

***RUSHCLIFFE AGAINST THE POLL TAX***  
**To All Non-payers & Those**  
**Who Sympathise:**  
**Second Poll Tax**  
**Court Date For**  
**Rushcliffe Non-payers**

A further 150 summonses have been issued by Rushcliffe Borough Council to Poll Tax non-payers in Rushcliffe. The Court Hearings are to take place from **2.30pm** onwards, on **Thursday October 11th**, at the **Guild Hall in Nottingham**.

**Keep Up The Pressure**

The anti-Poll Tax Campaign in Rushcliffe has been a great success. At the last court hearing on the 23rd August for Rushcliffe, we managed to get a good proportion of those people who had been summonsed to attend in person. As a result, **only one** of the people who turned up on the day had a liability order issued against them, the remainder had their cases adjourned until November 8th!

We must do everything we can to make sure that we put forward a strong challenge to the courts for a second time. This means that those people who have been summonsed should exercise their right to a personal hearing and that the rest of us show our support outside the court (Anti-Poll Tax demonstrations outside the Guildhall in Nottingham have always been orderly and good natured). Make The effort to get along, even if it is just for half an hour at lunchtime. Why not persuade your friends/workmates to do the same? Nottingham is one of the highest non-paying areas in the country, so you might be surprised to find out who isn't paying their Poll Tax!

If you are a member of a trade union or sympathetic community organisation, why not get them to bring their banner?

**Help The Campaign In Rushcliffe To Help You**

Rushcliffe Against The Poll Tax and the local anti-poll tax groups rely on ordinary people volunteering their time to make the Campaign a success. Any offer of help is always greatly appreciated. So if you are willing to help leafletting and helping with stall on Saturdays or fundraising, etc. then please let us know.

**Bailiff Busting Update**

Four weeks ago Rushcliffe Borough Council issued 39 Distress Warrants against non-payers in West Bridgford. Of these 23 refused to be intimidated by the threats of bailiffs. To this date not one house has been entered by bailiffs and no possession has been taken. **We Are Winning!** People must not be frightened by the Council's threats. In practice these are futile as bailiffs **CAN NOT FORCE ENTRY!**

**If You Have Been Summonsed**

Come to court on the day. It is your **right** to have a personal hearing, if you don't, the court will issue a liability order against you as a formality which will literally take a few seconds. **Free legal support and advice** will be available to you prior to and on the day, so you won't be expected to deal with the court



on your own.

If for any reason you can't attend on the date which you have been summonsed, then contact the court and **ask for an adjournment** (you need to speak to the Clerk Of The Court). They should then offer you an alternative date.

It is also very important to contact your local Anti-Poll Tax Group before the court date so that we can go through the details of your case and identify any errors that the Council may have made. Please bring any Poll Tax correspondence (bills, etc.) that you might have. If for any reason you are unable to contact us before hand **please make sure you arrive at court early** (1.30pm if possible), and we will take your details then, **help will be at hand.**

## **Even If You Haven't Been Summonsed**

.....Come to court anyway! It will make a difference if there are plenty of people outside the court, showing their support for non-payers. The Poll Tax courts are held at the Guildhall most Thursdays.

### ***Our Next Meeting Is***

**Wednesday October 24th, 7.30pm  
at the Test Match pub, Gordon Road.**

All welcome (phone us if you need help with child care or need a lift).

**Contact:**

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## **Rushcliffe Against the Poll Tax.**

# **DON'T PANIC!**

# **(AND DON'T PAY!!)**

Many people in Rushcliffe will have recently received a reminder to pay the poll tax. There are many people in this area who cannot afford and refuse to pay this unjust tax.

### YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

Some other towns have not only received their reminders, but have successfully fought off the courts trying to get liability orders. In Scotland, more than million and a half people have still not paid their poll tax after 16 months. They have been so successful that there has not been a single warrant sale or repossession of goods.

Furthermore, according to the official statistics, out of 36 million people eligible to pay the poll tax in England and Wales, only 6 million are better off than previously! Only one in six. This ratio will get even worse next year, since Notts. County Council's chief of finance, Cllr. Paddy Tipping, has warned that even if services are to be kept up to their present level, next year's poll tax bill will have to rise by 30/40%.

Saying "no" to these reminders is the first practical step you can take to protect your living standards and show support for those who are at greatest risk from the poll tax. It means caring about our community and working together to defeat this tax in order to create a better future.

