

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY RESISTANCE
AND WORKERS SOLIDARITY

ASSEMBLE FOREST 11.30 - MARCH 12. NOON
PARTY IN SQUARE 1PM ONWARDS



Newsletter of Nottingham Trades Union Council



Leverrier

tasty

Recommending the soundtrack for the Revolution...

15.5

free



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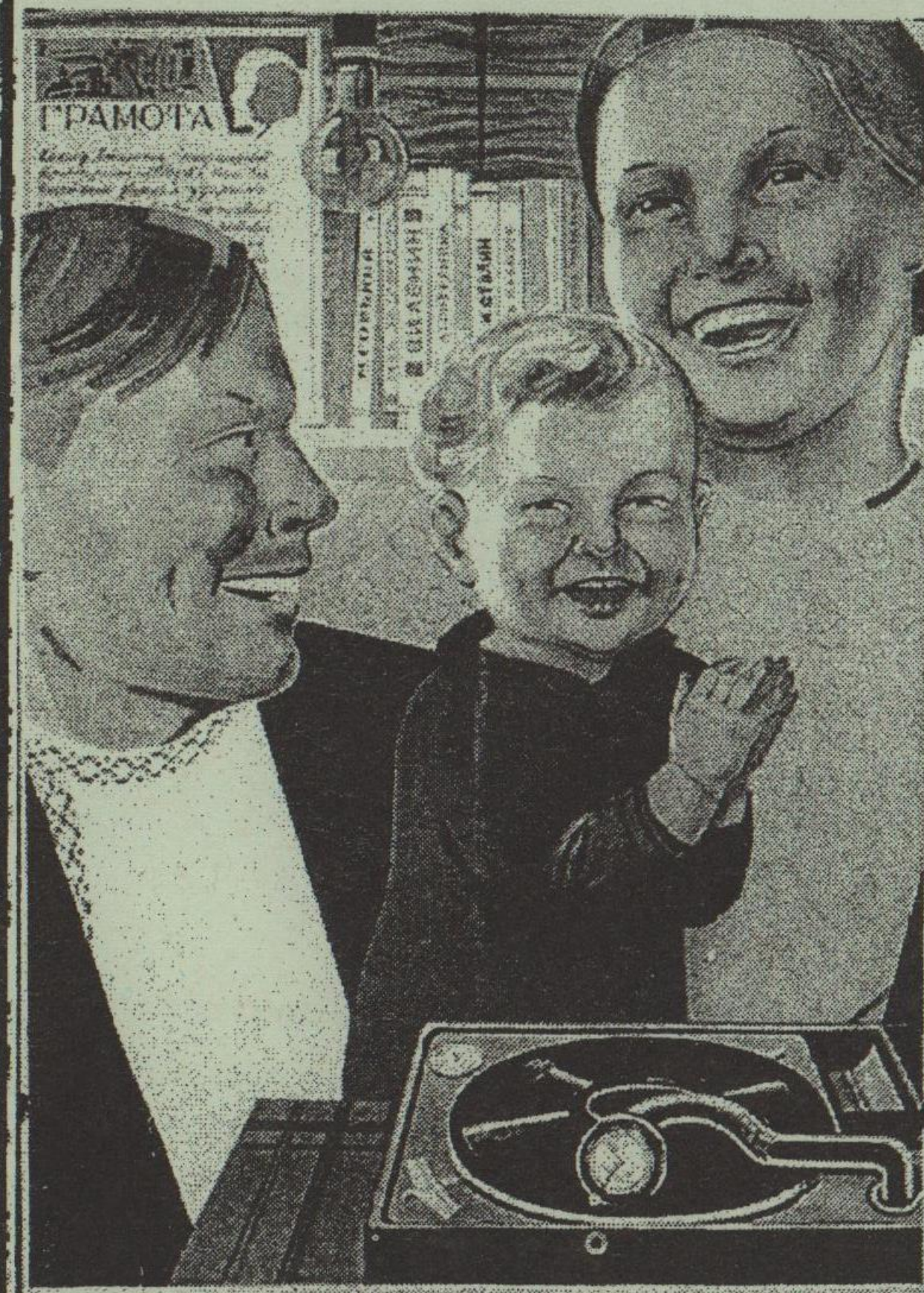
http://tasty_zine.tripod.com

Welcome to a special issue of tasty fanzine. tasty fully supports the efforts of the Nottingham Trades Union Council and the workers' movement in general. It is a supporter of the Socialist Alliance at both local and national level, and will support the class struggle in every way possible - it is for this reason that we have decided to go ahead with this joint issue of the Leveller and tasty.

But tasty also loves music too, and over the next few pages we aim to force upon you some of the finest bands you've never ever heard of. However, tasty advises, nay insists, that you hunt down these fine people's work.

This special issue of the Leveller is, of course, just in time for May Day, and tasty hopes all workers enjoy their holiday, and many more to come. Keep reading the Leveller, it is a vital voice for workers in Nottingham and beyond as it struggles for socialism. And if you're interested in finding out more about tasty the get in touch - tasty, like the Leveller, is free, and will remain so.

Thanks for taking time to read tasty Sam



Notts Anti-Fascist Alliance

Notts Anti-Fascist Alliance meet on the last Tuesday of the month at The Newcastle Arms, North Sherwood St, Next Meeting May 27th 7.30pm



PULL 'EM UP NOW
BEFORE THEY TAKE ROOT

FREE SAPTAL RAM

SELF DEFENCE IS NO OFFENCE

Saptal Ram is serving a life sentence for defending himself against a racist attacker. On 16th November 1986 Saptal went for a meal in Birmingham. He was attacked by a group of 6 white people who threw plates & glasses at him. One of the men broke a plate glass & stabbed Saptal in the face. After being stabbed twice Saptal took out a small knife which he used at work to warn off his attackers. The racist continued to attack Saptal who bleeding & in fear for his life, fought back in self defence, in the struggle the attacker received 2 knife wounds. The attacker, who refused medical attention, later died. Saptal was later arrested on a charge of murder.

Saptal was given only one 40 minutes consultation with his barrister shortly before the trial during which he was advised to change his plea from 'self defence' to 'provocation'. He was also advised not to speak in his own defence. Most of the prosecutions evidence came from the group that attacked Saptal. Because some of the defence witnesses spoke mainly Bengali an interpreter should have been provided. Saptal's defence did not insist on this & vital

evidence was not understood. Due to the mistakes of the Judge & Saptal's defence lawyer, he did not receive a fair trial. He was found guilty of murder and sentenced to life. It took almost 10 years to get an appeal which was lost. The appeal Judge only took evidence from the group that attacked him.

Saptal Ram has consistently fought his conviction. As a result he has been labelled a 'disruptive prisoner'. He has suffered solitary confinement, beatings & has been moved from prison to prison. Saptal's spirit however is not broken. He has steadfastly supported other prisoner's campaigns including those of the Bridgewater 4, the Birmingham 6 and Winston Silcott. Saptal has had a rough ride at every stage. His case is another example of why black people have little confidence in the ability of the criminal justice system to deliver any actual justice. What has happened to him could happen to any of us. Saptal defended himself against a racist attack for which he was ultimately sentenced to life imprisonment.

We say again **SELF DEFENCE IS NO OFFENCE.**

JOIN A UNION

Unions are not just about middle aged men in smoked filled rooms. They are also about young people & the concerns of young people. The concerns of young people include the fact that even though the minimum wage is set at a low level (£4.10 an hour) the rate for young people is even lower and 16 & 17 year olds have no minimum wage.

Joining a union means campaigning against low and discriminatory level of the minimum wage. It means campaigning against the abolition of student grants and supporting student nurses.

Joining a union also means that young people can be protected at work by higher health & safety standards, better job protection, better wage & conditions, and having someone there to represent the worker in grievance and disciplinary cases.

For further details phone TUC Know Your Rights Line

0870 600 4 882



6x7 - You Owe Them Love

Nottingham's Six by Seven are a breed apart. Dismissed by the mainstream for not following fads, yet not yet feted by enough to guarantee a true cult following, the band continue to produce some of the most thrilling guitar music.

