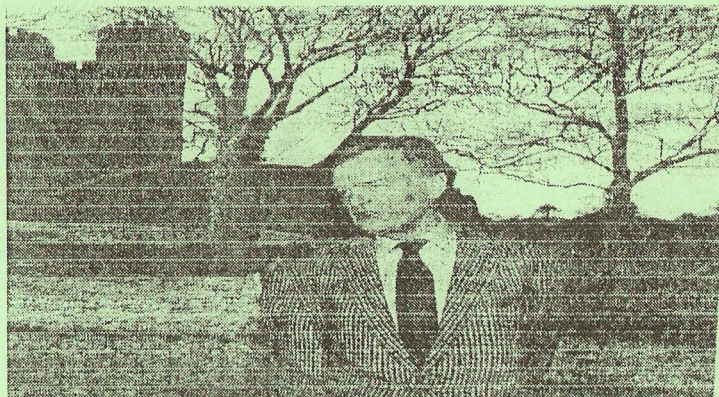


Animal

The Magazine Whose Layout Marginally Improves With Each Issue

Glad You're Dead



You Won't Be Playing Away Again

Reasons We Hated Alan Clark No. 326

Interviewer: The fact that we supply highly dangerous machinery to regimes like that doesn't cause you concern?

Alan Clark: No, never entered my head.

Interviewer: I ask the question, because you are a vegetarian. You are seriously concerned about the way animals are killed. Doesn't that concern stretch to the many humans, foreigners, who are killed?

Alan Clark: Curiously Not. No.

Inside This Fun Packed Issue: **Football - Protests- The Top Ten, Update on the Hillsborough Campaign, Karren Brady, Football and the Media, Revolutionary Programme for Sport, Surveillance of Supporters, Class War on the Terraces**

Non-Football- Interview with an Activist, Policing , J18 - The Carnival Against Capitalism, Reviews and News

LETTERS PAGE

All Correspondence to be addressed to: Animal
c/o LCW
Po Box 467
London E8 3QX

Acceptable English Patriotism

Dear Sir,

I am writing to complain, in the strongest possible terms, about the pseudonyms used in the current issue of your organ (Issue 3).

The names concerned are those of Captain Peacock, Miss Brahms, Mrs Slocombe, Mr Lucas and Mr Humphries. Nowhere in your supposed revolutionary publication is an article signed by the one honest working man on the shop-floor at Grace Brothers - that great leader of wildcats and working class hero, Mr. Harman.

I can only come to the conclusion that you have been led astray by Bourgeois elements such as Mr Rumbold, or worse that the hidden hand of young Mr. Grace is behind your publication.

Yours

Arthur English
Equity Rest Home for Aged Actors,
St. Leonards on Sea
Sussex

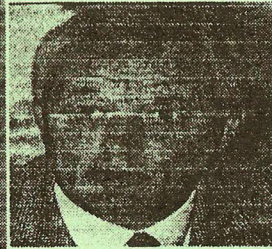
Blowing Our Own Trumpet

Dear All,
'Animal' is the best magazine I have ever seen.
Yours
Tim T. London N7
(How about a few more letters like this? - Ed)

Football Shorts

England Recall

Plans by the Post Office to issue stamps of the 20 England Premier League Chairmen have been recalled.... people could not figure out which side to spit on.



Tragic News

We at the *Animal* offices were deeply upset to hear that Barry Hearn, the chairman in charge of Third Division Leyton Orient, had suffered a suspected heart attack.

Hearn has made Leyton Stadium unrecognisable from the crumbling 2nd Division ground he took over just four years ago. He has turned it into a 3rd Division joke. Having knocked down one side of the ground to make a car park, and now an overpriced plastic stand, he plans to do the same with another. Such adventurous proposals do not come cheap, at least not for the long suffering O's-supporter, for Hearn has increased admission charges by 25% in two years, to a whopping £11 to stand on a now crowded uncovered terrace. With evidence like this we knew the rumours of a heart attack were untrue - *the bastard hasn't got a heart.*

English Football League Top Ten for Season 1998-99: We'd Just Love It

	Position	Aggro Quotient
Liverpool	1	44
Oxford United	2	42
Nottingham Forest	3	37
Manchester United	4	25
Hull City	5	24
Newcastle United	6	20
Doncaster	7	17
Crystal Palace	8	15
Bournemouth	9	12
Leyton Orient	10	11

Asset-strippers, chairmen wishing to knock down the ground or arrogantly insulting the local population, and the threatened interventions of Rupert Murdoch have been the catalysts for further fan activity this season. So although there is no extra trophy for the Reds, we must applaud the Man United fans spirited assault on the proposed BSKyB take-over. Also, not forgotten are Hull City finally ridding themselves of the parasite David Lloyd and Bournemouth's success in becoming a community owned club. But the Animal award this year means a rare trophy for Merseyside - for the continuing Hillsborough Justice Campaign.

