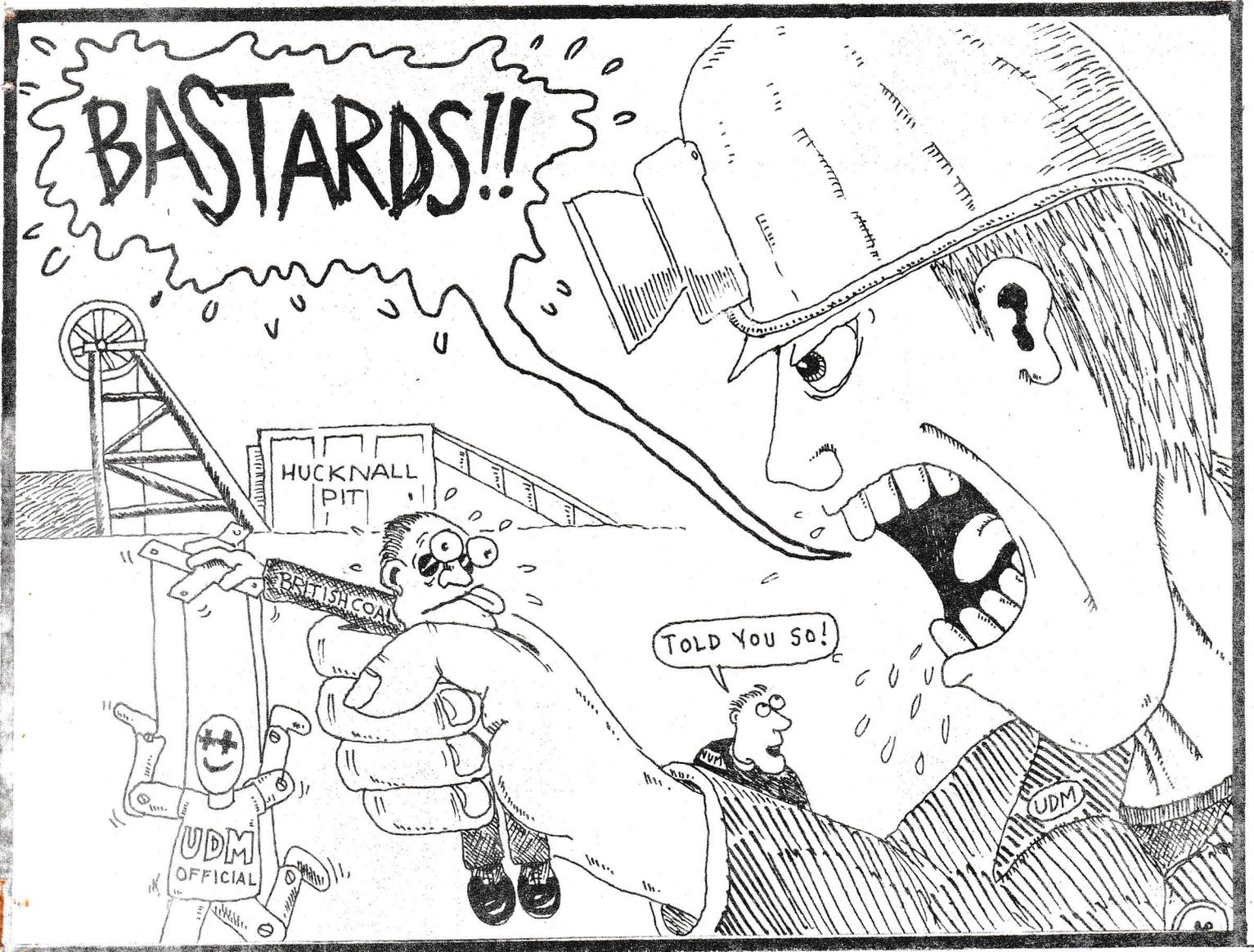




Nottingham Anarchist News

10
No.10
Oct/Nov - P



INSIDE: LOCAL NEWS AND EVENTS • FULBECK •
HUCKNALL • GOOSE FAIR • AND MORE •

EVENTS

October

- Thurs 2nd: Public meeting about the Guildford Four, with video and speaker. Organised by Nottm Irish Solidarity Group. International Community Centre, Mansfield Road, 7.30pm.
- Sat 4th: CND national action: Reclaim the hills at Coulport nuclear base, near Glasgow. Mass trespass. Coaches from Nottm £12.50 unwaged/£18 waged. Information: 472556 or 785503.
- Sat 4th: Libertarian Education Conference at Countesthorpe College, Leicester. £6 waged/£3 unwaged. Free transport to and from coach and train stations, between 9 & 10 am. Gig in the evening.
- Sun 5th: CND "Arms around Scotland". Passengers on the "Reclaim the hills" coaches will stay in Scotland for this.
- Sun 5th: Spoz Cabaret, Old Vic, Fletcher Gate. £1.99 & 99p.
- 5th - 12th: Freedom week, highlighting the cases of prisoners of conscience throughout the world, and the work of Amnesty International. Local events include a stall outside St Peters Church on Saturday 11th.
- Mon 6th: Notts Women Against Pit Closures report back from visit to Belfast: "Ireland - seeing for ourselves" Public meeting & video. 8.30pm, International Community Centre.
- Mon 6th: Pickets of manufacturers of plastic bullets components. Brocks Fireworks, Sandquar, Dumfriesshire & Astra Pyrotechnics (5-6pm) in London.
- Tues 7th: Meeting of Nottingham Irish Solidarity Group. Details: Box-8, 118 Mansfield Road.
- Thurs 9th: NCND annual general meeting. 7.30 pm. WEA, Shakespeare Street.
- Thurs 9th: Anti-apartheid benefit at the Garage, St Marys Gate. Local bands.
- Sat 11th: Half Man Half Biscuit + support at Byron House, Shakespeare St. 8pm. £3!