It's been a long way from the band played Nottingham slums as the oddly monickered Friends Of.....to their current status, however limited that may be. As they release their third and most brilliant album yet, tasty had a brief chat with towering frontman Chris Olley, and reviews 'The Way I Feel Today'....

What is the general mood within the band at the moment? Still angry?

More miffed than angered this time around.... controlled anger but very content-ish.

Do you think that you've become stronger since Sam (ex-guitarist and founder member) left, personally and as a band?

Yes, I think that's why the anger is manageable now.... things are definitely easier and more fun but it's hard not to miss him when you bump into him in town

And how has the band changed musically during this time?

I think we have become more focused and tighter both in the studio and live and that makes things more stress free on a personal level

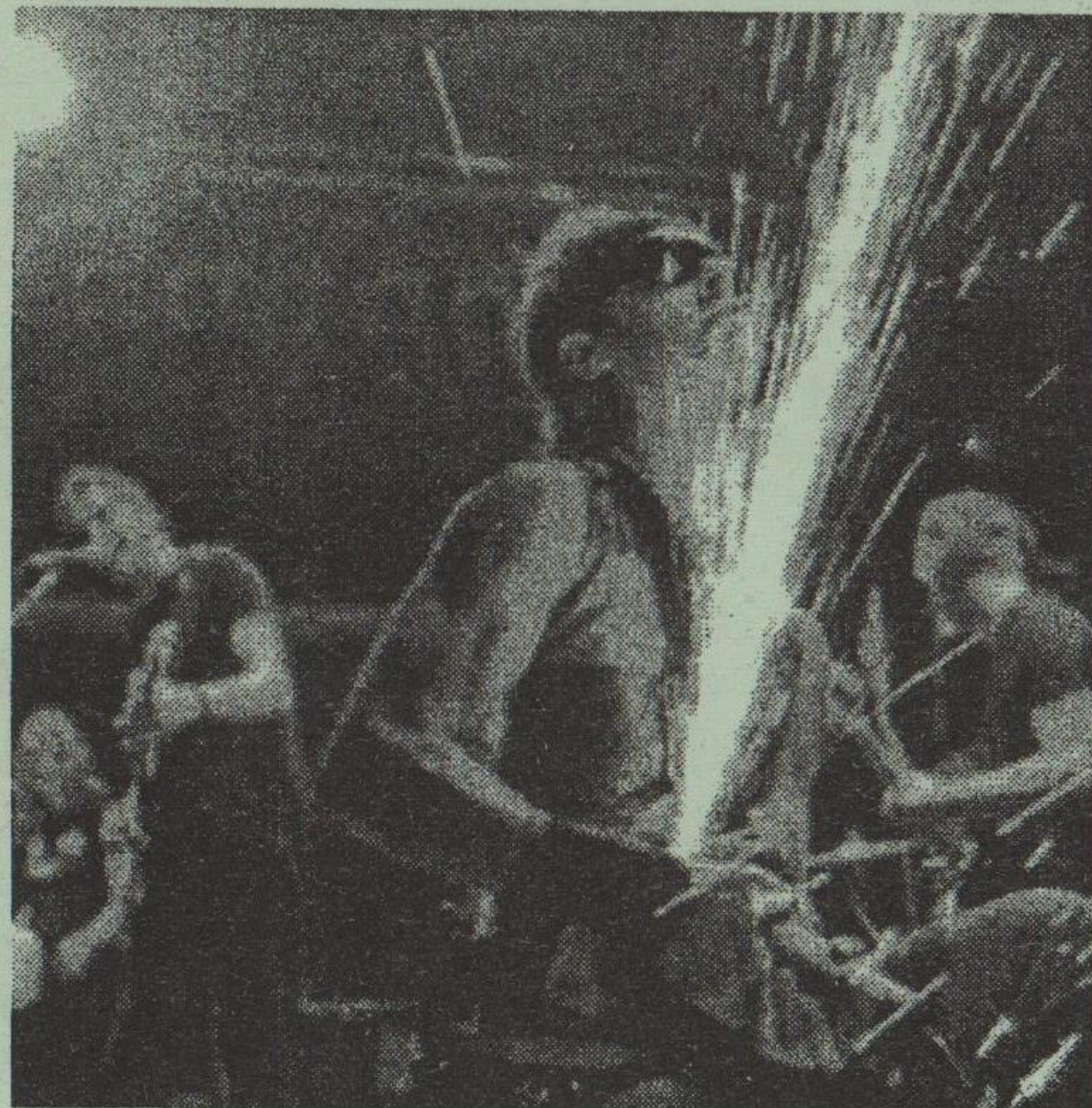
Would you say that the 'So Close' single was the stepping stone between the old and new 6x7? It probably was.

The new single (IOU Love) seems a lot mellower? Are 6x7 at ease with the world?

We've always done mellow songs, but no, it's still the same world out there.

Are the new songs still as personnel as the old ones? Do you ever tire of 'bearing your soul', so to speak?

The new songs are more personal than ever before...but I don't see it



as soul bearing, more of an exorcism, not tiring at all.

Are you still as excited about being in the band as you were three or four years ago?

I'm enjoying it more now that I know the ropes....the sad thing is that parts of the press don't seem as excited because it's our third album and they really need an angle or a scene or mass popularity to show that they want to get fully behind it.

Is there any pressure on the new single to chart?

Only for the above reasons, it would move the press along...a hit would be great but we can't force that sort of thing can we?

Are you frustrated by the British press' knack of jumping on what seems to be an annual bandwagon

Yes, in a way it's all a bit dumb really....I've just come back from doing European Press trips and quite frankly people just think the British press is a joke, which I think is a real shame.

And do you think that 6x7 have missed the boat at all? Does this worry you?

The boat sailed off before our first album....we just smiled and waved it good bye, we often felt there was a party and no one invited us....really, nothing to be worried about so long as the music keeps coming and we can enjoy it

Continued on page 17

Six by Seven - The Way I Feel Today (Mantra)

And so another Six by Seven album. It's hard to listen to this band without wondering quite why all guitar bands don't copy them. I know that if I was in a band I'd want us to sound EXACTLY like this...because this is wonderful.

'The Way I Feel..' is better than it's predecessors because it's more focussed, don't listen to what anyone else says. Whereas 'The Things We Make' and 'The Closer You Get' raged with the best of them, sometimes some of that visceral energy was lacking in-direction - but with this album Six by Seven know exactly where they're going.

And that's why it gets better with every listen, especially in the case of 'IOU Love' a rather surprising choice for single on first listen, but now transformed into a tremendous piece of tender, controlled aggression.

There's still the old favourite 6x7 traits in here as well, such as the awesome double squall of 'Flypaper for Freaks' and 'Speed In Speed Out', and the remarkable jack hammer assault that is the paean to Olley's wife, 'Karen O', but listening to mature pieces like 'American Beer' and the single, 'So Close' illustrates perfectly just how far this band have come.

The album finishes with a stereotypical piece of self-loathing with Chris Olley castigating himself in 'Bad Man'. He needn't bother, 'The Way I Feel Today' is a startling achievement. Show me a more mature, tight and all round exciting band today and I'll show you my arse.

Continued from page 16

What's the response like from the rest of Europe compared to the UK?

Pretty much the same, everybody likes the new album, we just have to wait and see what's going to happen....this time around though radio seems a lot more keen to get involved

Do you think its possible to ever be truly content with life?

Yes, I think you should try, it's all about learning.

What's the 6x7 manifesto from here on in? Get back to your shoeshine box

FUCK THE JUBILEE

PARTY

COMING

Soon



We're anti-fascist, anti-violence, anti-racist. We're against ignorance."

- Joe Strummer

The attitude that you cannot change things is just an excuse, and an insult frankly. People do it all the time— people fight all the time, people change all the time. That's what happens.

That's what being human &

alive is. Mark Thomas

If I can't dance to it, it's not my revolution—
Emma Goldman

My friends, it is solidarity of labor we want. We do not want to find fault with each other, but to solidify our forces and say to each other: "We must be together; our masters are joined together and we must do the same thing."

