

Unity

NOTTS ANTI FASCIST ALLIANCE
ISSUE No. 3 ~ DONATION PRICE 10p



Kirkby: BNP stand

The decline of the BNP proceeds apace with their local election effort limited to eleven candidates nationally, and only one in the East Midlands. It appears that the reason why they can put up so few candidates is not a shortage of money, but a shortage of respectable people to stand.

In Kirkby their 'respectable' candidate is Garry Marshall, a tenant of Derwent Housing Association. His violence is usually confined to attacking his girlfriends.

Despite Marshall's history of violence against women, the BNP are again emphasising their 'law and order' approach (*what was it Goebbels said? - the biggest lies are the easiest ones*). Other leaflets emphasise the BNP's concern about the NHS (odd, given how many people the BNP put in hospital), and the decline of local industries (odd, given that the BNP membership so often attack trade unionists and others defending jobs).

The BNP won't win in Kirkby. The main estate where they are after votes, Coxmoor, includes a high proportion of older people who fought the Nazis from '39-'45. Although they do have some limited support in Kirkby, the vast majority of people there loathe the BNP.

Many people have found the BNP 'canvass' teams of six and seven very intimidating. At least one person

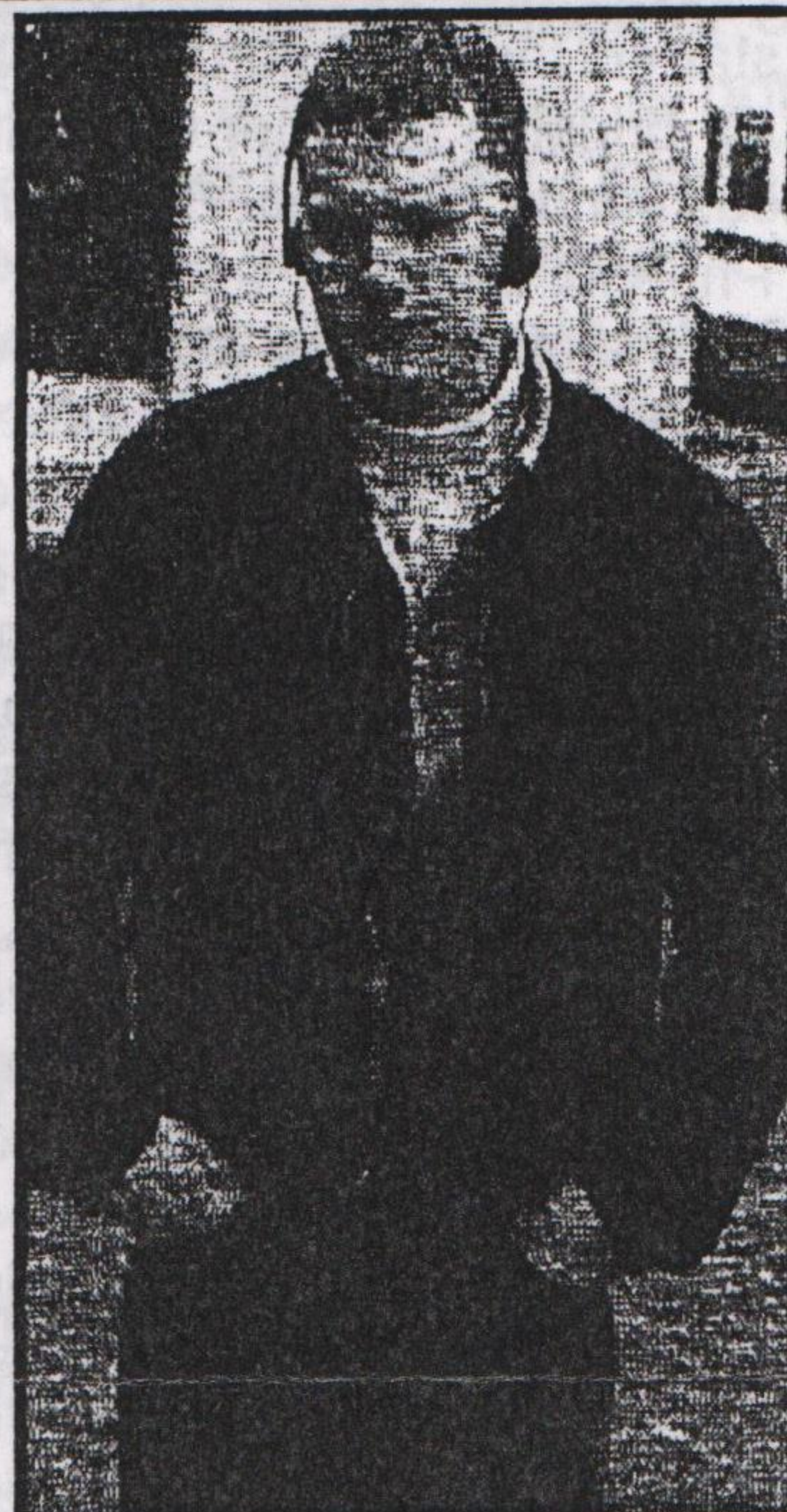
has had his house daubed with swastikas.

