



Live A Little!

read:
**FEBRUARY
WHAT'S
ON**



Music

Due to license trouble many of the venues are unable to confirm dates, so ring them after the 7th.

CONCORDE RESTAURANT Madeira Drive
Tue Afro Club
Fri Afro Club
Sat Over 30's Dance
Sun Open House Jazz Night

BRIGHTON CENTRE
7 Van Morrison
10 The Jacksons

SUSSEX UNIVERSITY Mandela Hall
Cheap Trick on the 1st, 8pm.

DOME
10 Chris De Burgh
22 Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers

EVERYONE who knows the PIRANHAS was sad to hear of the tragic accident which happened on the 19th of January.

Here's hoping that Zoot and Tony are out of hospital soon. We understand that the band may be doing their regular Sunday night gig at the Alhambra from the middle of Feb.

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES.

Brighton Voice was mentioned in "The Guardian" Dec.30th., "Searchlight" Jan.79 and "Pravda" (apparently !!?)

folk

SPRINGFIELD nr. London Rd. Station
Friday's Folk
2 Graham and Irene Pratt
9 Packie Byrne and Bonnie Shaljean
16 Come all ye
23 Frankie Armstrong

Sunday Club
4 Sam Mitchell
11 Miles Wooton
18 Muckram Wakes
25 Come all ye

BUCCANEER Marine Parade
Tue The Taverners

MARLBOROUGH Princess St.
5 Dick Miles
12 Pete Castle
19 Love and Seduction Evening
26 Andy Cavern

SHAKESPEARE'S HEAD Spring Street
Thurs. Joe and Stuart
Sun. Nick Burbridge and Tim O'Leary

POLYTECHNIC
1 One Eyed Jack
8 John and Sue Kirkpatrick
15 Waterfall
22 Chris Foster

Meetings

RIGHTS CENTRE
Welfare Rights, Wednesdays 7.45-9.45

FRIENDS CENTRE
Fascism Course, Mondays, 7.30.

RESOURCE CENTRE
Every Monday Work Hazards, 8 til 10
Every Tuesday NAC 8-10.
Every Wednesday Womens studies, 7.30 and Womens self-defence, 6-7.

Every Thursday SERA (WEA Class) 8-10
Every Friday Profile of Brighton, a WEA course, 11 til 1.
Every Sunday Alcoholics Anon. 7.30

3 Jumble Sale for 2 Piers, 11.30-2.30
10 Benefit for Pegasus Free School, in the basement, 7pm.
17 Womens Centre Jumble, 2 til 6
19 Womens Liberation General meeting from 8pm.
24 West Pier Jumble Sale, 10.30 to 12. and 2.30 til 4.

Public House Bookshop needs SYMPATHETIC ELECTRICIAN/BUILDER URGENTLY. Please contact the shop: 21 Little Preston Street, Brighton 28357.

POETRY

POETRY READINGS : FRIDAYS.
Jan. 26th.....Paul Matthews
Feb. 2nd.....Ric Caddel
Feb. 16th.....Robert Sheppard
March 2nd.....Bill Sherman

Public House Bookshop, 21, Little Preston Street, at 8p.m. Admission 50 p.

Brighton Voice

No.53
Feb 79

Plus Trades Council Bulletin No.3

15p

AMERY WELCOMES ITALIAN FASCIST

When one of Italy's leading fascists stood up to speak on Friday 19 January in the Royal Pavilion, Julian Amery was seated next to him on the platform. He and a handful of Brighton Tories had welcomed Giorgio Almirante, secretary-general of the neo-fascist Italian party, Movimento Sociale Italiano (MSI) to a meeting of the Tory European Movement, and the 50p tickets of admission billed the speaker as a 'distinguished Italian politician' adding, as an incentive to fellow Tories that 'The Rt.Hon Julian Amery will be present'.

So there he was on the same ticket and platform as a 'chef de cabinet' in Mussolini's last-ditch government, and the leader of a party which has been responsible for hundreds of attacks, bombings and murders in contemporary Italy.

True to form, Amery said very little, except when the heckling began and then he uttered the memorable phrase 'Let him speak'. The hall was by then full of anti-fascists who informed the band of Tories who exactly Almirante was, and read out statements from the European press about his fascist activities. Several members of the audience who had innocently come expecting to hear what the Argus described as 'one of Italy's leading politicians' turned on the organisers and protested strongly at the deception.

As Almirante droned on and Amery just sat there, the humour and protest of the antifascists began to take over the meeting. Snatches of Italian opera, a chorus of questions and interruptions, the angry outbursts of an excited Italian worker, and a chant of 'Non al fascismo', soon caused the meeting to be closed. Outside there were a further thirty anti-fascists, making about 70 in all, most of them alerted to the meeting by Brighton's Anti-Fascist Committee, who expressed their delight with the size and success of the demonstration.

The meeting over, the 4 members of the NF who were there, made a quick exit, Amery continued to say nothing, and Almirante had

a free evening before going on to London, presumably to attend the national conference of British Fascists held on Saturday.



L-R: AMERY & ALMIRANTE.

Tony Benn Exclusive! Major Speech in Brighton

IN A HARD HITTING SPEECH ON EVERY ASPECT OF POLITICAL LIFE, TONY BENN told people at the Co-op Hall on 21 January that "capitalism has outlived its capacity to meet most of our needs". He suggested re-organisation of the power industries into social services and rejected fast-breeder nuclear reactors. Benn went on to say that both TV channels and most of the main newspapers were a threat to free speech, and he roundly condemned the management of the Times for its policy of confrontation.

FULL DETAILS ON PAGE TWELVE

SHOP WORKER

BEATEN UP *Police bring charges*

Local fascists struck again at two shops in Brighton on Saturday afternoon, 13 January. At 3.30 three people who had been outside Simple Supplies Whole food shop in George St. burst in. One of the shop workers was grabbed by the hair and punched and kicked to shouts of 'Commie bastard'. Thoroughly drunk and looking for easy victims they then kicked sacks of food around the shop until another member of the shop collective came in from the street. They shoved him out of the way and staggered off towards Edward Street.

Shortly afterwards they arrived at Solstice Bookshop in Trafalgar St. A bottle was thrown at the shop windows (which have been broken five times in the last 18 months). The bottle narrowly missed people who were looking in the window and smashed on a wooden frame. More out of good fortune than by design

a police car was passing and after a chase three people were arrested. They were released on bail and one of them is due to appear in court in the first week of February on charges of assault and criminal damage.

The NF Connection

The attackers, who appear to have come from the Portslade area, were clearly put up to the job since they did not know the names of the shops they were attacking. Which pub they had been to is not yet known, but it is now very clear that the National Front have been picking up youths in three pubs of the town, getting them drunk and sending them out to attack shops and newsagents. The pubs are the Bosun in West St.,

(CONTD. ON P.3)

GROUPS, CO-OPS, Etc.

ANIMAL ACTV. 3: anti factory farming etc. V. Smith 386, Portland Rd. Hove 411484

ANOREXIC AID: 1st Monday of month, Noreen 682054 or Penny 735362

BEE KEEPERS ASSOCIATION: Brighton & Lewes Division of Sussex Beekeepers. Lyn Hawkins, 14 The Lees, Peacehaven 4522

BING CROSBY CLUB: 737557 (am)

BRIGHTON HOSTEL: 18 Dorset Gdns Soup run bottom West St 10 - 11 pm daily. Help needed 682089

BRIGHTON SOCIETY: Environmental group. S. Montford 10, Clermont Road.

BUS USERS ACTION GROUP: R. Spriggs, 7, Tivoli Rd., 562172

CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY: 202930 8 - 10 pm daily.

CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT: 28633

COMMUNITY ARTS WORKSHOP: Dance, drama, mime, music. St. Anne's Hall, St. Georges Rd. Kempton. 697493 for dtls

CONFERENCE OF SOCIALIST ECONOMISTS: K. Smith, 10 Warleigh Rd.

FEDERATION OF TENANTS ASSOCIATIONS (BTON): 72, Swanborough Place.

FRIENDS CENTRE: meeting Place with F.R. classes. 16, Ship Street. 27835

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH: Margaret McIlroy, 32, Over St. 696425

FRIENDS OF THE WESTERN BUDDHIST ORDER: Yoga, lectures etc. Beginners meditation Mon 7.15 19, George St. 693971

GAY CHRISTIANS: Martin 680868

GAY RURAL AID & INFO NETWORK

SOCIETY FOR ANGLO-CHINESE UNDERSTANDING: D. Furoi, 12, Berkeley Row, Lewes. 2414.

SUSSEX COUNTY SKATEBOARD ASSOC 737557.

TRADES COUNCIL: Coordinating group of local trades unions affiliated to the TUC. Andy Durr, 235, Ditchling Rd. 505314.

LABOUR HISTORY PROJECT & LABOUR HISTORY PRESS: as above.

TRADES & LABOUR CLUB: Meeting place for trades unionists. 16, Lewes Rd. 601401.

TRANSFORD 2000: Wilf Martin, 49, Benfield Rd., Portslade. 416105. Meetings second Tues. of month, Btn. Station. 7pm.

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION: Nancy Dore, 157 Surrenden Rd. 501370.

WEST FLIER SOCIETY: John Lloyd, 5, Belle Vue Gardens. 603705.

WEST HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 21359.

WIDOWS CLUB: 47, Tivoli Crescent, Dyke Rd. Meet 8pm, fourth Wednesday each month. Unitarian Hall, New Road.

WOMEN AGAINST FASCISM AND RACISM: contact c/o Resource Centre.

WOMEN FIGHT RAPE GROUP: Contact Women's Centre.

WOMENS CENTRE: at back of Resource Centre. Open: Tue, Wed, Thur, Sat: 11 - 2 & Tue, Wed: 6.30 - 8 pm. Pregnancy tests, rights, etc. 605911.

WOMENS INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE & FREEDOM: 684604 and Lewes 4161.

WOMENS LIBERATION: Meet Resource Centre every third Monday. For info: 605911.

WOMENS VOICE GROUP: based on

PAPERS

BRIGHTON CHARTER: Rank & File Engineering Group: monthly bulletin; M. Perkins, 1, Normanton Street.

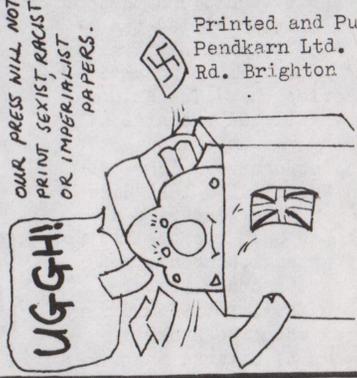
CARF: Paper of the ANTI-RACIST, ANTI-FASCIST CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE: A campaigning paper excellent, nationwide, from Public House Bookshop, or Fla 3,5, Huntley Street, London. Bulk orders / Donations.

MOVING TARGET: Brighton's film magazine, from good bkshops.

QUEENSPARK: Paper for the Queens Park area; 18, Windmill street Brighton.

WAYBILL: Newsheet of T&WU, 1/402 Brighton & Hove District Busnet, from Conway Street Depot, Hove

WHOLE EARTH: Alternative technology, organic living, local environmental action. 11, George St. 691318.



POLITICS

ANTI FASCIST COMMITTEE: c/o 179, Lewes Road, Bton.

ANTI NAZI LEAGUE: 12, Little Newport Street, London WC2.