Mother Jones, 1902

If nobody quits until I do, there will be no quitting! UMWA organizer John R. Lawson, in 1915 after being sentenced to life imprisonment for murder in a frame-up trial



Love Songs for Punk Rockers

Every so often a band comes along, and stays along if you're lucky, that has you all moist. With that picture in your head, and it isn't pretty at this time of the morning is it, I'll introduce you to the wonderfully monickered Milky Wimpshake.

Milky Wimpshake are Peter (vocals, guitar), Christine (bass) and Grant (drums) and these wonderful people, throughout their wonderfully creative lives, responsible for some of the best underground music available. Whether it be through running their (now sadly defunct) label, Slampt! from Newcastle, or appearing in legendary bands such as Red Monkey and the superb Pussycat Trash (these people have a gift

for excellent band names), the core of Milky Wimpshake has always been at the cutting edge of some of the most incendiary punk-pop in the land.

And now Milky Wimpshake release their long-awaited new album through Leicester-based Fortuna Pop! records. 'Lovers Not Fighters' is by far the best thing the band have released, and, as we have five minutes to spare, tasty thought it might as well have a chat with one of its all-time heroes. And so here is what Pete Dale had to say....

First up the new album. The lyrics are better than ever, in my opinion. They also seem inspired by more general political happenings rather than personal ones than in the past. Do you agree?

Um, I think it is probably more "political" than the first album, but it's still mostly songs about relationships and stuff. "Jack Ass" was written in pure frustration with the behaviour of the then Home Secretary (now Foreign Sec of course, and worse than ever). I'd been listening to Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger and Phil Ochs a lot at the time, and I liked the idea of taking a specific contemporary political figure and writing a topical lampoon of them.

Which are the other songs you think are "political"?

Does the album have a overall 'concept'....?

Not really. It's just a selection of stuff really.

What are your more specific political leanings?

I believe in the power (or "will", if you like Schopenhauer) of the individual. So I'm dubious about marxism and socialism, because I feel that they are orientated around leading the working classes towards whatever, whereas I believe we all need to lead ourselves. That is not to say that we shouldn't work together: mutually agreed co-operation is essential to human existence (unlike most animals, we take years and years before we could fend for ourselves, and we become quite decrepit in old age, so we have to work together to a large extent to survive).

However, I think co-operation on the micro-level (eg. workers co-ops, squatting, unpaid community work, etc.) is more genuinely democratic and free compared to macro-society (eg. Governments, nations, international socialist organisations, etc.) Some people argue that this kind of anarchist-orientated thinking is verging on fascism, because it promotes the value of individual freedom over social responsibility. But the difference is that fascists tend to actively engage in activities which promote individual freedom at the expense of the freedom of others.

I believe that it is possible to demand your own freedom

whilst minimizing infringement of other peoples freedoms. For instance, racist organisations such as the NF must be confronted, and I am prepared to interfere with their "freedom" to perpetrate violent acts. I feel the same way about, for example, GM crops, road building, and other things which are done by multinational corporations (and the governments who work for them.) So I am aware that there are limits to the usefulness of promoting individual freedom. Also, unlike fascists, I believe that all humans are innately good, they want to do good, and they are aware when they are doing something bad or wrong. This is why there is so much "depression" in Western society: people know that they are doing wrong, thus they are unable to be happy. But they have been co-erced into that situation.

So, I believe that to be happy you have to do good things, and that people will do good things when left to their own devices. Thus, in my view, a person who is completely responsible for their own behaviour will behave very well. I see no need for governments, social workers, schools, hospitals, building contractors, police, any of that. Humans are naturally communal, because they have to be in order to survive. Responsibility cannot be imposed on a person, it can only be nurtured by the person themself.

And who are you heroes, both political and musical and why?
I like Johnathon Richman, Amelia Fletcher, Tony Benn,



Arthur Schopenhauer, Noam Chomsky, Fugazi, most punk rock music, lone wolfs such as Captain Beefheart and Daniel Johnston, and all political agitators everywhere who are fighting the power of multinational corporations.

What inspires you to forge ahead with Milky Wimpshake?

Well, we tend to amble ahead rather than forging... We enjoy playing music together, and it gives me an outlet for the songs I write.

Do you suffer from 'White Liberal Guilt'? (with reference to an excellent, and somewhat hilarious, song of the same name on 'Lovers Not Fighters')

