

One witness described how about fifteen members of the British National Party (a Leeds based group who split from the National Front) came in, obviously looking for trouble. Ultra-right candidates had polled badly in Leeds, which may have been one reason for the violence.

"After an assault by some of them on a Labour Party member, the landlord closed the bar and began to clear the pub. As the thugs lined up near the door chanting "B.N.P." and shouting obscenities. One was waving a metal swastika."

A woman described how they spat at her as she made her way out.

Barry Cooper, Communist Candidate for Headingley, and lecturer at the University, said "I had already left the Victoria when two other Communist Party members behind me were attacked, thrown against the glass doors, and kicked with heavy boots. Graham Jones, until recently manager of the Red Leader Theatre Company, was injured in the face and back. Another, Richard Scott, was stabbed in the back with a broken bottle which narrowly missed his spine. As I turned back to help, two of them came at me with their boots, breaking a beer glass on my head as I ducked. There was blood everywhere. A woman comrade was kicked as she tried to help. Police are making investigations."

"In Queens Park Terrace on Thursday, the week before the local elections, I was delivering leaflets for the Antifascist Committee when the Elm Grove National Front candidate and a supporter approached and asked what I was delivering. "That's libel" said Mr H.J.Jones the N.F. local chairman, and tried to rush me and grab the leaflets. I took evasive action." (name withheld for obvious reasons.)

### SCARS

SCARS - Sussex Campaign against Racism in Sport - has been set up to campaign against visits by South African racially selected sports teams to Sussex. Three white South African teams, whose members have been chosen on the grounds of race and not ability, plan to play in Sussex this summer. The invitation to one, a bowls team due to play in Worthing, has been withdrawn because of local opinion. The other two invitations still stand.

One is for a South African team to compete in the Federation Cup Tennis Tournament in Eastbourne from 13-18 June.

The other is for cricket teams to play in Hastings from 29 June-1 July. SCARS is campaigning to get both these invitations withdrawn.

Multi-racial clubs and teams do not exist in South Africa. Since the start of the sports boycott a number of showpiece fixtures of mixed races have been artificially mounted by the SA government. In 1975 a mere 524 non-European people were allowed to participate in these events, out of a total population of 25 million. In South African sport as in SA society as a whole, black people are denied any semblance of equality with whites, let alone any real equality. It is a society in which school children are shot in the back for protesting against their oppression.

CONTACT Hugh Bayley (Tel. 203173)  
Sarah Bell (Tel. 680380)  
Derek Watts (Tel. Hastings 432893)

### ZIG ONE

The first issue of the Zimbabwe Information Group Bulletin is now available. It is hopefully the first of many such newsletters and is put together by a collective who came together through a shared recognition of the need to combat the slanted presentation of developments in Rhodesia by the British media.

Zig No.1 has articles on the way in which the British media depends for most of its information on the Smith's regime's publicity hand-outs and is making no effort to present a balanced picture, thus falling into the Vietnam trap all over again. It also looks at Rhodesian reservists, our own Home Office's policy towards reluctant Rhodesian soldiers (send them back!), and the extent to which the whites are deserting the sinking ship, as well as examining the reasons behind the West's attempt to get a negotiated settlement.

Zig 1 costs 10p + postage from Zimbabwe Campaign, 1 Cambridge Terrace LONDON NW1 9JL

# CREEPY CRAWLEY FASCISTS

The National Front is, to quote their chairman, Martin Webster, "A well oiled Nazi Machine", and despite recent setbacks, this machine is alive and functioning in Sussex. These latter day blackshirts claim to operate through parliamentary channels and to represent law and order. Yet their tactics of vandalism, thuggery and racist smears reveal their true nature.

Fascists have always had a stronghold in Brighton: ever since the nineteen thirties Nazis have gathered in seafront hotels and guest houses. Only last year the '88 group' used one of these establishments to celebrate their 'christmas': Adolf Hitler's birthday. This paramilitary group is affiliated to the 'British Party' which has cells throughout the south east of England.

However it is in Crawley that the 'Front has been particularly successful, the reasons are quite clear, unemployment. Full employment, and housing, have up till now made up for the appalling lack of facilities in Crawley; a lack which affects young people in particular. Now firms (such as Helleman's) are finding it more profitable to expand in depressed areas, such as Plymouth, where government grants will be available, the new town is facing unemployment for the first time.

