

RADFORD AGAINST THE POLL TAX



THE POLL TAX

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The Poll Tax is already introduced in Scotland, so we can learn a lot from the Scottish Anti-Poll Tax campaigns who have shown it is possible to fight, by refusing to send back registration forms and more importantly by thousands of people getting together and refusing to pay. In the Nottingham area there are already many groups which have set up along the same lines.

We, as residents of Radford have set up a local Anti-Poll Tax group with the following aims:

- 1) To build a campaign to oppose to Poll Tax and refuse to pay when the bills arrive.
- 2) To get together in order to talk about what is going on, inform as many people as possible, and organise effectively to fight the Poll Tax.

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## RADFORD AGAINST THE POLL TAX PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, 14th December, 8.00pm  
Tennyson Hall Youth and Community Centre  
Forest Road West, Radford

We have invited speakers from established groups in Nottingham, and we hope this meeting will be well attended so we can talk about important things like raising money for our campaign.

### More Information

Although we haven't received any bills yet, most of us will have had a registration form to fill in. Nottingham City Council is already in chaos over this with over 20% of people having ignored the forms. The council are starting to send round "Snoopers" to force us to fill in a form, but we are resisting. Rumour has it that they are, at the moment, ignoring houses with Anti-Poll Tax Posters in the window !

So don't stand on the sidelines. Put up the poster on the other side of this leaflet and come to the public meeting, so we can build a campaign in Radford that will beat off the Poll Tax once and for all.

Contact :

Radford Against the Poll Tax,  
Box 6, Hyson Green Wholefoods,  
Radford Road, Hyson Green.



The success of the Poll Tax depends on public co-operation

LET'S PUT A SPANNER IN THE WORKS

## POLL TAX



LET'S PUT A SPANNER IN THE WORKS

**1** DO NOTHING until your form is sent by registered post or given to you by a canvasser. If a canvasser gives you a form, do not return it to them!

**2** ONCE YOU have received your form by registered post or from a canvasser you can then send it back to POLL TAX registration officer with 1st question and on receipt of answer return with 2nd question and so on.

## QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT WANT TO ASK

### IMPORTANT



Get the questions in the right order.

1. If addressed to 'occupier', ask who the responsible person is.
2. Why have I been named the responsible person?
3. How does the CCRO obtain the information on the poll tax?
4. Will the information be stored in a computer?
5. Will the information be protected by The Data Protection Act?
6. What does (any expression used on the form) mean?
7. Why does the CCRO need dates of birth?
8. Who is exempt from the poll tax?
9. Is any person responsible for any other person's poll tax?
10. Where will the Poll Tax Register be held?
11. Will poll tax information be used for any purpose other than the poll tax?
12. How can I examine the Poll Tax Register?
13. Who else will be able to examine the Poll Tax Register?
14. Can my name be excluded from the register?
15. Is there an appeal procedure against decisions of CCRO?
16. What happens if I move house?
17. What happens if someone else from my home moves away?
18. Who is eligible for a rebate?
19. How do I apply for a rebate?
20. Does everyone in my house have to apply separately for rebates?
21. What happens if my circumstances change during the year?
22. What if I'm moving in a few weeks?
23. Do I have to include people who are staying in my house only as visitors?
24. Do I have to include people in my house who are not British citizens?
25. What if someone in my house refuses to give me information, eg: date of birth?
26. What if I can't, or don't wish to answer the form in English?

NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION  
AGAINST  
THE POLL TAX  
MANCHESTER JULY 1ST  
11.45 ONWARDS AT  
LOWER MOSLEY ST CAR PARK

CONTACT LOCAL T.U.C. FOR  
MORE DETAILS.

# POLL TAX

PUBLISHED BY  
RADFORD  
ANTI  
POLL TAX  
UNION.

### WE ARE UNDER ATTACK

Poll Tax attacks the less-well-off, community services, local democracy, and our civil liberties.

We must convince the Government that it cannot go ahead with the Poll Tax.



### JOIN THE RESISTANCE

If Britain were invaded, a network of local Resistance groups would be formed to make life difficult for the enemy.

We need to defend ourselves against the Poll Tax enemy. Join your local group.

### THEY'VE GOT BIG PROBLEMS

- New system
- New and untrained staff
- Very complicated system
- Government confusion on rules and procedures
- Huge task to register every adult
- Very costly
- Media interest in public opposition

IT'S A BUREAUCRATIC NIGHTMARE WITH MORE THAN ENOUGH ROOM FOR CITIZENS (AND COUNCILS) TO PUT A SPANNER IN THE WORKS

### WARNING

The Poll Tax Register is different from the Electoral Register. MAKE SURE YOUR NAME IS ON THE ELECTORAL REGISTER. You may need it to finally defeat the Poll Tax.