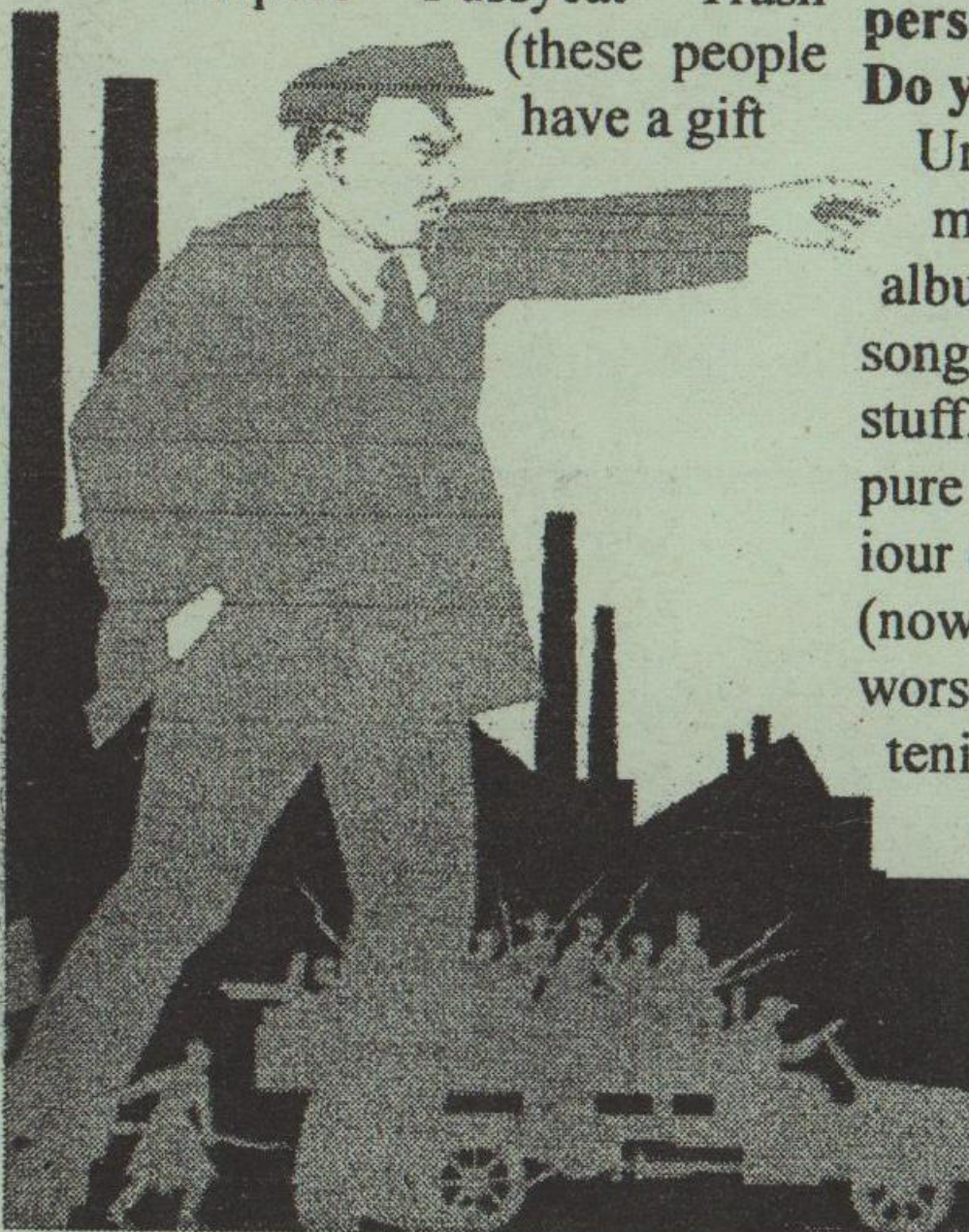
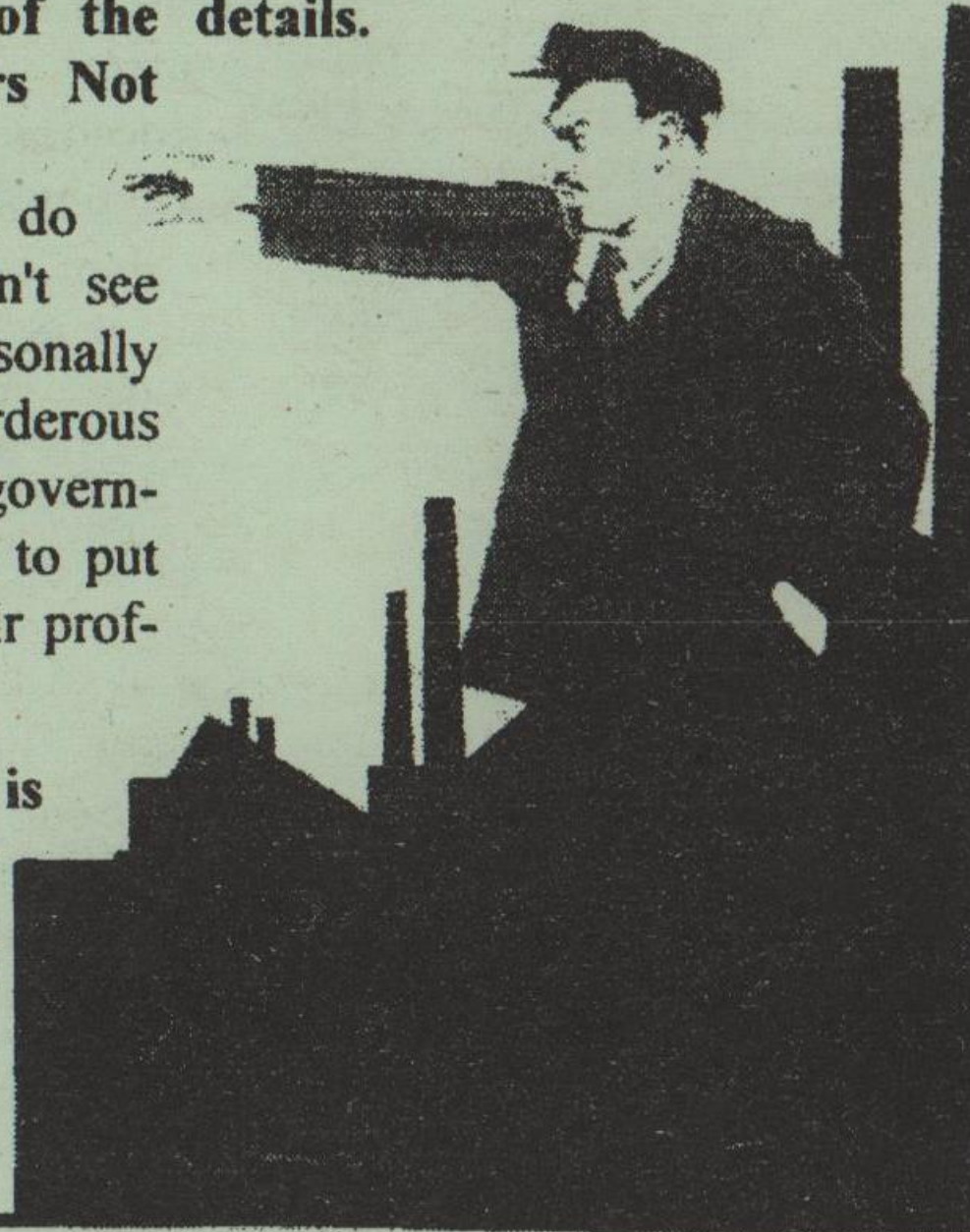
I used to more so than I do now. These days, I don't see why I should feel personally responsible for the murderous actions of the British government, but I certainly try to put every impediment to their profits, when I can.

What do you think is missing from the music scene today? What is the spark needed?
Good music.

Do you really hate Hull? (Another reference to a track on 'Lovers....', this time to 'Dialling Tone' a song, apparently about diddling someone else's girlfriend - the lyric runs, 'your boyfriend seems so dull/he was probably born in Hull').

No, I don't. I did have quite a miserable weekend their about 10 years ago, but I actually quite like the place normally. It just happened to rhyme with "dull".

'Lovers Not Fighters' is out now on the excellent Fortuna Pop label - see www.fortunapop.com for more details.



the lollies sore tongued candy pop

Quite how two Canadians and an American find themselves holed up in London playing some of the most glorious pop-music since Heavenly went their separate ways is a matter for some thought. And quite why more British bands aren't like the Lollies is another.

Y'see, whereas most of our youth want to sound like the grandpa turd that is Travis, or they're so fixated by silly people in masks that they overlook the finer things in life, like pop music and The Lollies.

Take that name for a start, it's genius....we don't need no education to tell that, by band name alone, this North American three-piece can make us laugh, cry, dance, open an extra packet of cup-a-soup and laugh again... all at the same time.

With their last single, 'Channel Heaven' making a welcome stay in the indie charts tasty caught up with Jane and Kate to ask after their well-being....

Your image - natural or somewhat pre-determined? Are you slaves to fashion or does it come naturally?

J: 100% natural. We never sit around planning which stripey trousers to wear or putting each other's hair in pigtails. Nope. Not. Ever.

K: I'd be lying if I said that we *didn't* think about our image,

about how we present ourselves. I'm an ex art student, and the presentation is part of the package. Visuals, like our album artwork, are very important to us! I think we actually spent more money on the 8-page colour booklet that accompanied our first EP than we did on recording the music! But we're not a fashion band in the slightest, our visual presentation is an statement of our own aesthetic sense, not any vagaries of the Arbiters Of Fashion. Certainly, we're girls, we compare notes about what we're going to wear before gigs or photo shoots. Though to be honest, I spend more time worrying about what guitar pedals I'm going to use than what shoes I'm going to wear.

Is pop music dead, or merely waiting for the lollies to kiss it back to life?

J: Pop music never died, it just lost all its attitude. We'll kick its arse until it's the gigantic formidable daunting force it once was. Pop music is never dead, that's an oxymoron, as pop is an statement of popular culture, and popular culture will last as long as there is a population! But yes, popular tastes change, and I've generally noticed that they change in cycles. There will be a cycle of manufactured pre-fab bubblegum pop, and then an explosion of "genuine" music as a backlash, and then round again. I think the

Lollies are perfectly balanced in that we combine the aesthetic of pre-fab bubblegum pop with the ideals of "genuine" indie. (Or is it the other way around?) Pop music doesn't have to be unintelligent, and indie music doesn't have to have no sense of fun, and I hope The Lollies are proof of that.

Will you be celebrating the Queen's Jubilee this year? How long has the Queen Mother been dead?

J: I never liked Queen. They were far too bombastic. That 5ive cover was great though. Pure comedy. Oh, I think I've missed the point...

K: Oh yes, of course. Anything for a party. I'd go to the opening of an envelope. I personally think the monarchy are great, they're a 1000-year old soap opera! Better than Eastenders!

Are the band politically aware/active? What do you see as your manifesto?

J: Meat Beat Manifesto were brilliant. . . Oh no, I'm doing it again. Focus, focus Alright. Our manifesto. To make smart music fun and pop music smart again. And to never

ever, ever have sponsored hair.

K: I don't believe in speaking about your political beliefs, I believe in *living* your political beliefs, otherwise it's just hollow posturing. We are not an overtly political band, because I don't like it when other people force their beliefs in my face, so I'd never do it to others. I am a feminist, a liberal, a pacifist, a vegetarian, and I live my life according to those beliefs, but I prefer actions to empty words or manifestos. If The Lollies have a manifesto, it's probably along the lines of not taking life too seriously. Be serious about what you do, believe in yourself, but when bad things happen, it's better to laugh at them than to let them drag you down. That's what we try to do, and that's what this whole band was founded for.

