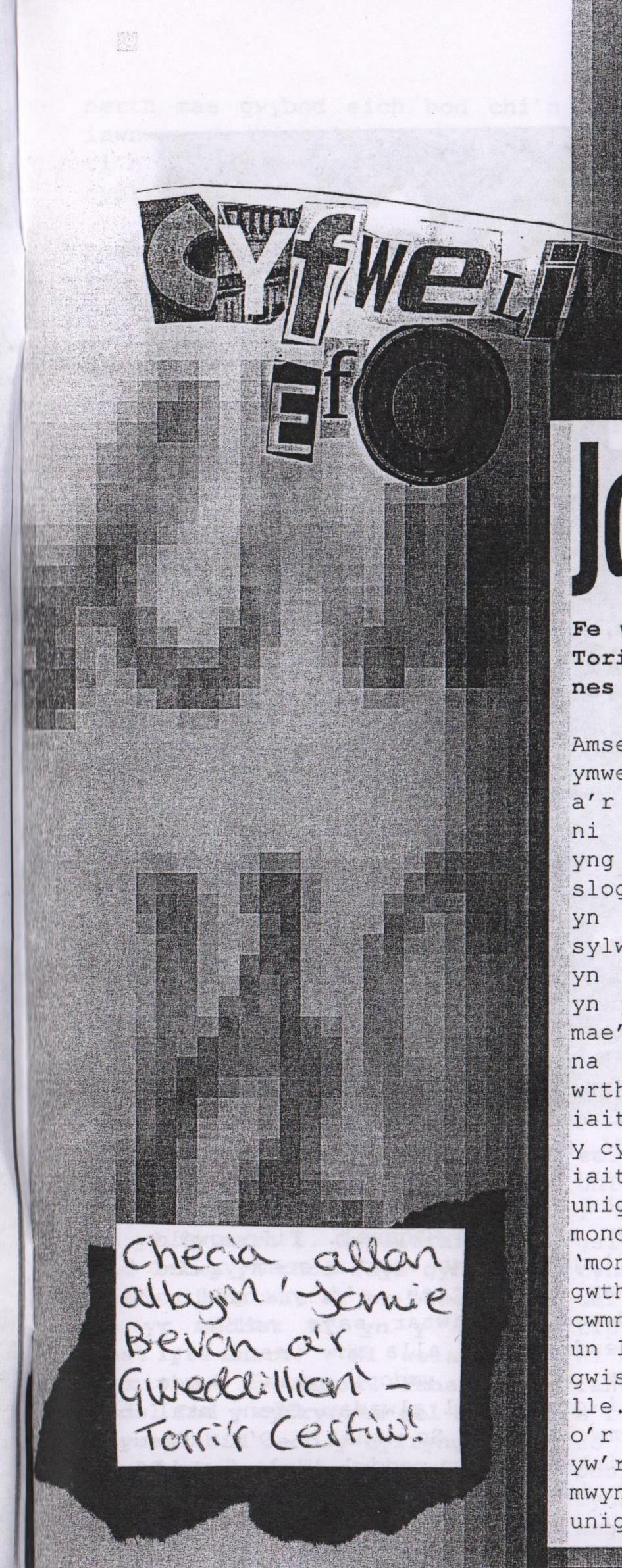




2.00 P AGH05 LLY5

SIARADINE LEANNE WOOD AC GARTH MILES MORGAN HOPKINS BETHAN WILLIAMS

Tu allan i Lys Ynadon Caerdydd, Lle Fitzalan, Caerdydd



Fe wnes di weithredu yn erbyn y Toriaid yn 2011, be nes di a pam nes di hyn?

Amserwyd y gweithred i gydfynd ag ymweliad David Cameron i Gaerdydd a'r Cynhadledd toriaid. Torron ni mewn i swyddfa'r toriaid yng Nghaerdydd a chwistrellu slogannau ar y waliau. Fel roedden yn disgwyl cafodd hwn llwyth o sylw. Y rheswm? Wel gweithred yn wrthwynebu y toriadau i S4C yn y bon oedd hi ond wrth gwrs mae'r peth yn mynd llawer bellach na sianel Cymraeg... Mae angen wrthwynebu unrhyw bygythiad i'r iaith Gymraeg ac ymgyrch S4C oedd y cyfle a daeth i mi. Mae wanhau'r iaith Gymraeg a'r hunaniaeth unigryw sydd gyda ni fan hyn mond yn mynd tuag at cryfhau'r 'mono-culture' mae cyfalafiaeth yn gwthio arnom. Byd delfrydol i'r cwmnioedd enfawr megis Tescos yw un lle ma pawb yn bwyta, siarad, gwisgo, meddwl a siopa yn yr un lle. Rhan bach ni yng nghymru o'r frwydr yn erbyn cyfalafiaeth yw'r brwydr dros y Gymraeg, er mwyn sicrhau'r hawl i bawb bod yn unigolyn.

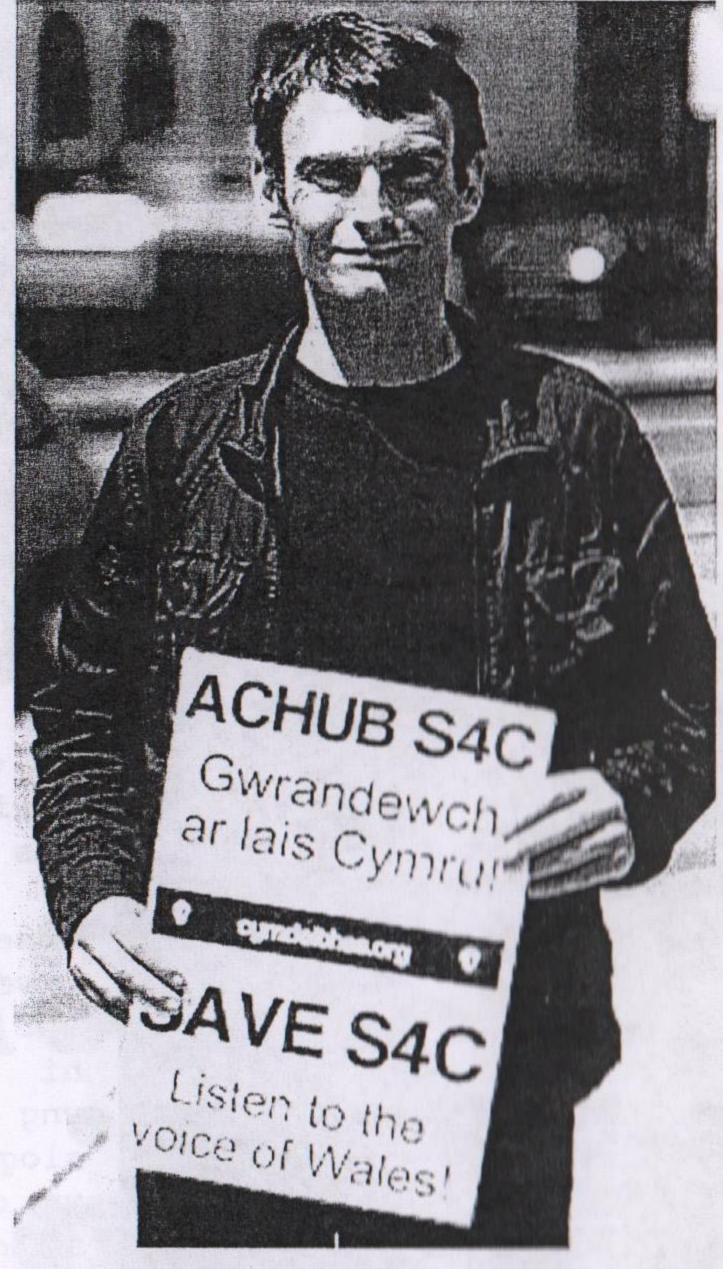
Disgrifia'r profiad o fynd trwy'r system 'gyfiawnder' ac yna i'r carchar.