- Sun 12th: Picket of Leicester Prison in support of jailed Irish Freedom Fighters, and in remembrance of Noel Jenkinson, who died in Leicester Prison 10 years ago. Transport leaves Salutation, Maid Marian Way, 11.30am (1pm picket), tickets available at Guildford Four meeting or from Nottm Irish Solidarity Group.
- Tues 14th: Trade Union Open Day with exhibitions & screenings of "Norma Rae" CO-operative Education Centre, Borad St.
- Sat 18th: Erasure + support at Byron House. 8.30pm. £3.50.
- 19th-- 26th: One World Week. Events every day, some are listed below.
- Tues 21st: Nottm. Irish Solidarity Group meets.
- Tues 21st: OWW event: Vegetarian Tastes of the World. St Barnabas Cathedral Hall Wellington Circus, £1.50.
- Tues 21st: Freedom (magazine) Centenary Celebrations. Adrian Mitchell, RiffRaff Poets etc. 7pm. October Gallery, 24 Old Gloucester St, London WC2.
- Thurs 23rd: Stop the Westminster Gasworks. Details from 121 Railton Rd, London SE24.
- Thurs 23rd: Jarrow March re-run reaches Nottm Old Market Square.
- Thurs 23rd: OWW event: 'Chakula Hiki Hakitoshi' - a creative look at our links with world hunger. WEA, Shakespeare St. 8pm.
- Fri 24th: Film - 'To die in Madrid'. WEA, £1.
- Fri 24th: Shop Assistants, Three Johns, Very Things at Byron House. 8pm.

- Fri 24th: Dead Beat Disco, presented by Sherwood & Carrington CND. 11.30 - late. £1.50 & £1. Federation House Social Club, Claremont Road, Sherwood Rise.
- Sat 25th: OWW event: 'Are you really listening?' Sketches by OWW Group & Take-Away Theatre. 7pm. Radford Primary School, Ilkeston Road.
- Sat 25th: Trades Union CND Day of Action. Contact 472556.
- Fri 31st: "What do we do with criminals if we catch them"? Come and meet people who deal first hand with offenders! Then tell them your experiences. W.E.A., Shakespear St. 7.30pm Free.
- Fri 31st: N.C.N.D. Halloween Knees Up. Hyson Green Boys Club. 8.30 til 10.00. £1.75 waged, £1 unwaged or Fancy Dress.

