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# LONDON CALLING



## THE BULLETIN OF LONDON CLASS WAR

SEPTEMBER 2004

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### BNP INFILTRATE SWP

*THE BNP RECENTLY revealed that two of their members, Diane Stokes and Joe Finnion<sup>1</sup>, had daringly infiltrated Manchester SWP. The easy bit was infiltrating them: risking the danger of death by boredom was the daring part. According to the BNP, the two spent a year in the SWP and its front groups, and were almost immediately (s)elected for positions of responsibility.*

The SWP's response to this has been silence. Where individual members have said something, they have been very defensive about the issue, and claiming that the infiltrators can't have got their hands on any of the numerous lists of names and addresses for which the SWP is famed. Though the BNP claim a number of successes for their infiltrators, they haven't publicly claimed that they are now in possession of internal SWP documents. This may be because they could leave themselves open to criminal charges, although those members of the SWP who have said anything about this insist that the pair were not entrusted with such papers. We find this hard to believe, considering that Stokes was given positions of financial responsibility and the experiences of ex-members of the SWP.

What is clear and alarming is that the BNP have used this tactic for what seems to be the first time.

Although we at London Class War have long been security-conscious, it's plainly a good idea to keep security on the agenda. It's unlikely they'll try the same stunt soon, but it's best to remain wary of newcomers overly demanding in their desire for information. We are quite happy with our security – which is more than can be said for the SWP!

# THE MAYOR IS BARMY

CARRYING ON FROM the August *London Calling* article about Hackney council to spend telephone numbers of money on the Town Hall, *London Calling* came across the Mayor's response.

The Hackney Mayor, Jules Pipe, has defended spending £64 million on the Town Hall in Hackney, mainly on air conditioning – less speaking in Council meetings would have been much cheaper. Pipe, who's siphoning money away from Hackney residents, has a terrible reputation, selling off half of the borough to private developers in shady deals to build more yuppie flats at inflated prices. He has claimed that :

Hackney residents deserve the Town Hall to be refurbished and open for the community again.

*The Town Hall has always been mainly closed to the community and that's unlikely to change.*

Making the Town Hall a 'One-Stop Shop' would be sensible. Should someone seeking answers from both Central Housing Dept and the Benefits Dept will see them dealt with at the same place.

*If – for example – Housing Benefit, in their own palatial building, can't get things right, why should things improve when they'll be working from a broom cupboard? Also, relocating services in the Town Hall will involve lengthy office moves, with restricted services at best in the short-term, sackings and Council property flogged off to property developers in the longer term.*

In the long term we can save a lot of money and build better leisure facilities.

*Hackney's record on saving money and building leisure facilities is not one which inspires confidence. As the same people will be in charge of the Council, we confidently anticipate more cock-ups in the near future.*

# BEYOND ESF

## FIVE DAYS AND NIGHTS OF ANTI-AUTHORITARIAN IDEAS AND ACTION

13 – 17 OCTOBER 2004

THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL Forum is coming to London between the 14 and 17 October 2004. It claims to be “a festival of resistance ... a chance for people from around the world to come together to engage in debate, organise action and build networks to strengthen our movement ...” In reality, as most people are already aware, it is in fact a talking shop for academics and lefty intellectuals, political parties and ngo’s who have little or no interest, and less experience of, the lives of ordinary people struggling on a day-to-day basis.

The ESF in London is controlled by the Socialist Workers Party and the Greater London Authority, controlled by Ken Livingstone. The GLA have taken £400,000

out of their budgets (council taxpayers’ money which should have gone to various initiatives for local communities in London) to fund this circus – ESF delegates get free travel during this little junket. The ESF has scant significance to the lives of ordinary people.

To show our opposition to this, we are organising BEYOND ESF, an anarchist, anti-authoritarian initiative, to highlight the political bankruptcy of the ESF and encourage a political step forward. It is an opportunity for us to actively create an environment where we can confront the hypocrisy of the left and decide how best to move forwards together.

**Themes are: surveillance and control; autonomous spaces; precarious work; no borders; zapatismo; the G8 Summit in Scotland 2005. There is also space available for anti-fascist, gender and environmental issues.**

To get in involved in BEYOND ESF in any capacity, please email [wombles@hushmail.com](mailto:wombles@hushmail.com) or look at the website for background and other information: [www.wombles.org.uk/auto](http://www.wombles.org.uk/auto)

**There will be free accommodation available and all events, entertainment and food will be by donation only.**

## POLICE PLAN PURGE

## ON ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

HACKNEY POLICE ARE planning a clampdown on ‘anti-social behaviour’ around Stoke Newington and Finsbury Park. Apparently they will be using new powers to “disperse” groups of two or more people

whom they believe to be involved in anti-social behaviour.