Poen yn y tin! Dyw'r system ddim wedi cael ei greu er mwyn wasanaethu cyfiawnder. Yn hytrach mae'r system yn gweithredu i lesteirio unrhyw fath o weithgaredd sy'n bodoli tu allan i buddion y cyfoethog a'r cwmnïau sy'n rheoli. Mae'r system cyfiawnder yn weithredu o'r safbwynt nad oes unrhyw safbwynt arall.

O ran y Gymraeg mae nhw union fel unrhyw sefydliad arall. Ma gyda nhw cynlluniau iaith ar bapur ond prin iawn ma swyddogion nhw yn cymryd y peth o ddifrif nac yn weithredu'ch hawliau. Tro ar ôl tro baswn yn cwyno iddynt am ddiffyg hwn neu'r llall yn y Gymraeg, derbyn ymdduheiriad ac yna union yr un peth yn digwydd mis lawr y ffordd.

Carchar? Mae'n hollol amlwg i unrhywun hanner gall nad yw'r go iawn.

carchar i'w hennill?

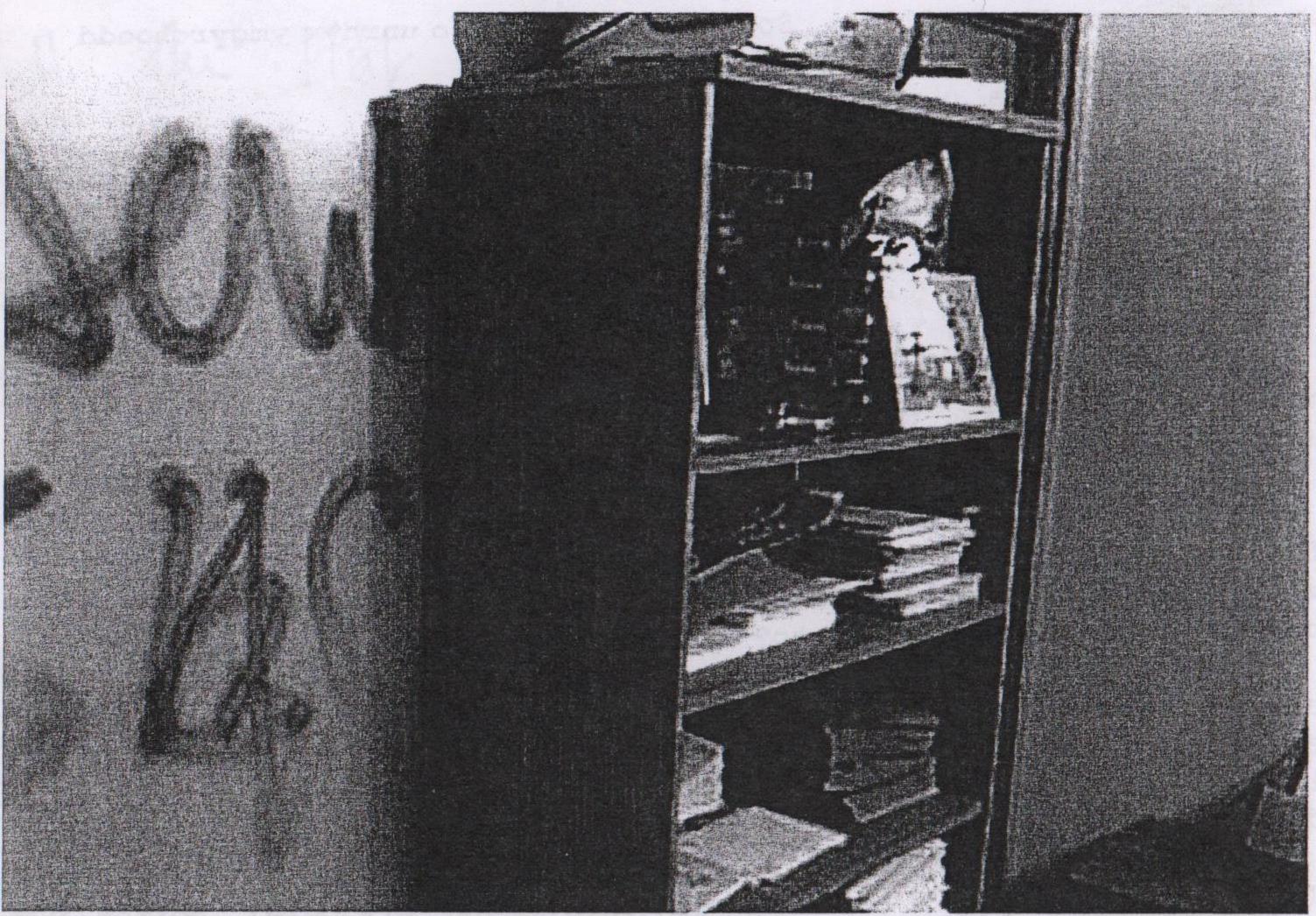


system o gloi pobol lan mewn cell Y prif beth, i fi (a dwi'n deall a gadael i ddiflastod chwalu ei bod sawl ffordd o brotestio), meddyliau yn wneud iotyn o dda i oedd i roi eich hunain uwchben unrhywun. Ar wahân i hwnna edrych nhw trwy ymddwyn yn cwrtais a ar yr ochor da wnes i a derbyn y phwyllog trwy'r amser. Tria paid cyfnod fel seibiant bach o'r byd a gadael eu bygythiadau upseto di. Ma nhw'n disgwyl i rhywun cico bant neu gwylltio, sdim clem da Yr oedd y sgriws yn dy drin yn wael nhw beth i'w wneud os ma rhywun yn y carchar pan treuliast mwy na yn actio yn wahanol. Ti'n gweld mis o dan glo yr haf yma. Nid llygaid nhw yn mynd a stem yn dod oedd unrhyw darpariaeth Cymraeg mas ei glustiau, a'i ymenydd yn er gwaethaf dy brotestiadau. Oes dweud 'Compiwtar says no!'Yn y gen ti gyngor i unrhywun sydd yn pendraw beth alla nhw wneud i ti debygol o fynd i'r carchar sut na allet ti ymdopi gyda? Bwydo y dylynt sicrhau eu bod yn cael ti crap, atal alwadau ffon, atal darpariaeth Cymraeg neu sut dylent ymweliadau. So what? O'n i'n fynd ati i brotestio tra bont yn y eistedd yna yn meddwl 'Wel, fi sydd yn iawn'. Mae'n anhygoel faint o

nerth mae gwybod eich bod chi'n Dwi'n meddwl mi gafodd y carchariad iawn yn rhoi i chi. Os ti'n iawn, tipyn o sylw yn enwedig wedi i ti'n iawn a does neb yn gallu mi gwrthod cydymffurfio a'i system

Roedd y sgriws jest yn weithredu yn fy nghell a gwylio datganiad ar fel ma nhw wedi cael ei hyfforddi, y newyddion gan y comisiynydd a diffyg ymwybyddiaeth a diffyg llywodraethwr y carchar yn dweud parch at phobol yn gyffredinol, bod popeth wedi sortio a bod dim awydd i ddangos esiampl da nac gwasanaeth Gymraeg nawr ar gael enyn parch.

cymryd hwnna i ffwrdd o ti. seisnigaidd o fewn y carchar. Un peth a gwylltiodd fi oedd i eistedd yn y carchar. Hwn 2 munud ar ôl i'r sgriw dweud i fi 'You'll be



