

# The men on these stretchers were shot by Israeli soldiers Who are the real terrorists?



fter September 11th, we were told that a war against terror would be unleashed. No sooner was it declared than Israel announced its own bloody suppression of the Palestinians would constitute a front in it. If we cut through the sanctimony and see this war for what it really is, then the claims of Israeli prime minister Sharon to be part of a 'just cause' are indeed plausible. For the war isn't being fought against 'terror' at all – it's only being fought to decide who

The war on 'terror' goes the same way. At Camp X-Ray, prisoners are held naked, shackled and blindfolded. They are denied access to lawyers and force-fed when they go on hunger strike to protest.

In the war against the Palestinians' right to a homeland (in fact, any kind of home at all - houses in Palestinian settlements are claim of the Israeli state to moral legitimacy has been shown up for the lie it always was. Israel's latest invasion of Palestinian territories has shown that, gorged on blood, the west's monster has slipped the leash. In the process, it's thrown into jeopardy Bush's desire to murder yet more Iraqi kids, and (with street protests across the Middle East to show solidarity with the Palestinian struggle) put the 'stability' of the region into question. Over two hundred Palestinians have died in the last fortnight, as Israeli helicopters have fired rockets into refugee camps and Israeli snipers have shot down pregnant women in the streets. Ambulance drivers have been targeted. The International Red Cross has publicly accused Israel of preventing ambulances from reaching the region. In every camp invaded, Israeli soldiers have rounded up all Palestinian males between the ages of 14 and 50, stripped them naked, blindfolded them and removed them for

interrogation. The camps have been shelled continuously by F-16 planes and Apache helicopters. Water and electricity have been cut off. The Palestinian Red Crescent has warned of the dangers of an epidemic because of the number of corpses decomposing in the streets.

The Israeli invasion is illegal – in breach of routinely bulldozed by the Israeli army), the international law and in defiance of the UN - but as laws are the legitimations of the powerful, so the slaughter continues. In

land has been taken through the destruction of villages and the massacre of Palestinian families.

Proportionate to its population, Israel is the recipient of more US foreign aid than any other state in history. Every Israeli citizen is subsidised by the US by approximately \$1,400 a year, while each member of the military is underwritten by about \$9,750. Israel is the US cop in the Middle East. Every dead Palestinian is a message to the region's poor. Solidarity with the Palestinian struggle is an essential condition for building effective resistance to capital's imperialist agenda. Up to now, this is solidarity that's rarely been delivered. But last month in Rome, up to 100,000 people demonstrated, chanting "the intifada continues until the land is free". Protests here have been small by comparison, and more muted. We should work to build them up and make our own solidarity with the intifada clear. The Palestinian uprising is effectively now the voice of the 'Arab street' (to quote journalist Amira Howeidy), and its aim should be ours too. It's essential that we move beyond campaigning for peace and declare our solidarity with the Palestinian struggle. Good as it is to see members of the International Solidarity Movement acting as 'human shields' for Palestinian families (if (continued on page 2)

has the right to wield it.

September 11th showed the US government that their state doesn't have the monopoly of violence they claimed. The right of capital to assert itself, over and above any claims to self-determination was (for a day at least) shown to be assailable. If people who assert their claims to self-determination against the interests of capital are terrorists, then it's right to call Palestinians by that name.

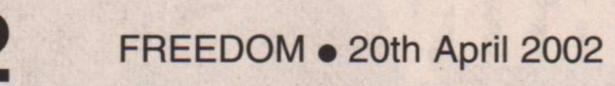
Their claim to a homeland against the military might of Israel's apartheid state threatens the stability on which capital's exploitation of the Middle East's resources depends. Terrorists, it seems, are anyone who isn't assimilated to the agenda of the World Bank, IMF and western capital.

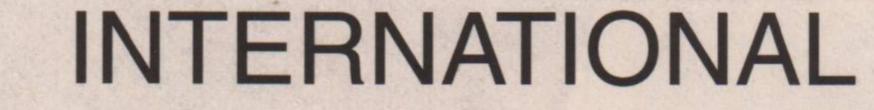
Jean-Paul Sartre once observed that French attempts to suppress the anti-colonial revolt in Algeria led to a 'striptease' of the humanism to which the state swore formal allegiance.

Ramallah, the army summarily executed Palestinian policemen, delivering headshots while they lay wounded on the ground. Israeli officers have spoken openly of mirroring the tactics the Nazis used in suppressing the rising of the Warsaw ghetto.

There's nothing new in this. In 1948 (when Palestine was under British control), 95% of what is now Israel was owned by Palestinians. Now Israelis own 93% of what were Palestinian lands. There are 25,000 internally displaced Palestinians, and a diaspora of five million are denied a right to a homeland.

Since 1948, Israel has expropriated more than 17 million dunums (17,000 sq km) of land owned by Palestinian refugees, and nearly a million dunums owned by Palestinians inside Israel. In addition, it has expropriated or controls some 4.7 million dunums in the occupied West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip. Each square of





# Freecom anarchist fortnightly

"I have opinions of my own - strong opinions - but I don't always agree with them." Another George W. Bush classic



Anarchists work towards a society of mutual aid and voluntary co-operation. We reject all government and

economic repression.

Freedom Press is an independent anarchist publisher. Besides the fortnightly newspaper Freedom, we also produce The Raven quarterly journal and many books on all aspects of anarchism. We also run Britain's biggest anarchist bookshop.

Our aim is to explain anarchism more widely and to show that only in such a society can human freedom thrive.

# The Raven anarchist quarterly

Hungarian activists demonstrate in solidarity with the Palestinian struggle, Budapest, 8th April 2002

## (continued from page 1)

only more members of the anti-capitalist movement had their guts and internationalist perspective), their pacifism has been shown up as a dead end – despite their claim to nonviolence, Israeli troops have been happy to fire off live rounds at them.

Liberal journalist George Monbiot was right to applaud them (Guardian, 9th April), but their strategy of trying to "place themselves between power and those whom power afflicts" has to be rejected. There's no neutral terrain here, no middle space to

occupy. There are only sides to take between oppressor and oppressed.

We shouldn't campaign for peace, but try to further the chances of victory to the Palestinians. Their self-determination is a legitimate, democratic demand.

The Israeli state is a sectarian imposition propped up by the United States and Europe. Some of us might not like the methods used by some forces of the intifada (suicide bombings seem 'irrational' from the comfort of the armchair), but as Sartre wrote of the Algerian resistance, "we find our humanity

on this side of death and despair, they find it beyond torture and death ... Sons of violence, at every instance they draw their humanity from it; we were human beings at their expense, they are making themselves human beings at ours".

The more determined the resistance to the Israeli state on the streets of the west, the less despairing will be the resistance on the West Bank.

Nick S.

For details of the International Solidarity Movement, visit www.freepalestinecampaign.org

Reports from Argentina and Australia on why anarchy is ... A practical response to poverty

Argentina at the end of last month.

A new wave of organised looting swept poor neighbourhood tried to loot a truck that that they were all part of the same game. was carrying flour.

Shoppers would often drop outrageously overpriced luxurious commodities such as truffles and pigs' ears in aspic into each other's trolleys, as gifts and signs of appreciation. And why not? After all, everything was free for the taking. We can only imagine the community spirit which ensued in this shopping Olympiad. Relations started, as star-crossed lovers met in aisle five, maybe looking for something more than frozen TV-dinners. But the most important outcome was the breaking down of the chains of isolation which grind us down, when we anonymously believe we are the only ones disaffected with our lives. Of course, this great carnival ended far too early, when the gutter journalists got wind of a story to take the heat off their corrupt bosses back at the office and in parliament. These servile imbeciles bayed for proletarian blood, mortified that poor people should have the intelligence and temerity to steal rather than starve.

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The most dramatic incident came on 23rd or 24th March (sources differ on the date), when a truck carrying 22 cattle overturned in the suburbs of Rosario, an industrial city in Santa Fe. This is an area which has suffered especially high unemployment in the recession of the last three years.

Some 400 people from nearby La Granada gathered at the scene and began to divide up the meat, slaughtering the animals that had survived the accident. "Our kids can eat now, thanks to this", said one woman. Local police chose not to intervene.

On 27th March, people in the northern province of Chaco looted a stalled truck carrying milk, and protesters massed in front of a supermarket in Córdoba province to demand food. The same day, there were two attacks on a small supermarket in Ciudadela, Buenos Aires province, in which a security guard was injured. There were five incidents of looting in the western part of the province during the night.