November

- Sat 1st: Demonstration- Free Namibia, End Apartheid. 11.30 am, Old Market Square. Then rally at Victoria Leasure Centre 2 til 4pm with Centre speakers invited from SWAPO, ANC, Angolan Embassy etc. Fundraising Benefit for Namibia at Hyson Green Boys Club, with Hope Augustus and Legless.
- Sun 2nd: Spoz Cabaret, Old Vic. £1.99 and 99
- Tues 4th: Nottingham Irish Solidarity Group Meet.
- Wed 5th: Fireworks and Bonfires galore! Guy Fawkes was the only person to entre Parliament with honest intentions. Your chance to torch the houses of all those who entre parliament less honestly, not that we'd encourage such criminal behaviour!
- Wed 5th: Anti-Apartheid Jazz Club Benefit, with DISTRICT 6 (South African Band in exile) Old Vic Fletcher Gate. 7.30pm. £3.50 waged, £2.00 unwaged.
- Sat 8th: Peace Action Network Discussion on NVDA in Nottingham. Creche available ICC Mansfield Rd 10am-4pm Info 625198 or 708459.
- Sun 9th: Vegetarian Hungry For Change Supper Congregational Hall, Castle Gate. 8.00pm. £3.00 and £2.50.
- Sun 9th: Remembrance Day. CND wearing white Poppies in Listergate. It's not only men in uniform that pay the price of war.
- Mon 10th: World Development movement meeting on Indonesia. 8pm. 7, Grannis Drive, A Aspley.
- Tues 11th: 99th Anniversary of the Haymarket Anarchist execution. A day for Revenge.
- Sat 15th: NCND Craft Fair. 9.30 til 4.00pm. Congregational Centre.
- Tues 18th: Nottm Irish Solidarity Group Meet.
- Sat 22nd: Anarchist Bookfair, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London. The previous ones have been excellent.
- Sat 29th: National CND Demo "Marking the Routes". Vigil with banners and placards along routes taken by Nuclear Weapons convoys. Details 472556.
- Sun 30th: Smithfield demo. Protest against the meat trade. Coach from Nottm. £3.00 or £2.50.
- AND DON'T FORGET: every Tuesday at 8pm at the W.E.A. a course on the history of Anarchism. Claims Action eat DHSS officials Thursdays from 2pm at the ICC AND S.M.A.S.H. meet every Wednesday at the I.C.C., Mansfield Rd. at 7.30pm.

HELLO AND WELCOME

PRESENTED BY DAVID COLEMAN ▶

Aaaaaand welcome to Issue 10 of nottinham Anarchist....er,News.Aaaaaand it really is quite fantastic,its really splendid to see Graham Souness back and Oh Disaster! Disaster for Colin! He's dropped the camera,he's dropped the camera,this really is a blow for. For....er....

Hello! Welcome to Nottingham AnarchistNews the paper that goes where other papers would not ebeb throw their chip paper.The Autumn finds Nottingham Anarchists beavering away in classic form.

What with the political partiesall farting about at the seaside and showing up Democracy as the racket it is,with the suits of Derek 'cuddly' Hatton and with the Government pushing its 'Privatise Everything' in the name of 'participatory Capitalism' scheme then its the sort of time that makes it fun to be an Anarchist. Recent events include the first of a 'season' of videos and speakers.We've just had a comrade come over from Belfast to talk about Plastic Bullets.

Also,the Tuesday night course at the WEA on the 'History of Anarchism' is currently shifting into top gear with packed classrooms and heated waffling on about 'the neo-Bakuninite strategy employed in the dogmatic approach of bleeding heart Peutrellism' and other light chat.

A van load of determined,ashen faced anarchists were ferried to a picket of Thurmaston TNT distribution plant near Leicester,while back in our usual manor a gang of tatty types (driven wild by sex,drugs and pictures of Derek Hatton) shouted rude words at Lord Young.Shame the Masses never turned up (Cedric and Flo Masses from Beeston).

But enough of that,turn your attention to the choice items contained in these pages and enjoy their general 'right-on-ness'. Speaking of the paper,we'd particularly welcome comments and constructive criticism of the content of the paper:The vast majority

of the 500 copies we print are street sold rather than to people we already have contact with,so we don't always get a load of feedback on what we write(except when we get attacked in the street by maniacs but that's another story).

We'd like articles submitted to the paper to come with a name and address (we'll print pseudonyms and not print addresses,of course).Oh yes,we don't necessarily agree with everything that appears in the paper. So now you know.

Right that leaves me to finish off with a few bits of heart-warming rhetoric so we can get it printed on time ,and so I can go home,Watch Eastenders and enjoy the new Fall LP,which this bunch of Baby-cating Reds won't even review.Pah! Until next time,keep your shiny side up and your greynside down,10-10,Whoosta! we gone.Now back to David.....

end bit David,David.....cue bloody David!

Aaaaaaaaand welcome back where the excitement in the Nottingham Anarchist News is hotting up-Oh and its all over,its all over, the editorial finished,absolutely fantastic aaaaaand that's another three points for Emlyn Hughes' team.....