Its not too late for your team to win the most coveted title of the football season: The AXA-non-sponsored Most Radical Fans Award for the 1999-2000. Send your reports to the *Animal* address. Glamorous prizes include some sort of once overpriced, now obsolete, football nick-nack we don't want any more.

Just how thick is Kevin Keegan? After the Man United versus Fulham FA Cup tie during the 1998-99 campaign, the Man U fans, celebrating their teams coast to victory, started sarcastically chanting 'Keegan for England', in the same way as they had humiliated Ron Atkinson with the 'Atkinson for England' chant the week before, when Forest lost 1-8. Keegan in a TV interview after the game said he was convinced he should take the job when he heard the Man U fans' support.

Brilliant Display at St. Andrews
Birmingham City and Leeds United Fans made unlikely, but highly welcome, allies. They finally succeeded in pressurising the St. Andrews authorities into installing a memorial to 15 year old Ian Hambridge who was killed by a falling wall after a game between the two sides on the 11th of May 1985 (the same day as the Bradford City disaster).

Laws Of the Game

When governments wish to curtail our abilities to protest, to place pressure on those with power, to curtail our civil liberties, it will often do so in the guise of 'protecting the public'. Various pathological menaces are conjured up, whether these be fascist thugs, Islamic extremists or football hooligans. One such piece of legislation are the little known amendments to the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act (CDA).

Many fans protesting against the management of their club have taken to wearing mask, balaclavas or scarves to hide their faces from CCTV, police or private cameras. Photos have been, in the past, used to ban even non-violent activists. Now under section 25 of the CDA police can demand the removal and seizure of face coverings where authorised by an officer of inspector rank or above. Section 27 makes the failure to comply with these requirements an arrestable offence. The offence on conviction could carry a month imprisonment. This is not to say that masking up is to be avoided, some may still consider it a worthwhile precaution.

Legislation which is often portrayed as helping to protect the public is often designed more to assist the rich and powerful. The new Anti Stalking legislation, legitimated primarily on the basis of genuine fears for women's safety from persistent attention was in fact first used against animal rights activists organising against the far-right Countryside Alliance Rally held in Hyde Park in 1997.

Dave C. (Researcher at Middlesex University) For More information contact the Animal Address

Dead Man Walking

After his links to Loyalist paramilitaries was uncovered, former Rangers (now Motherwell) goalkeeper Andy Goram was withdrawn from the game against Celtic. A shame as many fans throughout Scotland, would have enjoyed, in line with the Northern Ireland Agreement, dis-

arming him... then dis-

legging and dis-heading him.

An Irrational Hatred of Brighton

A Lapsed AFA (Anti-Fascist Action) member went to see his local team play against Brighton & Hove Albion. He was understandably upset when, as the game kicked off, hundreds of the visiting Brighton fans seemed to give the Nazi salute and chant 'Zeig Heil'. Our hero, now totally distracted from the game, stared at the mass ranks of scum, and wondered why such organised racism had never come to his and his comrade's notice. It was only as the game entered injury time that he realised that the visitors were innocently punching the air and chanting their teams' nickname 'scagulls, scagulls'.

A Short Rant About Hillsborough - The Boycott and Other Stuff

The Boycott of Hillsborough on the 8th of May 1999 was a resounding, unprecedented success - so lets pat each other on the back over this one, lets indulge in a little smug self satisfaction over this particular victory. It is not often that we say we've won anything these days, but the Boycott showed that if we stick together then no smart arsed Clubs Directors can treat us like shit and get away with it. Supporters have turned the tables on the greedy directors, Sheffield Wednesday have lost over £200,000! And yes I feel fucking good over that. Let's face it, we haven't exactly seen much of anything in 10 years. No mass demonstrations, no angry crowds besieging local MPs or councillors, no mass leafleting campaigns. All we've seen is history re-written, the odd petition, and a Justice concert (not to mention the one minute silence) - Let's face it, we've been lead up the fucking garden path! Did we really think the British Establishment was going to give us justice because we've been well behaved and quiet? I'm sorry, but anyone who thinks 'Quiet Dignity' can take on the Establishment is sadly misinformed.