TWO OR MORE? This is more than a tad draconian – even the filth often patrol Hackney in groups of three! That is one aspect of this new operation we find disturbing. The other is, what is anti-social behaviour? If groups of people are more than two, there’s every chance that they are out *socially*, on the way to a pub or from a party. In other words, we suspect that the police will use their new-found

authority to pick on people out for an evening.

We at London Class War oppose anti-social behaviour – real anti-social behaviour, that is. We oppose muggers and burglars and other scum who prey on their own. It’s typical that this new police initiative comes in areas like the gentrified Stoke Newington, and not in places like Hackney Wick or Haggerston, where working class people predominate. Draw your own conclusions about the filth’s priorities!

## CRACKDOWN ON PRIRATE RADIO

APPARENTLY, EVIL DRUGS gangs are behind pirate radio stations in Hackney and other parts of London. If you believe the press, then they are evilly promoting raves and parties “at which drugs are sold openly”. So – clearly – all pirate radio stations must go!

What are they so afraid of? People *enjoying* themselves? Many pirate radio stations aren’t our cup of tea, playing music we aren’t so keen on. But that’s no reason to stop them. On the contrary, we support pirate radio stations, which are outside the law and allow people to say what they want. If only there were more political ones!

It seems Hackney has more pirate radio stations than many London boroughs due to the number of tower blocks. We at London Class War feel that the more pirate stations there are the better – and we look forward to hearing about more political ones.

## TIP OF THE MONTH

**AN OLD ONE, but a handy one!**

Get two cds for the price of one by taping or burning a cd of an album you buy, then returning the album to the shop (we recommend HMV) and getting a second one.

Advert  
**FARMERS MARKET**  
**EVERY SUNDAY AT ANGEL TUBE**

9.00am -2.00pm

Local farmers - or some would say land owners - will be selling organic over priced fruit and veg, making sure you will pay over double the price for our goods. More than your local greengrocers, even! We even leave all the mud on our veg, at no extra charge.

WE SELL fresh slave-labour strawberries where local refugees pick them daily and we pay them 25p a pallet and re-sell them at £2.50 to middle class self conscious hippie looking people.

Why not come along and visit us?

Even tho we hate townies and are firm believers in the Countryside Alliance

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# OLYMPICS SPECIAL REPORT

**ITS THAT TIME** again, to get the fascist flag out and to get the Olympics shoved down our throat from every angle. We at London Calling are not being bleak but come on - at the time of writing **TEAM GB** has goldS in things like horse-jumping and public school rowing, we didn't even realise that these were sports! Horse-jumping! We ask you, how pathetic a load of toffs jumping over pieces of wood, exhilarating cutting edge stuff, take rowing unless you actually do the sport at Cambridge university I doubt you would have the slightest interest.

With no opportunity in our neighbourhoods to take up sports, apart from school again we see the upper classes taking all the glory, football pitches being closed and covered in houses, leisure centres being shutdown and the case again in Hackney where they built one and a few months later closed it again, youth clubs becoming non existent, these could be a few answers why "Team GB" are not winning much apart from show jumping, the TV companies were the biggest winners. Didn't really see much coverage about the safety when they built the arena in Athens that because of the rush 12 workers died, and we didn't really see much about the demonstrations outside when the USA started to poke there nose in and get on the act, outcry when Dick Cheney wanted to visit.

Which brings us to Red Kens barmy idea of holding the Olympics in Hackney Wick which has already caused out cry from residents especially when one of the plans is to concrete the biggest football pitch area in England so coaches can park because the public transport can't cope now, Never mind when the Olympics start. Obviously, of the money it's supposed to bring into the area the residents sent see a penny and the working class will be shafted again.

...ANYWAY WHO WON THE OLYMPICS?

## BANGERS AND MASH

**JAMIE OLIVER** - THAT annoying prat of British cuisine - has been knocked off his stupid mod scooter (sadly not literally) after his Hoxton restaurant was branded a rip-off with inflated prices. Fifteen, Oliver's restaurant in Hoxton's Westland Place, was checked by Harsden London Restaurant Guide, based on the views of ordinary customers, reported that the price of an average meal is a gob-smacking £60.00 per head for fish and chips or bangers and mash with treacle pudding and custard.