Meanwhile, in Neuquén (the capital of Neuquén province), police agents fought young people trying to loot a supermarket, while in Tucuman province, some 100 residents of a

On 30th March, around 200 people tried to break into a supermarket in Concepción del Uruguay, Entre Ríos province. They used a tractor in an attempt to tear down the gates. Police responded by attacking them with teargas and rubber bullets. Two protesters were injured and taken to hospital.

The recent incidents were smaller and more isolated than the series of lootings and demonstrations that led to president de la Rua's resignation in December (Freedom, 12th January). The current president, Eduardo Duhalde, has tried to play down their significance, claiming that the looters are recruits of unnamed political forces which are trying to destabilise his government.

KAF

ecently in Campbelltown, a mainly working class suburb south west of Sydney, there was an event which warmed the left ventricle of my badly damaged heart. Word had spread that if you used your payment card at the local Coles supermarket between midnight and one o'clock, when the system was down, the transaction wouldn't be recorded. This meant you could shop for free. This was an offer too good to refuse for locals, many of whom survive on paltry social insecurity payments or minimum wage McJobs. A collective party mood reigned supreme, as proletarian shopping ensued at full bore in the early hours of the morning. What was usually a mind-numbingly boring and humiliating experience (imagine trying to feed a growing family on the dole) became a festival of the oppressed, based on a spirit of play and adventure. For an all too brief moment in time, paupers lived like princes, feasting on smoked salmon and smoking posh imported cigarettes instead of the own-brand fishfingers and lung-buster smokes we can usually afford. Social relations were affected too, as people who were once strangers became friends and acknowledged

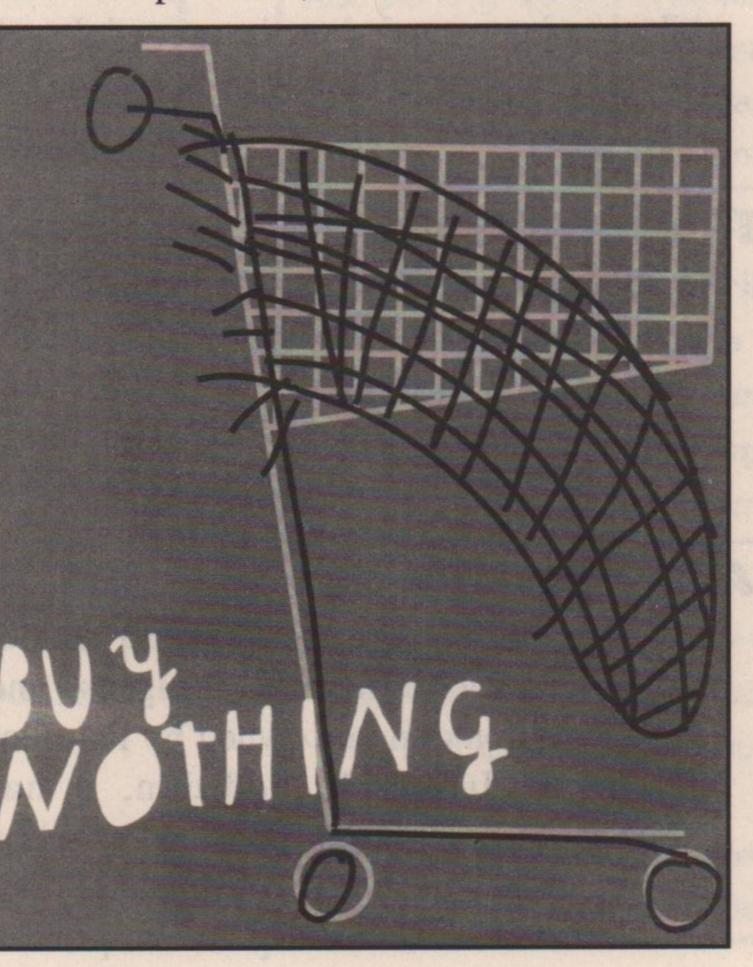
This momentous fissure of capitalist social relations wasn't reported in the official organs of the left, nor discussed over soya lattes in liberal circles, despite the fact that it posed far more of a threat to the business-as-usual mentality than any spectacular culture jam. Has the Australian activist scene really got its collective head up its own arse? It wouldn't surprise me if many comrades had been on the European activist merry-goround as revolutionary tourists more times than they'd been to working class areas of their own cities. I always see red when I hear activists whine that Australia is a cultural backwater, without any serious potential for revolutionary upheaval. While Australia isn't Greece or Spain, there are 'hidden' acts of refusal and subversion going on every day, which prove that all isn't relaxed and comfortable down under. These acts are perpetrated by working class communities every day.

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**Tall Paul** 

# HOME NEWS

## FREEDOM • 20th April 2002

# Industrial unrest spreads

rain drivers at First North Western (FNW) have announced a further three days of strikes in solidarity with their fellow workers. This follows the successful actions held at the start of the month (Freedom, 6th April). If union bureaucrats don't stitch up the drivers first, then one-day strikes will go ahead on 22nd and 26th April, and 6th May.

The bosses' response to this militancy has been a concerted publicity campaign to demonise the drivers. Press releases and leaflets distributed to customers have said that they don't understand the motives of the strikers. But a Railtrack representative, in a momentary lapse into clarity, recently told journalists that the drivers "seem to be simply striking in solidarity". In a crude attempt to divide railworkers, a letter has been sent to every FNW employee. It described the drivers as, amongst other things, 'irresponsible'. It said they were deliberately compromising safety. The hypocritical nature of these accusations hasn't been lost on railworkers. After all, this is in an industry where workers are regularly forced to do overtime just to make ends meet. And the accusations have come from bosses who've tried to impose employment contracts on workers



performance figures. This was rumoured to be in the region of £2 million.

Arriva's response? It was announced on 11th April that chief executive Bob Davies has received a £200,000 bonus to top up his salary of £300,000. Half a million a year, just to run our railways into the ground. An Arriva representative explained that "the objective of Arriva's remuneration policy for its executive directors is to ensure that they are highly motivated". Roll on the day when railworkers sack these fucking clowns and start to run an integrated transport system, based on our needs. That means community needs, not just the greed of a few. Jones the Steam

which compel them to be on call on what were previously designated 'rest days'.

Meanwhile train conductors from Arriva Northern, another company, are stepping up their series of one day strikes in pursuit of a 7.9% pay claim. The reaction of Arriva bosses to their demands highlights the thinking of the people who now run our railways.

In a bizarre response to the conductors' action, Arriva have announced an overtime ban. The company says striking workers have been doing overtime to make up the shortfall in their pay caused by going on strike. The result has been that scheduled trains have been severely affected because of 'staff shortages'.

But this has backfired on Arriva Northern, because the Strategic Rail Authority (the state's watchdog) recently levied a huge fine on the company as a punishment for poor train

• Around 40,000 postal workers are being threatened with redundancy in Consignia/ Royal Mail's bid for profits. A postal workers' solidarity group has now been set up. The group is non-hierarchical, and aims to show solidarity with postal workers. It will fight alongside them on picket lines and take direct action in support. We will also highlight the links between anti-capitalism in Britain and elsewhere. For more details, email postie\_action@yahoo.co.uk or call 07751-432 240.

A.T.

• Hackney Riot police stormed a north London social centre last week, in what activists said was part of a state campaign of repression leading up to Mayday. Over thirty cops forced an entry to Stoke Newington's Radical Dairy on 12th April, allegedly to



the police and Sheffield's political establish-

evidence that he was the victim of an attack, four living ex-prime ministers - Thatcher, Heath, Callaghan and Major. This is a disgusting feast of inbred royalty and arrogant politicians, who between them have caused no end of problems for ordinary people. Here's an opportunity to express your disgust. Come to the 'Choke on it' demo organised by the Movement Against the Monarchy (MA'M). From 6.00pm MA'M will be at the gates of Downing Street to give them a right royal send off. 'Choke on it', Downing Street, Monday 29th April, 6pm. Bring whistles, banners, drums and other entertainment to celebrate the end of the monarchy. Call 07931-301 901 or visit www.fuckthejubilee.com

• Angola Three Robert King Wilkerson, the Black Panther held in solitary confinement in Louisiana's Angola State Penitentiary for 27 years for a crime he didn't commit, will begin his British speaking tour on 29th April. Since his release in February 2001, following a long campaign, he's spent his time travelling to raise awareness of the brutality, corruption and racism of the state's criminal justice system. He also campaigns for the release of his comrades, Albert Woodfox and Herman Wallace, who are now in their thirtieth year of solitary confinement. Together, King, Albert and Herman came to be known as the 'Angola Three'. King will be accompanied on his tour by Althea Francois, another ex-Panther, who works as director of the New Orleans Prison Organising Resource Centre. See back page for details of tour dates.

investigate the theft of electricity and the misuse of drugs. They were accompanied by employees of London Electricity.