You lot have originated from so far apart..but what one thing brings you together, apart from the lollies?

J: Eating. It's all about the food.

K: Buffy The Vampire Slayer and the Powerpuff Girls! Do you get dispirited by the British attitude at all?



J: I've not even figured out what the British attitude is yet, and I've been here for years. There seems to be a bit of a can-do spirit here that I haven't experienced elsewhere. Plus, Brits love their popstars, so how can we complain?

K: I love Britain, and I have chosen to live here, because I find that the British music scene, especially living in London, is so vibrant, so energetic, and there is so much going on. But there are certain things I find very frustrating about the English attitude, yes. The thing that I find most frustrating is the British "Fear of Success". I find it really funny that the

biggest insult you can give a musician seems to be to call them "middle class". In America, everyone *aspires* to be Middle Class. Here, you're not supposed to *want* to be successful, and you're not supposed to toot your own horn, and if you *do* achieve any kind of success, no matter how small, there are always going to be people trying to

tear you down and knock you off your pedestal and discount what you've done. I don't know if it's jealousy or fear of success, or even if it's a British thing or just human nature, but it makes me sad.

What say you to future world domination? Can the lollies 'lick'... ho,ho, the opposition, or are you merely content with your lowly, yet significant position in the musical Nationwide league?

J: Lowly? Who are you calling lowly. Why I oughta...

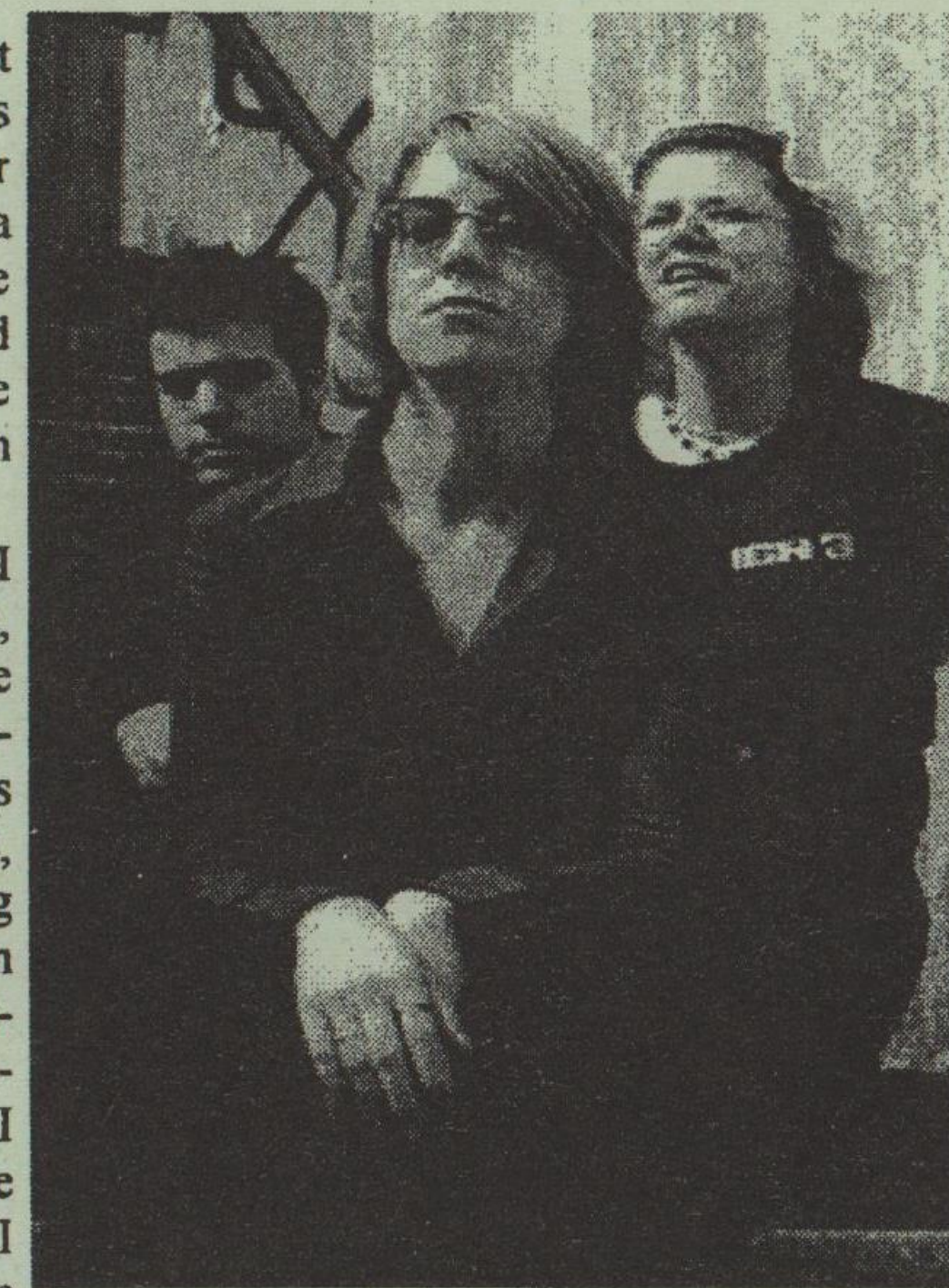
Bring 'em on, baby. We'll knock 'em down. Whiney, MOR, safe, dull, derivative musicians of the world, you better run and hide your skinny arses!

K: Oh no, it's all about the music for me, man. I'd be happy making records in my bedroom, and if even one person outside the band likes it, then that's a bonus and... fuck off! Of course we want world domination, don't be ridiculous. I make music that I fucking love because I love it, *and* I want it to be successful. Anyone who claims they don't is either a liar or a saint, and I'm neither.

Who holds the band record for eating the most lollies?

J: Actually, we hold a joint world record for sucking the most lollies at one sitting. We managed to eat 9,822. Really. It's in the Guinness book. Man, our tongues were sore for days..

K: Most, I don't know. But as for being the biggest lollies fiend, that would probably be me. I once picked up a Chuppa-Chup I'd dropped in a gutter on the Lower East Side, brushed it off and carried on eating it. Gross enough for ya?



United 4 May Day Wed 1 May

Assemble. noon,
Clerkenwell Green (tube:
Farringdon) March to
Trafalgar Square
Speakers include: MARK
SERWOTKA AND
TONY BENN Plus
festival in the Square with
music and theatre

THE HAYMARKET MARTYRS

May 1886 and 80,000 workers & their families walk down Chicago's Michigan Ave in the world's first ever May Day Parade. At the same time 340,000 workers in 12,000 factories across the US downed tools to demand the 8 hour day in order to spread work among the thousands made unemployed by new 'labour saving' machinery. The next day Chicago police attacked peaceful strikers with guns and clubs, killing & wounding several. On May 3rd 6,000 strikers at the McCormick Harvester factory who had been locked out over a wage dispute. When pickets tried to stop scabs from entering the plant the police attacked again, opening fire on the strikers killing 4 and wounding many others. Outraged at this act of naked aggression, a protest was called for the next day at the Haymarket Square.

The meeting was peaceful & a shower of rain soon sent away most of the crowd. When only a few hundred remained the police suddenly attacked. In the confusion a bomb was thrown & exploded among the police who immediately opened fire on the workers. Several police & many workers were killed.

It has never been discovered who threw the Haymarket bomb, it is generally considered that it was thrown by an agent provocateur, hired to throw the bomb in order to arrest hundreds and destroy the revolutionary leadership.