The National Front has always used unemployment to further its cause by blaming one group of people, the blacks. In Crawley the myth that unemployment is caused by black people taking white jobs

is becoming more and more powerful among a generation of school leavers faced with the dole queue for the first time. The 'Fronts' series of racist stickers ("He may be your equal, but he's not mine" under a caricature of a black face is one of the least offensive) have been carefully distributed among school children which is where they look for potential recruits.

Ironically it is one of the Front's own members, former school teacher, Major Walter Hill who has helped to expose the reality behind the 'law and order' facade. Hill taught for some years at Ifield School, the Crawley school with the highest intake of black children, where he made his racist views obvious to black, and even Irish children. His presence was of course, tolerated. The Special Branch only seem to investigate teachers with left wing views.

There has recently been much outrage expressed in the Crawley press at leftist teachers and Special Branch activity. Behind this seems to have been the National Party. A Mr Brewer, their Parliamentary candidate, wrote hysterical letters to the County Council, the Headmaster of a Crawley school and to the 'Crawley Advertiser' about the brainwashing of children at a local comprehensive. This led to meetings between the N.P., Crawley Council and the Headmaster. Following the headlines in the Crawley Advertiser: "Brainwashed by the Reds", Mr. Ian Stewart, Head of the Humanities Dept. at the Thomas Bennett School, is now suing that school.

Major Hill has been allowed to operate in the sidelines for too long. In his bid to win a council seat he has moved via the National Front, National Party and Anglo-Rhodesian Society to hide behind respectable fronts of tenants associations. However the front cannot completely cover up for the activities of a true fascist and Major Hill is now awaiting trial on charges of criminal damage. A brick thrown through the window of a cafe owned by black people tells us more about the fascists than a hundred of their leaflets.

At the Eastbourne conference, the N.U.T. passed a watery motion condemning racism. An amendment that membership of the N.F. and the N.U.T. were incompatible, was rejected. Walter Hill, doubtless, is not the only racist who has taught in our schools. Until positive action is taken, he will not be the last.



Black people in Crawley are now facing open victimisation. One Asian newsagent in West Green has had his window smashed over a dozen times and the police simply put this down to indiscriminate Vandalism. Following the press outrage at Malawian Asians staying at a Gatwick Hotel, the Front has been able to isolate black people as scapegoats and go from strength to strength. Last year a National Front march went unopposed through Langley Green, the area with the highest proportion of immigrants.

Front tactics in Sussex have not yet reached the level of racist marches and attacks such as have been carried out in Deptford and Southall, but in Crawley, the writing is on the wall. This is literally true if you realise that 'No Asians' slogans have been sprayed onto the walls of schools and churches in this area. These slogans were sprayed on two years ago and have not been removed.

The attitude of the police and the press to the Front is frightening. By playing upon themes of law and order, conjuring up the spectre of the Red Menace, they have opened the way to the extremism of the National Front. It will try to build upon this facade of respectability unless its true nature is exposed. The recent local elections in Brighton showed both the myth of the Front as an ordinary political party (people signing Front nomination forms without knowing what sort of person they were letting themselves in for) and the destruction of this myth with the rigorous leafletting campaigns carried out by the ad hoc Committee Against Fascism and the Socialist Workers Party.

# CHUBB ALARM

Watch out! If you are an employee of Gross Cash Registers Ltd. You could be out of a job before you know it, if the current spate of redundancies is anything to go by.

Gross, having been run for years by a small highly paid bunch of incompetents, was taken over by Chubb & Sons last January, & having assessed the situation they are losing no time in pruning back on the workforce in a major attempt to reduce costs.

The first group of workers to be hit by redundancy have been those in the factory and in the offices

who are of retirement age. Chubb have not spared anyone's feelings, many workers have had less than a weeks notice to quit, whilst a substantial number received only a half days notification! Well what else do you expect after all those years of service?

Other groups of workers, so far unaffected by the cuts, need not be complacent. Reorganisation of the Company has only just begun and on their current showing we can relish no better treatment at the hands of Chubb than was experienced at the hands of Gross.

If you haven't already done so now is the time to join the union.