No drugs were found, but cops removed the centre's computer as evidence that electricity had been drawn off the grid. The machine had been used to provide a free internet service for local people. Cops also read out a statement saying that, because a Mayday Festival of Alternatives leaflet had been displayed in the window, the building was obviously being used as "part of the infrastructure to Mayday". There were no arrests, but the centre was left without electricity.

This was the third attempt to intimidate users of the building. On 5th April, members of the Forward Intelligence Team 'broke down' outside the building, and spent three hours photographing people going in and out while they waited for a 'repair vehicle' to arrive. On 9th April, more cops came to video the building. On both occasions, they left after local residents complained they were targeting a valuable community resource. "Speaking as a Hackney resident who's paying for this farcical police behaviour, and at a time when we're fighting to keep our libraries, clubs and other public spaces, it's beyond belief that true community services are coming under attack from the police", said one local man.

ment saw a chance to rid themselves of a thorn in their side. Mark was charged with causing Grievous Bodily Harm. He was convicted and sentenced to twelve years. His case is now under review by the Criminal Cases Review Commission.

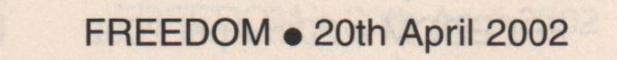
For more information, call 07944-522 001 or visit www.freemarkbarnsley.com

• London The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are having a celebration dinner with Tony Blair at Downing Street on 29th April, to celebrate fifty years of lording it over us at our expense. Also invited are the

WILDCAT Telling a man that his A Not bashing a man who is A l'mnot I'mnot family has been killed by an brave enough bashing a woman over a restrained enough domestic disagreement. inebriated car driver... for that. for that. mun mummmmm mannan ZZZ 222 ZZZ

• Sheffield Home Secretary and local MP David Blunkett was forced to run the gauntlet of over fifty protesters outside his Sheffield surgery last week. Police had to clear a path for him to leave the building on 13th April, after his car was surrounded by protesters angry at Mark Barnsley's continued imprisonment. Eggs were thrown, and Blunkett was described by a passerby as looking "afraid". The protest was part of a day of action organised by Mark's supporters. Mark was attacked by a group of drunken students outside the city's Pomona pub in 1995, while out with his baby and a friend. Despite clear







# A festival of alternatives

#### Friday 26th April

Picket for Paul Robinson at 2pm, University College of London, Gower St, WC1. Paul Robinson was imprisoned in Sweden for eight months following the EU protests in Gothenberg, in June 2001. His job as a library attendant at UCL was kept open for him during his absence. Two days after returning to the UK, he was sacked following a disciplinary hearing, for 'gross misconduct'. Paul's appeal takes place at 2pm – please come along and support him.

London-wide Critical Mass bike ride meeting at



Late night at the Rio Cinema from 11.00pm for double feature.

#### Saturday 4th May

'Jayday' Legalise Cannabis day in Brockwell Park: visit the Schnews marquee, Indymedia marquee, and Mayday area for infostalls, vegan food, music and movie projections.

Punk gig with bands Seein Red, Whizzwood, Shaikari, Freaks Union, Scalplock at Chat's Palace, 5 Brooksby's Walk, Homerton, E8. Admission £4. Some space is available for film showings. Contact

#### Waterloo at 6pm.

Balkan/Roma gig featuring Tragic Roundabout, Romani Rad, Empty Hat Orchestra plus Tarot Magik DJs. The starting extravaganza of the Mayday Festival of Alternatives with food, visuals and dancers. Speakers and stalls by refugee support groups welcome (contact nlmaydayfestival@lycos.co.uk). From 7.30pm till I am at Chats Palace, 42-44 Brooksby's Walk, Homerton, E8. Entry: £5/£3.50 cons (£3 for Critical Mass peeps)

#### Saturday 27th April

Day of workshops and discussions at the temporary social centre (see box below for details) on the theme of social centres, squats and how to set them up. The aim of the day is to transform a disused building into a vibrant social centre, and to learn and share new skills. Speakers from London Social Centres Network and Advisory Service for Squatters. There will also be talks from collectives who have set up both permanent and reclaimed social centres. Cleaning and decorating will go on all day, so please come down and lend a hand.

• 10.30am: Squat electronics

from the peasants revolt to punk rock! Meet at New Cross Gate tube, 3.00pm.

Indymedia film showing, 2.00-5.00pm at Rio Cinema, Kingsland Road, Dalston. Three films.

A series of workshops at the temporary social centre with a focus on useful skills for mass actions:

 Legal workshop on 'dealing with public order situations', including 'Section 60', essential if you're going to Mayday (two one-hour workshops from 2.00-3.00pm and 5.00-6.00pm).

Medical workshop: First Aid on demonstrations (three one-hour basic first aid sessions from 2.00-3.00pm, 3.00-4.00pm, 4.00-5.00pm).
Banner-making workshop from 12 noon onwards
Circus skills workshops from 11am come along and join the 'Anarchist Travelling Circus'. Includes Poi Spinning and poi-making at 1.00pm; Marching band at 3pm; bring a drum, tambourine, rice shaker or other portable instrument.
Gender and women-only spaces all genders are welcome. 4.00pm.
War on Terrorism discussion at 5.00pm
There will be a café in the temporary social centre in the evening

Free Shop from 4.00 to 8.00pm at London Action Resource Centre, 62 Fieldgate Street, London E1. Bring books, records, clothes, etc., to give away.

Talk with ex-Black Panther Robert King Wilkerson from 7pm (venue to be announced).

Protest against Channel Four's censorship of the film 'Injustice'. Meet at Channel Four Television, 124 Horseferry Road, London SWIP at 9.00pm. See www.injusticefilm.org.uk

#### Wednesday Ist May

(three one-hour basic first aid sessions from 2.00-3.00pm, 3.00-4.00pm, 4.00-5.00pm). 7.30am: Critical Mass, two meeting points, north and south nlmaydayfestival@lycos.co.uk

#### Sunday 5th May

Looney Left Mayday Footie Tournament plus 'Hackney Not 4 Sale' Picnic 2002, Clissold Park, Stoke Newington: Kick off for main tournament at 12 noon; three-sided event, whenever we feel like it! Kids game before tounament final. There will also be the Looney Left World Cup / Jubilee Tournament in early June. Date yet to be confirmed. Mayday Tournament teams need to send £20 to Looney Left Collective, c/o PO Box 32, 136 Kingsland High Street, Dalston, E8. Cheques payable to 'Between the Lines', or send £30 to enter both the May and June tournaments. Money goes to covering costs, goals, printing, etc. You should also send in team names, shirt colours and team contact number. For queries and futher info ring 07786 720 146 or email looneyleftcollective@hotmail.com

Bass-heavy punky reggae bash with the Restarts, Nomadix Roots, One Style + DJ Dave (Zion Train). The return of the local punk & roots warriors from 8pm till 2am at Arsenal Tavern, 175 Blackstock Road, N4 (Arsenal, Finsbury Park tubes.) £5/£3.50 concs. Contact nlmaydayfestival@lycos.co.uk

- 12 noon: Practical Plumbing
- I.30pm: Lock-changing, securing a building and fire escapes
- 2.00pm: Carpentry
- 3.00pm: Advisory Service for Squatters talk
- 5.30pm: London Social centres Network talk
- 7.00pm: The Dutch experience of squatting

Anarchy, Anarchism and the Anarchists at 2.00pm: An informal talk on history, anthropology, psychology and ideology with special reference to the movements of the working class and disinherited, plus reflections on the anti-capitalist movement and the future.