### WHAT NEXT?

Rushcliffe Borough Council cannot get a penny of the poll tax until they have obtained a liability order from the magistrates' courts. However, when councils in other parts of the country have tried to go to court, they have been met by hundreds of people exercising their right to an individual hearing. In Warrington, the Isle of Wight and other places, poll tax non-payers turned up in droves, clogging up the courts and making it impossible for the courts to recover the poll tax. The anti-poll tax groups in this area will be providing free advice and support to anyone going to court over the poll tax. We will be producing another leaflet very shortly.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE FURTHER ADVICE, OR CAN ASSIST OUR GROUP IN ANY WAY, PLEASE RING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

Cotgrave - tel.

East Leake - tel.

West Bridgford

NOT PAYING THE POLL TAX IS A CIVIL, NOT A CRIMINAL OFFENCE. YOU WILL NOT GET A CRIMINAL RECORD.

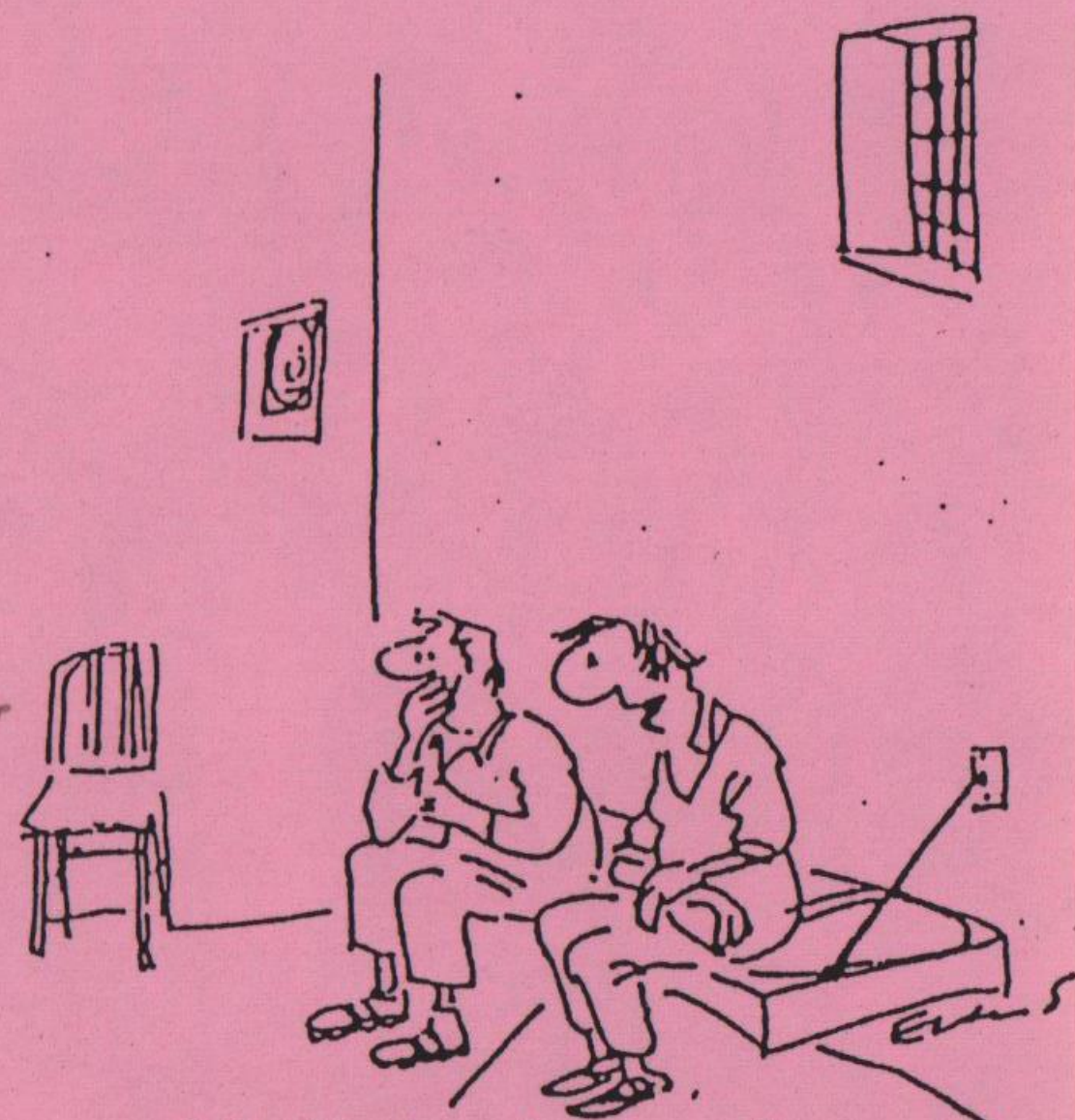
P&P by West Bridgford Anti-Poll Tax Group.