Printed and Published by Pendkarn Ltd. 7 Victoria Rd. Brighton

SHOPS

ANANDA: 19, Bond Street. Odds & ends, Indian craft's, incense, etc.

BRIGHTON HOSTEL SHOP: Charity shop, 105, Islington Road. Open 10 - 4. Articles wanted.

GREENS: Vegetarian Restaurant, 7, Victoria Road, 27878.

Open 10 - 11pm (meals from 6pm)

CLOSED TUESDAYS... Takeaway to infinity. 25, North Road, 603563.

FOOD: Macrobiotic/wholefood supplies. Open 9.30 - 5.00. Closed all day Wednesday.

BAKERY & PLE SHOP: Open 9 - 5, except Wednesday, 9 - 5.30.

BULK STORE: Bulk supplies. Open Tues. - Sat.; 9.30 - 1 & 2 - 5

KEMP TOWN BOOKS: 91, St. George's Road; Radical literature: new and second-hand books.

PUBLIC HOUSE BOOKSHOP: 21 Little Preston St, 28357. Books, mags., records, coffee, basement events

Bi-monthly newsletter. New musical catalogue out now.

PULSE: Sussex Univ. wholefood cafe

SCR Palmer House. Feminist collective. Mon-Fri. 12-2.

SAXONS VEGETARIAN RESTURANT: 48 George St. Btn. 650733 Mon-Sat. 11.30-5. Also Fri & Sat. 7.15-11. Bring own wine.

SOLISTICE BOOKSHOP: 28 Trafalgar St. Btn. alternative books & mags. basement reading room. Tel. 692880.

SIMPLE SUPPLIES: Wholefood, recycling, publications etc. environmental centre. 11 George St. Btn. 691318. Mon-Sat. 9.30-5.30. Closed Thurs.

SUNRISE RESTURANT: 16 North Rd. Btn. Whole food, vegetarian.

Run by Buddhist Order. Mon-Thur 12-5, Fri & Sat 2-6 & 7-10pm.

THREE ROOMS CAFE: 41 Blatchings-

ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

ACUPUNCTURIST: Peter Deadman B.Ac Brighton & Lewes; Lewes 77996

ACUPUNCTURIST: J.P. Scott, ALFXANDRA TECHNIQUE: S.J. Scott 33, Surrenden Crescent, Brighton 593779, Apts. only

HOMEOPATH: Robert Withers, Brighton 69212, Apts. only.

79, Mill Street Palmer.

MASSAGE: Introductory courses & SHIATSU; Contact Public House Bookshop, 28357, (No wankers, please).

SECOND SUN HEALING: Through direct action & increased understanding. 7, Terminus Road, Brighton 29248.

SHIATSU: Reflexology, Swedish massage, Bach flower remedies Marek Urbanowicz, The Palmeira Clinic; 6, Palmeira Square, Hove. Brighton 734465, Apts.

Subscriptions £2-50 for 12

BACK ISSUES & "Region Six" Special Report available from 7, Victoria Road, Brighton 27878.

A DVICE

AGE CONCERN: Old people's welfare. Mon-Fri 10-12.30 & 2-4pm 57 Ditchling Rd. B'ton 683275

BIT BY BIT: Help & info (voluntary social work unit) 24hrs, 27878. Visits by app't only. Volunteers wanted.

CANCER PREVENTION: (Area Health Authority) 23344

CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

NF CONNECTION

...continued from page one

the Lamb and Flag in Cranbourne St. and the Ship in the Lewes Rd. Harold Jones, one of the NF front-men, drinks regularly at the Ship, and the Anti-fascist committee has known of the NF's hiring tactics at the Ship for some time. We too at the Voice were told by an eye-witness that he had seen two members of the NF sending out drunken youths to smash shop windows from a pub on the sea front last September. We could not get any further details at the time.

'Recruitment'

How do Harold Jones and the Hancocks, the main NF recruiters, pick their people to do their dirty work for them? The three arrested last week come from the Portslade area where there were two NF candidates at the local elections in May 1977; Albert Hough who is press officer for the NF in Brighton, and Charles Parker who is NF regional organiser. Hough got 73 votes and Parker 101, just enough to suggest a small following in Portslade who could be relied on to find a few local youths who would smash anything and anybody for the price of a couple of hours' heavy drinking.

Phoney Brigade

What do the NF tell the people they hire in this way? Firstly they persuade them that the shops and newsagents are part of a Communist front, and secondly they flatter their recruits by saying they will be heroes of a national strong-arm movement called the Eleventh Hour Brigade. A group calling itself this was responsible for fire-bombings and letterbombings in South London shortly after the defeat of the NF march at Lewisham in August 1977. There is, however, no national movement of this name and the NF in Brighton have used the title to try and appear larger and more dangerous than they really are. Even the original London group was probably a very small band of fanatics. 'Leaked' documents show the '11th Hour Brigade' to be a code name for the London group of a fascist organisation called 'SS Wotan 18'. This would appear to consist of groups in Manchester, York, Bristol, London, Southampton, Birmingham, Cardiff and Norwich. Each group uses other code names such as 'The Adolf Hitler Commando Group' and 'The Iron Guard'

SS Wotan 18 is seen to publicise itself by the use of phoney informers and 'leaks' as an article in Searchlight No. 41 clearly shows, and the code names like '11th Hour Brigade' really only refer to a few fascist thugs who are acting out their Nazi-inspired fantasies, often, as here in Brighton, through recruits who are easily bought for a few drinks.

And so, doubly deceived, the hired recruits are sent out to attack innocent shopkeepers and newspaper sellers. On the 13th, as we've said, they attacked someone who sells vegetarian foodstuffs. Last year they threatened the newspaper seller in Churchill Sq. - twice. He was selling the three local papers, Evening Argus, the Gazette and Brighton Voice. On numerous occasions they have smashed the windows of Solstice bookshop. It sells books of every kind, particularly those attractive to people who want a more just, peaceful and happy society. They have attempted to put a fire-bomb inside Public House bookshop, whose clientele is similar to that of Solstice. They have broken the windows of Simple Supplies and Infinity - two shops valued highly by a vast range of people of every political persuasion, or none. They have sent notes threatening violence to other innocent newspaper sellers in small, unprotected newsagent shops throughout Brighton who sell sweets to kids and provide local people with the papers which interest them.

Desperation

The growth of fascist attacks in Brighton are the direct result of the failures and disasters suffered by the NF in the local area. It is since the discovery of their press in Sutherland Rd (Oct. 77) the disclosure of their plans for an August rally in Brighton (July 78) and the ending of their outlet through Kensett press (July-Aug. 78) that they have become desperate hit-men and hirers of drunken youths. The activities of the Anti-fascist committee, backed by the Labour movement, the success of the Anti-Nazi League, backed by all sections of society, the accuracy of articles exposing their activities by Brighton Voice and the Gazette, whose stories have been taken up nationally by Time Out, the Guardian and the Observer, all these have forced them into the corruption and brutalisation of local youth. But they can no longer hide behind them. The full story is known.



"Distinguished English politician John Tyndall, leader of the right of centre National Front, will be the guest of the European Movement at the Royal Pavilion next Friday. Also on the platform will be the Rt. Hon J....." Right on, Argus.

Our OPINION

On Saturday 20th Jan. the Evening Star (for waning Tories), published an article informing (a rare event) the people of Brighton that Giorgio Almirante (the well known Italian candidate for the European Parliament (sic) and leader of the Movimento Sociale Italiano (even sicker) was to address a meeting at the Pavilion, that night. (Full stormy story p.1). It's no surprise perhaps, on past record, that the Gag-U's should have published such a ludicrous advertisement for neo-fascist activity. Nevertheless considering the support generated by the Voice for the recent NUJ strike we would have thought that a few Argus journalists might have learnt enough to stand up against such flagrant political deception. Or is it that they just don't recognise the leader of the Italian fascist party when they report him?

4 last resort theatre company and brighton community arts workshop

Last Resort Theatre Company is the name used by a group of people, most of whom have full-time jobs, but who enjoy producing and performing their own material. It is an integral part of the Brighton Community Arts Workshop and developed from open drama workshops begun when the CAW was founded three years ago. We now produce dramatic performances at a number of venues; the most recent being a satirical entertainment about the town - 'the Brighton Show' - last seen at the Pavilion Theatre.

Essentially, the group works in a pub or community centre context. Some of the earliest and continuing productions were seen at the Queen's Head, Steine Street. Such venues enable us to create and enjoy a rapport between artists and audience. Most of those involved are not primarily committed to theatre as a political medium, but enjoy writing and performing material of immediate appeal to a wide audience.

Members of the group share a pathological exhibitionism and broadly similar views. Hence 'The Brighton Show'; a medley of skits overtly and entertainingly critical of the seedy side of Brighton: aristocratic decadence, council corruption and freemasonry, rip-off language schools and antique dealers, money-grubbing and destructive speculators and 'law 'n' order' paranoia.

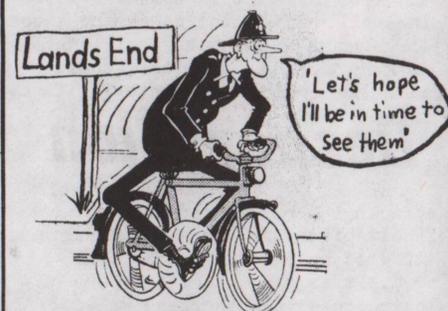
Most of the script for this show was done by Kim Fuller, based on ideas arising from lengthy discussions by the group. We wanted to be sure that people would not take the satire in the wrong way; asking ourselves, for example, whether the caricature of foreign students aimed at exposing the way they are exploited actually betrayed prejudice towards them.

Although as in any group, it has been difficult to avoid the pitfalls of one person (ie. "the director") taking on more responsibility, an important and enjoyable aspect of working in the group has been sharing everything; hard work, ideas, crises and fun. This has taken time to develop from the unstructured improvisation sessions of early workshops, through both last minute and well-prepared 'gigs' at play-schemes, parks (eg. the Queen's Park Festival), street parties (eg. Ewart Street, Hanover), and pubs (eg. the Eagle). Throughout the group has remained flexible enough to incorporate new members and ideas.

'The Brighton Show' was supported both technically and financially by the Brighton Community Arts Workshop. The BCAW funds itself and also receives a small grant from the SE Arts Council. It aims to involve everybody interested in aspects of creative activity, including the technical skills needed for it. It is gradually building up a membership who take part in open workshops, such as dance, drama, photography and music. On occasions these produce performances, exhibitions and participatory entertainments. People are also invited to perform at the Queen's Head, Steine Street, on Friday evenings.

The overriding principle is that everyone can gain enjoyment and a sense of control over their lives by experiencing artistic potential. We do not have to accommodate, or ignore, a given body of elitist 'Art' and we can use our own art to further community action, individually and collectively.

BCAW is cautious about direct expression of political views as its aim is to serve and involve the majority of the community. However, some members got together independently and performed a largely improvised show, called 'Tom Brown-shirt's Schooldays' at the October Anti-Fascist Festival at the University, and may repeat it at other festivals.



Last Resort Theatre Company hope to tour community and tenants' associations with 'The Brighton Show' in late March. Meanwhile, it is working on participatory workshops and instant theatre, which will be offered as a resource to residential and day care centres in the area. There are also plans for a greater involvement in schools.

Another longer show is planned and in the meantime we still do short sketches at the Queen's Head and are supporting a fellow CAW venture; a pantomime called 'Knucker's Luck', which will show at the Tech. on February 17/19/20.