Stalls in Wood Green/leafletting for the 'Vote for Nobody' anti-election campaign (see May week in Haringey on page 5).

radicalyoga – free yoga classes with opportunities for discussion, practice and meditation. You will be very welcome to participate ... wearing loose clothing, bring a happy heart, an empty stomach and an open mind. 3pm-6pm at Diorama One (Movement Room 1st floor), 34 Osnaburgh Street, NW1

Queer/mixed cabaret night at Chats Palace, 5 Brooksby's Walk, Homerton, E8. Contact: Flaming Queers, festivalofalternatives@yahoo.com

#### Monday 29th April

Beginning of week-long Wombles Trial at Horseferry Road from 9.30am: demo outside with 'We are all Wombles' theme. Wear a white overall.

Margaret Jones completes her sponsored walk for peace at 10 Downing Street, 11 am, where she arrives with 'a letter addressed to Blair, Bradshaw, Straw, and all the other Blur Blah Blah bullshit quisling sellouts'.

Events at the temporary social centre:
Banner-making workshop at 12 noon
Self-defence workshop from 2.00pm
Costume-making from 3.00pm

9.00am: BARF (Breakfast Against Routine Fit-ups). Start the day with a vegan breakfast outside the Wombles show-trial at Horseferry Road.

12 noon: Mayday Mayhem Against the Fur Trade, London Animal Action protest asgainst Phillip Hockley Furs, 20 Conduit Street, London W1.

#### 1.00pm: Mass action 'Mayday in Mayfair'

5.00pm: 'Nobody is Illegal' Sexual Freedom Coalition event in Soho with sex workers union and samba band. Meet Cambridge Circus.

Comedy and Magic Night: benefit for Our Mayday with Rob Newman, Ian Cognito, Smile & Subvert and Tony Allen (compere) at Chats Palace, 42 Brooksby's Walk, Homerton, London E8. £3.99/£2.99 concs

#### Thursday 2nd May

#### Council Elections: 'Vote for Nobody' campaign

Health and Healing Day at London Action Resource Centre, 62 Fieldgate Street, London E1. A day of shiatsu, thai massage, herbal treatments and yoga.

#### Monday 6th May

Radical Bookfair from 11.00am to 5.00pm at The Exchange Community Centre, Sebbon Street, Islington, NI. If you would like a stall at the bookfair email festivalofalternatives@yahoo.com

Workshop on Food Autonomy at 4pm, London Action Resource Centre, 62 Fieldgate Street, EI. Also includes updates from recent Resistance is Fertile actions, see www.resistanceisfertile.com/english/

Film showing 'Incitement To Riot', followed by a talk from Class War, from 6.30pm at London Action Resource Centre, 62 Fieldgate Street, E1.

#### Throughout the week

Vote For Nobody campaign Leafleting and campaigning using the Vote For Nobody idea, against the Council Elections on Thursday 2nd May.

#### Wombles on trial

The Womble Seven are on trial from Monday 29th April to Friday 3rd May, at Horseferry Rd Magistrates Court, London SW1. There will be demos outside the court all week. Please come down and show your support for their fight against political repression. See page 5 for more information.

#### Sunday 28th April

Haringey Critical Mass Bike Ride meet 12 noon at Manor House, to link with local road safety campaigns. The ride ends in Chestnuts Park (Black Boy Lane, N15) at about 3pm with a picnic and party. All welcome – bikes, wheelchairs, pedestrians – anything with wheels and no engine ...

Women's Football Skills workshop, meet 12 noon Clissold Park, Stoke Newington (bottom side of park, near lake, behind tennis courts) for a chance to brush up on tackling, headers, etc., for the Looney Left footie tournament on Sunday 5th May.

New Cross and Deptford Radical History Walk -

 Palestine: a talk from women who have been to Palestine as part of a 'human shield' international peace mission, from 7pm onwards.

Choke On It! Action organised by M'AM (Movement Against the Monarchy), against dinner by the five living Prime Ministers and the Queen. Downing Street from 6pm, followed by a film showing and talk at the temporary social centre.

#### **Tuesday 30th April**

Events at the temporary social centre:
Outlaw Women workshop at 1.00pm
Post-revolution and post-capitalist visions at 4.00pm

#### Friday 3rd May

Campaign Against the Arms Trade: protest outside BAe Systems AGM at the QE2 Conference Centre, London SW1. BAe are notorious in their disregard of human rights and regularly sell arms and equipment used in repression and conflict around the world. Contact action@caat.demon.co.uk for details. See www.caat.org.uk or www.baesystems.com

Serving Notice to Quit: St Paul's Cathedral, London. Meet at Monument, 12 noon, to proceed to the London Stone and Stone circle at Ludgate Hill. Reclaim the Stones.

West London Anarchist and Radical History Walk in Hammersmith. *Children welcome. Meet at 6.15pm, Hammersmith tube, Hammersmith & City line.* 

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#### Temporary social centre

There will be a week-long temporary social centre with an infoshop, workshops, discussions, a vegan café, art exhibitions, film showings and more. For details of the location, see box below.

Phone 07786 716 335 on Friday 26th April for details of temporary social centre.

For the latest updates on these events see www.ourmayday.org.uk

# MAYDAY

#### FREEDOM • 20th April 2002

5

# Party planned in Mayfair

This year sees us return to the traditional place of Mayday celebrations -Mayfair in London. Mayfair is the area bounded on the north by Oxford Street, on the east by Regent Street, on the south by Piccadilly and on the west by Park Lane. Now one of the most opulent and cloistered areas in the capital, full of luxury pads, exclusive shops, fancy hotels and national embassies, it takes its name from the fair which was held every year from 1st May for fifteen days until its suppression in the mideighteenth century. Mayfair was once a teeming hotbed of fun, frolics and freedom for the working masses, in what is now Shepherds Market. Circus performers, magicians, pagan priestesses, vagabonds, alchemists, nomads, witches and outlaws made merry in the mossy lanes and shacks to celebrate the overturning of the elitist and prohibitive class system they were increasingly subject to – if only for a short time. After having been transferred from Haymarket in 1686-88 the May Fayre soon became notorious for riotous and disorderly behaviour and in 1708 it was abolished, only to be revived again with similar results. Building on the site was probably the most effective way of permanently suppressing the fair and by the mid-eighteenth century almost the whole of modern Mayfair was covered with houses. Mayday falls slap-bang in the middle of the week, so make sure you have the day off work, school, college or university. Call a strike (you know it makes sense), phone in sick (or well!), bunk off, but do whatever it takes to be on the streets of Mayfair on Wednesday 1st May.

The organisers of the Festival of Alternatives provide a guide to some of London's goodies, followed by background reports and events elsewhere.



reclaiming the roots and culture of mayday! Fancy dress, a sense of humour and the guts to shake lose and inhabit new characters and roles – the true spirit of circus culture – is the order of the day.

#### The Wake for Capitalism

A vibrant and luminous celebration of the imminent death of capitalism; a celebration of the new world waiting to be born; a resistance in remembrance of those incarcerated and murdered by capitalism; and a manifestation of our defiance as a movement to be labelled 'dead' by the state, media and politicians the world over post September 11th. Dress all in black or white. Don the mantle of death with skeleton or ghost masks. Coffins, tombstones – fluorescent a la the Mexican day of the Dead or blacker than black props and garb – you chose.

without a fixed starting point or finish. Four separate but intertwined elements of Ye Olde May Day will take place. There is no advertised starting point to the celebrations due to police tactics of containing movement by violently imposing cordons for hours on end, which resulted in the entrapment of thousands in Oxford Circus last year. We can't allow this to happen again! We all need to take the initiative in Mayfair. So create your own fun events, play your own games, come with friends, join with others, generate your own street party/performance/pavement picnic, everyday-reality-subverting-situation - above all keep moving and don't let the cops trap and surround you! This way our festivities will not be crushed.

#### The four elements in Mayfair

#### **Critical Mass**

Mass bicycle (or wheelbarrow / horse and cart) rides are a traditional part of mayday celebrations today as much as they were in the past. Villagers and townsfolk often took to the streets and lanes together, in a show of leisurely strength and solidarity. Got a pair of wheels? – bicycle, rollerskates, wheelchair, shopping trolley, skateboard – just join in!

#### The Travelling Circus

#### Carniball!

A rambling, co-operative gigantic game with balls that reclaims the UK's precursor to football – gameball – in a carnivalesque way. Gameball was a mass multi-sided festival of play, enjoyed in villages throughout the country in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The objective of gameball was to keep the ball (or pigs bladder as it was then) moving from one end of town to the other. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, people often called gameball get-togethers with the aim of pulling down the fences around enclosed land - common land 'privatised' by the gentry, the state and private landlords. This year's version of gameball has many balls and inflatables (bring them with you), with the main goal being to keep cooperating, moving and having a jolly good time. Handballs and bounces allowed. Anything goes! Our goal is a new world!