# a few home truths

## COUNCIL HOUSING

Housing differs in several important respects from most other things that people use. Unlike a lot of goods and services, it is necessary - you can't use another commodity in its place. Also it is expensive in relation to incomes. The housing system in this country is also very complicated (partly by design) so that people are very much in the hands of experts. It is also chronically underprovided (again partly by design). For example just as profits in the sale of beef, coffee or sugar can be protected by reducing the amount of the commodity on the market, so the profits in housing and land can be kept high by reducing the amount of development land on the market, by holding up the completion of houses or by keeping houses empty and refusing to sell them. The people who are in the property market control what is available and how many houses are built in order to keep up their profits. They do not make housing available when it is needed but only when they feel that the market is 'right' - that means right for them, not for the homeless. This is just as true now as it was when Engels was writing about housing in the 1870's.

Before the 1914-18 war nine out of ten people lived as tenants of private landlords and there was virtually no council housing at all. But the unrest about housing conditions led to a series of strikes and industrial action in 1915, and the government afraid of what would happen to the war effort quickly passed a rent act to try and limit the workers' discontent. A little later, in 1917 - exactly 60 years ago - a Royal Commission reported that housing conditions were one of the main causes of industrial unrest so that in 1918 when the troops returned home one of the main government promises at election time was that Britain would provide 'Homes fit for heroes'. Slowly the state began to provide houses for the people of working Britain and local authorities were given the money for extensive council housing projects, so that more and more people became tenants not of private landlords but of public ones.

There are now over 6 million council houses - nearly a third of all houses in the country. Brighton Council built quite enthusiastically in the early 1920's and the South Moulscombe estate provided excellent housing for the better paid workers of the town. The later estates, North Moulscombe and Whitehawk were built when the Conservatives were entrenched in power and were of a lower standard. In recent decades Brighton's record has got worse and worse with the result that only about 18% of the local houses are council houses, whereas the national average is round about 30%. And about two fifths of the town's housing is still in the grip of private landlords, many of whom have a large say in how the town's housing policy is made.

The important thing about Council Houses is that they are the best way of defeating inflation in the property market.

When a council house is built the council pays the cost of building it once and for all. If it then keeps the house for renting purposes as it should, the house never changes hands and so it does not go up with

the inflated prices of private property. As a result the estate agents, the building societies and the property speculators don't make anything out of it once the council has finished paying for it. Compare this to a private house which can leap from £4,000 to 10,000 to £15,000 in three to four years as it is bought and then sold by successive owners. With each increase in price the property parasites gobble up more and more profits. No wonder they look longingly on all those council houses and rub their hands at the thought of all the money there is to be had if they can get local authorities to sell them into the private market and into the spiral of inflation and profits.

## RACKET

From a community point of view, what is wrong is not just that housing policy is largely in the hands of those who benefit from the private market, but also that FAR TOO MUCH OF SOCIETY'S MONEY GOES INTO THE PROPERTY RACKET INSTEAD OF INTO PROJECTS TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT AND PROVIDE A BETTER SOCIETY FOR ALL. Housing does

not need to be so expensive. If more public housing was provided for people to rent, the property of this country could be kept out of the hands of the companies who make millions out of people's basic needs. Once out of their hands, the houses people live in would be bought only once, i.e. at the time they were constructed, and they would not be constantly on the market, pushing up the land prices and the profits of the rich.

...



## FORTUNES

It is now a well-known fact that Building Societies are effectively controlling housing policy in many areas of the country. They pretend to be neutral, but in fact if you look at their directors and subsidiary interests and at the kinds of building which easily gets loans, it is clear that they are the hire-purchase arm of the house-building and development industry. Recent research on the Alliance Building Society (see *Community Action* June/July 1976) makes this perfectly obvious. In other words, A (the building societies) are lending money to B (the house purchaser) to buy a house from, and through, the friends of A. This is very good for A and friends, but not so good for B and for society as a whole, because savings and investment

is badly needed to create jobs. THE BUILDING SOCIETIES HAVE MADE FORTUNES BECAUSE HOUSES HAVE RISEN MORE THAN ANY OTHER COMMODITY SINCE THE WAR - ALMOST TWICE AS MUCH AS MOST OTHER PRICES. AS THEIR FORTUNES INCREASE SO DOES THEIR CONTROL OVER THE REST OF THE PROPERTY AND HOUSING AREA. THEY CAN NOW DICTATE THE RATE AT WHICH DESPERATELY-NEEDED HOUSING IN INNER URBAN AREAS IS PROVIDED. AND THAT RATE IS SLOW, SLOW, SLOWER AND SLOWER, BECAUSE THAT'S THE WAY TO KEEP THE PRICE OF LAND HIGH AND GETTING HIGHER.