2.
a bit about
NOTTINGHAM ANARCHIST
GROUP and anarchist
ideas.

Nottingham Anarchist Group works for an end to capitalism, privilege, state control and centralised power. For freedom for all and an end to tyranny. To bring about a society where all are free to organise as equals, locally, for their own needs and mutual benefit. None shall hold power over another.

Many people wrongly think that Anarchists are against all organisation, and that they favour chaos. This has never been the case.

Though we oppose the existence of government, anarchists are not opposed to organisation. We believe, for example, that factories should not be run by bosses, but by the people who work in them; that neighbourhoods should not be controlled by far-away bureaucrats, but by the people who live in them. We believe that communities can, and should, organise themselves.

We believe that instead of society being run for the profit and power of the few, we should run society for ourselves. We believe in mutual-aid, co-operation, self-help.

We see Nottingham Anarchist Group as involved in an educational and revolutionary process. We are involved in groups and movements such as The Society for Mutual Aid and Self Help, Black Raven Bookstall, Resurgence Anarchist Paper, Claimants' Action, Nottingham Irish Solidarity Group, Nottingham Peace Action Network, anti-racist and anti-imperialist groups, feminist groups, animal rights, community action groups etc, and The Midlands Anarchist Network.

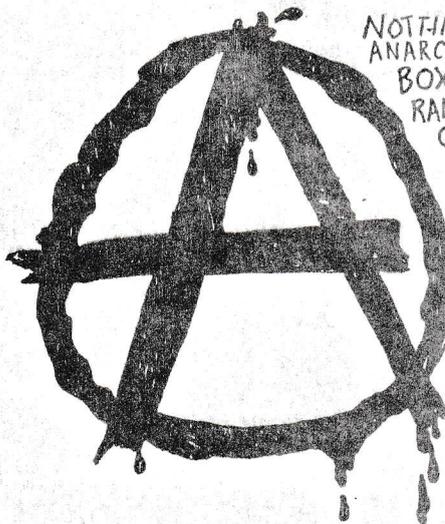
We also produce literature and leaflets, run courses, organise public meetings and conferences and video showings.

The Group incorporates a range of approaches and positions within the group, and we work with various ideas on what form the revolution should take and what society should be like after it.

We are an open group, with no formal membership, of around 30 people. We meet every Wednesday at 7.30pm in the ICC (International Community Centre) on Mansfield Road, to plan our activities and discuss our politics.

LAURA BIDDING
and RICH

NOTTINGHAM
ANARCHIST GROUP,
BOX A,
RAINBOW
CENTRE,
180,
MANSFIELD RD.



3. news



GOTCHA!

LORD YOUNG URGED TO SHOOT HIMSELF

During Mr Young's much publicised visit to Nottingham, the brave contingent of jobless Notts Anarchists turned up at Castlegate House to kill the Unemployment Minister. The attempt failed but after 40 mins of heckling, shouting slogans, waving the banner and other street entertainments, protesters were granted an audience with Kenneth Clark, Mr Young and their bunch of heavies. Our antagonism must have been a surprise to a man who had spent the morning being feted by a load of Labour councillors.

The interview was preceded by a check for weapons and then came our questions which were replied to in the standard politician's manner.

When asked what his income was:
A lot more than yours, haw! haw!

And his view on MSCs:
They're a good idea because they're jolly good fun. Have you ever been on one?

We hadn't:
Well then, it's rather like criticising a book you haven't read. (Bet he's done a lot of MSCs)!

Kenneth was amused when asked how much his suit had cost:
Oh, so you're a group of people who are against governments and suits, haw! haw!

They asked if we had any final questions:
Why don't you shoot yourself you bastard?

And the bastard walked away with a large glob of phlegm on his priceless suit.

unsigned.

PIT CLOSURE AT HUCKNALL

THE COAL BOARD RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THAT THE PIT AT HUCKNALL IS TO CLOSE, WITH A LOSS OF OVER 1300 JOBS. HUCKNALL IS HEAVILY RELIANT ON THE PIT, AND LOCAL PEOPLE SAY THE EFFECT ON THE COMMUNITY COULD BE DISASTEROUS.

JOBS ARE ALSO GOING IN THE BENTINCK COMPLEX, WHICH CONSISTS OF BENTINCK, ANNESLEY AND NEWSTEAD PITS.