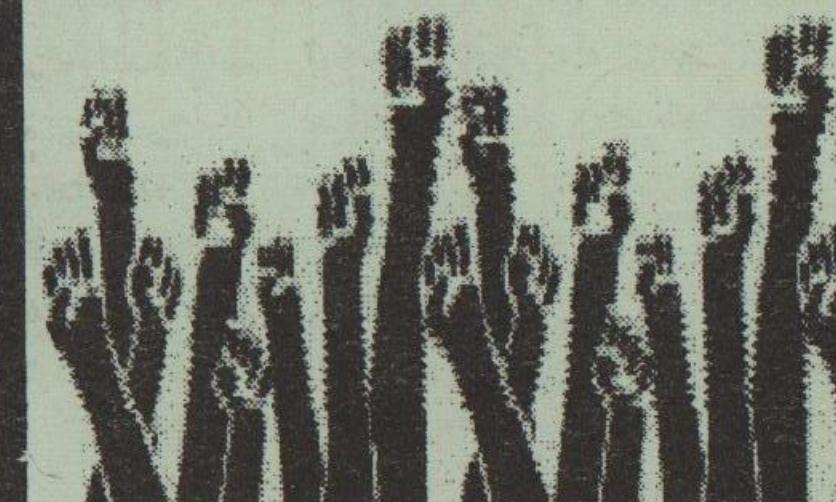
It was certainly was not any of the 8 anarchists who were put on trial for it. Six of them were not even there & the other two were clearly innocent. Yet a trial of perjured testimony, a packed jury, biased judge & a hysterical press ensured a guilty verdict & condemned 5 of the 8 to death. Despite worldwide protest Parson, Spies, Fisher & Engels were hanged on November 11th (Ling had committed suicide the previous day). Six years later the state governor released the survivors from jail, admitting that there had been no evidence to link any of the 8 with the Haymarket bomb.

On 14th July 1889, on the 100th anniversary of Bastille Day, an American delegate at the International Labour Congress in Paris proposed that May 1st be officially adopted as a workers holiday. This was unanimously approved & since then May Day has served as a date for international working class solidarity.

For decades the trade union movement celebrated May Day, even being arrested for doing so. Today, when trade unions are tied by anti-trade union legislation, unemployed are forced to work for benefits. An eight hour day and a decent minimum wage is still a dream for many. However, trade unionists and socialists amongst us still celebrate the traditions of May Day and remember the Haymarket Martyrs and the workers who died on 4th May 1886 at Haymarket Square, Chicago.

"We are you. We are gay in San Francisco, black in South Africa, an Asian in Europe, a Chicano in San Ysidro, an anarchist in Spain, a Palestinian in Israel, a Mayan Indian in the streets of San Cristobal, a Jew in Germany, a Gypsy in Poland, a Mohawk in Quebec, a pacifist in Bosnia, a single woman on the Metro at 10pm, a peasant without land, a gang member in the slums, an unemployed worker, an unhappy student and, of course, a Zapatista in the mountains".

Zapatista leader Marcos: -



**"THE DAY WILL COME WHEN OUR SILENCE WILL BE MORE POWERFUL
THAN THE VOICES YOU ARE THROTTLING TODAY." --A.SPIES**

Notts Anti Fascist Alliance

BENEFIT NIGHT

Sun 5th MAY

@ The Old Angel, Stoney St, Nottm

Films, DJ's
+ Fun
FREE ENTRY

COMMUNITY SELF ORGANISATION

+ The Role of the American Prison System and Prison support

SPEAKERS

Robert King Wilkenson
(served 28 years in prison
Angola 3)

Aithea Francois

Both speakers ex members
of the Black Panthers

SAT 11 MAY

4 pm at Hyson Green Youth Centre
Terrace St, Hyson Green Nottingham

FIGHT FOR THE LIVING- REMEMBER THE DEAD



People like Simon Jones get killed at work all the time and nothing gets done about it- NOT THIS TIME.

**24TH APRIL
NATIONAL DAY
OF ACTION
AGAINST
CASUALISATION**

The Simon Jones Memorial Campaign is calling a national day of action against profiteering employment agencies on Wednesday 24th April 2002, the fourth anniversary of Simon's death.

We are asking supporters of our campaign across the country and internationally to mark the anniversary of Simon's death by demonstrating, in whatever way they see fit, at an employment agency in their area that profits from the casualisation that killed Simon.

Simon Jones was killed in 1998 on his first day of work at Shoreham Docks. He was sent there without training or experience by Brighton-based employment agency Personnel Selection. By law, this employment agency should have checked that the job Simon was sent to was safe for him - they didn't. Despite their clear breach of the law, Personnel Selection have never been

prosecuted for their role in Simon's death. Like employment agencies up and down the country, they are able to profit from casual labour without being held accountable for the safety of the workers they employ.

Carly North of the Simon Jones Memorial Campaign says, "Employment agencies make huge profits by providing cheap labour for companies who prefer casual labour rather than a well trained, decently paid workforce. The campaign wants to highlight this with a national day of action against employment agencies that put profit before people."

If you are interested in taking part in the day of action please email simonjonesaprilaction@hotmail.com and we will get back to you. In particular, let us know if:

- you have any suggestions for employment agencies to target in your area
- you would like to be put in touch with others in your area who may be planning something.

In Brighton, Simon's family and others will take be taking action against the Personnel Selection branch that sent Simon to his death.

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH AND MAKE THIS A DAY OF ACTION TO REMEMBER! We need support from individuals, union branches, safety organisations, local groups, whatever. We look forward to hearing from you...

**National Rally for Palestine
National Demonstration Sat 18th May
and Rally for Palestine**

Assemble 12.00 noon in Central London. Rally at Trafalgar Sq

www.palestinecampaign.org

Good Riddance!

Baroness Poll Tax, Margaret Thatcher, has been ordered never to make any more speeches in public. Surprisingly, this was not a landmark legal decision in favour of the health and well being of the general public, but a medical necessity as the 76 year old's body started to reject contradictions in her own ideology.

These contradictions included her attitude to crime and punishment. Whilst pontificating about "evil criminals" she struck up a close friendship with one of the most evil criminals of the 20th century- Chile's mass murdered, General Augusto Pinochet.

It was the universally hated Poll Tax that finally brought the spectre of Thatcher down. There were huge demonstrations and mass non-payment. Thatcher, in tears, was forced out of Downing Street by the end of the year.

"Thatcherism is dead," cried everyone "Long live Thatcherism," cried New Labour.

Maggie spirit lives on in Tony Blair, as he carries on her flagship policies: a pro-big business agenda, Tory privatisation policies (PPP/PFI), the decimation of public services and warmongering from the Middle East to The Balkans.

With the Tories spring conference over, Iain Duncan Smith pledged that his party will reach



out to the vulnerable in society is still invoking gasps and eye rubbing up and down the country.

"This Labour government has become the most controlling, centralising, bullying and manipulating government we have had in my lifetime"

Tony Blair is now in the unenviable position of being seen to be to the right of the Conservative leader.

So Thatcher needn't worry about never speaking in public again- because Blair is doing it for her.

CUBA 2002

Speakers Invited

George Lambie

Father Geoff Bottoms

Tony Caccavone

Dr Conrad James

Alan Simpson MP

SAT 25

MAY



11am to 4pm @ Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street, Nottm. Admission £2.00

Support striking journalists at Guardian owned papers

NUJ members at the Guardian owned Greater Manchester Weekly Newspapers have voted to strike for six days over low-pay and union recognition. Trainee journalists at the company start on as little as £10,486 per annum. The maximum anyone below the rank of deputy editor can earn is £17,692. The chapel asked for a 7.5 percent rise to help catch up with other industries. The last management offer was 2.5 percent. In the year to April 1 01 Greater Manchester Newspapers - the division of Guardian Media involved - made an after tax profit of £12.4 million.

WHO'S LIBERAL NOW

In a secret ballot 100 percent of NUI members who took part voted for a strike over low pay. On the day the result was declared the management announced that they were de-recognising the NUI - refusing to negotiate on pay and conditions. The firm's papers - the Guardian and Observer - regularly criticise bullying employers. The papers are read by thousands of trade union members. Guardian Media is owned by the Scott Trust. The chair of the trust is Guardian writer Hugo Young. Please support the Greater

Manchester Weekly Newspapers workers by emailing him at hugo.young@guardian.co.uk or faxing him at 0207 837 4530.