Last Resort Theatre Company

JOHN HARRISON

JOHN HARRISON was only 32 when he died a few weeks ago, suffering from multiple sclerosis. He was a kind and affectionate friend and a hard-working comrade. Brighton won't be the same without him.

He came here to work as a research fellow at the University. Not content with the effort he put into his research and his teaching, he quickly became involved in the early stages of the Brighton Voice. We remember his incisive articles and his smiles and good humour over an early morning cup of coffee, as we slaved over the paste-up, or over a drink in the pub, after a lengthy meeting. In occasionally fraught discussions over policy or in uncovering a suitable story, he was never sparing of his time and energy. Many early issues of the Voice bear the stamp of his personality.

Outraged at the offshore property development masquerading as the Marina, he fought tooth and nail for the Marina Action Campaign. Counter-plans and counter-planning, meeting after meeting, argument after argument, John helped with all of it. The success of the campaign and the defeat of the Marina Company in the course of the Public Enquiry is partly due to his credit. At the same time, he helped with the Hollingbury Community Association. Another memory of John: his brow knitted and ears firmly plugged as he fed a never ending stream of newsletters into a grumpy, extremely noisy folding machine.

From its beginning, John was a volunteer at the Brighton Rights Centre. Through good and bad times, he was always at hand, becoming a sort of elder statesman of the Centre. Different memories again: poring over legal volumes to produce an information sheet; a slightly shy John in the part of The Advisor in an improvised play; painstakingly guiding people through the problems which they brought along to the Centre.

In all this, he was dedicated to three things. Firstly, he devoted himself to doing. Not content with understanding the world, he wanted to help change it. He was committed to a more just society in which we would no longer be the playthings of the rich and powerful. Secondly, he was a socialist. He believed in the power of people to organise together and co-operate in running their own lives. Lastly, he wasn't satisfied with second best. Whatever he did, he did well, with the full employment of his intellectual and emotional skills and energies.

He was a fine man and a good friend. We shall miss him.

5 ANL ACTION or RESULTS

On the 10th of December the Brighton A.N.L. called a picket of Kensett Bookbinders Ltd which was known to have collated the National Fronts 'Spearhead' paper. (see August Voice). 65 people turned up, which indicates that people are prepared to turn out when action is called. However, whether the picket was a success or not is debatable. At the general meeting of Dec. 20th, criticism was levelled at the ANL's intelligence work, particularly after Radio Brighton announced that Spearhead had not been collated at Kensett since July, when Union pressure from SOGAT inside the company forced management to drop the paper. Also, after the picket various shops in the town, which have recently had trouble with Fascist attacks, were found to have had their windows broken. A spokesperson for one shop, Public House Bookshop, criticized the A.N.L. for not informing all groups suspect to attack about the picket in advance so that action could have been taken to protect such groups.

(An interesting footnote to the picket is the fact that the National Front later contacted Kensett and accused them of 'capitulating to red extremism'. A window at the firm was also smashed that evening. This may indicate that the Front were hoping to move back to Kensett after things had calmed down again. Whatever, the Union and the A.N.L. have certainly upset the Front....)

symbolism

Thus can a picket that directly achieved little other than the symbolic mobilization of 65 people be called a success. Could not these people have been involved in a more useful action, like, for example, the Paint Out the following week. The A.N.L. needs to consider carefully any action it votes on, to get to know the full facts concerning its targets (the link between Kensett and Spearhead has been known for many months--why didn't the A.N.L. find out earlier what Radio Brighton told everyone later.) -and there seems to be little 'unity of action' or co-ordination between the many groups opposed to fascism. It was, after all, the Union at Kensett which evicted Spearhead, not the A.N.L.

Spearhead, meanwhile, has crawled further along the South Coast and work is being carried out by the A.N.L. to reveal its new base.

A. N. L. PICKET KENSETT.



Results!

On the afternoon of December 17th a group of 20 A.N.L. members turned up in New England Rd., armed with brushes and paint to paint out a number of Fascist slogans that had appeared on a wall prior to the picket a week earlier. Many

people living in the flats facing the wall supported this action. One old lady said that since the slogans had first appeared she had become very frightened and afraid to go out. Other people said that they had been waiting for someone to clean off the slogans all week, and totally supported the paint out.

However, the Police who arrived at the end of the paint out did not

agree with the residents, and proceeded to accuse the group of 'causing criminal damage to a brick wall'. Attempts by them to isolate individuals failed and they ended up taking all 20 names so they could decide later whether to press charges.

Apart from this, the paint out showed how successful A.N.L. action can be and shows that the many 'ordinary' people who are directly affected by the Fascists are on the side of the Anti-Fascist groups.

Once again the Police show just whose side they are on!



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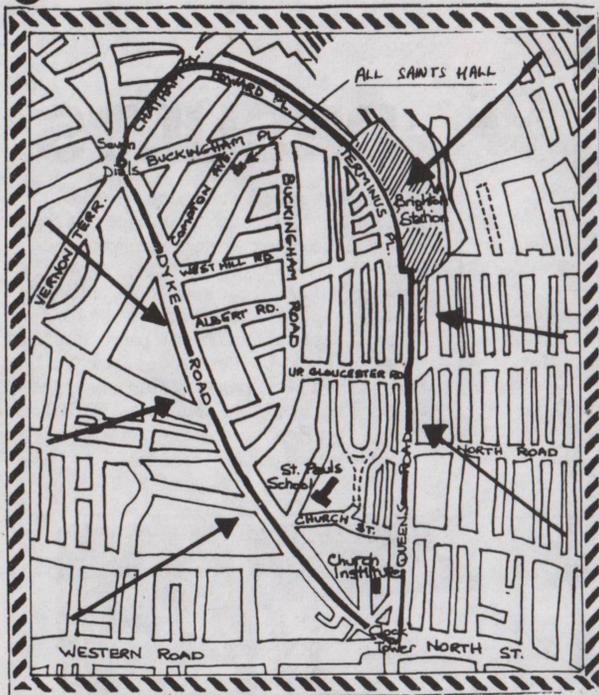
GOING,



GOING,



GONE. (but Bill arrives.)



West Hill Conservation Area is that part of central Brighton between the clock tower, Seven Dials and the station. Unlike the older parts of the town, most of the buildings are the original houses built for middle class and artisan Victorians. There is a mix and change of residents not present in the newer areas such as Moulsecomb or upper Dyke Road. There are bed-sits, occupied by people of all ages (students to pensioners), owner-occupied flats and terraced houses, often inhabited by railway commuters, and a sprinkling of small shops. Since the Rent Act the conversion of bedsits to privately owned flats is changing the character of the area. Meeting representatives of Community Associations from other parts of Sussex has made clearer the differences between those from central Brighton, and the relatively affluent, long established ones from more rural areas.

When West Hill Community Association was started there was one thing that nearly all the launching group agreed on - that it should have clear and specific objectives. It was a busy time and we never quite got round to it. It is now clear that we have been fortunate not to have had the time in the two years since. We do have clear objectives, but they are general and very un-specific. What we are now recognising is that by trying to lay down a particular route for WHCA to follow would have precluded a lot of decisions better taken later by WHCA as a whole than earlier by the steering committee. In practice our decision to apply

scale gardening, fund raising, local history, community help, chess, children's play groups. These were launched at monthly WHCA meetings. Some have had financial support from the Association and they all report back matters of interest to the monthly meetings, but their running is in their own hands. Whilst it is possible to construct hypothetical situations in which there could be a clash of interests between WHCA as a whole and one of its member groups, this has not happened to date, and as long as there are some members from each group directly involved in the running of the Association, the possibility remains remote.

The one exception to this is the newsletter group. Since the newsletter is issued by the Association rather than the group, the control of the newsletter remains with the monthly meeting. The monthly newsletter is distributed free to every household in the area (2100 copies), and is our main contact with all the members. Any member is welcome to turn up and join the newsletter, or any other, group and details of all meetings are in the current newsletter. The newsletter costs £25 a month to produce and is our largest regular expense, and probably our most important single activity.

So far we have raised nearly all our cash by traditional means: jumble sales, bazaars, newsletter adverts, raffles, although we have received £350 from the local authority and have other applications in the pipeline.

We have an arrangement over the use of All Saints church hall

West Hill ... community association

THE FIRST OF A SERIES, IN WHICH THE BRIGHTON VOICE GIVES

UP ITS SPACE FOR THE USE OF YOUR OWN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

for Charitable Status has meant that we adopted a standard form of aims and objects clause in our constitution, and this serves as a basic guideline.

From the start most of our activities have been run by almost completely autonomous groups eg the writers', small

as a community centre, and are currently involved in an expensive and time consuming programme of repairing, redecorating and equipping it.

Whilst there are many projects planned for the hall when the first stage of the programme is complete, at the moment it is used mainly for monthly meetings and social events. These meetings are open to all members, and form the policy making body for the Association. They also act as regular meetings of the Street Representatives, who are elected at the AGM and represent the Association within their streets and their streets within the Association. Together with the newsletter, which they deliver, they provide the support for the legitimacy of our claims to represent local feeling on certain matters. And this is a very difficult and contentious area.

Our 'everybody in' system of membership may well be convenient as regards organisation, but it also means that we have to be very careful indeed whenever we claim to speak on behalf of people living locally. In practice we have decided that we would far rather run the risk of facing accusations of inactivity or indifference than take a chance and campaign on issues without taking careful precautions to ensure that we have strong local support. It would be all too easy to get a little carried away and end up campaigning on some issue only to find that the majority of local people disagreed with us. It would not be difficult for a small group of individuals to operate within WHCA, treating it as a local branch of a political party or pressure group, leaving it a shell or paper organisation without enthusiasm or active members.

Fortunately this has not meant that our hands have been tied on every public issue. For example the National Front tried a sample canvass in the area

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.. and other CA news

Perhaps we've been a bit short on news and info on local community associations in recent Voice issues. A pity, because there are many CAs in the area which, besides providing essential services to local people (often filling gaps left by statutory organisations) and helping to create and foster a sense of 'community spirit', also provide a forum for local people to discuss and attempt to control what's happening in their neighbourhood.

This month we've had an article, written and typed, by the West Hill CA (see opposite), and we intend to feature others in future issues of the Voice. Meanwhile, a brief selection of news from 5 local CAs.....

North Laines

Activities include outings, socials etc. for the elderly and playgroups for the kids. In environmental matters the CA acts as a pressure group. Thanks to its efforts, North Laines was made a Conservation Area, and will become a General Improvement Area this April. North Laines has a system of street reps, and holds monthly meetings. A newsletter paper - the 'Runner' - appears regularly. Negotiations are under way for community centre premises in North Road. More info from Ray Curnow, 688538.

Queens Park

Originally called Prior House, this CA began as a pressure group fighting to get the Prior House building back for community use. The fight lost, the CA recently changed its name to Queens Park. Despite its disappointment the CA is still active, arranging playgroups, OAP socials etc, and of course the annual Queens Park Festival. The search for alternative community premises continues. This year the CA will be helped by a paid STEP worker (Special; Temporary Employment Programme), who will set up a neighbourhood care group and coordinate various voluntary and social activities. Info from Mike Sherred c/o Queenspark Books, 71 Richmond St.