Ni wnaeth y cyfrayngau Cymraeg eating shit for the next fornight dalu hanner digon o sylw i dy unless you fill in that form!' brotest yn y ddwy mlynedd diwethaf I meddwl bod yr awdurdodau yn yma yn fy marn i. Gwylltiais wrth gallu cael ei celwyddau mas mor weld Golwg yn rhoi rhyw gyflwynydd cyhoeddus tra roedd y sefyllfa deledu di-dalent ar eu blaendalen dal yn parhau, wel roedd hwnna'n tra yr oeddet ti yn y carchar tipyn o ysgytwad. Yn y bon, dyn drost yr iaith! Ni welais siw ni'n trio defnyddio'r wasg i'n na miw am dy safiad. Paham ti'n fantais ni ond llais y system meddwl fod y cyfryngau fel hyn yng a'r chyfoethog ydynt yn y pendraw Nghymru? Nid oedd y cyfryngau fel ac yn rhan o'r ymdrech i gadw y hyn 20 mlynedd yn ol. poblogaeth i lawr ac yn gweithio. Dyna pam mae ddulliau cyfarthrebu amgen mor bwysig, ddulliau nad

oes ganddynt reolaith drosto fel Bag o rwtch! Dyn ni'n clywed y wasg anibynol, graffiti, y we, tro ar ôl tro ein bod yn gwlad

Yr wyt wedi bod yn y carchar y wirionedd yw rith yw'r cyfan. ddwywaith, wyt ti'n meddwl byddyn Sut allwn cyfiawnhai teulu sydd yn nhw yn dy roi yn y carchar trydedd byw oddi ar y bobol cyffredin sydd

talu dirwy nhw (£1000 od, sydd yn gwybodaeth. Nobs! cynnwys £12 o iawndal i ailfframio llun o Winston Churchill!). Soi Wyt ti yn rhan o unrhyw ymgyrchoedd di clywed unrhywbeth ganddynt eto ar y funud? ond cawn weld. Tasa nhw ddim yn danfon fi nol am fethu a talu ma Ambell i un! Y rhan fwyaf yn system mawr ma ta beth).

Yr wyt yn wreiddiol o Ferthyr O ble yr wyt ti'n cael y nerth i Tudfil. Beth wyt ti'n credu rhaid barhau i ymgyrchu yng ngwyneb yr newid i'r Gymraeg fod yn brif iaith holl apathi? gymunedol ym Merthyr unwaith eto?

byddent yn gallu ymateb yn well nod), fy nheulu. i'r galw am yr Iaith Gymraeg. Mae'n cynnal yr iaith, sydd ddim wdi ychwanegu? cael y cyfle ond sydd dal am weld dyfodol. Ar yr un llaw ma dych chi Dim ond trwy gwerthfawrogi a chadw gyda chi'r tystiolaeth o gwmpas chi bod pobol yn gyffredinol yn Oh ie, pob bendith i Ffwffs! weld werth mewn cadw'r iaith.

Windsor i Ferthyr, be ydi dy farn FFWFF! di ar y frenhiniaeth?

FFWFF! a.y.b. democrataidd ac yn defnyddio hwnna fel sail i fynd i ryfel ond tro am dy weithred? heb ei ethol na dewis gan y pobol, sydd uwchben pob math o gyfraith Pwy a wyr? Dwi ddim yn bwriadu gan gynnwys gyfreithiau rhyddid

fe fel bo nhw'n cyfaddef nad yw'r ymwneud a'r iaith Gymraeg gan mai system yn gweithio ac yn y pendraw hwnna yw fy nghyfle i i frwydro yn yr unig peth sy gyda nhw drosto erbyn anghyfiawnder cymdeithasol ti yw ofn. Os nad wyt ti'n ofni byd eang. Os gallwn amddiffyn unrhywbeth does dim gafael gyda a pharchu ein bodolaeth ni fel nhw drosto ti ac yna rwyt ti'n unigolion unrigryw byddwn mewn rydd (wel rhydd o un aspect o'r well lle i wneud yr un peth i unigolion y byd drosodd.

Trwy gwybod fy mod i'n iawn, trwy Agwedd. Ar sawl lefel. Os mae dderbyn ma na sawl ffordd i wneud agweddau tuag at y Gymraeg yn pethau (a derbyn bod angen sawl newid o fewn yr awdurdod efallai plan o attack er mwyn cyrraedd y

syndod faint o bobol sy'n cefnogi Oes unrhywbeth arall yr hoffet

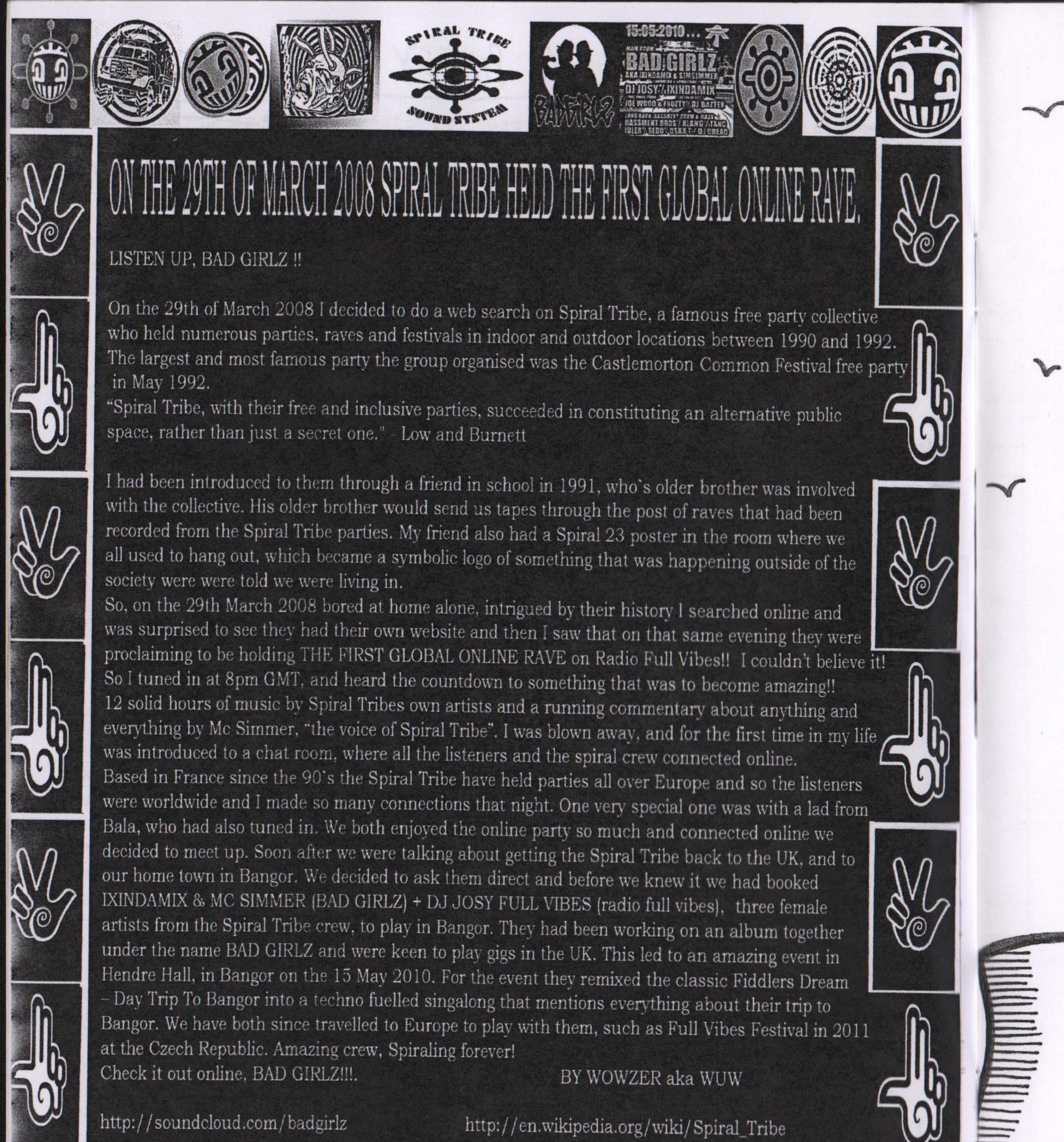
awdurdod lleol sy'n palu cachu yr hyn sydd gyda ni i gynnig y byd ambyti 'does neb eisiau'r iaith' gallwn wirioneddol gwerthfawrogi 'Mae'r iaith yn rhy ddrud' 'blah a chadw yr hyn sydd gydag eraill blah blah' ac ar y llaw arall ma i'w cynnig.