"There are many ways in which public resistance could shatter the timetable. It would choke up the works, there is no question about that."

James Thomson, Poll Tax Registration Officer Fife Regional Council

### DECISION TIME

We can succeed in making the Registration Officer's job impossible. Every single citizen who resists puts a nail in the coffin of the Poll Tax, even if some people are conned or frightened into giving information.

And DON'T-WORRY if you run out of questions and appeals and feel forced to register.

RESISTANCE MOVEMENTS DON'T GIVE UP AT THE FIRST SETBACK THERE ARE MANY OTHER WAYS WE CAN ALL DEMONSTRATE OUR OPPOSITION TO THIS HORRENDOUS AND UNFAIR TAX IF THEY DO NOT WITHDRAW IT

If an enemy power invaded our country, wouldn't you join the Resistance?

JOIN YOUR LOCAL GROUP

CONTACT :

PUBLIC MEETING IN THIS AREA  
SOON!



Official estimates are that 20% won't register or won't be able to pay. Another 20% would make the Poll Tax completely unworkable.

LET'S PUT A SPANNER IN THE WORKS

# NO POLL TAX

HERE.

PLEASE DISPLAY THIS POSTER IN YOUR WINDOW

For CONTACT

:

PARK, NOTTINGHAM.

Thanks to Derby APTU.

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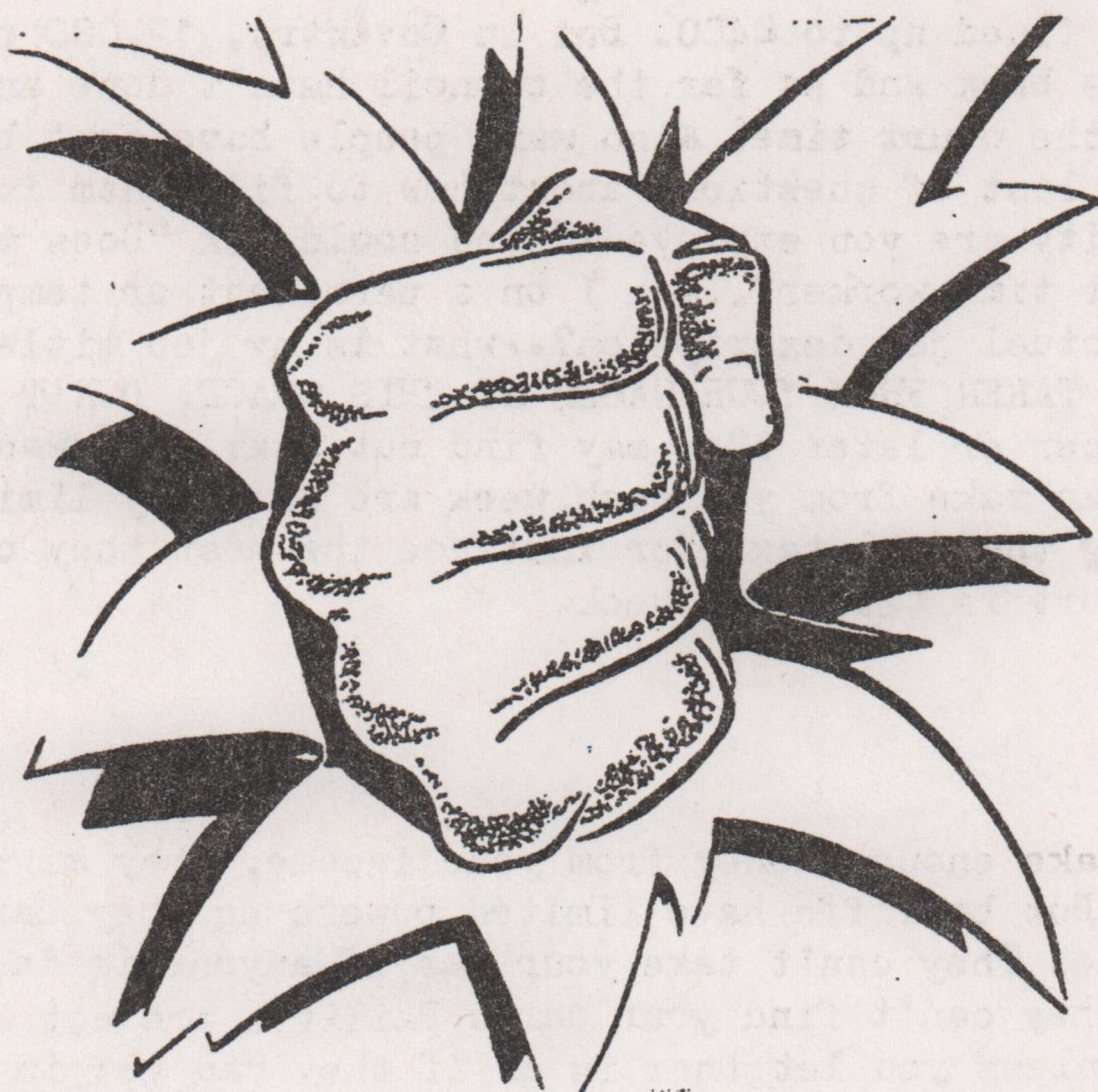
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# SMASH THE POLL TAX