# RUSHCLIFFE AGAINST THE POLL TAX

## WHAT NEXT, AFTER THE COURTS?

If you're one of the people who has been summonsed today, we hope you found it worthwhile coming along. But the campaign still has a long way to go. We hope you're still determined not to pay your poll tax, but we realise that you are probably worried about the bailiffs, etc. That's why it's important to be in contact with your local group. Rushcliffe has anti-poll tax contacts in several areas of the borough - their names and 'phone numbers are at the bottom of this leaflet. Also, we meet regularly. The next meeting of the West Bridgford Anti-Poll Tax Group is on Tuesday 28th August, at 7.30pm in the Stumps Bar of the Test Match Hotel, Gordon Rd., West Bridgford. Please try to get along. If you can't make it, then 'phone your local contact. We will be defending people against the bailiffs and continuing to do our bit in ensuring that the poll tax is defeated, and replaced by a fairer system.



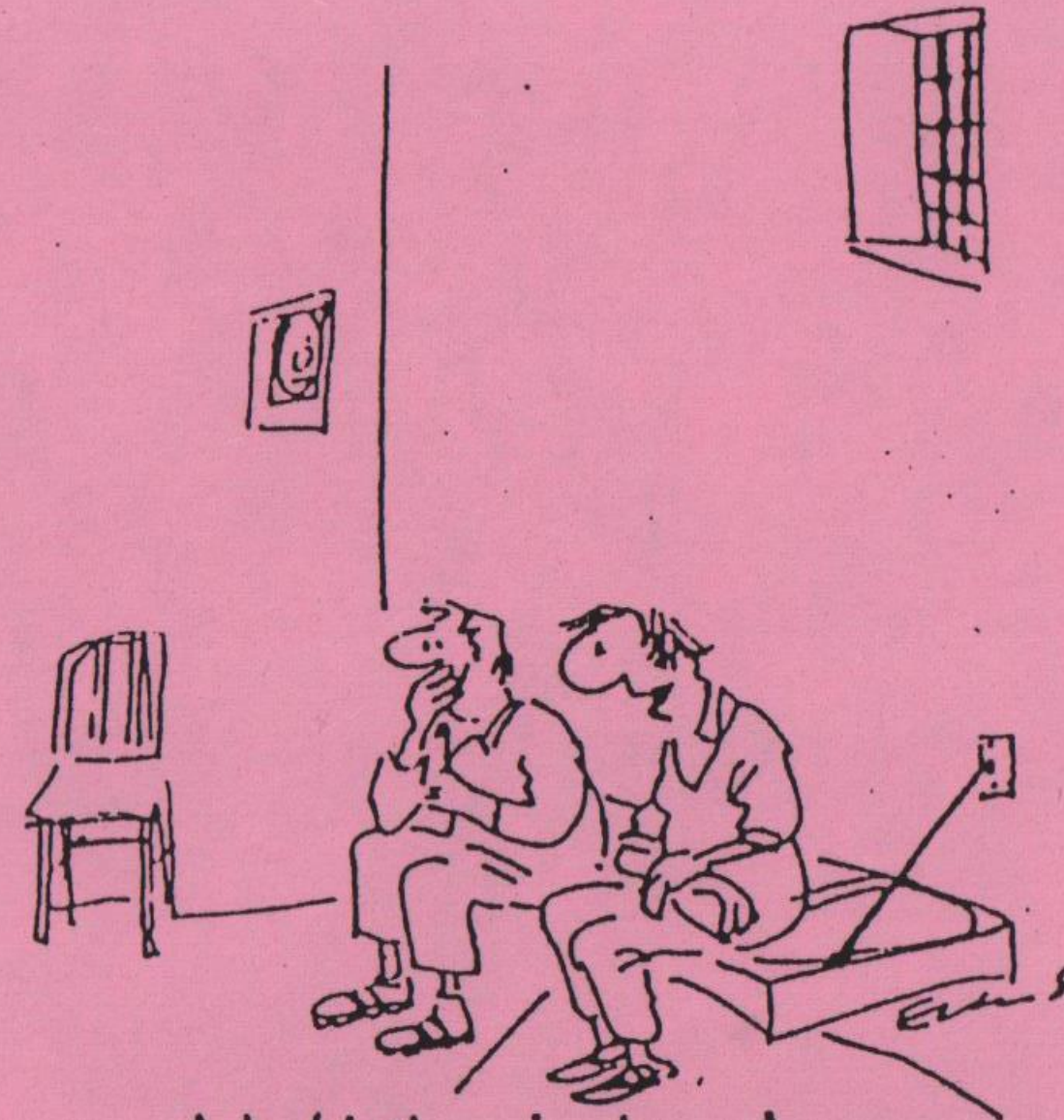
I told the judge tax was  
for holding down carpets.