Diolch i ti am dy safiad(au!) a Cefaist dy arrestio pan ddoth Mrs diolch am y cyfweliad yma gyda

Jamiebevan I. bandcamp-com

FLOW TO MAKE A BUSSY BIGT BALACKAUA Get a hat or if not piece of cloth or Kniffed maybe make it a really colorful piece of kniffer stuff Pull for Har over your face, or Tie the said ger scissors & and Cul 2n 2 eyeholes 2nd room for your Big Mouth.

111010



TARANTA

LLYTHYR / MANIFFESTO BACH

A9459CFBEVAN

annwyl cyfaill na cyfarfud,

Heddiw chwistrellwn ein chwerthin dros strydoedd Merthyr ac mewn ceg dur fu cân iacheus o goffi du gwrthryfel a cholled a choffau a thynged tirionwyd

yr ydym ni eich cyd-gysgwyr wedi ein gwleidyddiaetho gan wasgedd, gan gymylau digosteg trydanol mellt a dringir esgyrn cefn at bwyll a ddwyseir gan daranau

caneuon gwerin a llythyrau meirw, swyddfa wag lle casglir marwnadau blas be sy'n wirion wir / terfysg pwsi / cathod tew oes oesoedd Buddig a'i hetifeddiaeth

traws hewl a bola haul o garu cymuned, unben heb bennaeth o dan dre, dan ddol deigryn damcaniaeth - yma'n deiseb o un

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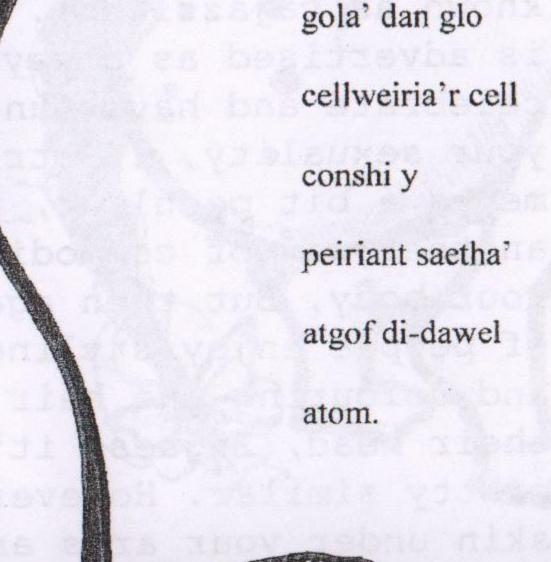
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atgof di-dawel

atom.





Capitalism tells you that your body is imperfect. Capitalism wants to make you insecure enough to buy potions and treatments to make yourself look 'right'. If we are all persuaded to try and look, think and act the same, we are easier to sell to, and easier to subdue. Hence body hair is transformed from a sexy sign of being a grownup, into a problem that you pay to get rid of.

Anarchism is about the freedom to be yourself, and allowing others that same freedom and respect. So if you enjoy the transgressive feeling of a bare pudendamaybe it helps in role playing- then good for you. But make sure you are doing it for your own pleasure, not your body. But then again because the person you're fucking thinks pubes are weird, or because you don't want people at the beach judging you for having hairy pits.

Personally I think there is nothing more erotic than burying my face in a tickly cloud of pubic hair, stroking it gently, parting it to find the treasure. Body hair contains pheromones which are designed to attract and arouse partners. I hate the thought of my lovers facing pain or discomfort in the name of defoliation. Itchy regrowth be damned!

There are people who, rather than removing their pubic hair, decide to shape it and dye it and decorate it with sparkly stones (otherwise known as vajazzling). This is advertised as a way to celebrate and have fun with your sexuality. It strikes me as a bit peculiar, and as another way of commoditising if people enjoy styling and colouring the hair on their head, I guess it's pretty similar. However the skin under your arms and between your legs is thin and sensitive, and shaving or waxing leaves tiny abrasions



Pin Up Peryg... Celf gan Mererid Haf

which can get sore and for the audience. Wanting infected, and leave you more at risk of certain STDs. Hair removal cream contains harsh alkalis which literally find sexual pleasure and dissolve the protein in the hair, weakening it enough to be wiped away. It can burn the skin, and it is certainly not good for the environment.

Having hairless skin makes people appear younger and more vulnerable. Some women are uncomfortable with the power dynamic that implies. Dr. Rita Freedman, author of Beauty Bound, writes: "Body hair signals sexual maturity as well as dominance. Females how my body looked. I should are socialised to censor body have kicked them out of bed, hair, just as they are taught to repress their sexuality. The silky legs and hairless underarms of a child-woman connote her sexual innocence, even as they make her more sensuous... part of a social myth of female beauty which serves to keep women in their place as 'the fair sex,' powerless, weak and properly submissive."

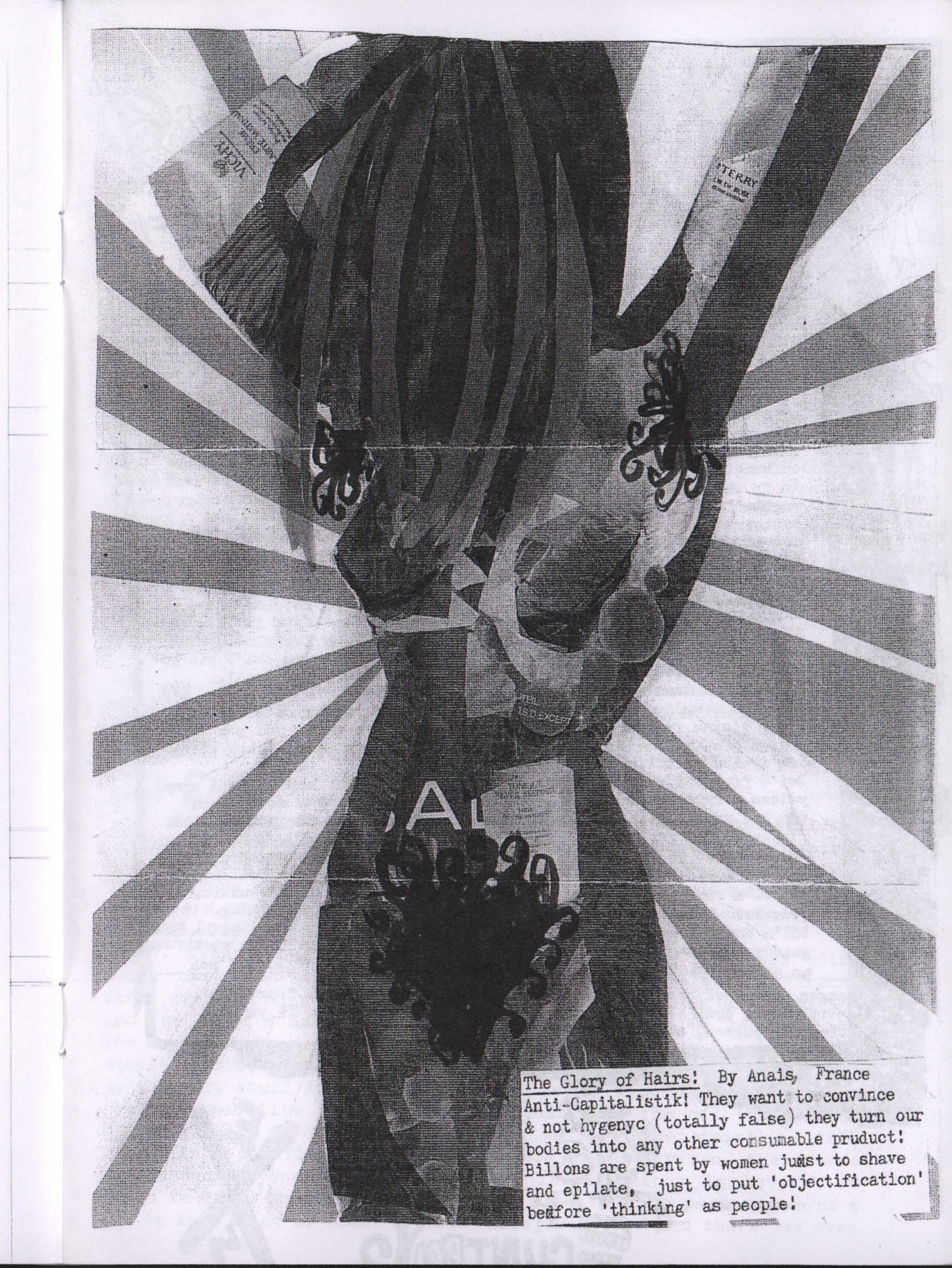
Something else to think about is that the mainstreaming of Brazilian waxes is due to the popularisation of porn aesthetics. The reason why pornstars are hairless is so that the camera can get right in there and show everything. Porn is not about feeling good for the participants, it's about looking right