Mayday in Mayfair will be a fluid, spontaneous and exciting return to the Mayfayre, happening everywhere at once, A mobile, spontaneous and collective performance which is full of jesters, jugglers, minstrels, show-girls, gypsies, pagan sorcerers, ring-masters, ring-mistresses and clowns –

#### **Mayweek in Haringey**

People associated with Haringey Solidarity Group (HSG) are organising local events from Friday April 26th to Tuesday May 7th, to communicate the fact that there is a radical and realistic anti-capitalist/antiauthoritarian alternative to the current system.

Friday 26th April at 6pm, Waterloo Bridge/ NFT: London-wide Critical Mass bike ride (some Haringey people may meet up and go down as a group).

Saturday 27th April HSG stalls/anti-election leafletting in Bruce Grove (from 11.00am to1.00pm), Wood Green, and hopefully Green Lanes, Crouch End and/or Muswell Hill. Also handing out our special free News-sheet ... Saturday 4th May Day of informal HSG leafletting in High Streets, including our News-sheet. Meet Turnpike Lane tube, I I am.

Sunday 5th May Clissold Park picnic and Looney Left soccer tournament in the afternoon.

Monday 6th May from 1.00pm to 5.00pm 'Mayday at the Markfield: A celebration of independence and interdependence in our communities' (speak-outs, festive stuff, discussions, videos, displays) held at the Markfield Project in Tottenham.

Tuesday 7th May Haringey Solidarity Group open meeting at 8.00pm, Labour Club, Stuart Crescent, N22 (venue to be confirmed, phone 020 8374 5027)

We've produced 10,000 copies of a News-sheet,

#### **More about Critical Mass**

Last year's Mayday rides were a dramatic success. Despite intense media and police provocation, the two simultaneous early morning rides (coming from east and west) were colourful, lively and entirely peaceful. Over eight hundred riders, plus many more supporters, converged triumphantly on Kings Cross for a late breakfast, in a noisy, joyful and musical atmosphere. So many people had so much fun making their concerns and voices heard that we thought someone should organise it again – but a little differently.

The rallying cry this year will be 'Ride for your life'. The choice is between car culture and capitalism or life and freedom.

There will again be two rides, both starting at 7.30am. One will start from Camberwell Green

Although they were the victims of an unprovoked assault, seven of them were later charged with Public Disorder under section 4 of the Public Order Act. The Wombles Seven, as they have come to be known, are due to go on trial at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court on 29th April. Their supporters say the date of the trial is no coincidence. They argue that the state has found a way of keeping the seven and their supporters away from the Mayday celebrations. "This is part of an escalating attack on the anticapitalist movement", a Wombles statement said last week.

#### **Events in Liverpool**

Wednesday 24th April 'Carnival Against Casualisation'. A demo against slave labour schemes, forced labour schemes and casualisation

**Sunday 28th April** Haringey Bikeride/Critical Mass. Meet 12 noon at Manor House. At 3.00pm there's a picnic/party in Chestnuts Park, after walk/ride through the Haringey streets (including where there have been anti-traffic campaigns). Skateboards, wheelchairs, buggies, pedestrians – all welcome. Please bring food to share at the picnic, plus games, etc.

Wednesday 1st May Central London 'Mayday in Mayfair' event. At 7.30am the North and South London critical mass bike rides. At 1.00pm in Mayfair is the huge gathering/festive event (meet Turnpike Lane 11.30am to go up there together).

Thursday 2nd May Council elections. The vast majority of residents will vote for nobody ...

The Haringey TOTALLY Independent, with articles about the issues and things relating to our everyday lives, the Mayday week, traffic, elections, consumerism and jobs, landlords, anti-capitalism and Mayday, neighbourhood organising.

We're also doing a Mayday leaflet briefly setting out our politics and the events going on that week. Anyone wanting to leaflet their street door-todoor with either leaflets or the News-sheet, please contact us. There will also be posters available.

Please get in touch with us if you can help with flyposting, and/or mass stickering (loads of HSG stickers available).

You can contact us at the Haringey Solidarity Group on 020 8374 5027. in south London, one from Camden Town in the north. We aim to meet up near the US embassy around 10.00am, to protest at the US export of car culture and oil dependency and the appalling consequences of both.

All bikes, skates, boards, wheelchairs, scooters and anything else on wheels (and without an engine) are welcome. Bring music, whistles, fancy dress, flags, skeleton masks, wigs and leaflets.

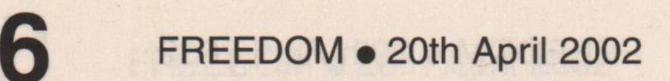
#### More about the Womble Seven trial

MH

On 31st October 2001, a group of around fifteen activists from anti-capitalist collective the Wombles were attacked by cops as they walked down Oxford Street on the way to a Halloween party. in solidarity with the Simon Jones Campaign. Meet at Lime Street Station at 1.00pm.

**Sunday 28th April** 'Workers Memorial Day'. A film night at the Old Hib, Bury Street, starting at 6.00pm, with a film about the campaign to get justice for the death of Simon Jones and various other films including the brilliant *Matewan*.

Wednesday Ist May 'International Workers Day'. A march and carnival at 12 noon from St Lukes (a bombed-out church) on Bury Street into the city centre. Anyone got a sound system? Bring banners, drums, anything. Also on Ist May in the evening there's a play about the Tolpuddle Martyrs at Casa, Hope Street, followed by bands and entertainment.





# A day of unfettered joy

fficially, Mayday is a movable holiday, on the first Monday of the month. This could be any time from 1st to 7th May – this year it's 6th May. This has been so since its reintroduction as a public holiday by the Labour government in 1978. But for centuries in Britain the first day of May was a holiday for all to enjoy.

Spring flowers have been predominant in May celebrations since Roman times, when youths and maidens spent the Calends of May dancing and singing to mark the beginning of summer.



as a reminder of the joyous days of spring. Oliver Cromwell put a stop to most of the old-time merrymaking, by decreeing that "all and singular Maypoles that are or shall be erected shall be taken down". Rather a strange order to enforce, if obeyed to the letter.

At first, Londoners ignored it, but as stricter penalties were introduced, all the Maypoles that had been put up were taken down and no more were put in their place. Cromwell's objective was achieved.

The Mayday jollity of 1661, following the restoration of the monarchy, brought about a proliferation of Maypoles. In London, it was decided that the tallest should be put up in the most conspicuous part of the Strand. It was brought in triumph, with bands playing and flags waving, from Scotland Yard to the opening of Little Drury Lane, opposite Somerset House. The lane was known for long afterwards as Maypole Alley. The association of Mayday with the international labour movement dates back to the middle of the nineteenth century, but it was not officially adopted until some forty years later. Then it marked the death of the 'Chicago Martyrs', a group of anarchists who publicly campaigned for improved pay and conditions, and who were then sensationally hanged in a historic case of mistaken identity. At the start of the French Revolution, an angry crowd broke into a notorious Paris jail and set the inmates free. On the centenary of the storming of the Bastille in July 1889, European labour and socialist representatives met in Paris. They decided to join the American Federation of Labour in pressing claims for a statutory eight-hour working day. The Americans planned to stage mass demonstrations in May 1890, and the Europeans pledged to adopt similar tactics. In Britain, the main demonstration took place in Hyde Park on 4th May 1890. Over 200,000 people were reported to have attended, among them trade unionist John Burns, George Bernard Shaw and Friedrich Engels, the collaborator of Karl Marx. This established a political tradition which has lasted until the present day. Victorian socialist writer William Morris described Mayday as "above all days of the year, fitting for the protest of the disinherited against the system of robbery that shuts the door between them and a decent life". As this year's Mayday demonstrations take place, there are as many political issues in need of action as there ever were.

Later, nobles and commoners rose early on Mayday to visit their nearest woodlands to gather flowers and hawthorn branches, arriving home with them about sunrise. Doors and windows were then garlanded with May blossom before the start of the general festivities. Many still use hawthorn blossom as an interior decoration, even today.