**DON'T PAY - DON'T COLLECT!**

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# RUSHCLIFFE AGAINST THE POLL TAX

HAVEN'T PAID YOUR POLL TAX? HERE AT THE GUILDHALL BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN SUMMONSED? THEN  
READ ON . . .

Dear non-payer,

Obviously, appearing in court is quite intimidating for a lot of people, but you've taken the right course of action by turning-up in person. Rushcliffe Against the Poll Tax and the Notts. Anti-Poll Tax Federation are here today to give you support and free legal advice, if you wish. We would strongly urge you to take-up this offer of help, as previous experience has shown us that non-payers are more likely to put forward a successful defence with legal support (or atleast more likely to lengthen the proceedings, and so clog-up the courts!).

The legal support we are offering is a "Mackenzie friend". This is a legal advisor who will sit with you in court and present a legal challenge to the Council. We are able to do this because the Council has to prove certain things in order to get a liability order against you, such as that the poll tax has been set correctly and that all the subsequent paperwork has been done in accordance with the law, etc. We will be arguing that Rushcliffe has not acted correctly, and that therefore the summonses should be withdrawn.

There is a space at the bottom of this leaflet where you should fill in the name of your Mackenzie friend in case you have to ask for them in court by name. There is also a tear-off slip which you should give to the usher, so that the court is aware in advance that you have requested legal support. Also, we are giving you a copy of the notes which the Mackenzie friend will be using. This is in case the court tries to stop your Mackenzie friend being present with you, but please remember, this is only a remote possibility - the chances are that they will be allowed into court with you. If the worse should happen, then we suggest that you ask these questions yourself - you've nothing to lose by doing so!

Rushcliffe Borough Council have their own room in the court, and will be trying to persuade you to pay the poll tax beforehand. PLEASE DON'T! We are all part of a mass non-payment campaign - 1 in 4 people in Nottingham alone haven't paid a penny of their poll tax, so you're not alone!

GOOD LUCK!

The name of your Mackenzie friend is: \_\_\_\_\_

Their address is (only to be used if needed): \_\_\_\_\_

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Please tear-off the slip below and hand to the usher.

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To the court usher.

Please note that I have requested legal representation from the Notts. Anti-Poll Tax Federation.

The name of my legal advisor is: \_\_\_\_\_

I will be asking for their presence in court when I am called.

My name is: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your assistance.



## RUSHCLIFFE AGAINST THE POLL TAX.

### WELCOME TO THE DEMONSTRATION!

THANK YOU FOR SHOWING YOUR SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY FOR ALL THE  
POLL TAX PRISONERS.

On the subject of support, Soroosh Ayandeh, who was  
sentenced to 3 months imprisonment for wilfully refusing to  
pay his poll tax, is not receiving much mail lately; in fact,  
only 5 letters a day. SO GET WRITING!