The social advantages of a publicly-owned housing system are equally important. The housebuilding programme can be planned so as to meet the needs of the area rather than to satisfy the aim of maximum profit. The houses can be allocated on the basis of real priorities, and because the owner doesn't see the houses as a capital investment which can be sold when the market is 'right', the houses are seen as they should be seen - as objects providing shelter.

## ACTION

Unfortunately, council housing rarely comes up to expectation. Large estates often become ghettos, due to bad design, poor lay-out and

a lack of essential upkeep by the authorities. Social attitudes of snobbery, and deliberate mis-reporting in the media make the situation worse, so that the idea of actually increasing the number of council houses in society seems to many people a step backwards, not forwards.

But council housing doesn't have to be as bad as it is in so many places. With the proper amount of money and the right social policy they could be transformed. No hope of that from the present Labour government which is committed to maintaining a capitalist housing system and even making it worse by its housing cuts and all the other cuts which hit hardest just where the need is greatest. But tenants and housing action groups can do much more to put pressure on the local authorities if they use the powers available to them under the various laws passed - but not enforced - since the late 1950's.

Housing Act 1957: local authorities have to make sure all buildings are fit for living in and not overcrowded. Public Health Acts 1936/61: tenants can force landlords to act on such health hazards as broken drains, rising damp, defective toilets, faulty wiring etc. Land Compensation Act 1973: any tenant forced to move house because of major repairs or redevelopment can claim home loss and disturbance payments. Recently a London tenant appealed against a miserly £93.50 given by the local authorities and received £676.18 from the Lands Tribunal.

Race Relations Acts 1968/73: housing authorities are not allowed to discriminate in any way on the basis of a tenant's ethnic origins. Rent Acts 1965 and subsequent: these make harassment a criminal offence. No tenant, public or private need stand for any kind of intimidation from the landlords. All cases should be reported at once to the local Harassment officer.

If any Brighton tenant is in any doubt about the situation - contact the Brighton Rights Centre in Prince Albert Street. For Housing Action Groups it's worth taking the journal *Community Action* (P.O. Box 665 LONDON SW1X 8DZ. £1.50 p.a.) There's masses of info and news about the law and housing action.

NOTE. Council tenants are NOT subsidised by the local rate-payers but by the government. The government pays out just as much to subsidise private owner-occupiers through tax relief as it does to public housing. IT IS A TOTAL MYTH THAT COUNCIL TENANTS ARE LIVING OFF THE REST OF SOCIETY. PRIVATE OWNERS GET FAR MORE OUT OF THE SYSTEM. IT IS THEY WHO LIVE OFF THE BACKS OF THE HOMELESS AND BADLY HOUSED.



Thanks to Bristol Voice for this cartoon

## Claimants Conference

People from Claimants Unions all over the country met for a national conference at Camberwell, London, on May 7th and 8th. Three from Brighton went, and joined other claimants from Bristol, Exeter, Birmingham, Manchester, Swansea, Bolton, London etc. Discussion in both general sessions and smaller workshop sessions was wide ranging. Revisions in the Claimants Union report to the TUC on the need for a guaranteed minimum income for every person in and out of employment, were made. Other topics discussed were the SS's proposal to have signing on and payments being made on a fortnightly basis instead of the current weekly arrangements; relations with local Trades Councils; tactics at Appeals Tribunals; contacts with the CPSA - the union of DHSS workers, etc.

A lot was learned simply from exchanging experiences of problems with SS amongst other claimants unions. In rural and resort areas, it is common practice to refuse benefit to unemployed homeless people, and give them a travel warrant (if they are lucky) back to where they last came from. In some places it is also common to refuse to make grants for clothing etc., and to deduct money from the weekly allowance to cover them instead. Compulsory savings are also made for fuel payments for some claimants; which should be resisted.