Hanover

Is lucky in having its own premises from which to provide many services and social activities - eg. a co-operatively run creche, Information Service, old people's lunch & bingo, a youth club/disco, a film club, sports, drama etc. Hanover too has been appointed a STEP worker. Info from Lorraine, Jenny or Eve at the Hanover Centre - 694873

Whitehawk & Manor Farm

Uses the community centre run by the Further Education Dept., and is currently trying to obtain the lease. The CA fulfills a need for leisure provisions in the area. Activities at the Centre - staffed by volunteers - include discos for the 6-16 year olds bingo, snooker etc. Other local groups meet there too - eg, the OAP club, the guides, Whitehawk Branch Labour Party and so on. Info from Whitehawk Community Centre, 686793



Knoll

After a long search and series of negotiations the CA is now renting an old Council Works Depot. At the moment Knoll residents are working hard to convert it into their own community centre, aided every Sunday by young people doing 'community service'. Present activities are

playschemes, sports, discussions with local councillors and so on. The CA has recently been registered as a charity. Once the Centre is ready the CA will be able to do more - eg. set up an Action Group and a Care Group. Info from Mrs Pagett, 47 Florence Ave.

B.B.C. - CENSORSHIP EXPOSED !

On Thursday, 11th January, at the Donmar Theatre, Convent Garden, there was a playreading of 'Such Impossibilities' by Trevor Griffiths. The BBC had refused to screen this play, as part of a series, 'The Edwardians', even though they had commissioned Trevor Griffiths to write it.

The play dealt with the 1911 dock strike in Liverpool, led by Tom Mann, an apparently much neglected figure in trades union history. Tom encourages the strikers to form a strikes council, linking the causes of all the workers, to gain greater bargain power. It ends with a general strike going ahead, and the strikers on a march being attacked by an army of policemen with staves.

Since the play is obviously sympathetic to the strikers, and shows the management in a very bad light, it seems there was a political factor in the decision of the BBC not to show the play; although aesthetically and structurally the play was very interesting. Listening to this play at a time when strikes are hitting the whole of England, and supposedly 'strangling industry', it sounded strangely topical, even though it was written around 1972. The cruel repression of the strikers

seems a grim warning of the way things may be regressing. Mrs. Thatcher (on Weekend World 7th Jan) said she intended to greatly diminish the unions' powers if she gets into power.

union action

Trevor Griffiths and several other TV writers were present at the discussion which followed the play reading. They raised the problem of the BBC cutting and censoring plays and attacked the system by which the BBC over-commissions, and so builds up a huge backlog of rejected, although certainly usable plays. Although these plays are supposedly public property, as the BBC is publically owned, they are notoriously difficult to get hold of. The general feeling was that the TV writers' unions should be strengthened, and for its members to individually stand out against the BBC's reactionary policies.

Perhaps the BBC should try and concentrate on providing programmes which reflect the ideas of the public rather than imposing their own values onto people, then we could look forward to series such as 'Keir Hardy's People', rather than 'Churchill People', and plays like 'Such Impossibilities' could be freely screened.

HAULAGE

Voice How important do you see your struggle for a higher basic rate of pay in relation to health and safety?

Alex This has a very important bearing on health and safety. I work 50 hours a week and most drivers work 60 hours just to get a living wage. This is a fundamental health hazard. By the time I have been driving my vehicle through heavy traffic for over 8 hours I'm so disorientated by the stress, strain, vibration, etc that I'm just like I'm drunk. I need more leisure time so that I can recover and then concentrate and drive safely at work.

Voice What sort of health hazards do you face daily at work?

Alex For most of the day my place of work is the cab of my vehicle and the environment in which I work would not be tolerated by most industrial workers. The vehicle I drive at present is a Scammel Crusader. In the cab of this vehicle I face the hazards of constant vibration which can lead to lumber injuries (my vehicle has a suspension seat but many of our vehicles haven't). I face the possibility of deafness due to high noise levels, rheumatic pains due to the drafts which whistle around the small of my back from the 1/4" gap around the door, chest complaints and cancer from diesel fumes and the general stress and strains which result from working long hours for a low basic rate of pay.

Voice What about the dangers of the loads themselves ?

Alex This is an increasing hazard. A typical case was recently when a delivery driver tipped over a load of cyanide in Bexhill. He was

unaware that the chemical was on the load, the dangers and how to deal with them. Often chemicals are carried as part of a general cargo with no labelling. I would like to see all chemicals clearly marked and much more training given to drivers to keep them up with new legislation, the handling of dangerous loads and chemicals, etc.



Voice What do you think of the working conditions at BRS in general ?

Alex Some years ago BRS had a large flourishing depot in Brighton. However this was closed down and the small nucleus of workers remaining were accommodated at our present depot at Cuckfield. This depot can best be described as a large shed in the middle of a field. The conditions at the depot are very bad and the vehicles and equipment sub-standard and difficult to maintain effectively.

Voice What sort of improvements in lorry design etc. would you like to see ?

Alex Ingram drives a contract vehicle for B.R.S. in the Brighton area. He is a T.G.W.U. shop steward and safety representative. Recently he has been involved in Brighton Work Hazards Group producing a pamphlet on the hazards of lorry driving. The following is a summary of an interview he gave to the 'Voice' just before the road haulage strike

began on aspects of health and safety in the transport industry and related issues at BRS. More recently, of course, he has given his time and energy to the strike - including such health hazards as all night picket duty at Newhaven docks!

Alex Vehicles should be built to a standard and not down to a price. Proper facilities should be made available so that they can be adequately maintained. Noise and vibration are the biggest problems and these can be easily reduced by given consideration at the design stage. Headboards on trailers could be reinforced - there are too many drivers being crushed to death by loads coming into their cabs, e.g. about 3 months ago a local driver was killed by a load of concrete moving forward and crushing him in his cab.

Voice What is the attitude of BRS to health and safety ?

Alex They only pay lip service to health and safety. I have never ever heard of a safety officer within BRS. Recently when our foreman / fitter enquired over who was responsible for health and safety and BRS. He discovered that top levels of management couldn't even make up their minds and were passing the buck from personal management to the engineers and back again .

Voice How do you see your function as a T.G.W.U. safety rep/steward.

Alex When B.R.S. had its depot in Brighton there was a strong union branch well represented on the T.G.U. Council and the union district committee. However since B.R.S. has

been 'run down' in this area apathy among the union membership is running high, and union meetings are poorly attended. This has made my role difficult since it is difficult to achieve improvement without the support and active involvement of the union membership, who now tend to rely on the full time officials to make all the decisions. This does not necessarily apply to other depot depots - the Brighton area depots in the Brighton area, eg. at Roadline the workers are staunch trade unionists and very well organised, with a progressive local management. One thing I have suggested to other stewards is the formation of a Joint Shop Stewards Committee within the National Freight Corporation which operates quite a few vehicles in this area, including the Bus Company, National Carriers, Roadline and our smaller depot. This would enable shop stewards to get together to exchange information, to discuss ideas, prepare for joint action etc. However, I don't think this would get much support from the full time officials.

Voice What hopes have you got for the future?

Alex The lorry driver has traditionally been the oil rag of industry. This must change if we are to look forward to a planned and integrated transport system which services the

HAZARDS

needs of society. As far as B.R.S. is concerned locally I don't know what they have in mind - obviously they wouldn't bother to consult the shop stewards. What we really need is a new depot, so that the vehicles could be brought up to and maintained at a healthy and safe standard.

What we get is another matter.

spray painted the vehicles in the same workshop as the fitters were doing engine repairs. Imagine paint spray solvents, diesel fumes, carbon monoxide all in a concentrated area with no means of extraction except by opening the door !

Voice What difference will be made by the new Health + Safety at Work Act ?

Alex Precious little. Most road transport operators will sweep up the yard, clean up the workshops, stick up a few safety notices and think they have complied with the regulations. The legislation is poorly worded and badly enforced.

Recently when a union district official had arranged a visit to inspect the workshop the management decided that a 'clean-up' was in order. So a few days before the date of the visit the workshop was cleaned-up and the walls painted white. This caused a great deal of entertainment among the fitters - two of whom painted their boots white.

Voice Have you had much support from government health and safety inspectors?

One of the fitters told me that they were recently visited by what he assumed was a factory inspector. He walked in and said 'I don't think you've got much to complain about here. This caused some amusement among the fitters because he was standing on two high powered electric cables used for arc welding and in a pool of water which ran from a dripping tap. So much for his knowledge of health and safety!



Voice What are the conditions like inside the depot at Cuckfield ?

Alex How many garages do you go in and see extractor fans ... we don't even have one at our depot and we are a nationalized industry ! We don't even have an inspection pit - the fitters have to lie on their backs on concrete when working under a vehicle. Until recently they even

Brighton Squatter Victory

Monday 22nd. Jan saw a victory for Brighton squatters, squatter solidarity and Bit by Bit 24 hour help and info. service, in Brighton magistrates court.

Ruth, Paul and Theresa were arrested last November under suspicion of burglary on a house in Ditchling Road. The fact was the house had been empty for 7 months; it was bare of all furniture, carpets and lighting; old mouldy tin cans lay about the kitchen and old letters littered the hall carpet. All the usual procedures for squatting were followed after advice from Bruno at Bit by Bit - no damage to the pro property, filling out a supply form

before touching the energy supplies, and notifying the police of the peaceful squat.

SO WHY THE HASSLE?

Well it turned out that there was one locked room upstairs in the house, which unbelievably was the bedsit of an old man who had been in hospital for several weeks. On this flimsy evidence the police prosecutor tried to claim the house was occupied, and after deferring the trial twice (probably because of such flimsy evidence) they changed the charge to contravention of section 7 of the (so-called) Criminal Trespass Law.

SECTION 7?

Yes, Section 7 has not been tried anywhere in Britain before. It covers occupying and refusing to leave a building which is already used as a residence. If the case had been won by the police, then on its precedence, squatting could have been ended simply by leaving a single room locked in a deserted house and later claiming that it was being used as a flat, and thus occupied. As it was, **CASE DISMISSED!** A VICTORY for CACTL and for the 250 or so people who are forced to sleep on the streets of Brighton (March '78 figure). A VICTORY against empty homes and office space.



*****STOP PRESS*****

Film shown at Wagner Hall, West St. by C.H.E., Campaign for Homosexual Equality, was interrupted by 8 or 9 thugs who violently attacked viewers. 2 people taken to hospital.

If we don't stand up and oppose Fascism now then we might as well support it. Unity is strength.



WOMEN'S CONTROL OF THEIR OWN BODIES WORKER CONTROL OF FACTORIES PEST CONTROL OF THE BOURGEOISIE

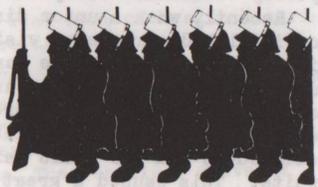
BRIGHTON UNITED TROOPS OUT MOVEMENT was set up at the beginning of November last year. Since then we have had a public meeting focussing on repression in the Six Counties and drawing attention to the work of the Irish Trade Union Campaign Against Repression. A mass leafletting of the town and factory estate drew over 50 people to the meeting.

Brighton UTOM also held a blanket protest in Churchill Square on Human Rights Day. We were drawing attention to the hypocrisy of the British government in its denial of human rights in Northern Ireland. Men and women have been taken prisoner in a war against Britain, yet their right to political status has been withdrawn. The prisoners have been forced to go on the blanket to protest against their treatment as 'criminals'. Many of them are close to death in 'H-block' where they were sent by non-jury courts. Why don't 'human rights' apply in Ireland?