WHEN, WHERE & HOW YOU CAN HELP

The strikes are due to happen on April 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, and May 1. Messages of support can be sent to the chapel @ badlypaid@hotmail.com. They can be a huge morale boost. The chapel needs money. Organise a whip round in the office or among branch members. You don't need to be a chapel or branch official to start a collection. Just do it. Cheques should be made payable to "GMWN NUI Fund" and sent to 22 Swan Street, Manchester, M4 5JQ.

BOYCOTT THE GUARDIAN

On the days when these NUI Members are on strike do not buy the Guardian.



Holy Cross School

To celebrate International Women's Day on March 8, the Trades Council hosted a public meeting which was attended by over 30 trade unionists and was addressed by Liz Murphy, a parent of an eight year-old pupil at Holy Cross School, Belfast.



Since June 2001, parents and pupils have been intimidated and threatened by loyalist mobs. The harrowing images which were broadcast by the media earlier this year brought widespread condemnation from human rights organisations world-wide. In a worsening development of anti-Catholic sectarianism, young children were considered legitimate targets by loyalist gangs. Despite the school being in existence for 32 years, the recent violence has been caused by loyalist paramilitaries, some of whom moved into the Ardoyne area following internal feuding.

Liz Murphy spoke about her first-hand experiences as a victim of these attacks, and the traumatic effects they had upon her daughter. Racist abuse has been hurled at parents and pupils on a daily basis, whilst gangs armed with bottles, bricks and iron bars frequently attack Holy Cross children. On the 5 September last year, parents and children had a bomb thrown at them in view of the RUC, yet no prosecutions resulted. Further intimidation has included death threats and throwing fireworks, boiling water and balloons filled with urine and excrement at parents and their children walking to and from school.

In response to this sectarianism, Liz explained how parents, teachers and Sinn Fein activists launched the Right to Education Group. Speaking tours throughout Ireland and the US raised public awareness of their fight for education free from intimidation. Prolific lobbying of politicians, human rights groups and MEPs has publicised their case and attracted widespread support. Furthermore, some longstanding Protestant residents in the area have privately expressed their distress at the situation, but are fearful of reprisals if they speak publicly.

The role of the RUC/PSNI (or the Police Service of Northern Ireland) has been partisan and included an incident where parents were told that firecrackers being hurled were in fact live sniper fire!

Liz urged Nottingham trade unionists to enquire within their own unions, where they organise within the Six Counties, as to what solidarity action is being taken to oppose the violent sectarianism at Holy Cross. With the union conference season approaching, this is an opportune time to raise these questions.

Steve O'Brien and Gail Squires.

Ta-ra then
Old Queen Mum

If your daughter
Lives as long

As you did

Prince Charles
Will be glum

Royal Orbit
Lord Biro (anti Poet Laureate)

Nottingham Clarion Choir



Bringing songs to
the Trade union and
Labour Movement at
Mayday and
throughout the Year

Add something extra
to your social event,
conference, meeting
or picket line !!

Ring 0115 9143922

We are looking for new members of all abilities who share our ideals and want to sing. We offer support to new singers and we don't audition. An ability to read music is not necessary. Your enthusiasm is more important. We practice every Sunday at 7.30pm at The Place Community Centre, Melrose Street (off Mansfield Road), Nottingham. Come and give us a try.



"Esso ate my brain"

WWWESITE of the month



While the rest of the world is trying to stop global warming and protect the planet for future generations, Esso is busy drilling for more oil and polluting the atmosphere. What's worse, Esso is doing its best to stop other countries' attempts to prevent the world from heating up. For further information check out www.stopesso.com

Boycott

Esso

No.1 global warming villain

"WAR IS PEACE"

SHELLING OUT

If you were the government, what would you do with £760m? Perhaps build 10 brand new hospitals? Or 100 new schools? Or even increase the amount we spend on conflict prevention by about 30 times? Or would you give it to UK arms companies to help them export military equipment around the world?

Despite the government professed commitment to health and education, unfortunately they do the latter.

"Shelling out: How taxpayers subsidise the arms trade" is a new information and action pack to help groups and individuals explore this issue and enable them to take action. The pack includes an in-depth briefing, posters, postcards and other action ideas.

For further details contact CAAT,
11 Goodwin St, Finsbury Park,
London N4 3HQ,

Email enquiries@caat.
demon.co.uk
Web www.caat.
org.uk/



Nottingham Stop the War Coalition

Last September's attack on the Twin Towers has become George Bush's universal excuse for war. He now tries to settle any of the United States' foreign policy concerns by reaching for his formidable war machine. It has become obvious that Iraq is the next target. The rhetoric is building up. Saddam Hussein is faced with a series of ridiculous demands. He refuses, and that is sufficient reason to bomb the people of Baghdad. Tony Blair is Bush's most willing accomplice in this cynical posturing.

Opposition is worldwide. The effect on the Middle East would be devastating. A Guardian opinion poll puts opposition to attacking Iraq at 51%. The pressure of dissent is being felt right inside the New Labour cabinet.

But Bush is quite mad enough to go ahead anyway. And Blair is enough of a creep to go along with him. In this situation, raising our voices against the Drive to War is vital. Join Nottingham Stop the War Coalition at Weekly Open Meetings in the ICC, Wednesdays at 7:30pm.

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

DON'T JUST SYMPATHISE



JOIN !

JOIN NOTTINGHAM CND HERE

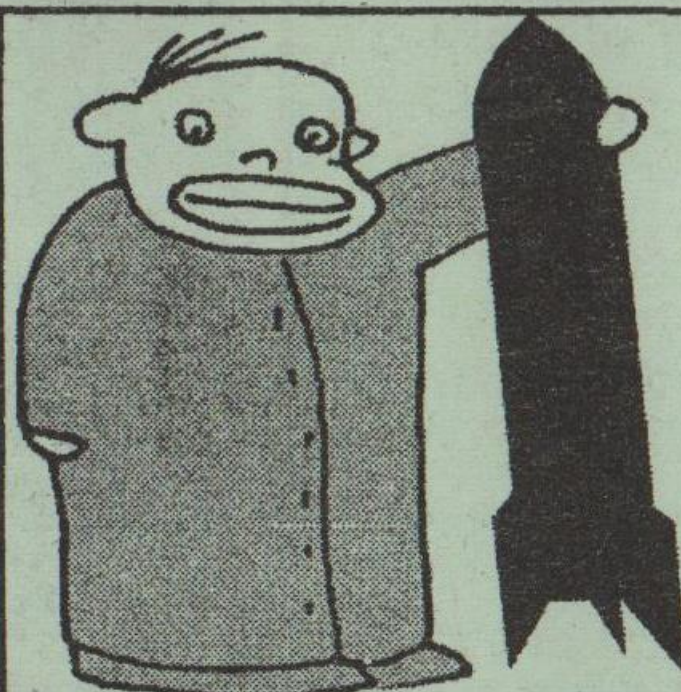
Adult £5 ☐ Household £6 ☐

Unwaged £2 ☐

Name _____

Address _____

Please make cheques payable to NCND and return to
NCND, The Voluntary Action Centre, 7 Mansfield
Rd, Nottingham NG1 3FB.
Tel 0115 934 8459



Learn to love
the bomb.

Vote
Labour.

"IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH"

"You must love Big Brother."

It is not enough to obey him
you must love him."

O'Brian tells this
to Winston as he begins

the final stage
of Winston's rehab
into submission of the Party.

1984 - George Orwell

Newspeak

Oceanic Society in 1984 depended upon control of its subjects. In order to keep them in line, the government created a language called Newspeak. This language was designed so that it would be impossible for people to even think the wrong thing, as there would be no words to express their feelings. The language consisted of three vocabularies :-

The A Vocabulary

This was used for nouns, ie. dog, tree, sugar etc. However, any noun which could be ambiguous and have some political overtone was deleted ie. thought. These deleted words were replaced with words which could be used as nouns or verbs ie. think.