The Hillsborough Disaster means fuck all to a lot of people out there - fair enough there is a lot of sympathy, but all the sympathy in the world means nothing if all it ever means is people just feel sorry for the Families and Survivors. Some of us just 'felt sorry' for the Birmingham Six, but believe it or not, it was people shouting their fucking heads off and a massive pro-active campaign which freed them. If we they had a campaign of 'Quiet Dignity' and Respect for the Establishment - they still be in fucking jail.



Just look at any successful campaign for Justice - those who make the most noise, put out the most publicity and link up with people, organisations and even Q.C.'s who take on the Establishment, those campaigns come up with the goods. No-one can convince me that the Hillsborough Family Support Group has ever attempted to pursue all of those particular avenues and because of that I feel that the Hillsborough Justice Campaign deserves my whole hearted support for its efforts.

I am not looking to stir up controversy, and I'm merely expressing my feelings in the language of the ordinary bloke or girl in the street. I'm sick of listening or reading the experts views of Hillsborough - Thousands of us know that there's been a massive COVER UP but were expected to just sit on the sidelines, although most of us know there is strength in numbers. If I was fighting for anyone I knew - I'd want to see thousands of people outside the courts etc. Duckenfield and Murray (two of the Filth responsible for Hillsborough) must be breathing huge sighs of relief every time their court appearances are devoid of protestors. But on their last appearance in Leeds in '98 - they were visibly shaken when some of the Mothers vented their feelings on these two cowardly bastards.

The injustices we are faced with cannot be allowed to continue -- we have a duty as Human Beings to try and make the world a more bearable place -- if not for ourselves, then for our children. If you ever find yourself the victims of injustice and blatant fucking conspiracy - you'll be praying that people recognise that duty, and act.

Some people still believe the lies which the journalistic scum printed at the request of certain South Yorkshire Police. The same journalistic fucking filth were even at the funerals of the '96' - creeping between the gravestones for 'good snaps' of the grieving parents watching their loved ones being buried.

The night of the Hillsborough disaster saw video evidence stolen from police control boxes at the fucking ground. The coroner took it upon himself to mention the blood-alcohol levels after he had read out the names of the '96' - thereby linking alcohol with the disaster (drunken scousers etc). People who were alive at 4pm were said to be legally dead by the coroner at 3.15pm. West Midlands coppers were given the task of altering South Yorkshire Police statements. And the families and survivors have been well and truly fucked by the vested interests of the British Establishment, the proof is so obvious an 'A' Level student could pick up on it.

This 'rant' has nothing to do with any of the groups campaigning for Hillsborough but -- as stated previously -- I consider the Hillsborough Justice Campaign to be an organisation which, because of its pro-active approach, is more likely to get Justice. I guess I've blown any chance of an OBE for this particular contribution to the debate.

An Ex Koppite

PS Liverpool FC can kiss my arse for throwing out someone with a Justice banner on May 1st 1999 on the Kop at Anfield.

Killing 96 Not Enough

Jack Straw Suggests Gassing Them
Home Secretary Jack Straw has give the police powers to use CS Gas on any crowd disorder within the confines of a football ground. Merseyside Chief Constable, Sir James Sharples has decided that its a good idea and instructed his officers to this effect.

Hillsborough Survivors, Relatives & Supporters for Justice Campaign can be Contacted at 134 Oakfield Road, Anfield, Liverpool, L04 0UG.

FOOTBALL REVIEWS

Karren Brady: United!, Little Brown and Company

Karren Brady, Managing Director of Birmingham City, has a great number of critics, many she complains, are male chauvinists who don't think women have a place in football. No doubt there are many such Neanderthals, but most opponents of Brady-as-football-executive and Brady-as-author see her as a conniving Thatcherite with no love of football, little understanding of fans and the type of boss (towards both male and female employees) who drives even conservatives to search out anarcho-syndicalist unions.

It's hard to separate the dislike of the author from the contents of the book. The reason for this is simple; the heroine, of the novel (Sara) is a cipher for Brady herself. Sara is a boarding school-educated, successful businesswoman, albeit, demonstrating Brady's own arrogance, a 'beautiful' one. There is nothing wrong with idealising oneself in print, except when the author mistakes cliché for imagination, melodrama for profundity and caricature for characterisation. The plot, if you can call it that, is Karren's, I mean Sara's success at beating the opposition and falling in love. Dull, predictable, trite crap.

To think trees died to make this. If you must read it - and there are less painful ways to lobotomise yourself - the local discount bookshop must have a dump-baskets full of this book, or scan your local tip. Better still why not dissect stale dog shit for worms, it would make a less offensive read.

Benjamin F.