Shoppers in Churchill Square stopped to talk to us. Below we have listed some of the typical comments our protest gave rise to.



TROOPS OUT NOW



" IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH ME..."

It's our country which has dominated Ireland for the last 800 years. It's the British Army out there perfecting techniques of repression, torture, chemical warfare and urban counter insurgency. These threaten socialist and trade union action in this country too.

If you're unemployed and forced into the army by poverty and lack of opportunity - then you'd almost certainly have to patrol the streets of Northern Ireland. You'll be seen as part of an occupying force - you'll be fighting ordinary working class people like yourself.

Our own standard of living and national economy has been won at the expense of Irish labour and agriculture. While in Ireland this has been paid for by appalling housing, high unemployment and low wage rates.

The beloved 'freedoms' of the British are threatened by our country's presence in Ireland. The Prevention of Terrorism Act has been used to detain people without being charged and deported without trial. The result of our war in Ireland is the inclusion of the military in matters of government and increasing press and TV censorship. Our own democratic rights are being eroded by our war in Ireland.

How long can we bury our heads in the sand?

" WHY DO PEOPLE OPPOSE THE BRITISH ARMY - THEY'RE JUST KEEPING THE PEACE BY HOLDING THE 2 SIDES APART?"

The British troops were sent in on

14 August 1969. They weren't sent in to keep the peace, but to stabilise the situation in Northern Ireland in Britain's interest.

Initially some Catholics welcomed the Army as a neutral force. Events soon proved otherwise. The Army had been sent in to prop up a state based on discrimination. So the Army's 'peace-keeping' role was soon to be one of protecting Orange Order marches and appeasing the Protestants' constant demands for 'action' against republicans. The Army consistently failed to protect Catholics from loyalist gunmen. The minority population were deliberately intimidated by the concentration of forces in Catholic areas. Internment was almost exclusively used against republicans. In January 1972 the Army murdered 14 people on a peaceful demonstration - Derry's Bloody Sunday. The British Special Air Services has been used to increase sectarianism by its terror tactic of political assassination.



British troops use a travelling gallows against rebels in 1798

There has been a constant campaign to silence the republican press by imprisoning the editorial staff and seizing equipment. On numerous occasions BBC and ITV have decided not to broadcast programmes on Northern Ireland. If the British

Army is just a neutral keeper of the peace why won't the government let us hear about it? Why aren't we allowed to talk about human rights in the Six Counties?

Harassment on the streets, house searches, torture and internment by non-jury courts is how the Catholic population experiences the 'neutral' British Army.

" BUT WHY CAN'T THEY JUST FORGIVE AND FORGET? THE IRISH SEEM TO GO ON ABOUT HISTORY ALL THE TIME."

The history of the Irish people dominates the present. The Irish can't forget the Famine, the Black & Tans, Internment, Torture and Bloody Sunday. They are reminded of their past by having the worst level of unemployment in the UK, the worst housing crisis and the lowest social provision in the whole of Britain.

The republicans see their cause as a nationalist war against the British, who have dominated their country culturally, politically and economically for centuries, eventually splitting it in two - creating the Northern Ireland state and causing today's troubles.

You can't forgive and forget when your country is occupied by the Army of the oppressing country.

" BUT WHY DON'T THE CATHOLICS USE DEMOCRATIC MEANS TO GET THEIR REFORMS? "

Democracy has always been denied to Catholics in Northern Ireland. Boundaries were deliberately gerrymandered to ensure Protestant domination when the state was artificially created by Britain in 1921. Discrimination was built into Northern Ireland constitution. In 1946 the government Chief Whip declared -

"The best way to prevent the overthrow of the government by people who had no stake in the country... is to disenfranchise them." **CONT 7**



Commemoration of the first Coalisland-Dungannon Civil Rights March

Cont. from 10

... The civil rights marchers succeeded in getting 'one man, one vote' in 1969. They also demanded the basic democratic rights of equality in housing and employment. Eg. in 1969 only 3 of 77 school busdrivers in Co. Fermanagh were Catholics, although Catholics were the majority in the county. When the civil rights movement tried to challenge discrimination they were brutally attacked.

Northern Ireland is a statelet founded on Protestant privilege. A Northern Ireland judge once said;

"Registers of unemployed loyalists should be kept by the Unionist Party and employers invited to pick from them. The Unionist Party should make it quite clear that the loyalists have the first choice of jobs."

Any attempt to peacefully challenge the lack of basic democratic rights by Catholics has always been brutally attacked by loyalists and the British state. Many people now believe that Northern Ireland is unreformable and that democratic rights can only be won by fighting for them.

" ALL IRISH ARE STUPID/DIRTY/LAZY.. "

Ireland's economy has been weakened to serve British interests. So thousands of Irish people have been forced to seek work in Britain. Like any other immigrants they get the lowest paid work and worst housing.

Racism is always used by an imperialist power to justify its exploitation of a colonised people.

We say that there is not a religious conflict going on in Ireland. The fighting is a result of Britain's colonisation of Ireland over 800 years ago and the forcible partition of the country in 1921. It is a war against anti-catholic discrimination and economic exploitation. It is a war against British domination, and in favour of the right of the Irish people to decide their own future. That's why we say:

**TROOPS OUT NOW!
SELF-DETERMINATION FOR
THE IRISH PEOPLE AS
A WHOLE!**



News



from the free press

Manchester (1) Manchester and Salford Councils are being hindered in their attempt to move families out of high rise blocks of flats into low-rise flats and houses, by the refusal of the local DHSS to pay removal expenses and grants for furniture. The DHSS says the Councils should pay but they have refused to do so. Social Security bosses in the area claim they are concerned about avoiding discrimination against people in employment. (City Enquirer)

Indonesia The (very) right-wing government is well on its way to collecting yet another award for violating human rights. 'Special teams' have been set up to inspect all schoolgirls for virginity. The teachers' union has condemned the move, but to no avail. First results show a significant number of non-virgins; the next move is awaited with interest .. (Peoples' News Service)

London (1) The GLC is offering 4 newly modernised houses to anyone who has been a council tenant for at least 2 years - if they can afford up to £32,000. Those interested have had to put down a £25 deposit (Well, it's a start!) for their names to go forward to a ballot. To afford a mortgage for £32,000, you would have to be earning £12,300 a year - not exactly the opportunity of a lifetime to join the property-owning democracy ... (Islington Gutter Press)

Manchester (2) Ultra-right wing Chief Constable Anderton continues his anti-gay crusade. The Council's Environmental Services Committee has been asked to approve new measures to combat crime - closing two toilets and 'increasing security' at others. Hasn't he got anything else to worry about? Such as police corruption, for instance? (C.E.)

London (2) "A house in Newham had its windows smashed by kids throwing bricks on October 22nd. It has happened several times before, and

the police have said they can't do anything unless the occupier catches the kids. This time he does, but while he is waiting for them to arrive, the boy's parents appear. The father is waving a knife and his wife throws a brick through another window. The father smashes the lock on the door, bursts in and attacks the inhabitants. When the police arrive, they are shown the damage and told who was responsible. Two days later the occupier of the house is charged with assault on the boy. Six days later, the occupier answers a ring at the door and is attacked again, knocked to the ground and hit over the head with an iron bar. Friends drive off the attackers and call the police, who take 25 minutes to arrive. They are given the number of the attackers' car, but refuse to take any action." Can this really have happened in England? Is it easier to believe if you know that the occupier of the house was an Asian, and the boy a white? (IGP)

- R.A.R. -

Dear Brighton Voice,

as a member of the RAR group (Rock Against Racism) I would like to take the opportunity to comment on an article in the last VOICE - "Rock Against Cock Rock" - which was about the Festival Against Racism and Sexism at the Polytechnic on Nov. 25th.

Firstly there was a total failure to convey any sort of impression of what the festival was actually like. That in terms of ATMOSPHERE it was one of the most enjoyable rock events I have attended, and that this was due in no small part to the accent that was placed on sexism. Maybe more photos and fewer words would have achieved this. Instead the article contained a mish mash of paragraphs on sexism in general, sexism in rock and in the ANL in particular. It did justice to none of the topics covered.

differing issues

For a start it assumed racism and sexism to be equal, and that therefore any campaign against one should be equally able to tackle the other in exactly the same way. Unfortunately this is just not so. Sexism is embedded into people's practice and consciences far deeper than the overt racism of the NF. So, although the ANL has been extremely successful in combatting the NF, the same hasn't been possible against sexism. Although the NF is certainly sexist in its day to day practice and its world view of things, so too is every other party; whereas the divide between the NF and the other parties is somewhat greater in terms

*point of information: 1/2 the places were to be allocated to women

benn exclusive continued from front page.....

After opening his speech to the local Co-operative Party by observing that he was unusual in moving further to the left as he got older, Tony Benn clearly stated his view that "capitalism has outlived its capacity to meet most of our needs" and that genuine socialism was the only answer. This did not, he said, simply mean more nationalization, as industries could be state-owned without being run on socialist or democratic principles.

the power industries

Examples of this were the gas and electricity industries, which were expected to make a profit and from which the poor were excluded if they couldn't pay. However, these particular services

of overt racism. Discussions on sexism within Brighton ANL have remained internal to it, due in part to the way they have been taken up, and have led to a decline in these attending ANL meetings. There have been no attempts by those initiating such discussions to take them OUTSIDE the ANL. In its one major initiative, the Women Against Fascism and Racism group demanded that 1/2 of the positions on the Brighton ANL Steering Committee be allocated en bloc to the WAFAR group,* thus alienating a number of women. The ANL was set up primarily to combat the racism of the NF, because it was through racism that the NF had attempted to build itself. That is not to say that the NF isn't sexist anti-Trade Union, anti-gay etc., but simply that the ANL was a reaction to the one thing that the NF had successfully used in order to grow. It is also doubtful whether the ANL is capable of campaigning against sexism in the same way as it has dealt with the NF's racialism.

sexist rock

To a lesser extent the same applies to RAR. Whilst RAR does not use racist bands (indeed it was the racism of Eric Clapton that gave rise to RAR), it does have bands playing whose musical form, be it rock or reggae, is inherently sexist - to say nothing of the lyrics of their songs. This doesn't mean that overtly sexist bands like the Poodles should not be banned. But, given that most, if not all, bands are, to some extent sexist, the same

should, he suggested, be moving towards a new role as social services, available to everyone as a right. Similarly, nuclear power must come firmly under the control of the people, and not be run for the profit and in the interests of the small elite in the nuclear lobby.

Benn pointed out that he himself was not a supporter of the fast-breeder reactor and, if given the choice of building one or spending the money insulating everybody's house free of charge, would certainly favour the latter.

decentralisation

Another major theme was decentralisation of power. Unlike most politicians, Benn was prepared to admit that he had been wrong in the past by advocating the progressive centralisation of

criteria cannot be applied to them as to racist bands. And again, initiatives against sexism in rock must be taken outside RAR (eg. by picketing concerts by bands like the Stranglers) otherwise the impact of events like the RARAS gig will be lost. Nor will much be achieved by preaching to people not to forget their youthful ideas of rebellion. It was also a pity that the Theatre Against Sexism didn't use amplification, as their message was lost on all except those at the front of the hall.

political impact

What the writers meant by saying that large scale events (presumably the 2 National ANL Carnivals) weren't politically effective one can only guess at. Presumably it depends on how you define politics - the activities of a small group of revolutionaries, or, trying to involve those who are not normally considered political. Brighton ANL was formed as a direct result of Carnival 1, the impact of which reached out far beyond those who attended it. And if, having gained a large audience and support, the ANL sets about discussing every problem in society - as the article implies it should - then it will become a talking shop of the few. The article talked at people rather than to them, which is a pity as the event on Nov. 25th deserved better.