Anti-fascists have been regularly leafleting the estate and Kirkby shopping precinct. The local Labour Party should win the seat, but have done little campaigning. However, to the credit of the local Labour candidate, he has openly denounced racism and fascism. If you want to get involved in the anti-fascist campaign, get in touch via the box number, and leave your phone number if you have one. All messages will be

treated in confidence, as always.

Elsewhere in the Midlands, Bryan Kent is standing as a Christian Nationalist in the Castle Ward in Newark. Kent was active for some time in the Newark unit of the BNP. He produces a newsletter but is not thought to have much support. His Christianity does not go down too well with his fellow fascists (who prefer Nordic gods).

Does Kent know the ethnic origins of Jesus the C?



**Yes! It's Jailhouse
Rock for Stephen
Bradley**

(see "Court Report" on
back for details)

STOP PRESS

We've just been given a fairly graphic account of the local response in Ashfield to the BNP's electoral hopes. We were told by a local woman of a team of BNP canvassers who came to her door, and asked her how she felt about their views, having given her the usual patter. Pointing to her Yorkie terrier, who was in the process of relieving its bladder on one of the BNP's trouser legs, she replied, "That's what I think." Buy that woman a drink! (And her dog a bone - Ed)

.....GIG.....GIG.....GIG.....GIG.....

NAFA presents another "Angus Babysits..." night
at the Old Angel, Stoney St, Nottm,
on Monday May 8th.
Live bands with the best in thrash, punk and
hardcore for a ludicrously small sum.
8pm onwards.

SHORT CIRCUIT2

The aim of this column is to make available information on fascist activity and activists to a wider audience.

If you have any info' to share, please send it to:

Short Circuit, c/o NAFA, PO Box 179, Nottingham, NG1 3AQ

Mark it private and confidential.

For this issue we've got a theme - the growing identity crisis in the far right. Yes, you've got it - they're more confused than ever.

For starters the formation of the National Socialist Alliance (NSA), bringing together Combat 18, Blood and Honour, various bands, dissident British Movement members (aka the Phoenix Society), and other assorted scum has not helped matters. Many BNP street activists have already gone over to the NSA, hence the failure of the BNP's big electoral push in the East Midlands.

Garry Marshall (see front page) has as his agent one Eric Steven Belshaw - who is really convicted thug Steven Eric Belshaw suffering an identity crisis which leaves him unable to remember his real name. Perhaps he should have stuck to Steven Briggs.

Marshall, of Southwell Close, lives in Derwent Housing Association property. He is still on the tenants' group. This is more due to his shaven headed friends turning up at a meeting to discuss his continued membership, than to any sympathies amongst the tenants.

Lincoln BNP have been very active of late. These Aryan Warriors got so confused they threatened to run five candidates in Scunthorpe. Then they failed to run any candidates anywhere. So, if you come across any puzzled "fash" on your way to Skeg, and particularly if they're clutching nomination papers, odds are that it is Lincoln BNP.

On February 20th Lincoln BNP did manage to host John Tyndall at the Duke of Wellington in Lincoln. The meeting was chaired by Tony Braithwaite from Hull. Among the speakers was: "Frank Kimbal Johnson, a veteran of World War II who is still fighting the battle to save Britain half a century on." (Quote from Spearhead).

Johnson a resident of Nottingham and a long standing supporter of Tyndall is obviously suffering from total confusion. Naziism lost in 1945, and yet he appears on Nazi platforms still fighting 50 years later - fighting for the Nazis. Even the 'kameraden' in Leicester have suffered an outbreak of confusion. After a joint leafleting at Filbert Street with

Coventry BNP they discovered that the BNP head office had disowned the leaflet. No problem, they disowned the head office. Headless chickens anyone?!

Even the ever quiet British Movement have got caught up in this identity crisis. Birmingham BM who publish "Europe Awake" under the title of Phoenix Society have thrown in their lot with NSA. This was after BM national organiser Stephen Frost ordered them to sever all links with the NSA. Mind you they have made it clear that although they are with NSA, they all continue to promote the BM. Clear as mud.

In Derby in one night they managed to put out BNP, NF and Phoenix material. In Leicester they are putting out BNP and NF material. And in Kirkby the BNP candidate and his supporters are using BM stickers???