As part of the conference, a benefit pop which included a good feminist band, was held. Things also went well with the people from the famous St. Agnes Place row of squats providing vegetarian food for the conference, and most of the sleeping space for everyone.



The next conference is going to be held in Brighton, at the Resource Centre, on Sept. 3rd. & 4th.

Locally the Claimants Union is developing in encouraging ways, with a steady nucleus of people actively involved, and new people coming along to meetings to get involved. We are rapidly gaining a lot of experience in dealing with appeals tribunals. From July onwards we intend to start having an extra weekly meeting, on a Monday afternoon so that claimants who can't make the regular Wednesday evening meeting, such as those with children, can come along. All claimants (and exclaimants) are welcome to our meetings. Come to the Resources Centre, North Road, on Wednesdays at 8pm.

ps. there's a claimants union benefit disco, on Sat. 18 June, at Lancaster House, Sussex University campus.

## Flying Pigs evict homeless

Hard times loom over the heads of any homeless people who dare to occupy empty houses in Hove. Certain police officers, numbers 4469, D178 and R187 have set up their own little eviction squad to aid those poor oppressed property speculators who leave houses empty on the sea-front.

The incident in question happened on the 6th. May. A number of people occupied some empty flats at 6, Kingsway Man-



sions, Hove. Having been called to the property by the owners, inspecting it and reassuring them-selves no offence was committed, police officers D178 and R 187 disappeared. (To consult with the owner's representative no doubt)

Half an hour later they pulled up at the front of the building

( continued on opposite page →

## GAYS AND THE UNIONS

A well-attended meeting of Gay Trade unionists was held at NUFTO Hall Holborn on the 2nd April. Over sixty people representing 20 unions met and discussed the special problems of discrimination facing homosexuals in the work place and the possibilities of gays organising in the Trades Unions. While it was generally agreed that the self-organisation of gays in the unions was necessary to develop our consciousness and confidence, the main aim of our activity must increasingly be to fight discrimination against all oppressed groups in the labour movement.

The conference decided that it was important to have a trade union voice at the CHE national conference. However this does not go far enough. As far as the Conference goes we are interested in uniting the whole left within the gay movement around issues such as fascism which have implications far beyond the struggle at work. Organising of the left within CHE is itself a contribution to uniting the left of the gay movement as a whole.

A collection to cover conference expenses was taken and it was agreed to donate half of this (£15) to the Grunwick Strike Fund. This decision is significant because it is one of the few occasions that gays have taken the initiative in breaking down the barriers between the gay movement and the labour movement and recognising their common interests.

The CHE National Conference this year is to be held in Nottingham from Friday 26th. August through to Monday 29th. August. Anyone requiring further information on the Conference or on any of the above issues should get in touch with Richard McCance at 26B Westhill Rd. Brighton BN1 3RT (S.A.E. please)

## The standing of the law.

"Policemen and their families have to maintain a certain standing in the community and this often makes them reluctant to apply for Family Income Supplement".

Eldon Griffiths M.P. (Tory)



Stickers similar to the one reproduced above are available from Movement Against A Monarchy (MA'AM), c/o 5 Caledonian Road, London N1. These tastefully designed stickers (in red white and blue in some cases) for Jubilee Year are available for 1p each including postage (min order 25) The stickers are a convenient tongue-sized width and most are on high quality impregnated-gum paper. Once up they are extremely difficult to remove (rather like some of the National Front stickers) and are ideal for putting on the windows of Buckingham Palace, on parked Rolls Royces, police cars etc.



## PLANNING A NIGHTMARE

Brighton councillors, Eileen Gemmell, Patrick Smith & Charles Jermy, are suffering a few sleepless nights of late over their support for the Greenelms plan to swamp George Street in supermarkets, offices and juggernauts. At the official inaugural meeting of the "Brighton George Street Area Society" on Wednesday 18th May it was announced that the society have been told by their lawyers that they have a very good case for legal action and that if they get no satisfaction from Brighton Council they can take the case to the High Court.

In the event of the George St residents winning the case the individual councillors responsible for pushing through the Greenelms plans, Messrs Gemmell, Jermy & Smith, can be held personally liable for the thousands of pounds compensation which Greenelms will demand. Small wonder, then, that there is a rumoured run on sleeping pills amongst tory councillors.