Yours fraternally, Tony Greenstein
V.P. Welfare & Education, Brighton Polytechnic Union.

industrial power through mergers and the like. He now felt that small units were more likely to be open to control by their workers and that large organisations - whatever their nature - were fundamentally undesirable and a threat to democracy. Even trade unions and the Labour Party leaders could get out of touch with their leadership(!) Finally, he warned of capitalism using the "new technology" of micro-electronics, etc. to attack and smash the unions. What was happening at 'The Times' and elsewhere was that technology was introduced simply to force a reaction from the union involved, rather than from any pressing economic need. This would then produce a confrontation leading either to a union defeat, or to a wholesale replacement of workers with non-union labour.

Letters

...and more on page 14 →

£3 D.I.Y. A.I.D. JACK OFF

Dear Brighton Voice,

The British Pregnancy Advisory Service at Wistons Clinic have recently started an artificial insemination scheme and were discreetly seeking donors at the University (as a source of healthy intelligent males). The Argus report on this prompted me to indulge intrepid participatory investigator fantasies, and I made an appointment. Ideologically, the implication that intelligence was some required credential was intriguing, but in fact the screening process does not bear this out. The informal interview was concerned with physical appearance (for appropriate selective matching with the infertile 'father') and took on trust replies to the questions about 'any known hereditary defects we should know about'. The confidentiality seemingly excludes your own doctor even for any corroboration. The interviewer said the prime concern was physical matching and not 'A' levels, and some intuitive visual checking of the applicant-donor for 'obvious defects' (- her words). A sperm count is taken to ensure your donation will survive the -176°C freezing (it doesn't hurt) and a blood test.

Having been accepted you can donate as often as is required, though a gap between donations is necessary to preserve the sperm count.

An element of surrealism intrudes through at various junctures - the contradiction between the pregnancy termination function and A.I. is highlighted by your sitting next to female strangers in the waiting room; being ushered into that 'small room' (a toilet, for chrissakes!) clutching the sterile receptacle and being told to "take your time"; subsequently emerging and being handed three used ones in a plain brown envelope (yes, you get paid - each time, too) as you reciprocate your gift. In fact if the semen is frozen within one hour of ejaculation it is O.K., so home-production can replace this on-the-premises act. The potential for A.I. sabotage by working a 'switch' does not bear thinking about.

The potential recipients are of course married couples with an infertile male partner, but interestingly single women can also apply. The in-depth counselling included in the £50 fee is probably designed to discourage such applicants, but at least BPAS will entertain their requests.

I would recommend all local healthy males to participate in this unique performance art, and all single women wanting a child (almost 'to order') but reluctant to get involved with such men to make enquiries. Donors do not get counselled, though their motives are possibly more complex and varied than the recipient's.

Yours sincerely,

R.P. (Name and address withheld.)

P.S. If I were 'caught' jacking-off in a nearby public loo, would a charge of 'indecent exposure' stand up in court, given the mitigating circumstances?

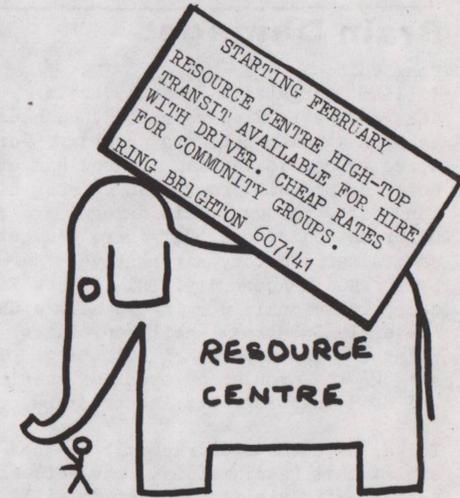
NALGO and Social Workers.

Dear Brighton Voice,

How do you manage to get it wrong when you write about social workers and NALGO?. Obviously, the article "Social workers face sell out from union" was written before the result of the ballot of East Sussex NALGO social workers was known. Social workers did vote for selective industrial action but against one day strikes.

That isn't my main objection, mistakes happen. But I do object to the lazy use of that phoney radical term 'sellout' to unfairly attack NALGO and falsely counterpose social workers against their union. NALGO social workers can't be sold out by the union, they are the union. Like other trade unions, NALGO is made up of many people, the most important part being the membership, its rank and file to use a discredited phrase. Of course, ordinary members can be misled (etc.) by their leaders, who they helped to choose, if members allow this to happen through a combination of reasons. Equally, leaders can be let down by members. The too easy use of sellout has often become a substitute for serious thought and action about how to be effective and to achieve unity in a diverse union. I think it is incorrect and insulting to imply that union officials, full-time or voluntary, are corrupt, and in league with the employers to dupe the members.

The recent rejection by NALGO's national leaders (advised by union 'bureaucrats') of proposals to end the social worker dispute and their



approval of industrial action spreading (including giving the go-ahead for our limited action) contrasts with your view that the leadership is determined "to force the social workers back to work as soon as possible, on whatever conditions the employers care to offer". The increasing cost of strike pay is an important factor in this dispute which can't be ignored. Our leaders can be criticised for not clearly expressing their worry about this to members. The diminishing strike fund belongs to all members and can't be allowed to sink to a dangerously low level; the present dispute begs the question whether NALGO strike pay should be so generous.

Locally, I would not agree with you that we are looking forward to taking industrial action. That implies entering a game, which we are not. This is a big step for the East Sussex branch, a serious attempt to improve the social workers' lot, achieve parity with most of the local government workers who already have the opportunity to negotiate locally, and to be part of the impressive country-wide struggle.

NALGO, its leaders nationally and locally, and its diverse membership, does need criticism for it to grow. Unjustified slurs and attacks from friends outside which reinforce the notion of the union being 'out there' and not part of 'me', constitute the real Sellout.

Yours fraternally,

Adrian Briggs.

Deputy Secretary East Sussex NALGO branch (in personal capacity and to quote B.V., "in an unusually militant mood").

* We apologise to J.S. for not being able to include her letter on the media's treatment of the USSR. We shall publish it in the next issue

Letters Brighton Voice
7 Victoria Road
Brighton.
cont.

Brain Damaged

Dear Voice
William Thurgate is severely brain damaged. He is five years old. He has been on a Doman/Delacato programme for three years. We decided to keep him at home, doing this programme, because his handicaps, through brain damage, are so numerous and severe that there did not seem a satisfactory alternative offered by the Local Authority. This is not to decry individuals working locally with 'Severely Subnormal' children, but to point out that the Local Authority attacks the problem by means of 'machinery' which is inappropriate in structure.

Things have improved recently to the extent that Paediatrician, physiotherapist, health visitor and parent will actually meet in the Mac Keith Assessment Centre (Attached to the Royal Alexandra Hospital) and discuss an individual child! (This cannot be said of the Eye Hospital doctors who refuse to attend and contribute to these discussions as they do not consider them important.)

Compare that set-up to the one at the Institute in Bridgewater where I take William for reassessment, and where they devise his programme. Here the child is central and not the jobs of individuals involved in various aspects of care and education. The person who devises his reading programme is also an expert on vision and has gone into the subject deeper than an average Educational Psychologist would consider necessary. (After all, Education is Education and Vision comes under 'Health' - an entirely different payroll!). Here awareness of the close connection between the child's bodily wellbeing and that of it's central nervous system is institutional and not tacked on to an archaic structure like some trendy, new and probably transitory idea. Difficulties are dealt with that are not even taken into account in the Local Authority machinery. For instance severely brain injured children often still breathe in the same way as babies, very shallowly and using belly muscles. So, at the Institute, programmes are devised to improve and mature the child's breathing. This in turn improves circulation and general health as well as brain function. If we are unwell we concentrate poorly and find academic work difficult. Sickness is a valid reason for delaying intellectual function and general wellbeing. Brain-damaged children are frequently unwell, and often with respiratory ailments.

This is just one example of why I prefer the D/D Programme, I could give several others. In the three years William has been on the programme I have seen plenty of advancement intellectually, and I am

very happy also that he can now laugh and say a few words.

He can now put one of his hands up to his face and so would be able to remove an unwanted irritant from a certain portion of his face. He certainly does feel skin irritation, so that to be able to rub his face fulfills a necessary function. I was worried that his physical progress, even on the programme, was so slight until I found that other children, whose parents I knew, had made very little physical progress. These other children are also severely damaged in the motor regions of their brains. They are receiving different treatments. As parents we are beginning to realise just how difficult it really is to make any progress in this area.

In general then, I am very happy to continue William's programme at home.

I would like to say at this point that his programme relies to some extent on members of the public who help him with his exercises. We have been very lucky up to now with the marvellous way people have volunteered and arrived regularly, week after week, to help with exercises.

However these people are usually alert and capable and sooner or later find full-time employment which prevents them helping with the programme during working hours. So you see... I need MORE HELPERS! I should be extremely grateful if anyone who would like to help could telephone 730267 at any time during the day or evening.

ELECTION MANIFESTO

Dear Voice,

I am standing as a Gay Rights candidate in the NCCL Executive elections. There are 18 candidates for 9 seats. Here is my manifesto:-

If we want real control over our own lives and bodies, we must recognise that our personal and working lives are indivisible. We need to reach a wider audience, especially by greater involvement with trade union. As a gay person I believe we need to take positive action as well as pass resolutions. I am active in the Campaign for Homosexual Equality and anti-fascist organisations. I belong to the British Association of Social Workers and TGWU (ACTSS).

Richard McCance

West Hill (CONTINUED FROM PAGE SIX) *

using the usual racist and socially divisive pamphlets. Since this contradicts so much of what we are trying to do, as defined in our aims and objects, our next newsletter, issued a few nights later, was able to carry a detailed attack. Local reaction to the canvass was so strong that our decision was not questioned. A more typical example is the Seven Dials traffic scheme. It was clear from the start that local people are bitterly opposed to the scheme, and in particular those worst affected, living in Bath Street. It is now becoming clearer that despite assurances of 'trial periods' etc. the scheme can now be regarded as permanent, if only because of the expense of reversion.

We have been careful not to be involved in any overt party politics. This would be divisive, and in fact we are forbidden to by our constitution. This makes our involvement in local issues more effective since we can deal in a united way with councillors from all three parties. For example we are taking part in a community

lobby, in which candidates for the coming local elections will be asked for their policies on a range of community issues. We hope to publish the answers in our newsletter in time for all voters within our area to know how the candidates stand before voting for them.