THE CLASS WAR ON THE FOOTBALL TERRACES

Football was once the game of the working classes and the local club was at the heart of the community. This is still true to this day, but mainly in the north.

Football was and is an important focal point for people to help relieve the oppression many found themselves under at the workplace, and still do. You would stand shoulder to shoulder on the terraces with the people you worked, drank and lived with, and it was ours. Cloth caps were worn on 99% of peoples heads on the Sheffield Wednesday terraces and loads of others besides. The people were packed in the grounds like the overcrowding at their own homes as everybody took part in the welfare of their club and community.

Players knew what it was like to grow up on those same streets and kick a ball around in the same local park, treading in the same dog shit. They became idolised, but they knew exactly where they had come from. And they were **expected** to remember. Common experiences bred common attitudes, and people were all in it together.

Today, football is business; they don't want the local working classes who sustained the club anymore - they want people to drive up from the Home Counties in their

Range Rovers and company cars. People who can spend, spend, spend. The Boss, his wife and their children, William and Sarah-Jayne - they are the people they want. That is when the boss cannot get on the golf course or the kids have become bored with their horses or their holidays in Tuscany. A good result means a check on the share prices more than anything else. Watching the right team or wearing the right tie can help close that business deal in their executive boxes because football is trendy and rapidly becoming a major profit making industry for the capitalists. Good fashionable small talk for those embarrassing quiet moments when you're trying to rip off other people.

in the old days the programs and ticket prices were cheap, and so was the beer. A good day out at the match was in the reach of everybody, and their family. Now a train ticket, £25 match ticket, food and beer money leaves one bloke with no change out of £60. And if it is a European game £250.

In the streets surrounding every ground in the country there are families having to survive for a whole week on less money than it would cost to buy one team strip. They have to put up with their community being invaded every other week or so, but the clubs do not give a fuck. After all, they are only the people that the club is meant to be representing.

Different Supporters, towns and cities have become categorised: if you are rich you can watch big games and internationals and you are welcomed wherever you come from, but if you're poor then you're allowed to watch only when the opposition is poor. You only have to look at the cheap/free ticket schemes some clubs like Sheffield Wednesday now operate to see this is true. If you can't afford the ticket, then fuck off to Stockport and if you're really poor, then go to Doncaster, but wear our shirt in any case, just to let people know you are loyal to us. Let them know you're one of lifes' winners.

Clubs are weighed up for the amount of support that is willing to pay extra money to get into the new out of town stadium and buy the new strip, while the old inner city location is sold off for 'development'. In a word our lives are being ripped apart by GENTRIFICATION. The new middle class wants to live in the inner city in fashionable new housing buying stuff from the fashionable new shops. Built on the waterside or more often now on the former football grounds in working class heart-lands.

All of this, you might think, only applies to big clubs. Does it bollocks - look at Blackburn, Derby, Sunderland, Middlesborough or Newcastle! They loved us when they were shit because we are loyal and we kept them going. It is we who pay the wages when a club is on its knees, because we know what it's like.

We don't want to stand next to the people who dictate to us for 40 and more hours a week - we want to stand together and shout our heads off on the terraces that we have paid for year after fucking year. That's what we do to relieve the stress and enjoy ourselves, meet new and old mates. But when success comes, it's not US that reaps the reward. They screw us, take the piss and bleed every penny until there is no more, then kick us out into the street like some kind of undesirable. This allows in the new breed of trendy middle class supporter who bores us with his new 30 inch digital TV screen and Dolby stereo, and subscription to On-digital. Yes, this is your club we are talking about.

The saddest thing of all is that we have allowed this to happen. We let those who run football introduce seats, let them divide us and let them screw us for money. We have let them treat us like shit and then we allow them to throw us out onto the streets to listen to our sad radio.

They CCTV watch our every movement in the grounds, railway stations and town centres. Make us unwanted on our own doorstep and take our identity, and our clubs away. But we are not without power yet by a long way, because without supporters the clubs are nothing. Clubs may choose their 'customers' carefully, making the choice in relation to the size of their bank balance, but we can drive them out and take back what is rightfully ours - our birthright. We must let them know we have had enough and start fighting back together and harder. We have let them take the piss for too long and now we must take our game back. Just what is the point in our teams having the best play-shut out at our expense, see them is on satellite TV.

As REAL supporters, not to come to watch the game only when the teams doing because there are more of and when we get angry

Look what happened at simply had enough and take a stand and the chair-he knew his money grab-Too scared to meet the real

Brighton, those fans had were brave enough to man went into hiding cos bing ways were hated. supporters who paid for the team over the past 100 years, he was driven out and told by the authorities to stay away for his own safety. That's what works, mass angry direct action targeted in escalating and well informed campaigns that cannot be bought off with token gestures.