Nowadays, places visited on the Mayday bank holiday are usually further afield than the nearest woodlands. Being the first long weekend of the spring-summer holiday season, it's become a time when the volume of traffic to popular areas often causes major delays. Some excursions are to places where centuries-old customs are still upheld. In localities associated with floral traditions, the organisers of festivals obviously have the holiday in mind when they fix their annual dates.

May garlands were once a feature of village Mayday celebrations. They were made with two hoops, one set at right angles inside the other, and the whole covered with leaves and flowers. There are many variations, including bell-shaped structures about four feet high, often with a doll encased in the middle to represent the goddess of spring. In the Middle Ages, celebrations of the vernal equinox took place throughout Europe, with the change in seasons marked by various forms of floral custom. In England, Morris dancing became part of the celebrations, after its introduction in the reign of King Edward III. These dances came from Spain, and were an adaptation of the military dances of the Moriscoes, hence the name. One of the key dancing characters was

a boy wearing a headpiece, called a 'morione'. His antics led to him being labelled 'the Mad Morion'. The corruption of the name, accompanied by a sex change, brought about the

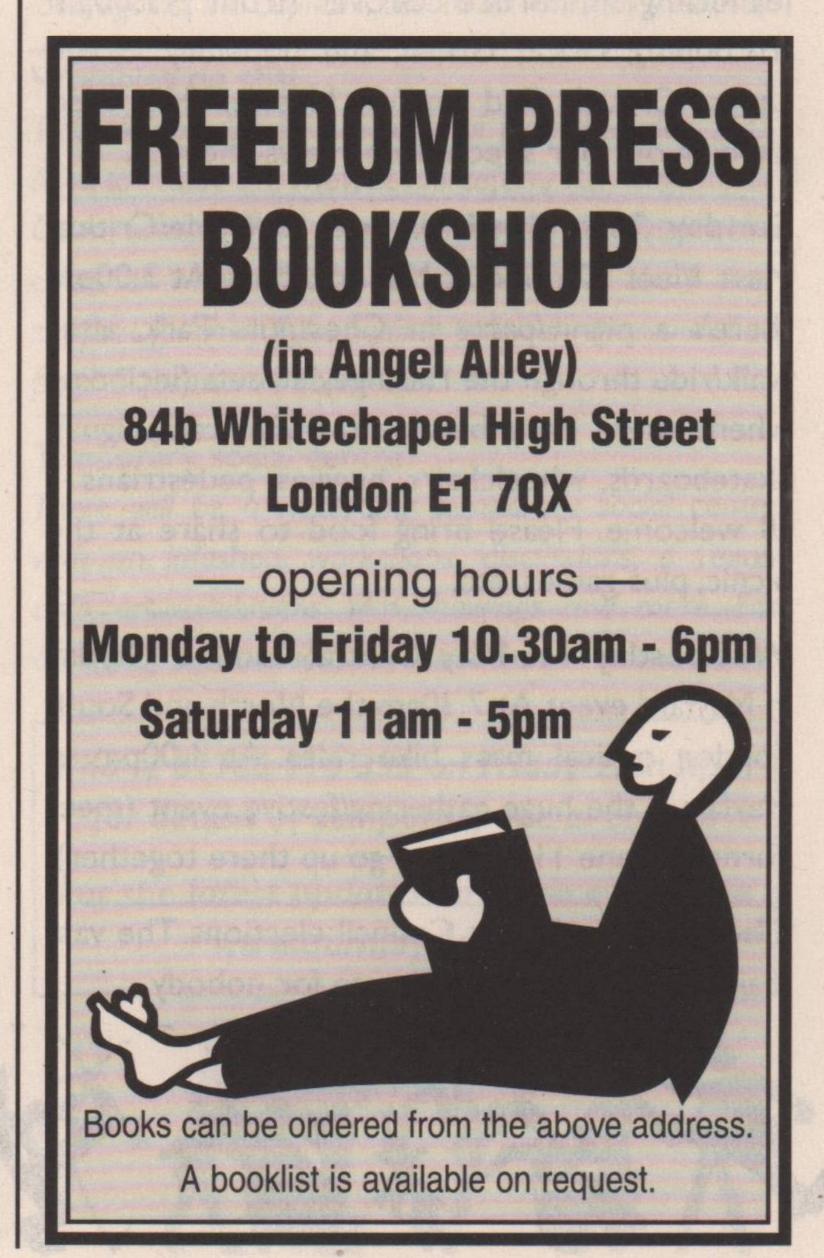
that displays a bodiless man's head depicted with twigs and leaves growing out of his mouth and ears. The two are not related. Jack-in-the-Green is merely a human character associated with Mayday celebrations. The true Green Man is a foliate head, most likely of pagan origin. These heads can be seen on wood carvings inside churches or stone carvings on the outside. Their chief function was to scare away evil influences. The Maypole was another focal point of the Mayday celebrations in most cities, towns and villages. In London, for instance, every parish had its Maypole, and there was competition to produce the most richly adorned. Some were so magnificently devised in natural splendour that they were left up for

legend of Maid Marion, who - with Robin Hood – still features in some of today's Morris dances.

Up to the beginning of this century, chimney sweeps were another feature of London Mayday scenes. Small groups moved around the streets, dressed in decorative clothes. One of the band was Jack-in-the-Green, and he concealed himself within a framework of greenery, herbs and flowers. He was regarded as the representation of spring.

Today, Jack-in-the-Green is still seen on some of the Green Man pub signs. But this is wrong – the correct Green Man sign is one

**Geoffrey Humphrys** 



Who owns Britain?

In a recent written response to Liberal Democrat MP Adrian Saunders, government minister Michael Willis let the cat out of the bag about our over-generous support about 13 million acres are not registered in of the fat cat landowners. The following is a perfect example of those making the rules of the game benefiting the most. This is seriously real monopoly money, with the public as banker. In the words of somebody

famous, it's time to take the rich off welfare. "England and Wales together comprise about 37.3 million areas, which means that the Land Registry. Most of those 13 million acres are agricultural or rural landholdings, and their owners are the recipients of about £2 billion out of a total of £4 billion in subsidies", Willis said. One estimate - nobody's given access to actual figures – suggests that there are 41,000 millionaires who pay no tax on their assets, but who receive between £1 billion and £2 billion from the public purse each year. That works out between £24,000 and £48,000 per family, free and gratis from the taxpayer.

together with other sources derived from tax, total around £4 billion a year.

several weeks, with flowers replaced regularly

Under the extraordinary arrangements for agricultural subsidies, the existence of this gravy train is kept quiet. Those who receive sums of  $\pounds 1$  million and more – and there are



.

These 41,000 come to 27% of the 147,000 families who own, as opposed to renting, about 70% of the UK land mass. They have assets in excess of 340 acres each.

The situation of this group, and a significant number of the 147,000 landowning families generally, is doubly anomalous. Most of them receive money from public funds by way of the Common Agricultural Policy and also from subsidies by DEFRA (as the Ministry of Agriculture is now known). These,

significant numbers of them - have their names kept secret by the government. The state also conceals the names of recipients of smaller amounts, on the grounds that the gravy train is 'commercially confidential'.

Those of us who pay tax as we earn (PAYE) have employers who give our details to anyone the state cares to send. Meanwhile, over the last ten years alone, about £40 billion has gone to this group of the rich, in total secret. Just as a thumb nail sketch about the lives of the peasants who support these people, consider the following broad details. On average, the ownership pattern of most home owners is 0.2 acres, and we pay an average of £550 per year Council Tax for the 'privilege'! **Mike Hamilton** 

This is a revised version of an article in the newsletter of The Land is Ours. Subscriptions for £3 for three issues, from The Land is Ours, 16b Cherwell Street, Oxford OX4 IBG

### founded in 1886

#### FREEDOM • 20th April 2002

# What we say ...

# The real enemy

he decision of the British National Party to field eighteen candidates in Burnley and Oldham in next month's local elections had been almost overlooked until a couple of weeks ago.

After last summer's riots in the towns, the left found other causes to launch their bandwagons on the back of. This left the fascists with a free rein to prepare themselves for the polls. Now, all of a sudden, the government's woken up to the fact that the fascists are in with a good chance of winning council seats on 2nd May. "The far right is the enemy", home secretary David Blunkett declared in a letter to the Guardian last week. If so, they've been a very useful enemy for the government, at least until now. Their politics, of pitting poor white people against poor black and Asian people in working class areas, has taken the heat off Labour just at the time when we might've expected working class discontent to blow up in the party's face. Come the elections, of course, the BNP play another role too. They provide the demon which the self-styled 'mainstream' politicians use to scare voters back into line and back into the polling booths.