Fourteen million people in this country are not paying the poll tax. In Nottingham 150,000 are not paying - that's 2/3 of the people that registered (and thousands have not even done that) NINE OUT OF TEN PEOPLE IN RADFORD ARE NOT PAYING. The council is in chaos. They are planning to try to summons nearly half of those registered before April. They have tried to send in bailiffs and are now trying to take money from people's wages and benefits.

## Court Summonses

When you get your summons, it will tell you that you don't have to go to court and try to persuade you not to. That is in their interest - not yours. You have a right to a hearing. They are summonsing thousands of people for each court sitting. Hun reds have been turning up and clogging up the court system and most of those have been getting their cases adjourned. If you don't go, a liability order will be put on you automatically. You have to pay some court costs even if you don't turn up and will be charged slightly more if you do, but it only gets added on to your poll tax bill (which you aren't paying anyway.)

When you go to court, lots of other people from Radford will be there. When it's your turn to go in, they will try to make you admit that you should pay something. IF YOU DON'T WANT A LIABILITY ORDER AT THIS STAGE YOU MUST SAY NO - YOU ARE NOT LIABLE TO PAY ANYTHING AT ALL. The court will not listen to anything about why you have not got the money to pay. The only things you can say are about why your poll tax bill is wrong. Sooner or later though, a liability order will probably be made against you.

## Summary Of Means Forms

Once the council has a liability order against you, it has to decide how to get the money from you and will send you a 'Summary of Means' form. They want to find out how much money you have, eg savings (they can't take them from you but you might want to move them anyway.) Also they want to know whether you are working or on benefits (we don't know yet if housekeeping counts as income) where you work, how much you earn etc.

If you don't fill in the form, you could be taken to court and get a fine of up to £100 and a criminal conviction. Giving false information DELIBERATELY means that you could be fined up to £400. But in Coventry, 12,000 people haven't sent these forms back and so far the council hasn't done anything - maybe they haven't got the court time! Also many people have sent back incomplete forms with a list of questions about how to fill them in, eg the question "In what capacity are you employed?" you could ask "Does this mean... am I a full time or part time worker?...am I on a permanent or temporary contract?...what is my actual job description?...what is my job title?" IF YOU DON'T WANT MONEY TAKEN FROM YOUR WAGES AT THIS STAGE, DON'T TELL THEM WHERE YOU WORK. But sooner or later they may find out what they want to know. The amounts that they can take from you each week are strictly limited and usually less than paying the poll tax. For instance the most they can take from a couple on income support is £2.75 per week.

## Bailiffs

If the council can't take enough money from your income, they might try to send in the bailiffs. But bailiffs have limited powers eg they can only work during the daytime. They can't take your car if anyone is in the driver's seat (or if they can't find your car). Bailiffs are not allowed to come into your house unless you let them in or if they can get in through an unlocked door or an open window. Remember that a porch door counts as an open front door. If a bailiff gets into your house once, they can then break in again later and also enter any room in your house. IF YOU DON'T WANT THE BAILIFFS IN YOUR HOUSE, KEEP DOORS AND WINDOWS LOCKED AT ALL TIMES AND DON'T LET THEM IN. You don't even have to talk to them or answer the door and you certainly don't have to sign anything or give them anything at all. If you do get a call from them, contact the bailiff watch (phone numbers below) who are organising lists of people willing to come and help if you want them. Also please contact us if you can help with seeing off the bailiffs - just the presence of two or three people usually gets them running.

Contact any of these numbers about anything to do with the poll tax and for more details. Contact us also if you would like people to come and talk with your union group, mother and toddler group, darts team etc. RADFORD AGAINST THE POLL TAX meets every Wednesday at 7.30 pm at the White Horse pub on Ilkeston Road. We also have a stall at the corner of Radford Boulevard and Denman Street every Saturday dinner time between 11.00 and 1.00.

Radford is getting together to beat the poll tax. People are needed to; go on the stall, bailiff watch, leaflet your street, sew, make cakes, support other people, go to the courts, raise money etc etc

EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING TO SMASH THE POLL TAX. PLEASE GET IN TOUCH