With all this confusion it is no surprise that the recently returned Simon Chadwick - back in Bolsover, is keeping the head down. Perhaps he should talk to Laurence Johnson in West Bridgford. Sorry Laurence, you cannot keep turning up at BNP meetings, and then telling other people that you are no longer involved. What is up with you? Are you confused?

Perhaps Chris Hipkin in Derby knew something when he called his new outfit "Renewal of Identity", this also acts as a NSA contact address. Mind you, with what I have heard about Chris Hipkin's contribution to a multi-racial society, he faces a major identity crisis of his own. And what will Charlie say?

I cannot finish this article on confusion without feeling some guilt over the fascists' identity crisis. So here is my little bit of help. Step forward Alistair Bulman of Sherwood Rise, Nuncargate, near Ashfield, aka Benny - long time leading light in Notts BM, aka the boxholder for "Against all Odds", PO Box 30, Nottingham. This just happens to be linked with the dissident BM group Phoenix. Hope that clears things up.

Thanks to all those who contributed info to this column - and to those whose info was useful but not for publication.

Advertising feature.(Sort of)

A place to a Void

Tony White (white by name, white supremacist by politics) invites all to his emporium in Hockley. Bondage gear, leather and PVC for the masses.
10% off to British Movement members.
"We change our windows regularly".

Nelsons Solicitors

"Having our cake and eating it".

Specialists in immigration law, we regularly circulate anti-fascist and anti-racist groups, offering our services. Only thing is, we also defend BNP members involved in neo-nazi shopping sprees in alternative bookshops.

Never Again?

As we go to press, we remember that it is now 50 years since the liberation of Belsen. Across the world, newsreel footage and documentary broadcasts have reminded us of horrific atrocities of Belsen, Auschwitz, Buchenwald and Dachau.

These camps were organised by Hitler's Nazis served two purposes:

- * to provide slave labour;
- * to exterminate all who were deemed "undesirable".

"Desirable", meant Aryan, i.e., white, northern Europeans, so long as they were able-bodied, and not political opponents of the regime, and not gay or lesbian. There were many categories that could make you "untermenschen" - less than human, and therefore a candidate for the "final solution". How many of us would have survived? The final solution was indeed

final.

Fifty years seems a long time. While we have the capacity to remember, we also have the capacity to forget. We need to remind ourselves of the unprecedented horrors of the holocaust - although it is difficult to even begin to imagine the idea of 20 million people being systematically exterminated.

The racism and prejudice that divides people as the Nazis did is still very much alive. If the holocaust was unique in its size and efficiency, mass slaughter of people on the grounds of race and ethnicity is not. So, we also remember the genocide in East Timor by the Indonesian government (who enjoy the support of the US state), the horrors of ethnic cleansing in former Yugoslavia and the mass butchery in Rwanda.

The act of commemoration should not be a passive act. It is a time to renew our commitment to fight fascism and racism, whenever and wherever, along with the conditions that allow them to thrive.



Inside Racist Europe

Liz Fekete and Frances Webber
Institute of Race Relations £4

This is a short, well researched account of how European governments work together in effect to maintain the agenda of the European right. It describes, country by country, how refugees, asylum seekers and other migrant people are:

- * denied legal rights
- * held in appalling detention centres
- * injured, even killed, in shocking numbers
- * deported.

It shows how the popular press are prepared to push an argument against economic immigration - we all 'know' how 'they' take 'our' jobs, 'our' houses and take over 'our' education system, don't we?

The book shows how the laws of the European Union stoke the fires of fascism, and how anti-fascism has to work on the larger canvass of a struggle against state racism. The problem is not just the thugs in boots, not by a long chalk. In many ways the respectable face of racism is the more powerful.

This is a useful, readable resource for anti fascists and anti racists everywhere.

Reading matters

Denying the Holocaust

The growing assault on truth and memory

Deborah Lipstadt

Penguin Books approx. £9

In this well documented book Deborah Lipstadt introduces us to the world of holocaust denial. Most people at least accept the fact of the holocaust. But since 1945 there have been a steady stream of people who maintain either that the holocaust is the major hoax of the 20th century, or that it has been exaggerated beyond all proportion. Behind the so-called 'holocaust myth' - it is argued - stands a powerful Jewish conspiracy.

Lipstadt shows how the holocaust deniers set out to manipulate the evidence of the holocaust. She is concerned by their attempts to become respectable (in fact, many deniers are already very respectable academics), setting themselves up as people with valid, if controversial, opinions to offer. The numbers of holocaust deniers who are appearing on US TV suggests that they are certainly making some headway into the mainstream. Colin Wilson, the maverick paper-back crime/occult writer, is one example of a popular mainstream writer who has bought into holocaust denial. She shows how dangerous it is to get drawn into the idea that holocaust deniers have 'opinions' to offer. You cannot have a rational debate over whether the holocaust happened or not. In any case their agenda has nothing to do with interpretations of history and truth.