# Readers' letters

# Mayday farce

#### Dear Freedom,

We've just seen the flyer for London's latest Mayday events. The flyer says that the events have been organised in response to the question, "what are you for?". The answer to this, apparently, is a week-long farce of radical yoga, face painting, dressing up as clowns, gender awareness spaces and other New Age, middle class bullshit.

A number of your writers – Nick S. and Mark Barnsley in particular – have written regularly and eloquently about the need to reorientate the anarchist movement towards working class communities. ('Another one bites the dust', 6th April) was of as little interest to anarchists as the death of any other irrelevant showbiz figure. A few lines at the bottom of page 7, perhaps, but not the front page lead – or did you think we might have missed it in all the other news media? What should be of concern to anarchists is the death of the institutional form, 'monarchy'. Once that's in the dustbin (or crematorium) of history we'll have made progress. True

of history, we'll have made progress. True, not much of it is replaced by a republic, but a little. Its replacement would provide more cause for a modest gloat than the passing of an overprivileged individual anachronism. the oil issue is just a smokescreen. A draft of a document entitled *Defense Planning Guidance* was leaked to the *New York Times* in 1992. It was written by Paul Wolfowitz (now a leading Pentagon hawk) for George Bush senior, then president.

Just two quotations from it are enough to explain the present situation. Wolfowitz argued that Washington should "discourage the advanced industrial nations from challenging our leadership", and he said that the United States should maintain military dominance, thus "deterring potential competitors from even aspiring to a larger regional or global role". So there we are, it's America versus the world.

But there's a danger for Labour politicians when they play this game. There's always a risk that BNP candidates could pick up enough votes to become local powerbrokers, in the same way the French National Front have managed to do in the past.

New Labour have come to see the BNP as a threat, and the government's propaganda machine has been cranked up in response. Mohammed Azan, the coordinator of the On the evidence of the Mayday plans, we'd go even further. The anarchist movement has been hijacked by middle class radicalism to such an extent that we ought to ditch it and – when we struggle to reorganise our class – deny all contact with it and drive it out of working class areas when it appears. It's usually the avant garde of gentrification any way.

The Mayday events don't address any issue that matters. There's nothing on housing, crime, poverty or debt (last year the Mayday mob thought action against working class debt consisted of dressing up as clowns outside Coutts, the merchant bank!). All we get is an order to "be spontaneous" and the reduction of radical politics to a kindergarten – the demand that life be a carnival, organised by and for those whose life already is. Is this anarchism as Kropotkin or Berkman understood it? Linda and Paul Maguire

#### **Colin Johnson**

no more.

Dear Freedom,

Like many others, I was sickened by the BBC's unctious and sanctimonious manipulation of the programme schedule. I wrote this poem in response. Perhaps it will redress the balance for some.

Shame on the BBC, the Queen of Soaps, Trying hard to take over the role of the Pope. Trotting out has-beens and bumpkins galore, To sanctify Betty Bowes-Lyon who, alas, is

#### Social Security are in no doubt at all

A really good customer has gone to the wall. Their tears will be genuine, like their thick skin, That one even stronger will hold out a bin. Royalty, like Hydra, when it loses a head, Grows many more to plague us instead. Garry Bradford

# **US** smokescreen

**Terry Russell** 

# Not the first

Dear Freedom,

I'm pleased that a conference on prison abolition was organised in January ('An effective ABC network', 6th April). But in fact it wasn't "the first ever British conference on prison abolition", as your correspondent claimed. A group called Radical Alternatives to Prison (RAP) organised several conferences in the 1960s, in which the abolition of prisons was advocated as the ultimate aim. RAP had an office near St Paul's cathedral in London, and its chair was Canon Collins, a member of the Labour Party.

I'm told the Religious Society of Friends (the Quakers) had already called for the abolition of prisons, and so presumably held meetings on the subject, in the nineteenth century. We mustn't suppose that anarchists are the only people who want to be rid of plainly cruel institutions.

Coalition against Racism, recently said that "all mainstream opinion" was opposed to the BNP in Burnley and Oldham. But it's not mainstream opinion the BNP are courting, so our opposition to them can't be based on mainstream opinion either, if it's going to be effective.

The BNP thrive because of white working class disgust at social democracy's betrayals. Just because the party turns class anger in on itself doesn't mean the anger isn't legitimate in the first place.

The best vote winner the fascists could hope for would be if their opponents decided to adopt a strategy of getting people out to vote Labour (or anyone else). This would prop up the status quo and it would discredit antifascism in the process. It would be an entirely deserved discrediting.

There's a leaflet from dodgy 'anti-fascist' mag Searchlight which details the criminal convictions of prominent BNPers, as if a criminal record ought to exclude people from participating in political life.

Of course, if a law were introduced to this

# **Good riddance**

Dear *Freedom*, I'd hope the death of HRH Granny Windsor

# **Donations** Ist to 14th April 2002

Freedom Fortnightly Fighting Fund Rugby, DR, £26; Wolverhampton, JL, £2; Upton Wirral, NC, £6; London SW10, SWT, £10. Total to 14th April = £44.00

Total for 2002 = £254.00

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be Thursday 25th April.

Contributions can be sent to

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## Raven Deficit Fund Wolverhampton, JL, £2.

Total to 14th April = £2.00

#### Dear Freedom,

Stephen Booth is absolutely correct in saying we must oppose America's crusade against Iraq and Iran ('Viewpoints', 6th April), but

# FREEDOM: THE WARM AND WELCOMING EXPERIENCE

As readers of *Freedom* you already know that we, the editorial collective, treasure you all dearly. In fact, we'd like to meet more of you. If you visit Freedom Press Bookshop, ask if any of us are around. Come in on a Saturday afternoon, and some of us almost certainly will be. Or you can email us at FreedomCopy@aol.com, tell us when you'll be coming and we'll do our best to be in the building.

If you can't make it in person, join the Freedom Anarchist Fortnightly email discussion list instead. Join by sending an empty email to Freedom Anarchist Fortnightly-subscribe @yahoogroups.com Charmaine P.

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effect, it wouldn't only be the BNP who would be kept out. Large numbers of the disenchanted working class wouldn't be able to stand or vote either.

We have to take the threat of the British National Party seriously. But the government mustn't be allowed to use the fascist threat as an alibi for their own actions.

The only way for us to counter the BNP is by working to reforge the militancy and independence of working class communities, not by retreating to the cloisters of the campus or the demos of the anti-war movement.

We have to make it clear that the battle lines lie between poor and rich, and not – as the BNP would have us believe – within our communities. Activists will undoubtedly mount a challenge to the BNP that's both political and physical. But most of all we have to remember (as the Labour-tailing left won't) that our main enemy is the government itself. Total for 2002 = £102.00