EVICTON STORY (contd from opposite page)

in true Z Cars style, and leaping into action, proceeded to smash their way in through the front door, WITHOUT a Court Order and committing criminal damage in the process. "Out" was the sergeant's cry "I don't want any

squatters on my patch!" Faced with this attitude (and truncheons inside the house, out of public view) the squatters decided to leave.

What we would like to know is:

- 1) Who organised this illegal eviction?
- 2) Why have No.6 Kingsway Mans. been left to rot for four years, when the homeless find themselves sleeping on the beach a few yards away.

And last but not least,

What property speculator in Hove pulls the strings in the Hove Constabulary?

Explanations please.

## DANGER! - HAZARDS AT WORK

Brighton Works Hazards Group consists of a number of trades unionists who believe that healthy and safe work conditions can only be achieved by workers becoming properly informed and organising at their place of work.

Our aims are:

To provide information in the form that can be useful to workers in their struggle to achieve a decent work environment.

To collect information and to learn from those workers that have direct experience of struggles concerning health and safety at work and to disseminate this information to other workers.

To encourage workers to set up their own shopfloor health and safety organisations.

To demonstrate the management orientation of much of the scientific

DON'T WORRY, IF YOUR POST MORTEM'S O.K. YOU'LL BE IN FOR SOME COMPENSATION



research and legal practices concerning health and safety at work.

To link struggles for better work conditions to other political issues e.g. cuts in the health services and unemployment and to relate this to the present crisis.

We therefore emphasise that, while it is necessary to fight for better work conditions, it is not possible to achieve a truly healthy and safe work environment when production is geared to profit rather than to people's needs.

What we do: Distribute Hazards Bulletin which aims to inform interested workers of recent technical and legal developments and shopfloor struggles. (Price 15p + postage)

Lend out a Drager Tube for measuring the concentration of hazardous vapours in the air.

Distributing booklets on the hazards of oil, noise and asbestos.

Answering enquiries from workers and providing information and contacts where we can.

If you think we could help you or if you are interested in helping us we can be contacted c/o 68 Compton Rd. Brighton.



## Brighton Contemporary Festival of Arts

5-11 June 1977  
Bank Holiday Silver Jubilee Week

In July the corporation mount their annual festival of 'youth'. Well, as far as can be seen, there are not many 'youthful' people in it, and sure as damn it there will not be many 'youthful' people watching, either.

So where does the other festival, the Brighton Contemporary Arts Festival, fit in? It's a fringe, an alternative. No one likes to be on the perimeter of anything and our festival is a centre, a centre for some of the most innovating, imaginative, frightening, but never far from humorous (be it of a 'black' nature or not) creative work in the country.

And why Brighton? Well, firstly we wished to introduce work that may not have been seen in these parts before, some of which is of a secular interest i.e. the poetry readings at the Friends Meeting House with Jeff Nuttall, Michael Hamburger and Lee Harwood, and lectures by Adrian Henri and Richard Cavendish on the 'occult'.

Our second consideration was to bring creativity into direct communication with the general public. Through this, perhaps, public opinion



on the arts, which has been badly damaged by the press and also some artists, may be rectified. That the public may see art not as something dead or lacking entertainment - but something enjoyable and helpful to their existence.

One of the acts during the festival, the IOU Theatre Company, is a main propogator of this ideal, performing on the beach left of the Palace Pier on the Thursday night at dusk and in the sea procession on the Saturday.

All the evening activities, barring Lyndsey Kemp at the Pavilion Theatre, are in the main hall at the Art Faculty, Brighton Polytechnic, Grand Parade. Some of the events are People Show and Lumiere et Son, Derek Bailey's Company, Evan Parker, Ivor Cutler, Ron Geeson and Henry Cow, plus the Crystal Theatre of the Saint, more music, many free events, licensed bar till midnight and food.

The festival runs from June 5-11; a full programme and tickets are available from the Students Union Office at the Arts Faculty. A full evening of entertainment from 7.30-1.30 will cost little more than a pound.