STOP PRESS

After moving newsletter production to the hall, and providing a community lunch and refreshments, the amount of submitted copy and the number of helpers has trebled! Feb. 10th 11-1 jumble sale at All Saints Hall, Compton Ave. Feb. 19th 7.30 refreshments and WHCA monthly meeting April 14th 11am Jumbaz held by local community groups in Union Hall, Air Street (near clock tower)

WRITTEN AND TYPED BY
JOHN WILSON AND
PAUL TOFTS
OF THE WEST HILL
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



- Womens Voice paper, Sue Zibou
- WORKERS EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Stirling Smith, 211, Queen's Park Road. 680654.
- WORKERS MUSIC ASSOCIATION: Basement, 28, Livingstone Rd. Hove.
- WORK HAZARDS GROUP: Info and resources on health and safety at work. Meet Moxs at Resource Centre. 68, Compton Road. 686302.
- WORKING ASSOCIATION OF MOTHERS: Linda Kinsella, 551341. Baby sitting, social events, creche etc.
- WORKING WEEKENDS ON ORGANIC FARMS: Don Pynches, 56, High Street, Lewes. 6286.
- YOUNG UNEMPLOYED'S CLUB: Weds., 11.30 - 2. Institute, Queens Square.
- (GRAIN): Clyde Oliver, by North St. Lewes.
- GAY TEACHERS: David or Bob 733838.
- GEORGE STREET AREA SOCIETY: (Save George St. Campaign) Howard Allaway, 7, Steine Gdns, 693763.
- GINGERBREAD: Self help pressure group for one parent families Base, 6, Marlborough Place, 774087.
- HANOVER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION: Southover St., self-build community centre. 688380.
- TWO FIERS HOUSING CO-OP: Collective ownership and control of housing for young single people. Contact Brenda Lewes 2029, Ray 776577, or Bob 737677.
- HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION: Vince Smith, 386, Portland Rd Hove. 417484.
- KINGSCLIFFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY: Ms. N. Marlow, 18, Bedford Street.
- LESBIAN GROUP: Jill, 31, Franklin Rd. 696298.
- LINK UP: Sussex University Community Action. 680380.
- MUSICIANS COLLECTIVE: John, Public House Bookshop, 2, Little Preston St.
- MUSIC FOR SOCIALISM: Contact as above.
- NATIONAL ABORTION CAMPAIGN: Contact Women's Centre. N.C.C.L: See 'Advice'.
- PROJECT ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND: Hove. 737357, 738712 or 411565.
- RESOURCE CENTRE: Top of North Rd., 607141. Basic resources for the community: meeting space, duplicating, press printing, community press, playgroup, directory of meeting space and much more.
- RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN: 19, Elm Grove. 687848.
- S.M.A.C.H.S.: 132, Ladysmith Rd 602900.
- SOCIALIST ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES ASSOCIATION (SERA): Socialist solutions for a just and sustainable society. K. Beuret, 301, E. Slope, Sussex University.
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- WINDCHESE BOOKSHOP: 19 George St. Btn. Bkism, books, Indian clothes, gifts, candles, incense, cards, 10-5, daily. WORKERS BOOKSHOP (Btn.), Marxist-Leninist classics & working class history. 37 Gloucester Rd. Tel. 684404. Sat. only 9-5.
- THIS POSTER IS PUBLISHED AS PART OF BRIGHTON VOICE NO. 53 Feb. 179 Please check your entry. If we have left you out, made mistakes or the info. is no longer up to date, please let us know. This service is absolutely free, so why not use it.....?
- 7 VICTORIA RD. BRIGHTON. BRIGHTON VOICE is an alternative paper produced by people living and working in the area. It aims to cover news which the commercial press, because of its political and social bias distorts.
- There is no editor- we are all involved in all parts of the production process. The paper is not produced for profit: we publish it because we hope you will find it interesting and useful. It is not aligned with, or funded by, any political party or grouping.
- The Voice depends entirely on support from its readers. If you have some spare time and would like to help in writing/production/distribution, we meet every Sunday at 8.30 pm at 7 Victoria Rd. (side entrance or phone 27878 at the same time)
- We support individuals and groups of people trying to take control over their own lives, and try to report things from their point of view. We hope readers will draw their own conclusions and the news will be helpful to others in the same circumstances
- ALL MATERIAL FOR NEXT ISSUE BY 14th FEB. IDEAS, NEWS, INFO, OPINION..... N.B. THE VOICE IS NOW RUN BY OVER 5,000 PEOPLE
- Brighton 693829.
- BIG FLAME: 68, Compton Road, or phone Brighton 721283, for details of meetings etc.
- BRIGHTON ANTI-NUCLEAR GROUP: Nick at 18, Bloomsbury Place, Kemp Town.
- COMMUNIST PARTY G.B.: Contact Sec: P. Goffin, 95a, St. George's Rd. (687335) meetings 1st. Wed of month at the Stanford Arms, 7.45pm phone for details.
- COMMUNIST PARTY OF BRITAIN (ML): 37 Gloucester Rd. 684404
- COOPERATIVE PARTY, B'ton: 86 London Rd. 683076. Hove: J. Cattell, 29, Foredown Drive, Portslade
- FABIAN SOCIETY: G. Forbes, 66 Meadow Way, Burgess Hill. Tel. 963-42723
- LABOUR PARTY: B'ton: 179 Lewes Rd. 602592. Sec M. Hill 22 Port Hall Pl., 557704; Hove 40 Cooper St. Sec J. Cattell 29 Foredown Dr. Portslade.
- LIBERAL PARTY: Brighton Pavilion F. Hix, Gordon House, 14e, Ship Street. Contact: 25315 (day) 26560 (evening).
- Brighton, Kemp Town: A. Frampton, 32, Brownleaf Rd., 36817. Hove & Portslade: J. McCormack, 11, Wellington Avenue, Hove, Phone 738462.
- LIBERTARIAN COMMUNIST GROUP: Ring 689697.
- NEW COMMUNIST PARTY: M. Chaplin, 83, Edburton Ave., Brighton.
- SOCIALIST CHALLENGE: c/o International Marxist Group, Student Union, University of Sussex. Grove, Brighton 687848.
- YOUNG COMMUNISTS (BRIGHTON): C. Murray, c/o 16, Waterloo St Hove, Brighton 733838.
- YOUNG LIBERALS: c/o Councillor D. Rogers, 8, Galford Street, Brighton 26011.
- YOUNG SOCIALISTS (L.P.): Contact Brighton-P. Byrne, 64, Coleman Street or 601559.
- Hove-53, Blatchington Road. Lewes-A. Bryant, 16, Willow Walk, Newhaven. 6299.
- COMMUNITY TRANSFORM: Resource Centre high-top transit and driver. Brighton 607141.
- MERLIN: Lewes Work Collective. Gardening, decorating, tutoring, mechanics etc. (Over forty skills). 5, Mount Place, Lewes. Lewes 5234.
- MOULSECOMBE CHILDRENS DANCE TROUPE: Morris dancing etc. for OAP's, children's homes, etc. B'ton 691713.
- PURE JOY: Whole Foods Catering Collective. 19, Hammy Way, Shoreham by Sea. S'harm 62304.
- VARIETY WITH THE VENTURAS: Charity concert party, OAP clubs, children's homes, etc. B'ton 737357
- LABOUR WEEKLY ADVICE CENTRE: 179 Lewes Rd., 10.30-11.30; Quinton Barry & Dave Hill, prospective parl. candidates for Kemp Town & Pavilion LEGAL & WELFARE INFO DESK: Union Hall, Air St. Sat. 10-4pm
- LIBRARIES: do not offer advice but have books which will inform you of your rights. Community info also available NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES (Sussex): 689385 or c/o Public House Bookshop (see 'SHOPS')
- PREGNANCY ADVISORY SERVICE (B'tn): abortions, vasectomies: Winstons, 138 Dyke Rd, 509726 RENT TRIBUNAL: rent disputes, security of tenure etc, 137 Preston Rd, 506381 RIGHTS CENTRE (B'tn): Advice on legal problems. Central Free Church, Queens Sq, 2492, Tue 5.30-7.30; Thu 12.30-2. 5.30-7.30
- SAMARITANS: For those in despair B'tn 772277 (24hr); Hove 102 Clarendon Rd
- SQUATTERS & TENANTS ADVISORY SERVICE: Advice to the homeless & those with housing problems c/o Resource Centre, North Rd WOMENS AID: Refuge for battered women, 506325

GROUPS, CO-OPS, Etc.

ANIMAL ACTIV. 3: anti factory farming etc. V. Smith 386, Portland Rd. Hove 411484
 ANOREXIC AID: 1st Monday of month. Noreen 682054 or Penny 735362
 BEE KEEPERS ASSOCIATION: Brighton & Lewes Division of Sussex Beekeepers. Lyn Hawkins, 14 The Lees, Peacehaven 4522
 BING CROSBY CLUB: 737357 (am)
 BRIGHTON HOSTEL: 18 Dorset Gdns Soup bottem West St 10 - 11 pm daily. Help needed 682089
 BRIGHTON SOCIETY: Environmental group. S. Montford 10, Cleremont Road.
 BUS USERS ACTION GROUP: R. Sprigge, 7, Tivoli Rd., 562172
 CAMPAIGN FOR HOMOSEXUAL EQUALITY: 202930 8 - 10 pm daily.
 CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT: 28633
 COMMUNITY ARTS WORKSHOP: Dance, drama, mime, music. St. Anne's Hall, St. Georges Rd. Kempton. 697493 for dtls
 CONFERENCE OF SOCIALIST ECONOMISTS: K. Smith, 10 Waronleigh Rd.
 FEDERATION OF TENANTS ASSOCIATIONS (BTON): 72, Swanborough Place.
 FRIENDS CENTRE: meeting Place with F.E. classes. 16, Ship Street. 27835
 FRIENDS OF THE EARTH: Margaret McIlroy, 32, Over St. 696425
 FRIENDS OF THE WESTERN BUDDHIST ORDER: Yoga, lectures etc. Beginners meditation Mon 7.15 19, George St. 693971
 GAY CHRISTIANS: Martin 680868
 GAY RURAL AID & INFO NETWORK (GRAIN): Clyde Oliver, 69 North St. Lewes.
 GAY TEACHERS: David or Bob 733838.
 GEORGE STREET AREA SOCIETY: (Save George St. Campaign) Howard Allaway, 7, Steine Gdns, 693763.
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SOCIETY FOR ANGLO-CHINESE UNDERSTANDING: D. Furoi, 12, Berkeley Row, Lewes. 2414.
 SUSSEX COUNTY SKATEBOARD ASSOC. 737357.
 TRADES COUNCIL: Coordinating group of local trades unions affiliated to the TUC. Andy Durr, 235, Ditchling Rd. 505314.
 LABOUR HISTORY PROJECT & LABOUR HISTORY PRESS: as above.
 TRADES & LABOUR CLUB: Meeting place for trades unionists. 16, Lewes Rd. 601101.
 TRANSPORT 2000: Wilf Martin, 49, Benfield Rd., Portslade. 416105. Meetings second Tues. of month, Btn. Station. 7pm.
 UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION: Nancy Dore, 157 Surrenden Rd. 501370.
 WEST PIER SOCIETY: John Lloyd, 5, Belle Vue Gardens. 603705.
 WEST HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 21359.
 WIDOWS CLUB: 47, Tivoli Crescent, Dyke Rd. Meet 8pm, fourth Wednesday each month. Unitarian Hall, New Road.
 WOMEN AGAINST FASCISM AND RACISM: contact c/o Resource Centre.
 WOMEN FICHT RAPE GROUP: Contact Women's Centre.
 WOMENS CENTRE: at back of Resource Centre. Open: Tue, Wed, Thur, Sat: 11 - 2 & Tue, Wed: 6.30 - 8 pm. Pregnancy tests, rights, etc. 605911.
 WOMENS INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE & FREEDOM: 684604 and Lewes 4161.
 WOMENS LIBERATION: Meet Resource Centre every third Monday. For info: 605911.
 WOMENS VOICE GROUP: based on Womens Voice paper. Sue 21060
 WORKERS EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION Stirling Smith, 211, Queens Park Road. 680654.
 WORKERS MUSIC ASSOCIATION: Basement, 28, Livingstone Rd. Hove.
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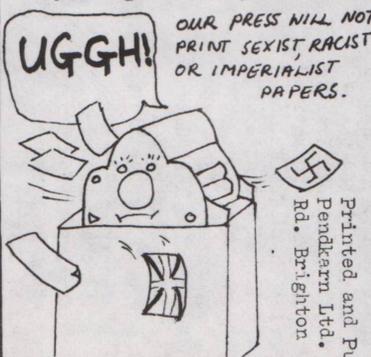
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 VARIETY WITH THE VENTURAS: Charity concert party, OAP clubs, children's homes, etc. B'ton 737357



PAPERS

BRIGHTON CHARTER: Rank & File Engineering Group: monthly bulletin; M. Perkins, 1, Normanton Street.
 CARF: Paper of the ANTI-RACIST, ANTI-FASCIST CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE: Acampaigning paper excellent, nationwide, from Public House Bookshop, or Flat 3,5, Huntley Street, London. Bulk orders / Donations.
 MOVING TARGET: Brighton's film magazine, from good bkshops..
 QUEENSPARK: Paper for the Queens Park area; 18, Windmill street Brighton.
 WAYBILL: Newsheet of T&GWU, 1/402 Brighton & Hove District Busmen, from Conway Street Depot, Hove
 WHOLE EARTH: Alternative technology, organic living, local environmental action. 11, George St. 691318.