Their real aim is simple. If deniers can cast doubt on the truth of the holocaust or at least get people to question its extent, they open the door to fascism and Naziism again becoming respectable. This is a timely warning.

COURT REPORT

12 nazis go down, four more follow them: Ronald, Colly and Ross walk.



In January, one year after attacking the Nottingham independent bookshop, Mushroom, twelve nazis have been gaoled for their part in the assault. **Stephen Bradley** from Coatbridge, Lancashire got three years and eleven others, including Blood and Honour activist **Paul Burns**, got two months. Burns booked the venue used for Blood and Honour's "White Xmas" bash in 1994. Two further nazis were bound over.

Evidence against Bradley included fingerprint evidence, but evidence against the others was more limited - they succeeded in pleading the original violent disorder charge to threatening behaviour. Thirty-two nazis were originally arrested, the majority of whom never being charged.

The sentencing itself had many elements of farce, with Bradley being late for court. Judge Benson (of whom more later) bent over backwards to dismiss pre-sentencing reports by probation workers, suggesting that there was no racial motive in the earlier conviction of one of the defendants for attacking an Indian restaurant, and proposing that the nazis had only gone to the bookshop to take the mickey. The Crown and the judge said - and there is an element of truth in this viewpoint - that the ring-leaders were never caught. The nazis' barristers seized on this and suggested that their clients (at least one of whom came to court wearing a "Skrewdriver" logo on his jacket) were boy-scouts, really...

Judge Benson then denounced their "awful, loutish thuggery" in "an incident of terrifying proportions", and gave sentence. Workers at Mushroom Bookshop are happy with the sentences passed.

In a later development, the nazis were given a hard time in Lincoln Prison, where other inmates assaulted two and stole their possessions in response to their boasting of their exploits.

Independant Bookshop in Sheffield has recently been threatened with attack. Maybe the nazis who are making

these threats ought to remind themselves of the problems that some of their mates who attacked Mushroom have since had to face.

In a busy period at the courts, Ronald Thomas, whose case had been championed by Nottinghamshire Anti-Fascist Alliance, was found not guilty of ABH and GBH, having defended himself and his wife against a racist assault at the Showcase cinema. The Ronald Thomas Defence Campaign - supported by, amongst many others, NAFA, trades unions and several black groups ran a high profile campaign to publicise racist incidents and the police response to them. Their stand was fully vindicated.

However, following Ronald Thomas being found innocent, Judge Benson (for it was he - again!) ordered an investigation into the defence campaign, with one person, Ross Bradshaw, being hauled from his work by the police to appear before Benson on contempt charges. This followed a juror at the trial being given a defence campaign leaflet at the court by someone unconnected with the campaign or family. Great concern was raised at Benson's actions - seen by local MPs and well-known solicitors (including Gareth Pearce, who defended the Birmingham Six) as an attempt to criminalise the legitimate activities of defence campaigns. Alan Simpson MP, more active in the campaign than Ross Bradshaw, offered himself for arrest. In the event, Judge Benson backed down and Ross Bradshaw and Ronald Thomas walked free.

Finally, Colly Wilson from Derby was freed by the Court of Appeal, having languished in gaol on a fitted-up charge for a robbery in St Anns. Colly Wilson had been supported by NAFA, but it was the Sheffield-based group, Conviction, who campaigned on the issue from the start, believing Colly was the victim of a racially-motivated miscarriage of justice. He will now be claiming compensation for time served.

Spot the Bonehead

An update on the photo featured in the last issue of "Unity".



On the front cover of issue number two, we showed you two examples of the master race spotted outside Nottingham Guildhall. The one in the foreground with the particularly fetching British Movement insignia on the arm of his jacket turns out to be the luscious **Simon Biggs**, currently serving time at Acklington prison in Northumberland, where swastika symbols and photographs have been removed from Biggs' cell wall and that of his BNP-supporting mate, **Craig Bond**.

Obviously no hint of Biggs using Her Majesty's establishment for a spot of self-improvement.

NAFA Subscriptions are: £2 waged, £1 unwaged, £10 Trade Unions and Organisations.

With yearly membership of NAFA you receive:

a regular newsletter # invites to all NAFA events and meetings # concessions on all NAFA gigs # automatic membership of Beatroot nightclub (where the majority of NAFA gigs take place).

If you wish to join NAFA, fill in the slip below and send to: **NAFA, PO Box 179, Nottingham, NG1 3AQ.**

I enclose: ☐ £2 waged ☐ £1 UB40/NUS ☐ £10 T.U./Organisation ☐ Donation

Name: _____

Address: _____