Brighton Line Commuters Assoc was instrumental in setting up the National Assoc of Rail Passengers, an organisation now comprising of 160 rail travellers and commuter groups throughout the UK and represent over 30,000 rail users.

Our fight is not only to break the divine right that BR has to carry passengers from Brighton to London, but far more important, a fight on behalf of our members to maintain their right to remain in employment and not be priced off the rails into the dole queue.

To widen our cause as you suggest to cover the poor, homeless and students etc, is not within the clear mandate given to us by our members - and would perhaps have the effect of weakening our cause by fighting battles on several fronts at the same time.

Our fight has nothing to do with party politics, as you suggest, because successive governments are all equally to blame for the dilemma we find ourselves in today. Our call for a long-term all-party transport policy which will outlive successive governments still stands.

Yours faithfully,

Mike Land

Chairman, Brighton Line Commuters Association.

## info...

\*ANTI-APARTHEID GROUP  
Contact Hugh Bayley, c/o Nalgo, 104 Queens Rd, B'ton

\*A.S. NEILL TRUST For alternative education projects 691712.

\*B'TON & HOVE SQUATTERS UNION AND TENANTS ASSOC.  
Meets 8.30, Tuesdays, at 7 Victoria Rd, B'ton.

\*B'TON & HOVE TRADES COUNCIL Co-ordinating group of local trade unions affiliated to TUC; Keith Orange 688777.  
B&HTC LABOUR HISTORY PROJECT and LABOUR HISTORY PRESS 179 Lewes Rd, B'ton.

B'TON COMMUNITY ARTS WORKSHOP Dance on Mondays Juniors 6.30-7.30, Seniors 7.30-9.30 at Carlton Hill School. Drama, mime and music on Wednesdays, Juniors 6.30-7.30, Seniors 7.30-9.30. Call 691318 for details.

\*B'TON FEDERATION OF TENANTS ASSOCS Secretary, 72 Swanborough Pl, B'ton.

\*B'TON FILM THEATRE 64 North St. 29563. Support your local non-profitmaking cinema.

\*B'TON HOSTEL Soup-run 10.00-11.00 daily under the arches; meals 12.00-2.00 Sundays. Need clothes, food, Help! 686320; 105 Islingword Rd, B'ton.

\*B'TON BUS USERS ACTION GROUP Secretary, 78 Holmes Avenue, Hove. 722596.

\*B'TON LESBIAN GROUP 1st, 3rd & 5th Weds at Fl 1, 9 St Michaels Pl; info from Lee there.

\*B'TON SHORT-LIFE HOUSING ACTION GROUP 2 Prince Albert St. 202492.

\*B'TON SOCIETY Environmental group; Selma Montford, 10 Clermont Rd.

## GROUPS

\*B'TON TRADES & LABOUR CLUB Meeting place for trade unionists; 16 Lewes Rd. 61101.

\*BRITAIN/GDR SOCIETY Facts and info on East Germany; 686259.

\*CAMPAIGN AGAINST A CRIMINAL TRESPASS LAW c/o 7 Victoria Rd, B'ton. Watch for developments, especially meetings.

\*CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY Details of regular meetings from 202930 8.00-10.00pm daily. Also CHE Women's Group.

\*CLAIMANTS UNION Meets at the Resource Centre, North Rd, Weds, 8pm

CLAIMANTS UNION SWITCHBOARD Mon's & Fri's 6-8 pm. Brighton 27878

\*CONFERENCE OF SOCIALIST ECONOMISTS Keith Smith, 10 Warleigh Rd, B'ton.

\*FRIENDS CENTRE Meeting place with educational classes; 16 Ship St, B'ton. 27835.

\*FRIENDS OF THE WESTERN BUDDHIST ORDER Meditation, classes, discussion and lectures; 19 George St, B'ton. 693971.

\*GINGERBREAD Self-help and pressure group for one-parent families; 774087

\*MENTAL HEALTH GROUP Bringing psychiatric patients into the community; c/o Open 27878.

\*MOULESGOOMB ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND Needs money, materials and help; c/o 67 Centre, off Nodshrove Rd.

\*NATIONAL ABORTION CAMPAIGN Contact Womens Centre.

\*NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES (Sussex Group) 689385 or write c/o Public House, 21 Little Preston St, B'ton.