Your friendly editorial collective

All prices are in £ sterling

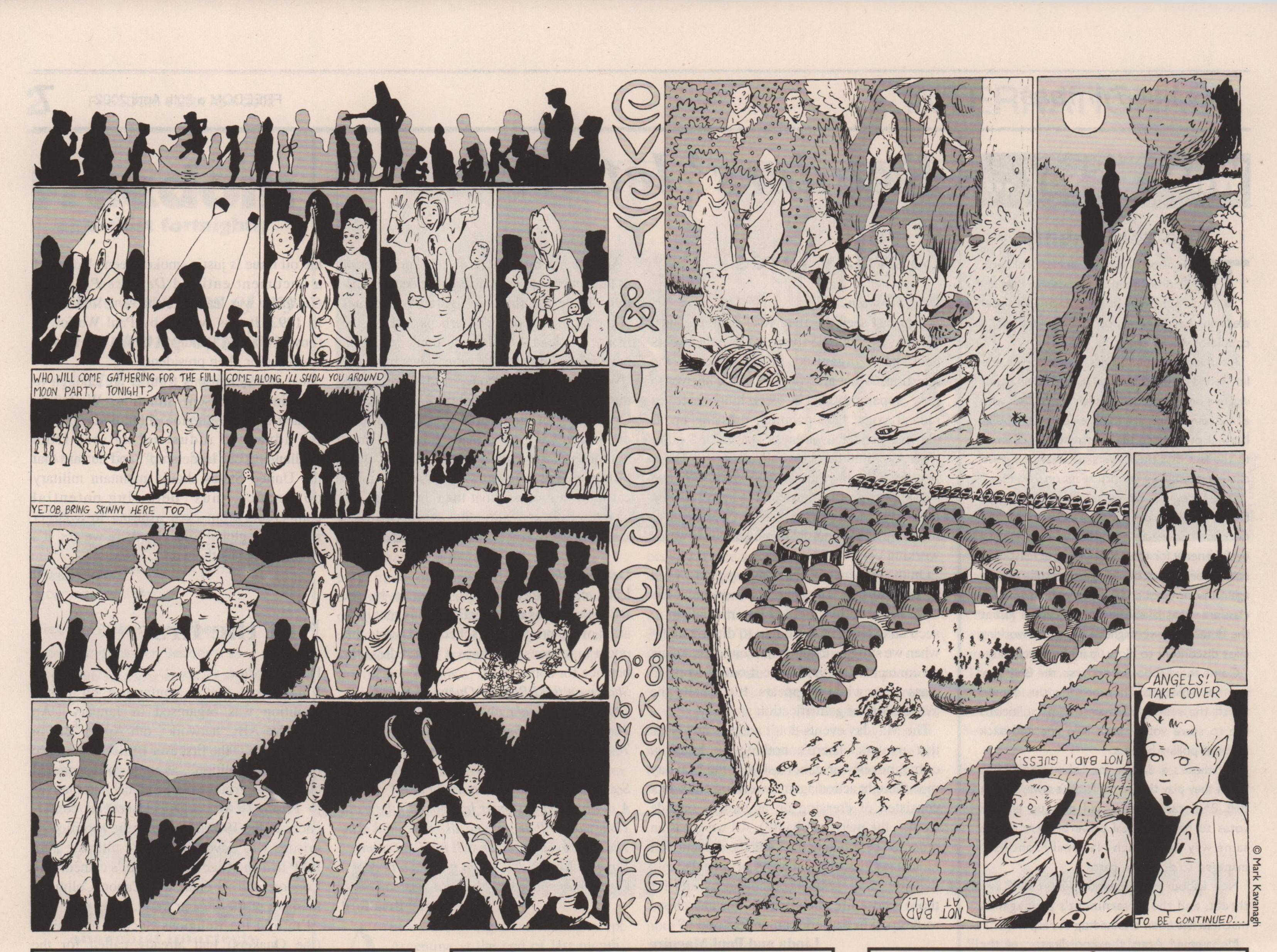
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#### **THE RADICAL DAIRY**

Part of a London-wide network of social centres with a wide range of events to empower our lives and shape our futures The Radical Dairy, 47 Kynaston Road, London N16 contact: theradicaldairy@hotmail.com

## **OPPOSE NF IN BERMONDSEY**

20th April at 11am • South Bermondsey station Prevent the National Front marching through Bermondsey. Bring your friends, red & black flags and anything else useful. We are a collection of militant anti-fascists, not a political party.

# **BELPER GREEN FAIR**

Saturday 20th April from 10am to 6pm at The Fleet Art Centre, Belper, Derbyshire A gathering of radicals and greens in the heart of Derbyshire more info from ain@ziplip.com

# **BENEFIT GIG FOR LDMG**

Saturday 20th April from 8pm Union Tavern, Camberwell New Road, London SE5 Robb Johnson plus support • £5/£3 concs Legal Defence & Monitoring Group: Idmgmail@yahoo.co.uk

#### **RADICAL DAIRY HEALTH DAY**

## **RADICAL YOGA CLASSES AT LARC**

Tuesdays from 23rd April • 5.30 to 7.00pm Free radical yoga classes at the London Activist Resource Centre, 62 Fieldgate Street, London E1 contact: radicalyoga@clara.co.uk or LARC

# SOFT CITY

paintings by lauranorder 1997-2002 From 24th April to 4th May, 3pm to 10pm, at Oval House Theatre, 52-54 Kennington Oval, London SE11 5SW contact: softcity@hotmail.com

## **GET KISSINGER!**

Wednesday 24th April at 7.30am Meet at Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 for blockade in the morning, rallies, street theatre and public tribunal of Kissinger throughout the day

## SIMON JONES PROTESTS Wednesday 24th April

On the fourth anniversary of Simon's death there are a number of protests for a national day of action against casualisation • Brighton: meet at noon outside Personnel Selection, West Street • Oxford: Meet at noon at Carvax Tower

• Liverpool: meet 1.00pm at Lime Street station. People Not Profit. Bristol: contact bristolacc@hotmail.com Also plans for actions in Birmingham, Leeds, Leicester, London and Manchester in preparation contact simonjonesaprilaction@hotmail.com

## **REVOLUTIONARY ANARCHIST** summer school • 27th April • 10.30am to 4.00pm A day of discussion organised by the Anarchist Federation at Big Issue Office, 25 Summer Lane, Birmingham contact: brumafed@hotmail.com or 07866 443 407

# **CHOKE ON IT!**

Monday 29th April at 6.00pm, Downing Street The first anti-jubilee action of the summer campaign from MA'M Movement Against the Monarchy 07931 301 901 www.fuckthejubilee.com

# **BLACK PANTHER TOUR DATES**

Speaking tour with Robert King Wilkerson and Althea Francis Monday 29th April: The African and Caribbean Community Pub (formerly Grants), 181 Royce Road, Hulme, Manchester M15, at 7.30pm Tuesday 30th April: London time and venue to be arranged. contact war21war@yahoo.co.uk

Wednesday 1st May: Local Amnesty International groups in Manchester Thursday 2nd May: The One in Twelve Club, 21-23 Albion Street, Central Bradford, at 7.30pm

Friday 3rd May: Fundraising meal and talk at Misty's Vegetarian Café, Unit 3, Longsight Shopping Centre, 531 Stockport Road, Manchester M12, at 7.00pm. Phone 0161 371 1113, tickets £10

Saturday 4th May: film evening and talk at The Masque Theatre, Seel Street, Central Liverpool, at 7.30pm

Saturday 20th April from 10am to 6pm An open alternative health/healing day in order to learn more about how our bodies work, their relationship with the earth and how we can empower and help one another in the community. Featuring classes in radical yoga, shiatsu, swedish massage, aromatherapy, self-defence, medicinal herbs, food, info, etc. contact: theradicaldairy@hotmail.com

# **CARNIVALISTA CAFÉ NIGHT**

Monday 22nd April from 7.00pm at Bonnington's café, Vauxhall Grove, London SW8 contact: carnivalista@yahoo.co.uk

# **IWW LONDON BRANCH MEETING**

Monday 22nd April at 7.30pm back bar at The Bricklayers Arms, Gresse Street, London SW1 (nearest tube Tottenham Court Road) contact Industrial Workers of the World at PO Box 4414, Poole, Dorset BH15 3YL see www.iww.org.uk

see www.simonjones.org.uk

### **PICKET AUSTRALIA HOUSE**

Thursday 25th April from 5.00 to 6.30pm Meet at Australia House, The Strand, London WC2 to demand an end to detention of children seeking asylum in Australia. see www.noborders.org www.woomera2002.com www.melbourne.indymedia.org

## LONDON ANARCHIST FORUM

Meets Fridays at 8pm at the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1 (nearest tube Holborn). Admission free. 26th April: LAF's contribution to Festival of Alternatives 3rd May: Post Mayday debate • 17th May: Anarchy's Big Problem (speaker Steve Ash) LAF, Box 4, 84b Whitechapel High Street, London E1 7QX

Sunday 5th May: talk and discussion at Manchester Radical Bookfair. See www.radicalbookfair.org.uk

#### **FIGHT LIKE TIGERS!**

Wednesday 1st May at 7.30pm

Fight Like Tigers! is a play about Mary Harris (Mother Jones) at the Working Class Movement Library, 51 Crescent, Salford contact: enquiries@wcml.org.uk or 0161 736 3601

MANCHESTER RADICAL BOOKFAIR Sunday 5th May from Ipm to 5pm at MERCi, Bridge 5 Mill, 22a Beswick Street, Ancoats, Manchester M4 7HR Workshops and veggie food available throughout the day contact: manchesterbookfair@hotmail.com see www.radicalbookfair.org.uk

#### **FREEDOM** fortnightly

#### **ISSN 0016 0504**

Published by Freedom Press, 84b Whitechapel High Street, London E1 7QX Printed in Great Britain by Aldgate Press, London E1 7RQ printed on recycled paper