The B Vocabulary

The B vocabulary contains words with political meaning, and connotations about the people using them. For example, *thoughtcrime* is used to mean a thought which goes against the principles of Ingsoc. Most of these words are amalgams of more than one noun or verb, for example *oldthink* meaning anything archaic or not useful to The Party.

The C Vocabulary

The C vocabulary consists of only scientific & technical terms ie. acid. However, care was taken to irradicate all unwanted meaning from these words, ensuring they could have no double meaning.

Whose money is it, anyway?

A Socialist Alliance pamphlet

This pamphlet, written by Matt Wrack for the Socialist Alliance is a vital tool for all trade unionists as the debate on the political fund opens up in the unions.

As CWU General Secretary addresses the Green Party Conference, and GMB's John Edmonds say he will give money to the Tories or the Lib Dems if they back the union's policies, this pamphlet could not have been more timely.

Wrack charts the miserable record of new Labour, elected to government by thousand of trade unionists desperate for change after the long night of Tory rule, highlighting Byers's recent description of public sector workers defending jobs and services as "wreckers".

His conclusion is that we need to fight to democratise these funds, to break Labour's monopoly.

Organisations like the SSP and the Socialist Alliance "should have the right to argue their case in front of union members. Similarly Labour should also have the right to argue for support for their candidates and policies. Anyone who has any respect for the intelligence of trade union members should be able to support such a process. Lets have the debate and allow democracy to work"

Get your copy from Notts Socialist Alliance, PO Box 154. Derby House, Derby Rd, Nottm NG1 . £1.00 + 27p postage

May Day Greetings

on this day of worker solidarity, best wishes to all those who fight for democracy where ever that is needed. Workers have a right to a decent living, a decent pension and a right to live with dignity.

These are best achieved through collective strength and collective bargaining and by rejecting the principles of partnership which earn the tag the 'bosses union' for its advocates.

Derek Simpson

Candidate for General Secretary of Amicus-AEEU



"FREEDOM IS SLAVERY"

Want To Contribute Something to Nottingham Trades Council Newsletter?

Articles, reports on Union
activities, whistle blowing on
bad practice, news- in fact
anything that would be of
interest.

We'd love to hear from you!

Send your contributions to
Nottm & District TUC

C/O Nottm City
UNISON, 4/6 Perth
St, Nottm NG1 3LU

or E-mail

maydayuk@
yahoo.co.uk

By 01.06.02



ALTERNATIVE FORMATS

This newsletter can
be available in a
range of accessible
formats.

For details
please
contact the
above



May Day past its hay-day?

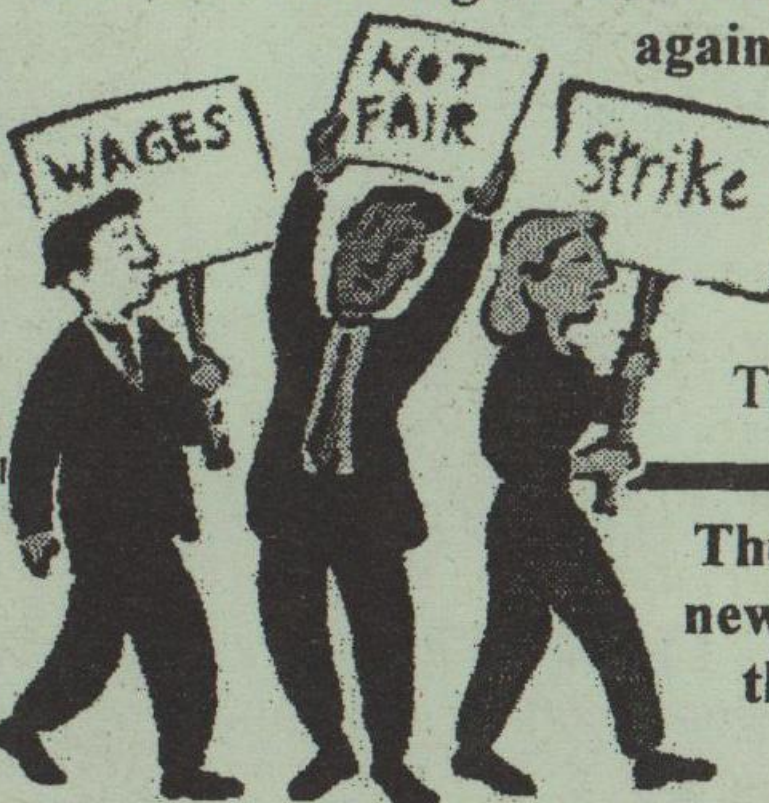
The annual May Day march has been organised by the Trades Council for more years than some of us like to remember, with varying degrees of success. However, there is a general feeling that May Day is an important part of the labour movement calendar, and therefore its celebration is a worthwhile thing to do. In recent years, we have tried to broaden the appeal of the event by providing free music on the Market Square, including samba bands and live DJs, plus extending the event into the days around May Day, with meetings, benefit gigs and film/video screenings.

The only problem is getting people to organise it. Everyone wants it to happen, but no-one wants to do the work. It's a common enough problem, but reaching crisis point in this instance, with less people than you can count on one hand making any real contribution to this year's organisation. That's despite holding widely publicised open meetings to which anybody is welcome. The Trades Council has more than one hundred contacts on our mailing list alone, so when you factor in the range of campaign groups, left organisations and other individuals/bodies which you would think have an interest in making May Day happen, it's a disappointing response.

This isn't a whinge about too much work, no-one to do it, etc (well not *just* a whinge!). It's asking a serious question: do we want a May Day event next year in Nottingham, or not? If the answer's yes, then we have a collective responsibility to ensure it goes ahead, getting involved, giving up the telly/football/pub/yogic-flying class for a night **AND DOING SOMETHING**. Please. And because we know where you live.

For this year we still need people to get involved (stewards on the march etc). **Ring 9112726 for details.**

The next meeting of the Trades Council will discuss again the future of the Trades Council and next year's May Day. All Trade Unionist and Delegates welcome
Trades Council Executive



The Views expressed in this
newsletter are not necessarily
those of Nottm & District
Trades Union Council

Nottingham & District Trades Union Council

The Nottingham Trades Union Council is where branches of all the different local trade unions come together to exchange information & ideas.

★To provide support to workers in dispute

★To encourage all workers to join their appropriate trade union.

★To campaign on issues of concern to trade unionists at local, national & international levels.

The Trades Council is the Nottingham area's representative of the TUC and feeds back our views into the national movement.

Our next 3 meetings: 15.05.02, 17.07.02 & 18.09.02 will be held at the (ICC) International Community Centre, Mansfield Rd, Nottm at 7.30pm.

"Up for it since 1890"

ROBERT HAMMILL WHY DID HE DIE?

In Portadown, in the early hours of April 27, 1997, Robert Hamill was kicked to death by a mob of 30 Loyalists in full view of an RUC Landrover, 200 yards from an RUC station. 4 RUC officers, wearing body armour and armed with machine guns, remained in the Landrover until after the attack.

They ignored warnings of a potential incident. They ignored pleas for them to intervene during the attack. They did not fire in the air or attempt to disperse the crowd. They didn't declare a crime scene, collect forensic evidence or take statements. They only detained one suspect but released him after only a few minutes. No arrests were made for 2 weeks.

Robert's family want to know why.

"every state has a duty to protect its citizens, in Robert Hamill's case, the state has failed and failed abysmally" Rosemary Nelson, Hamill family solicitor, murdered 15 March 99

The Nottingham Robert Hamill campaign meets at 7pm on the first Monday of the month at the International Community Centre. For more information and to make a donation to the Nottm Robert Hamill Campaign, C/O the ICC, 61b Mansfield Rd, Nottm NG1 3FN
Email robhamillnott@yahoo.co.uk

respect yourself: JOIN a UNION

pay, fairness, opportunities,
security, support in a crisis,
health, training.

If you want a better deal at work, you could try going it alone. But if you want to get somewhere, stick together & join a union.

For further details write to
Nottingham Trades Council,
C/O Nottm City UNISON, 4-6
Perth St, Nottingham NG1

-the people who brought
you the weekend