## GATHERINGS ETC

\*PRIOR HOUSE Youth and Community Centre; many activities, incl open creche; Carlton Hill. 681925.



\*RIGHT TO READ Mrs Prior 29801.

\*RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN Organising trade unionists and the unemployed to fight for the Right to Work; 19 Elm Grove, B'ton. Messages 720891.

\*SOCIALIST ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCES ASSOC 236 The Wrekin, Lindfield, Haywards Heath; Lindfield 3760.

\*SOCIETY FOR ANGLO-CHINESE UNDERSTANDING Daniele Furci, 12 Berkeley Row, Lewes. Lewes 2412

\*SUSSEX ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY GROUP c/o 11 George St, B'ton. 691318

\*TRANSPORT 2000 Kevin McNulty, 75 Upper Lewes Rd.

\*WE WANT THE WEST PIER CAMPAIGN John Lloyd, 5 Belle Vue Gdns, B'ton. 28578.

\*WOMEN'S CENTRE Open 10-2 Mon-Fri and 6.30-8.30 Tues and Weds evenings at the Resource Centre, Presbyterian Church Hall, North Rd, Tel. 27612

\*WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE & FREEDOM 684604.

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WORKERS' MUSIC ASSOCIATION Meeting at Friends' Centre, Ship St. on 21st May 7.45 "Music and Song in Political Struggle." An illustrated talk.

\*WORKING ASSOC OF MOTHERS Linda Kinsella 55134. Baby sitting, creche, etc.

WORK HAZARDS GROUP. Information and resources (including Hazards Bulletin) on health and safety at work. 68 Compton Rd. Brighton.

## PAPERS

\*BRIGHTON FIGHTS BACK Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) pamphlet on the cuts. 10p from 37 Gloucester Rd, B'ton.

\*EDUCAT Local teacher and education magazine; 42 Egremont Pl. 680258.

\*QUEENSPARK Paper for the Queens Park area. 14 Toronto Terr, B'ton.

\*SQUATTERS HANDBOOK Available from 2 St Pauls Rd, London N1, or Open Cafe. 10p + postage.

\*WAYBILL Newsheet of TGWU 1/402 Brighton and Hove District Busmen. Available from Conway St. Depot, Hove

\*WHOLE EARTH Alternative technology, organic living, local environmental action. 20p from 11 George St, B'ton. 691318.

\*WRAC QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER available from Womens Centre, 174 Thorndean Rd, B'ton; 50p for 2 issues.

## letters



Dear Voice,

In your last issue 'a Social Worker' correctly pointed out that the East Sussex Branch of NALGO has so far failed to obey a Special Conference instruction to ban overtime by calling for a branch ballot. This is a setback to NALGO democracy and the fight against the cuts.

However, your correspondent did not mention that members attending the March 22 meeting did vote to endorse the overtime ban decision (subject to ballot), and that the original branch executive motion endorsed the overtime ban, but the members amended it to include the branch ballot. Therefore it is wrong to say the executive took "a weaker line"; if blame is to be given it should go to the rank and file.

Saying that "most NALGO members" have a "blinkered and forelock-touching attitude", as well as being untrue and insulting, does not actually help to strengthen the union and the fight against the cuts.

We must be critical of our trade union activity, but in the middle of the battle you don't tell your fellow soldiers they're completely useless,

unless you want to lose - or because you're afraid of them and the fight.

By the way, NALGO's Annual Conference is in June, not May; and why does your correspondent hide behind the social worker label?

Yours fraternally,

Adrian Briggs

(Member, E. Sussex NALGO Branch Exec, in personal capacity)

Dear Sirs,

Considering the fact for the moment that you claim to be an 'editorial collective' we would have assumed that by that very title you would have gathered a collective opinion before rushing into print to condemn us as a 'self-interested middle class pressure group'.

For your information our 3,200 supporters are made up from the complete social spectrum whose views range from slightly left of Mao-tse-Tung to slightly right of Enoch Powell. To tar all our members with the same brush is equally guilty of making the same generalisation that 'all commuters are rich'.

To give the impression that we are only acting out of self-interest reflects the ignorance and shortsightedness of your collective. The

The Voice collective meets every Sunday at 9.30pm at 7 Victoria Road. ALL WELCOME