A spokesman for Oliver defended the prices, saying they were "not very expensive for London" and that "a lot of our ingredients are organic and it is a good brunch". BRUNCH my left buttock! The price of bangers and mash with treacle pie from a local greasy spoon was last checked at £4.95 - with tea! Just shows how gullible some people are, and that they will pay anything, especially in Hoxton that's supposed to be hip and so

this century. London Calling editors did a price check, as we couldn't afford to visit Oliver's restaurant. Let's compare menus.

**OLIVER'S FIFTEEN:** Organic sausages from Cumberland with glazed red onions (onions with sugar) with a light fluffy mash made from potatoes fresh from a farm (I always wondered where potatoes came from!) with organic earthy-tasting carrots generously topped with fresh gravy made from red wine, followed by home-made treacle pudding, glazed with golden custard and a choice of crap over-priced Australian wine.

The bill? £59.00 excl. tip.

**LOCAL CAFÉ:** Two Cumberland sausages, mash, one veg, with tea and treacle pie with custard. A snip at £4.95. Also - provided free - a choice not to be annoyed and surrounded by yuppies nattering about house prices and gabbling on mobiles, you also get to read a paper free.

**ANTI-FASCIST NEWS**

**ANTIFA  
PHONE NUMBER**

**ANTIFA NOW HAS A NEW  
PHONE NUMBER FOR  
PEOPLE TO CONTACT:  
07952 759 473**

**ALTERNATIVELY,  
CONTACT ANTIFA BY  
EMAIL AT  
londonantifa@yahoo.com**

## **MERCHANDISE**

### **Book of the Month**

We have some copies of Dave Douglass' **All Power to the Imagination** available, for £5.00, post-free.

This short book reflects on the anarchist attitude to trade unions, with some examinations of the position of the Leninist left towards workers in struggle. Written by a former miner and participant in the great Miners' Strike of 1984/85, Dave Douglass speaks from the heart. His provocative and challenging polemic is a valuable addition to any anarchist's library.

We also have a wide variety of other merchandise available, including lighters, badges and a wide range of t-shirts. T-shirts come in a broad range of designs, and in sizes to fit all. We have the Carlsberg Class War and a couple of designs of anti-fascist t-shirts in stock, all of which are selling fast – get your order in now!

For a full list of merchandise, and to order a copy of *All Power to the Imagination*, please write to London Class War at the usual address. Please make all cheques/POs payable to "London Class War" only.

## **LIKE WHAT YOU READ?**

**WELL, IT'S ALL DONE FREE. GOT ANY LEAKS, SLEAZE, GOSSIP, SLANDER, NEWS, VIEWS OR STUFF WE SHOULD KNOW?**

**DONATIONS, STAMPS AND COMMENTS URGENTLY NEEDED TO MAKE LONDON CALLING THE CITY'S BEST NEWSLETTER!**

**SEND STUFF TO THE LONDON ADDRESS!**

## DIARY DATES

### **OCTOBER**

**MONDAY 4 October 7pm**

Lobby Haringey Council, come along and hear the case for defending council housing against privatisation at the Civic Centre, Wood Green, Haringey. All welcome! Haringey Defend Council Housing 020 8881 7836

**TUESDAY 12 October – Saturday 16 October**

**HOW MANY POLICEMEN** does it take to cause the deaths of 1,000 people in custody? Apparently none, justice is blind. The Asian Theatre School and Red Ladder Theatre Company presents **SILENT CRY**. The story is based on documented evidence and interviews about deaths in police custody. Playing on above dates at the Lyric, Hammersmith, Theatre at 8pm. Tel: 08700 500 511.

### **NOVEMBER**

**MONDAY 8 November 2004 from 11.00am till:**

**18.00pm** at Cultural Centre Parnassos, Kruisstraat 201, Utrecht (near Stadsschouwburg), The Netherlands.

*DUTCH BOOKFAIR*, the 5th annual Dutch bookfair will be held once again, with many anarchist stalls and hopefully we will be doing a Class War stall, the bonus of holding a bookfair in Holland is that we can get stoned out of our boxes.

15 minutes walk from Utrecht Central Station. Bus 4,10,11 (stop Wittevrouwen, Biltstraat). Walk back, turn left (at Moluks Historical Museum), after 100 meters on the left you will find the place to be. Entrance free.

**SATURDAY 27 November 10am – 7pm**

**IMAGINATION UNLEASHED!** The 2004 Anarchist Bookfair at the University of London Union, Malet St, London WC1. Class War will have the usual stall, and take your chance to grab the latest issue. [www.anarchistbookfair.org](http://www.anarchistbookfair.org)

### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/ REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

I WANT TO JOIN AND WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT JOINING CLASS WAR

I WANT TO RECEIVE LONDON CALLING BY EMAIL

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE EMAIL ALERTS FROM CLASS WAR

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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