



RED & BLACK

Irregular Bulletin of the Red and Black Club

issue #1

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SAFETY ON THE BUSES

Attacks on workers, and passengers, on public transport have been an unfortunate fact of life for many years now and if anything are on the increase. This is despite so called security measures being taken by the relevant companies which in reality involve replacing people with machines, i.e. cameras.

Cameras can film incidents but can hardly stop them; especially if the cameras aren't real, as on the buses. The simple fact is that many people have been hurt on public transport because there aren't enough people working on them. Once again the profit motive comes before people.

The 36 bus route has attracted attention from the local Press due to the number of attacks on workers and passengers.

Cameras and threats of prosecution via poster are totally inadequate. It hasn't stopped conductors and drivers being beaten or passengers being robbed.

The bosses are using privatisation as an excuse to rule by fear; which is why the days of walkouts and "wildcats" seem gone. Lets hope not! It wasn't that long ago when an attack on a driver or conductor would result in an immediate walkout by whole garages.

Bus workers need as much protection as possible, and should demand it where they don't have it. This

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In brief

Council tenants in Brockley shouldn't be surprised when their local Neighborhood office in Wickham Road Shuts soon. The lease has expired on the existing building and the elections are over now. It looks like the homes will be divided between other offices, with some tenants having to go as far as Lee Green of Forest Hill. There'll be the usual farce of consultation, where some Housing department bigwig will tell tenants associations that closure is unavoidable, so they might as well agree to it. Job losses are a possibility too, but we don't know how many.

Reports have reached us of a disproportionate number of black kids being excluded from Edmund Waller school in New Cross. It might be that all the black kids are devils and the white kids are angels, but it sounds unlikely. Racism sucks, and institutionalised racism is the most insidious. Any more information on this - drop us a line.

Building workers for DIRECTeam, the council directorate that makes the Tories look humane, recently had a pay cut imposed. DIRECTeam Building Works prices to it's customers, mainly the Housing department and it's tenants, still went up. Since DIRECTeam took over the repairs service loads of workers have been sacked, or forced out so that no redundancy payments get made. One worker said that if you tried to fight back or use the union, management "went for you".

Lewisham Labour Party like to pretend they're socialists, but Victorian labour practices like these give the lie to that claim.

At the recent council elections, Anthony Johnson, a National Front fascist, got 203 votes in Marlowe ward. While this isn't much there's no room for complacency.

Johnson adopted the usual NF tactic when canvassing, drop the leaflets through the door and run. The big question is how he got round there in the first place. Here at Red & Black we're clear - there's no place for racist morons like Johnson in New Cross, or anywhere else.

★ **RED & BLACK**

Lewisham Red and Black Club is a group of working class people who don't like what's going on, and believe it's up to all of us to change things. We have no faith in politicians or experts to solve our problems. This bulletin is our first effort. We're trying to stir things up a little. As Lewisham looks more like a one party state, the time has come to fight back against a government that cuts everything, apart from their mates pay, and a council that goes along with the whole shabby process. So, if you have any dirt on anything you think we might be interested in, drop us a line. We're at;

Red & Black
PO Box 574
Brockley
SE4 1DL

We have regular social and discussion meetings, which are open to anyone interested in our ideas. If you'd like to come along, write to the address above.

Safety on the Buses

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can include security screens & panic buttons for drivers, and radios for all bus crews. Best of all, buses should be crewed by a driver and a conductor, for the safety of workers and passengers. If you get on a bus, whatever company, where the staff are unprotected ask London Transport why.

NO ONE LIKES THEM

Once again Millwall F.C. have had their name dragged through the tabloid press after the "riot" at the match with Derby at the New Den.

Much has been said, some of it true. The press hacks don't care what it is as long as they get a good story. Here's what we know.

The trouble before the game at Surrey Docks was pre-arranged. Some Derby fans told their Millwall counterparts that 100 Derby fans



would be in the Warrior pub before the game.

Reg Burr, Millwall's chairman, along with the press, tried to make out that the trouble in the ground was caused by thugs who weren't real Millwall fans; you know the story, never been before, wearing Italian gear, etc. Our Match day correspondent recognised about 90% of them!

Perhaps more laughable was reg's remarks about the lack of racism at Millwall games. Racism is rife at Millwall, anyone who's been knows that. It must be stressed that Fascism, i.e. the BNP, is not. We hope that genuine Millwall fans with progressive views start to make their voices heard more in countering the bigots, especially through the fanzines.

We see nothing wrong with people defending themselves from attack, but looking for a ruck is for those who haven't or won't grow up.

Our sympathies go to the residents of the area who had to put up with their estates being invaded after the game. They don't deserve it.

Post script

The following day those clever people at Greater London Radio sent their intrepid reporter to investigate. He ended up interviewing people at Millwall, on the Isle of Dogs.

COMING SOON, to a footie match near you....

SPORTSCENE

We hear that a new publication will be hitting the streets of S.E. London in the near future.

It's going to be called Sportscene and will cover...sport! As many of them as possible. So if you want to get your team mentioned look out for it and get in touch.

It will be tabloid size but with more fact than fantasy and is being produced independently.