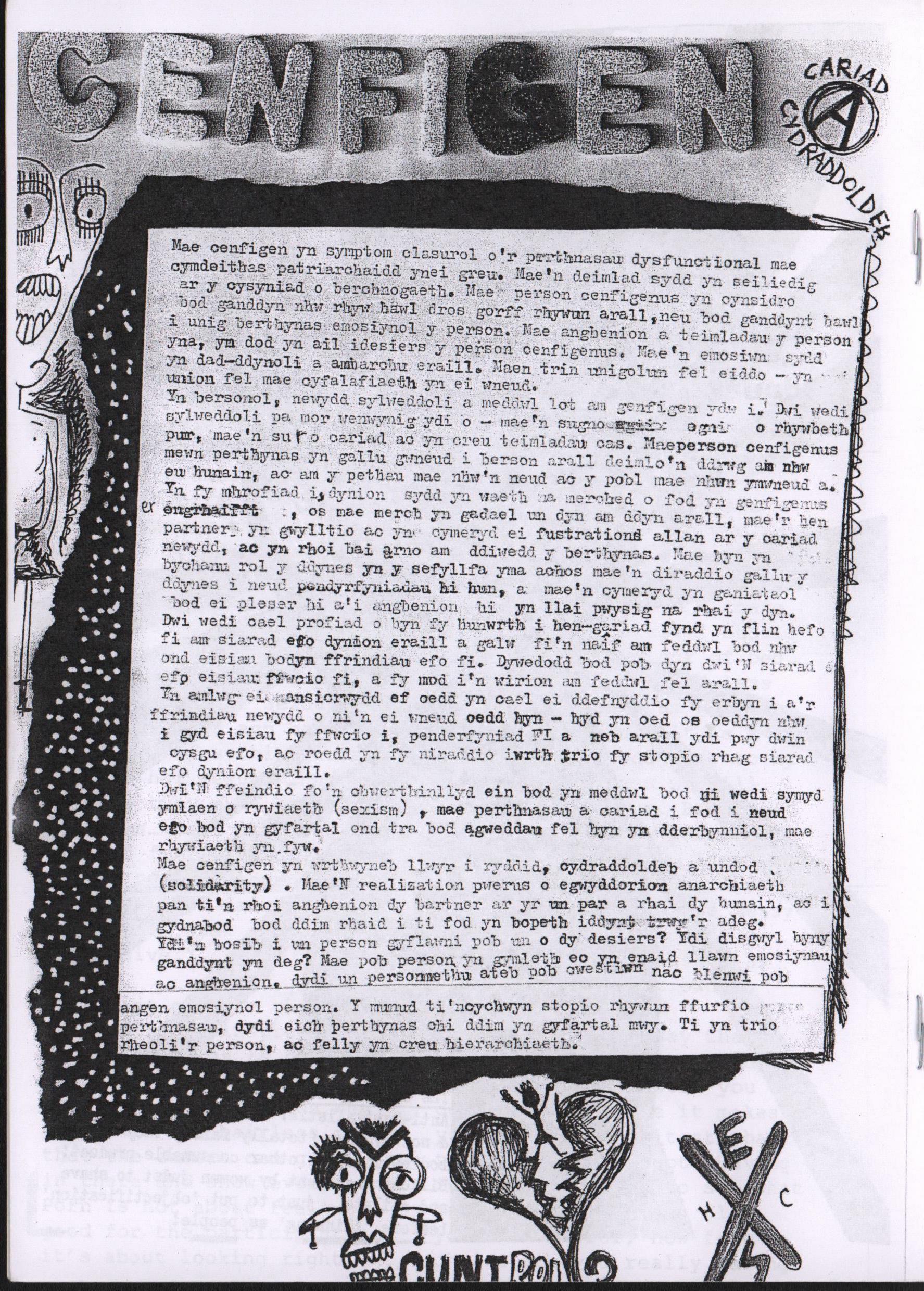
to imitate pornstars is politically problematic and not the best way to satisfaction.

"Females are socialised to Censor body hair, just as they are taught repress their sexuality."

Years ago, I did have sex with a couple of men who told me they'd rather I shaved. It pissed me off that they felt they had a right to dictate but being younger and less assertive than I am now, I didn't. I now use it as a test- if a man objects to my body hair, I know we will not have much fun. Because it wasn't just my pubes they had a problem with. They were squeamish generally, uncomfortable with the messy reality of sex, and not as invested in my pleasure as they were in their own.

Some of you will say that you don't remove your body hair for anyone else, you do it just because it makes you feel good. To test that theory, consider not shaving for a month, just to see what happens. If the idea fills you with horror, how free a choice are you really making?





AND THE BIGGER PICTURE

Bronwen Davies is a musician and musicians. Some of them agreed and artist who performs under the name Little Eris. She spoke to me from her studio at the Wells Hotel in Riverside, Cardiff. discussed the philosophy behind her music, the Wells Hotel collective, and the politics that influence her work. To find out more about Bronwen's projects, search for Little Eris or Wells James is an animator. Martin Hotel on Facebook.

Hotel collective was formed?

years, and when I moved in it was and textile artist. filled with professional types. They were trying to rent the flats In August, you opened the building rents were too high for this area, How did that come about? so gradually the flats started to empty. Eventually it got to the A film that Elen made was going

to move into the Wells Hotel, and then we let the estate agents know. They were alright with it, because they weren't maintaining the flats to a high enough standard to show anyone around them. Now we've got a really nice community spirit, and we collaborate on all sorts of projects.