Address: Political Prisoner

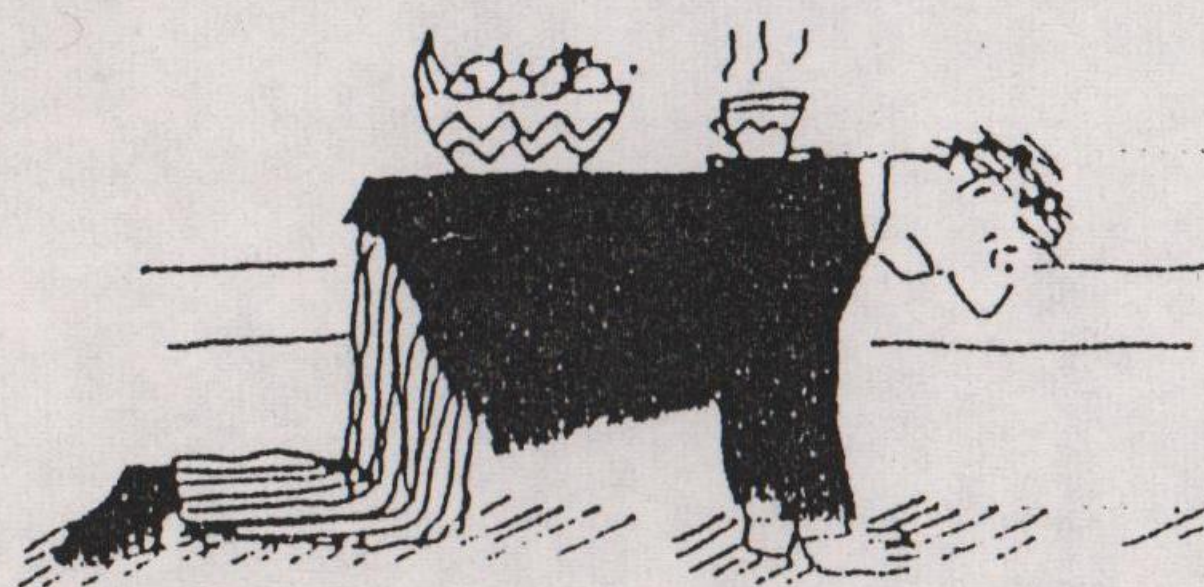
Soroosh Ayandeh JJO 573

H.M. Prison

Greetwell Road

Lincoln LN2 4BD.

A collection will be taken on the demonstration. This will  
go towards Rushcliffe Against the Poll Tax's costs for the  
legal visit by Ward & Griffiths solicitors to Soroosh on the  
29th July, and towards the cost of Tony Tiso's appeal.



101 USES FOR A DEAD COUNCILLOR  
Nº 12: The Coffee Table.

If you want to express your disgust at Soroosh's impris-  
-onment, then why not tell the people responsible? PRESSURE:

Rushcliffe Borough Council Leader, Cllr. Ray Cook tel. 811032;  
Chair of Finance & General Purposes Cttee., Cllr. Buckley tel.  
06077 4419; Mayor, Reg Gardner, tel. 231453;  
Chief Executive & Treasurer, John Saxton tel. 233876;  
Chief Financial Officer, Jean Hudson tel. 231032.

P.T.O.

### LEGAL BACK- UP.

Anyway, have a good time! If you get arrested or see  
someone else getting arrested, then **either tell a steward or  
phone 0850 707048 (legal support number)**. If you are arrested,  
say nothing until a solicitor arrives. The march is covered  
by Ward & Griffiths Solicitors. Our thanks to them for all  
their help.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Wednesday 7th August, 2.30pm : Mary and Renee in Guildhall  
Court for Section 5(POA) and  
driving charge

7.30pm : Rushcliffe Against the Poll Tax  
meeting, the Test Match(Stumps).

Wednesday 21st August, 7.30pm : Soroosh's Solidarity Social,  
Test Match Pub, West Bridgford.

Bank Holiday Monday, 26th  
August

: Anti-Poll Tax day-trip to Skegness  
(phone Chris on 860975 for details)

Saturday 7th September

: Nationwide Prison Picket called  
by TSDC & supported by Rushcliffe  
Against the Poll Tax - picket  
at Lincoln Prison. Keep in touch  
for more details.



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## BOADICEA AND WATT TYLER AGAINST THE POLL TAX

Thankyou for turning up to today's episode of the continuing saga:

Rushcliffe Borough Council, lead by John Gradwell

v

The Residents of Rushcliffe

Do not admit liability to pay the Community Charge, now known as the POLL TAX - strangely ..... For a government so totally against communism it was really into the expression COMMUNITY CHARGE!