POLITICS

ANTI FASCIST COMMITTEE: c/o 179, Lewes Road, Bton.
 ANTI NAZI LEAGUE: 12, Little Newport Street, London WC2.
 ANARCHIST COMMUNIST ASSOCIATION: Brighton 693829.
 BIG FLAME: 68, Compton Road, or phone Brighton 721283, for details of meetings etc.
 BRIGHTON ANTI-NUCLEAR GROUP: Nick at 18, Bloomsbury Place, Kemp Town.
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 YOUNG SOCIALISTS (L.P.): Contact Brighton-P. Byrne, 64, Coleman Street or 601559. Hove-53, Blatchington Road. Lewes-A. Bryant, 16, Willow Walk. Newhaven 6299.

SHOPS

ANANDA: 19, Bond Street. Odds & ends, Indian crafts, incense, etc.
 BRIGHTON HOSTEL SHOP: Charity shop, 105, Islingwood Road. Open 10 - 4. Articles wanted.
 GREENS: Vegetarian Restaurant, 7, Victoria Road, 27878. Open 10 - 11pm (meals from 6pm) Closed Tuesdays... Takeaway too
 INFINITY: 25, North Road, 603563.
 FOOD: Macrobiotic/wholefood supplies. Open 9.30 - 5.00 Closed all day Wednesday.
 BAKERY & PLE SHCP: Open 9 - 5, except Wednesday, 9 - 5.30.
 BULK STOPE: Bulk supplies. Open Tues. - Sat.; 9.30 - 1 & 2 - 5
 KEMP TOWN BOOKS: 91, St. George's Road.; Radical literature: new and second-hand books.
 PUBLIC HOUSE BOOKSHOP: 21 Little Preston St, 28357. Books, mags., records, coffee. Basement events Bi-monthly newsletter. New musical catalogue out now.
 PULSE: Sussex Univ. wholefood cafe SCR Palmer House. Feminist collective. Mon-Fri. 12-2.
 SAXONS VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT: 48 George St. Btn. 690733 Mon-Sat. 11.30-5. Also Fri & Sat. 7.15-11. Bring own wine.
 SOLSTICE BOOKSHOP: 28 Trafalgar St. Btn. alternative books & mags. basement reading room. Tel. 692880.
 SIMPLE SUPPLIES: Wholefood, recycling, publications etc. environmental centre. 11 George St. Btn. 691318. Mon-Sat. 9.30-5.30. Closed Thurs.
 SUNRISE RESTAURANT: 16 North Rd. Btn. Whole food, vegetarian. Run by members of the Western Buddhist Order. Mon-Thur 12-5, Fri & Sat 12-6 & 7-10pm.
 THREE ROOMS CAFE: 14 Blatchington Rd, Hove. Vegetarian. Mon-Sat 10-3. Tel. 779933
 WINDHORSE BOOKSHOP: 19 George St. Btn. Buddhism, books, Indian clothes, gifts, candles, incense, cards. 10-5. daily.
 WORKERS BOOKSHOP (Bton.) Marxist-Leninist classics & working class history. 37 Glouc. Rd. Tel. 684404. Sat. only 9-5.

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 ALL MATERIAL FOR NEXT ISSUE BY 14th FEB. IDEAS, NEWS, INFO, OPINION.....
 N.B. THE VOICE IS NOW RUN BY OVER 5,000 PEOPLE

ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

ACUPUNCTURIST: Peter Deadman B.Ac Brighton & Lewes; Lewes 77996
 ACUPUNCTURIST: J.P. Scott, ALEXANDRA TECHNIQUE: S.J. Scott 33, Surrenden Crescent, Brighton 559379, Appt. only
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TRADES COUNCIL BULLETIN

Feb 79

no. 3

STRIKE
SPECIAL

£60 NOW! The fight for a Living Wage

Last Monday's Low Pay Strike by local government manual workers was described by the Guardian as the "most co-ordinated industrial action to hit Britain since the General Strike of 1926". In Brighton, there were successful pickets outside the ambulance depot in Elm Grove, where drivers agreed to answer only emergency calls; at the refuse collection depot in Hollingdean and the street-sweeping depots in Castle St. and Park St.; even the Royal Pavilion stayed closed.

At the refuse depot in Leyton Rd. in Hove, however, NUPE workers crossed picket lines to continue working as normal. There was very little response at the Polytechnic, except for a strong early morning picket at Mithras House. The situation was better at the University: both entrances were picketed and people were asked to turn back. A number of students ignored this request, despite the student union's call for a sympathy strike.

Those who didn't stay to picket, went up to London to join the mass rally. Nine coaches left Brighton, to swell the ranks of the 100,000 workers calling for a living wage.

Although the response to the strike call was overwhelming among GMWU members, there was dissatisfaction among the NUPE strikers, who complained about the lack of solidarity among their brothers at the Polytechnic and at the Leyton Road depot, and about the general lack of co-ordination by their executive. This was also echoed by shop stewards. Instead of calling for an all-out strike, the circular sent by the NUPE Executive Council to their shop stewards offered a number of

alternative forms of "disruptive action" - such as works to rule and meetings (but "at workplace level only" it was stressed).

The claim by the low pay unions for a minimum basic rate of £60 for a 35 hour week may seem a ludicrously high demand when the establishment press spouts it out in terms of percentage increases against levels of inflation and price rises. These magic figures which are deemed to be so important in stabilising our economy have been chanted so often that we forget just who is responsible for the health and well-being of our country; and we can sit back and watch a man charge the ambulance drivers with "legalised murder", who for as little as £36 a week save the lives of thousands of people every day.

The £60 a week claim is, in fact, based on $\frac{2}{3}$ of the government's figures for the average weekly wage (which in Nov 78 was £94.89). Thus the lowest grade workers would get a rise of about £18 (from £42.40), and the pay for highest grade workers would increase from £48.25 to just over £70 (still well below the £95 average). If one accepts that every worker is entitled to live adequately in a society s/he works to maintain, then this demand is more than reasonable.

At present, the basic wage for a middle grade manual worker in local government is around £40; on top of this is added a £5 weekly supplement which is deducted when calculating overtime and other bonuses: don't forget, this is before tax and N.I. has been deducted.

The Trades Union Campaign Committee Bulletin cites examples of a University porter who has to balance a £40 basic take-home wage against a basic weekly expenditure of £47, and of a groundsperson who takes home only £33 a week. It is only by working far more than 40 hours a week that they can attempt to make ends meet; without overtime, the take-home pay for many public service manual workers would be about the same as they would get on Social Security - and we all know how appallingly low that is. But why should a roadsweeper have to get up at 5.30 every day of the week just in order to survive the price inflation which is caused by profit-grabbing employers and not the so-called 'selfish' workers. Why should someone compete for overtime, which is offered only when the management deem it cost-effective?



Through the National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Services (Manual Workers), the employers made an offer 'within' the 5% pay guidelines. Just what the offer amounts to becomes clear when assessed with-

Low Pay Strike (cont.)

in the grades. A middle grade worker would get a rise of £1.70 a week (from £4.70 to £6.40), or 3.8%, while the lowest grade worker would get a rise of less than 1.5%: or, in 'real' terms, 60p - which, after stoppages, amounts to nothing! Just how the employers intended to placate their workers with an offer like that is anyone's guess. And then along came Sunny Jim Callaghan who, in a 'desperate' attempt to avert the strike, made an unnegotiated offer of £3.50 a week for all grades. On top of the fact that this offer did not go through accepted negotiating channels, the basic rate would remain the same and the £3.50 would be added to the weekly supplement - which, remember, is deducted from basic pay rates for bonuses; as the NUPE Strike Bulletin comments, it would equal "the price of a bus fare". The NUPE bulletin is titled: 'Strike on Monday? We Can't Afford Not To!'; this highlights the complaints by a lot of low paid workers that they cannot afford to lose a day's pay by going on strike. All the more reason for the NUPE Executive to stress to all its members how vitally important it is for the Day of Action, and what follows, to be an overwhelming success.



W. Scullin
"... and is what he does say non-controversial?"

We Need Your Work Now

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Social workers fight on

- despite setback

As predicted in the last issue of the Voice, Brighton and Hove social workers voted overwhelmingly for a series of one-day strikes in the recent ballot in pursuit of their claim for regrading and local negotiations. Unfortunately, their support for this action was outvoted by workers in the more conservative rural areas, and the proposal was lost by a handful of votes.

A series of measures were agreed, however, including bans on all types of work in the Juvenile Courts, on the completion of adoption reports, on co-operation with the police Juvenile Liaison Bureau and on dealing with enquiries from Councillors, all as from January 2nd.

Disillusioned

Following the wholesale rejection of the last botched-up and largely incomprehensible offer cooked up by a joint union/employers working party, NALGO, the main union involved in the dispute, is rapidly becoming disillusioned with its foray into the hard world of industrial strife. The strike is now costing over £500,000 a month nationally, and a further lease of life will force NALGO to obtain a mortgage on its London headquarters.

It is therefore unsurprising that prodigious efforts are being made to get a return to work, under any conditions that can be swung on an increasingly suspicious membership. A special conference has been called for the end of January (shortly after the Voice went to press) for this purpose, and few changes from the last scheme are expected by those taking action around the country.

Standing firm

The radical NALGO Action Group says: "in typical fashion our own NEC have tried to contain and tone down the strikes, as well as negotiate a national sell-out. Although by massive rank and file pressure we forced some escalation and stopped a frame-up, talks are still continuing". Local social workers, many having their first unpleasant taste of industrial action, are standing firm and will want a definite and substantial improvement in pay before they consider a return to normal working.

Support for their action is reported even in the higher reaches of East Sussex Social Services Department, but the police and magistrates are not happy, to say the least, and neither is the Tory-dominated Social Services Committee.