We have Crav, who is a visual artist. I do music as Little Eris. Fishie is a music producer. Beith is a performance artist. is a graphic design artist and horticulturalist, and Kim is Can you tell us how the Wells a photographer and founder of tactileBOSCH. Elen Mai Wyn Jones is a non-resident member of the I've lived in this building for 4 collective, and she is a visual

as luxury modern homes, but the up for your first collaborative building wasn't being maintained art show, Little Tokyo, which was very well by the owners, and the livestreamed to the Tate Modern.

point that just my flat and one to be featured as part of Tracey other were the only ones occupied, Moberley's Tweet Me Up exhibition and the other 4 flats were empty. which took place on 24th August. The building looked uninhabited. There was a callout for more work, People started to break in and get so we decided to put on a live up to scary stuff in the hallway. art event which Tate agreed to So it seemed like a good window project onto the oil tanks under of opportunity to get like-minded the gallery. We made a Little people in to fill the empty flats. I Tokyo song and video, there were co-founded the Unemployed Daytime art installations in several of Disco in 2010, and through that I the flats, I did a performance as a got to know a lot of local artists harajuku girl, and there was even

a breastfeeding ninja. It was a good way to introduce the Wells Hotel to the world. It showed us we can work together and host happenings within the building and not disrupt the neighbours.

What sort of things have happened at the Wells Hotel since?

Food Not Bombs cook here every week, and they hosted a Sunday lunch fundraiser a few weeks ago. Efa Supertramp formed the Afiach record label recently, and has put on a couple of gigs here. We create pieces in the building which we show elsewhere. Also, we've formed Original Human records and are running the campaign for the upcoming Little Eris single, So ... Many Nights, from this building. We've done the cover design, made videos and animations, and we are having the launch party here, which will be called The Ghost Crystal.

I wanted to have a launch party that was centred on more than just the single. So I've asked people What's the story behind Little to come up with art inspired by Eris? the concept of Ghost Crystal. It ideas and art and music don't I don't like the idea of art a better existence, and hopefully and get my art out there into have a positive effect in the 3D



comes from a dream Beith had, I've been performing under that which got me thinking about how name for 4 years now. I started off doing it just for the experienceexist in the physical world but experimenting with sounds, playing have a real tangible existence in inspiring places, meeting all the same. They form a mirror interesting people and learning or shadow of the material world my craft. I've got to the point and are affected by everything we now where I've had my campfire experience. In these hard times, moments, seen amazing bands at lots of different festivals and reflecting all the negative stuff wall night parties, and had a that's going on. It seems to me brilliant time. Now I need to take like a good idea to try and make it to the next level. I want to art reflecting the possibility of harness all the stuff I've learnt

the public arena. It's started into creating a self-sufficient have lived and breathed Little that freedom. Eris for the past few years, and everyone I've interacted with has I spent a few years in the rat be Karma 2 U, which has more of a reality. philosophical vibe to it.

they have that, they can get on connecting positively with all and do their own thing. If I made people. a lot of money, I would put it all

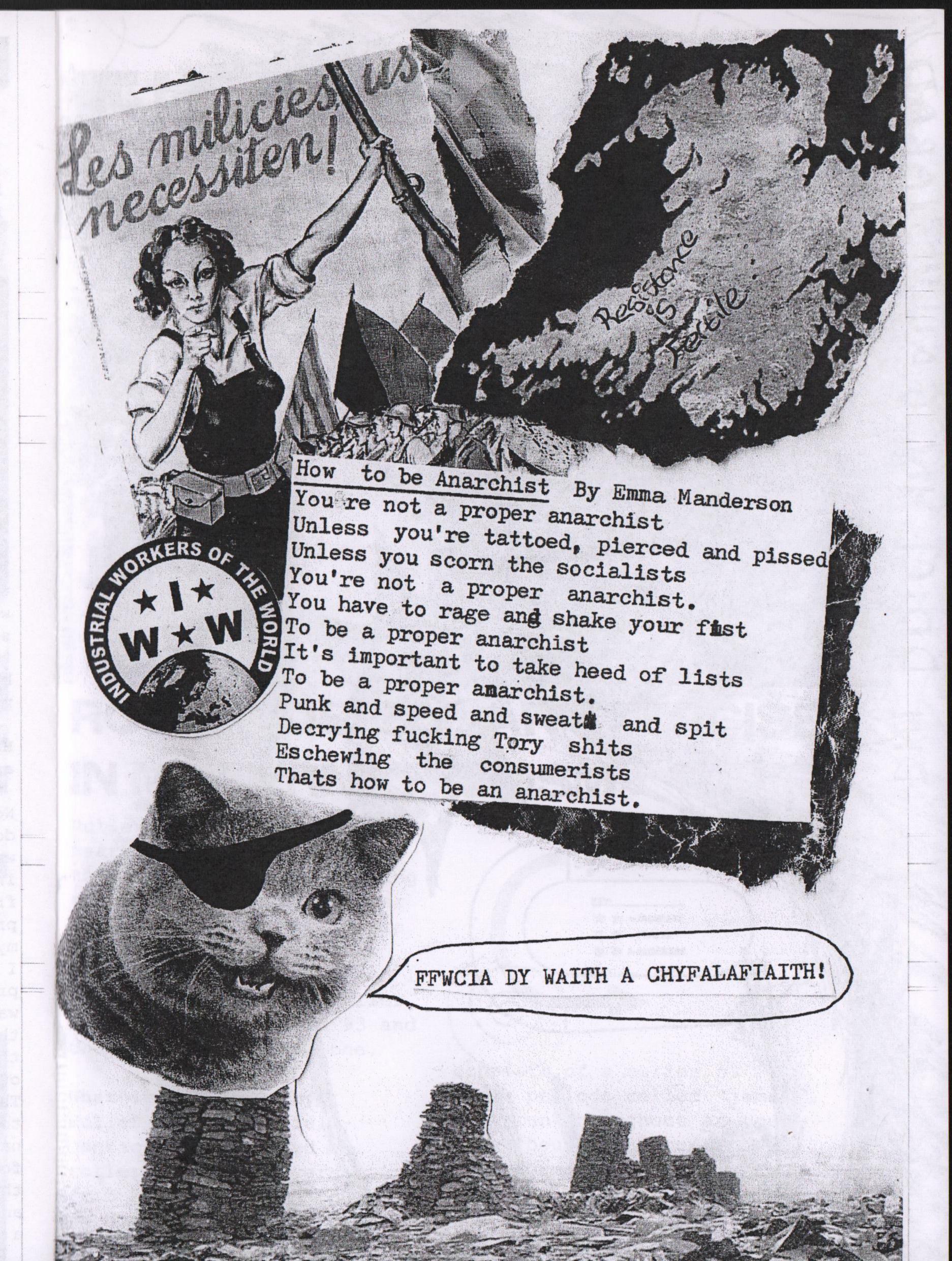
to come together naturally as I community where people can have

been aware that this is what I race: working long hours in the do. An old friend from university West End of London, braving the (where I studied music management) crowds on the tube, and wandering came up to visit me last year, and around Marks & Spencers' ready I was putting on an electronic meal aisle, looking for something night in Aberdare. He saw my to eat- not having the time or the performance, and a video I made energy to cook a decent meal. That on nil budget for the original mix feeling of dread every morning, of So Many Nights. He showed it knowing I had to go back to work ... to his uncle, who owns a recording I wasn't happy but I didn't realise studio and works with The Popes, for a long time that I didn't have Shane McGowan's band. I set him to do things that way. As soon as some more demos, and he produced the clues started to appear, I 3 singles for me. After So Many followed them, and I found there Nights, which is a love song, we was another way to live. People will be releasing Wreck & Rolling, I have met along the way have which is a rebellious, political inspired me, and I want to inspire song about not being able to work people in turn and hopefully they the 9 to 5, and after that will can go off and create their own