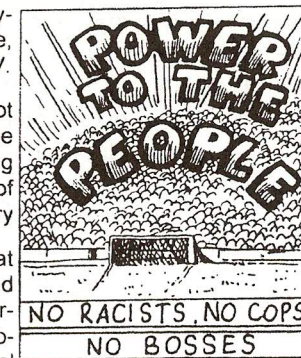
At Brighton they tried to blame it on the Nazi scum that hide in corners in some football grounds. But this was bollocks because they were too scared to admit that they had angered the mass of genuine fans and that they were powerless against the anger of the people who they had been screwing for the last 15 years.

We must learn from the Brighton fans and others. Don't forget, Brighton was only one battle in the ongoing war against miserly weaselly chairmen who have stolen control of the people's game.

They have divided us far too long. Moderation in the pursuit of Justice is no virtue - Violence in the defence of our lives NO Crime.

Anger is their reward,
aggression our justice.
All power to the people.

Andy Myson



The Revolutionary Programme of the Football Fan

We had a few drinks and the anger has not abated. We've watched a particularly dull game of lower league football, been ripped off by the chairman, the stadium has had one of its terraces closed - facing a bleak all-seater future, and the team we support has lost 3-0 at home. Our beloved Chairmen, who faced some criticism for this rip off then started taking the piss out of the fans. So we determined to put our favourite activity to rights.

We have drawn up a list of our proposals we would like to see implemented in football. Some require fundamental changes in the balance of power, some others just limited reforms, some are light-hearted, others deadly serious.

1. All grounds to have safe terracing, making up at least half of the stadium. There should also be adequate provision of seating and proper, decent arrangements made for fans with disabilities.

2. A section of terracing will always be made available to away supporters.

3. No CCTV cameras to be permitted.

4. Pricing to be as follows:

i. No terrace ticket will be above 6 pounds (at 1999 prices). With half price concessions for UB40, 60+, under 14s.

ii. No seated ticket to be above 8 pounds. With concessions for all UB40, 60+, under 14s

iii. The aim must be to eradicate any commercial transaction and to make football entry, like everything else, free.

5. David Mellor to be banned from every football ground. No, better still, just ban David Mellor.

6. Executive boxes, to be built facing away from the pitch, as they aren't interested in the game any case.

7. Running on the pitch after the game to be decriminalised. Although during the game this may still be prohibited, due to interrupting the enjoyment of other fans.

8. Fans to have a direct say in the running of the club, through mass meetings before or after big matches. These meetings will decide on manager, club kit, ground provision and all matters which affect the running of the ground, pitch and their team. The players' revolutionary council have temporary veto power over any matters directly af-

fecting the team. A similar workers committee comprising the secretaries, club-shop staff, administration support and turn-style operators would have veto powers on decisions which affect them.

9. All violence directed at fellow supporters is condemned unless the other supporter is:

- a. A copper
- b. Involved in racist or other extreme discriminatory practices
- c. Part of a body seeking to reinstate hierarchy back into football
- d. a journalist (especially a Murdoch journalist)

10. Players to be docked two weeks wages for the following offences:

- a. Blaming the fans for the teams' poor performances
- b. Swearing at the fans
- c. Not coming over to greet the fans after an away game (fine doubled for away journeys over 2 hours)
- c. Missing the target during a penalty
- d. At a corner, kicking the ball out of touch before its arrived in the penalty area.
- e. A defender clapping a linesman's off-side decision

11. The revolutionary football supporter will undertake acts of solidarity with all other fans, from their club and others in campaigns which involve:

- i. Eradicating racism in football
- ii. Reversing the gentrification of

the game

iii. Hindering the administration of the game by unelected and unrepresentative middle class elites

iv Critical assaults on the policing of football matches

v. Combating the ever higher prices at football matches

vi Any other area which weakens the wealthy and powerful and benefits the everyday supporter

12. In arranging times and dates for matches, priority of consideration to be given to fans wishing to watch the game live, rather than to the TV companies and police.

It's not a tight set of demands. Many proposals, might not apply to your team. Most non-league clubs for instance have the terrace and pricing policies outlined above. We welcome contributions on these proposals, we hope to encourage action.

RS & CW 1999

A Class Struggle Football Fanzine

After the positive feedback on *Animal Number 2* (the Football Special) it has been suggested that a regular class-struggle libertarian football fanzine should be set up.

We at *Animal* will gladly co-operate on this venture, and we know there are others out there. Anyone else want to be involved and get the ball rolling?