If you do get a liability order against you today which is quite likely as there seems to be an agreement between Rushcliffe Borough Council and A Desbruslais ie after appearing in court and receiving liability orders several people who appeared incidentally on different days, received a letter from the Magistrates Court telling them their case had been adjourned. A further appearance date was given with the threat that if you do appear personally you will incur extra costs. Take this letter and it's threatening tone with a pinch of salt because two days before the new date they've given you Rushcliffe Borough Council will write to you and say that the letter from the Guildhall was a mistake and that there is in fact an order against you so 'make arrangements to pay if you have not already done so'.

Well they know what they can do with cheap tricks like that, otherwise known as Conspiracy, in this case to scare people into paying so that councillors who live in houses with names like The Colston Gate House, Red Ridges, The Old Rectory, Normanton House etc.etc can continue to live off the poor. Not to mention attempting to save Kenneth Clark's overfed face.

The man responsible for hassling so many people, Gradwell himself is an ex copper who left the force under mysterious circumstances, so it's nice to know that maybe he's not such a massive asset to the council as he'd like to think!

The POLL TAX IS THATCHERS GIFT TO THE RICH SO THEY HAVE MORE MONEY FOR EXPENSIVE HOLIDAYS ABROAD, EXPENSIVE SCHOOLS FOR THEIR OVER INDULGED CHILDREN, BUPA, STOCKS AND SHARES, HUNTING, FISHING'N SHOOTING.....

Well NO BLOODY WAY to put it politely, in other words they can all

SOD OFF!!!!!!

Boad and Watt





## 7m poll tax orders could be invalid

Magistrates courts all over the country are adjourning liability order hearings, following a decision by Bury St. Edmunds magistrates that computer evidence is not acceptable as proof of liability.

On 16th January 1992, Nottingham magistrates adjourned cases against Rushcliffe non-payers who disputed the validity of computer evidence.

The Government is now deciding what to do. It can amend the law immediately - so that the courts can accept computer evidence from now on - although this would mean that it accepts that all liability orders issued since April 1990 have no legal status. Under the two-year rule, councils would then have only until April this year to serve valid liability orders (a physical impossibility!); after that date, the "debts" for 1990/91 become null and void, i.e. all those who haven't paid will not have to do so.

It is likely, in these circumstances, that all liability order hearings will be adjourned pending the decision of a Clerkenwell stipendiary magistrate (expected at the time of "going to press") and probable appeals and/or submission to a higher court (which will take months). If you do receive a summons, however, you should argue that computer evidence is not admissible, and/or request an adjournment pending clarification of the legal position.

**WE ARE MONITORING THE SITUATION  
WE URGE YOU TO ATTEND OUR MEETINGS.**

Rushcliffe Against the Poll Tax meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm, Stumps Bar, the Test Match pub, Gordon Road, West Bridgford.

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 1992 (Speakers will include local non-payers who have been to jail)

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## RUSHCLIFFE AGAINST THE POLL TAX.

"THAT WHICH IS UNJUST IS UNLAWFUL" (George Washington).

Dear Non-payer,

Please read the important new developments overleaf. We have fought the Poll Tax all along on the grounds that it is UNJUST. It is now being shown that the recovery methods used by councils and rubber-stamped by magistrates are also ILLEGAL. However, this would not have come to light without the massive and continuous opposition of ordinary people to a feudal law.

The media have played down the extent of the NON-PAYMENT campaign, and councils have tried to suggest that people are now paying.

THIS IS NOT TRUE. There were even more non-payers in the second year of the Poll Tax than the first (despite the so-called "reductions" in the amount, which were clawed-back through higher VAT and reduced public services).

Since 8 million summonses have been issued for non-payment, about 2,400 arrest warrants issued and 170 people gone to jail (and may now be able to claim compensation for false imprisonment). Derbyshire police have refused to chase-up Poll Tax warrants, and other areas have threatened the same. In desperation, Nottingham City Council is employing a private company to telephone non-payers to try to "persuade" them to pay something. The Government's own working party has recommended that debts of those due to pay 20% should be cancelled, as it costs two and a half times as much to collect than the amount due.

FACTS: 1. The big local firm of M.A. Julious (bailiffs) has packed-up pursuing Poll Tax cases.

2. Those who go to prison DO NOT have to pay the Poll Tax when they are released.

WE CAN GET THE POLL TAX ABOLISHED NOW. DON'T PAY ANYTHING!

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