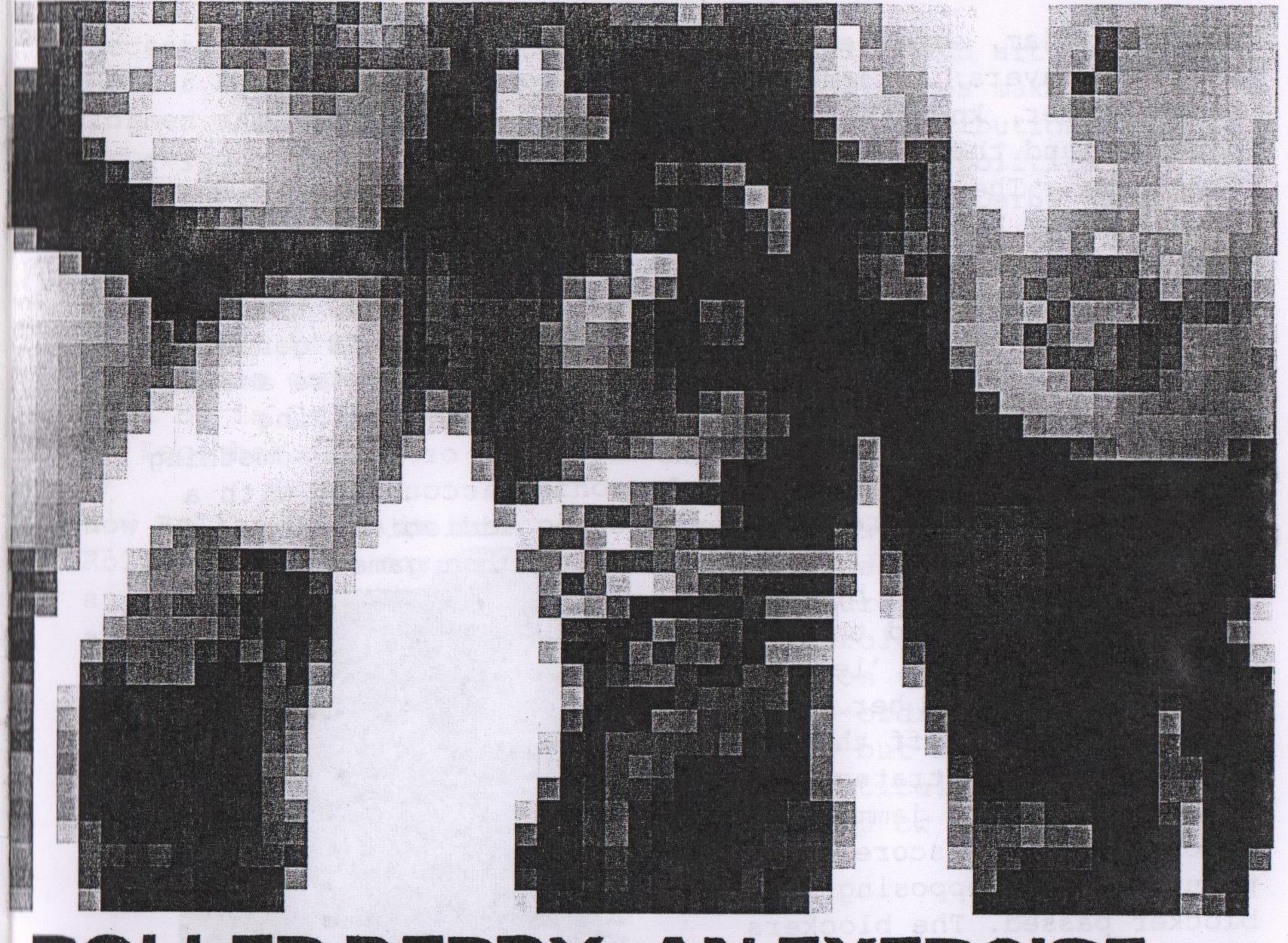
I was much more ready to declare How important is politics to you, myself an anarchist when I was and how does it affect your art? younger. But I don't really like to label myself any more; Not having any money, I have to it can get in the way. There are do everything in a DIY, hands-on a lot of misunderstandings and way. That means I am intimately misinformation about anarchism. I involved in every aspect of it, think about people like my grampa from making my own costumes to in the valleys, sweet folk who producing videos with the help of worry about their kids and living my friends. But if I did have money day to day. They don't really I would still be hands-on and think about who is running the practical as I think that is the town, let alone who is running the way to have an authentic voice. I country or the world. When they think we have a responsibility as hear the word anarchist, they the grownups to create and shape think of that image of aggression our environment in a positive way. and violence, and it frightens The basic things that people need them. The stereotypical anarchist to be able to thrive are space, in black with angry slogans can be nature, community, and outlets intimidating to people who don't for creative expression. Once understand it. My work is about

For me it is a conscious battle and a daily fight to stay free and as separate from the old system as possible by not giving companies any of my energy in the form of money or work. This in itself can be quite hardcore, as surviving on little or no money can be very bad for the spirit. It is a daily battle to survive without giving energy to the system. I know we do need people at the moment who are prepared to go the extra mile and direct action is proven to be very effective so anarchists are essential right now for the push we need. I am very supportive of anarchist actions. But there also need to be people who can create alternative beautiful environments so we can enjoy the freedom we are fighting for. I'm







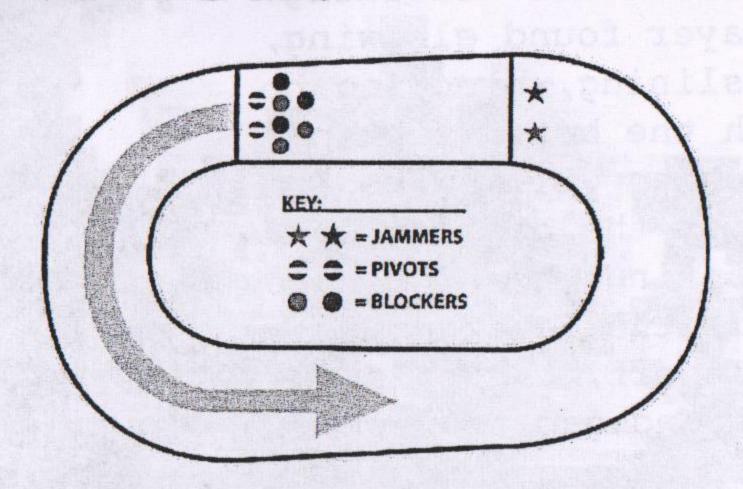


ROLLER DERBY: AN EXERCISE IN MODERN FEMINISM.

Roller Derby. You might have heard of it but chances are these two words mean nothing to you. The sport is bigger than you can imagine. There are around 1,375 'leagues' (each league hosts between 1 and 5 teams) playing Roller Derby worldwide; with 93 and counting in the UK alone.

What is Roller Derby?

Roller Derby is a fullcontact sport played on roller skates. Players from 2 teams skate around an oval track marked out on a flat-surface. The game



consists of a series of short periods called 'jams' that run throughout an hourlong 'bout'. The running of a formal bout requires between 5-7 skating referees and around 12-15 Non-Skating Officials (NSOs).

For every jam, each team fields 5 players; 1 is a point scorer, known as a 'jammer' and the other 4 are 'blockers'. The players are identified by helmet covers; the jammer wears a star and the lead blocker, known as the 'pivot' wears a stripe. Skaters line up behind their start line (see picture), the pack of blockers start rolling on the first whistle and the jammers are released on the second whistle. The jammers must race to break through the pack and the first to do so is awarded 'lead jammer'-this gives her the ability to 'call off the jam' at any time for strategic advantage. On the jammers' second lap, they score a point for each opposing blocker passed. The blockers keep the opposing jammer behind them using hips, shoulders, 'booty' blocks and 'positional' blocking. Any player found elbowing, clotheslining, blocking to or with the head, kicking or punching will serve 1 minute in the penalty box. Laps continue for 2 minutes or until the lead jammer calls it off, there is then a 30 second gap to field new skaters and a new jam begins.

Who plays Roller Derby? Roller Derby has a history dating back to the 1920's but it's modern incarnation as a women's sport began in

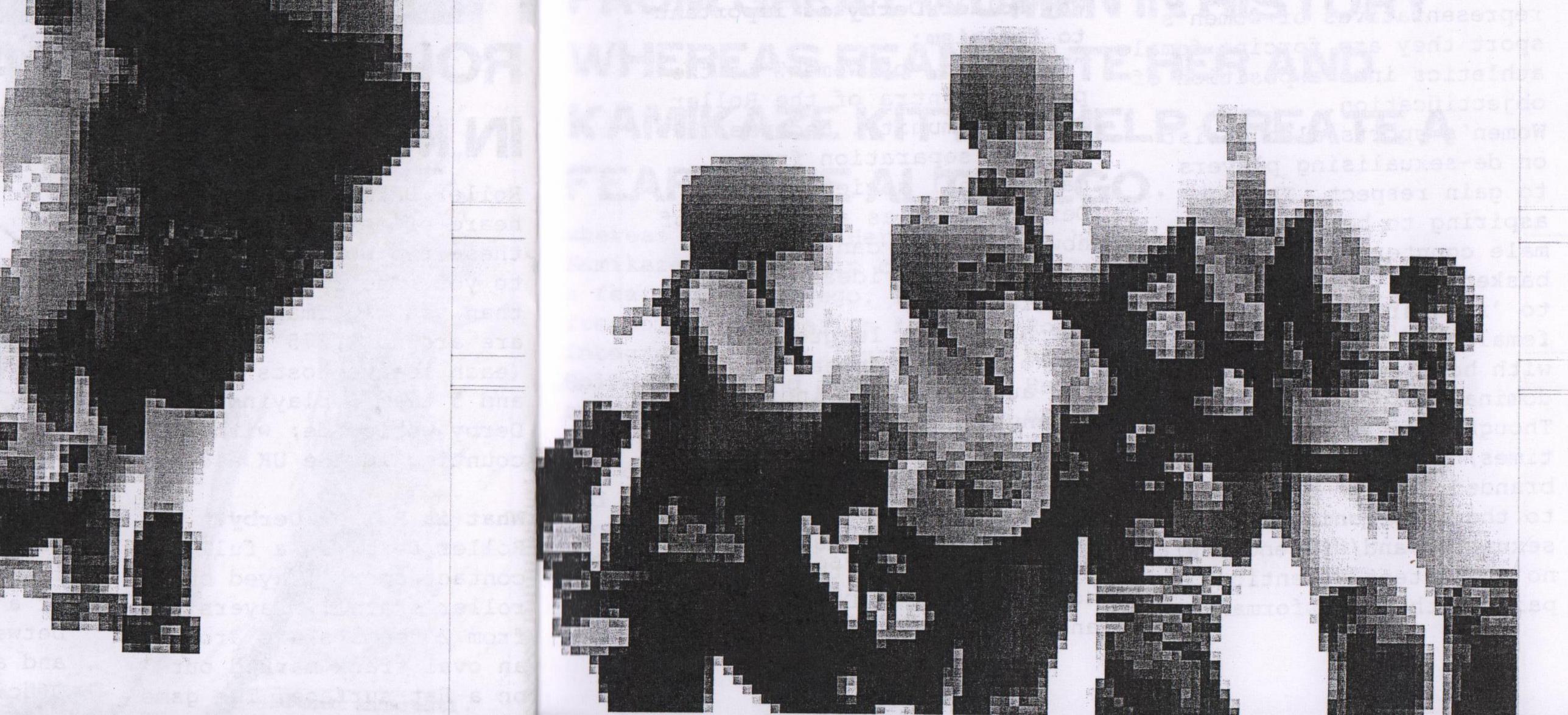
2001. It's stereotypically associated with "badass, tattooed, confident women" but the inclusive nature of the sport means that anyone with skates, helmets and pads can play. There is a place for everyone, there is no pigeonholing and genderroles; whether you're a size zero, 4ft, 40-something mother of 3 or a 20-something Amazonian accountant with a knitting addiction, none of



Recently, several men's Roller Derby teams have been formed and although they are expectedly more aggressive, men's derby still embraces the spirit of the women's game. There are many junior Roller Derby teams in the US and the first ever junior exhibition game in the UK will be in Cardiff on the 8th of December.

How Roller Derby is run: Roller Derby is described as a "Grass-roots, DIY sport". The running of a league requires an army of volunteers and each skater has a role to help with training, finance, administration, event promotion, sponsorship,

merchandising and art. Many non-profit leagues make charitable contributions and are involved in political activism. Roller Derby is an economic entity motivated for the sole purpose of promoting and sustaining the sport through an ethos of fair contribution. There are many non-skating volunteers who do their bit to support Roller Derby. NSOs, photographers, commentators and the partners of skaters all chipin to nurture the sport. There are roles within the organisation that require leading/co-ordinating/ delegating but most leagues run democratically with no dictatorship or hierarchy.



FOR WOMEN BY WOMEN

Women in sport:

Female athletes are often overtly-sexualised to appeal to a heterosexual male fanbase, take for example the Lingerie Football League in the US. The title speaks for itself and it was originally created as a "fantasy" pay-per-view production. Although they are dedicated sportswomen, the LFL have made drastic efforts to gain attention in a faction of sport that usually goes unnoticed. They can't be condemned for their actions as individuals, but as representatives of women's sport they are forcing female athletics into a position of objectification.

Women's sports also insist on de-sexualising players to gain respect. Through aspiring to be like their male counterparts; netball to basketball; women's football to 'regular' football etc. female athletes are met with hostility by the maledominated sports media. Though less so in very recent times, female athletes are branded "butch" and subject to the questioning of their sexuality and/or gender with no consistent attention paid to their performance

and ability as athletes; only criticism towards their deviation from typical gender roles. Consider the "Sports-bra incident" with Brandi Chastain in 1999; in celebration at the women's world cup, Chastain ripped off her shirt-a common celebration in men's football-revealing her sports bra. Despite winning the game with a spectacular penalty kick, the news coverage mainly focused on her "stripping-off" and either accused her of shameless self-degradation or resorted to the usual misogyny, headlining the report, "Beautiful Blonde Gets Her Kit Off".

Why Roller Derby is important to feminism:

"For women, by women" is the popular mantra of the Roller Derby community. Because of it's separation from patriarchal society, Roller Derby serves as an example of how a culture can exist on the terms and ideals of it's population.

For non-profit leagues, there is no need to appeal to new audiences and increase revenue. Although many leagues are starting to wear more 'professional' looking uniforms, the common rule is anything goes as long as players stick to the team colours. Roller Derby girls and boys do it because they

love it, so whether she wears hotpants and fishnets or baggy shorts and leggings, she's expressing herself through her 'boutfits' the way she wants. It's common to see the guys sporting fishnets too! Skaters adopt pseudonyms to create a different persona on track often in the form of pun or pop-culture reference but sometimes a completely original identity. Names like Florence Frightningale and Rosa Sparks take inspiration from great women in history

skills independent of regular employment. With leagues having no motives or goals other than to play the sport to the level that suits them, it's an opportunity to work together for a common goal without the dictation of how it should be achieved.

How to get involved:

To find out about events and joining your local Roller Derby league, search for your nearest city and "Roller derby"

NAMES LIKE FLORENCE FRIGHTNINGALE AND ROSA SPARKS TAKE INSPIRATION FROM GREAT WOMEN IN HISTORY WHEREAS REANIMATE HER AND KAMIKAZE KITTEN HELP CREATE A FEARSOME ALTER EGO.

whereas Re-animate Her and Kamikaze Kitten help create a fearsome alter-ego. This freedom of expression is integral to the culture of Roller Derby and provides a space for women to be who they want to be. As part of the organisation, skaters and volunteers can try their hand at something that they would never have the confidence to, there is plenty opportunity to learn new

or have a look at derbyroster.com. If you have any specific questions about Roller Derby or this article, find me on Facebook under Hanah Jet-Reckless Middlefinch or email me at

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