RAY CHADBURN OF THE N.U.M. SPOKE TO THE ANARCHIST NEWS ABOUT THE CLOSURE, AND SAID THAT 130 THOSE WORKING AT HUCKNALL ARE N.U.M. MEMBERS, AND ARE 25 TO 30% OF THOSE IN THE BENTINCK COMPLEX. HE SAID THE BOARD WERE ALSO CLOSING THE BENTON PIT, AND THAT THE UNION WAS ACTIVELY OPPOSING AND CONDEMNING THE CLOSURE OF PITS ON ECONOMIC GROUNDS.

SO THOSE NOTTS. MINERS WHO BROKE THE 84/85 STRIKE AND JOINED THE SCAB UNION, AREN'T GETTING AN EASY RIDE THE GOVERNMENT AND COAL BOARD PROMISED THEM. IN BETRAYING THEIR FELLOW WORKERS, THEY BELIEVED THEIR JOBS AND FUTURES WOULD BE SECURE. BUT THE STATE IS ONLY EVER GOOD TO PEOPLE AS LONG AS THEY ARE USEFUL TO IT.

THE U.D.M. WERE THE COAL BOARD'S BLUE-EYED BOYS, BUT NOW THAT THERE LESS PROFITS AND POLITICAL MILAGE TO BE MADE OUT OF THEM, THEY ARE DISPENSABLE TO THE BOSSES AS THOSE MINERS WHO STAYED LOYAL TO THEIR CLASS.

THE STATE DOESN'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT WORKING CLASS COMMUNITIES, AND NOTTS. MINERS ARE LEARNING THAT THEY SHOULD NEVER HAVE PUT THEIR FAITH IN A UNION OF SCABS AND LACKEYS TO FIGHT CAPITALIST RUTHLESSNESS FOR THEM.

L.B.

Confirmed reports indicate that a TNT lorry driver (TNT-scab company helping Murdoch and the Sun empire) was seen frantically searching for his ignition keys on Friday 26th September, after making a brief stop on Bridlesmith Gate corner. Confused by the evidence of an open cab door, the word 'scab' penned on the dashboard and the sound of fleeing footsteps, he was heard to blame the disappearance on Barmy Sex 'n Drug Crazy Loony Lefties in an orgy of Violence and Hate.

JUSTIN PASSIN

BREAK THE LAW BEFORE THE LAW BREAKS US

The Public Order Bill is now in its last stages in the House of Lords, and is likely to be passed as soon as Parliament reassembles - i.e. this November. It is a direct attack on what few civil liberties we have left, as it will limit demonstrations and pickets to those approved of by the police. Without freedom of expression there can be no justice, only state repression. Demonstrations are an essential and justifiable way of expressing opinions, giving solidarity and voicing protest. The Public Order Law will affect us all, whether we are engaged in industrial disputes, peace or animal rights movements, anti-Apartheid and other anti-imperialist struggles or any other campaign which objects to some aspect of the status quo, and uses demonstrations as one of its tactics. We must unite to fight it.

In practice, there is no hope of stopping this Bill becoming law. Our only hope is to make the new laws unworkable. To do this, we must defy them. Just by carrying on with the types of marches, pickets etc we had before the laws were passed will itself constitute a campaign of civil disobedience. But if small groups are left to do this in isolation, they will be picked off by the police and their protests silenced, unnoticed.

What is needed is immediate, open defiance by a large number of people in explicit opposition to the new laws. Everyone is urged to march in London THE SATURDAY AFTER the bill becomes law. Gather at 12 noon at Clock Tower Place, London N7.

Together we are strong. Don't let the state divide and rule us once again. We have to break the law before the law breaks us.

olga

MAKING A FIGS EAR OF IT!



ABOVE: "MILD MANNERED" PC JOHNSON WHOSE HOBBIES INCLUDE CLUBBING BABY SEALS AND SHOUTING.

A policeman who bit off part of a rival officer's ear during a Welsh inter-force rugby match was yesterday gaoled for six months.

PC Richard Johnson was told by Judge John Rutter at Cardiff Crown Court: "The violence you used was a dreadful example of football hooliganism."

Johnson, a Cardiff police wing forward, who has been suspended since the incident, sank his teeth into the right ear lobe of Newport police lock forward Keith Jones, aged 40, during a match at the Cowen Constabulary sports ground in Cwmbran last November.

A forensic dentistry expert, Dr David Whittaker, told the jury of tests he had carried out on the ear of a dead pig which was similar in structure to the human ear. He found he was able to tear off the lobe with a single wrench, even when wearing a gunshield.

news

FAIR SHARES FOR ALL?

Heard the one about popular capitalism? How we all have a share in this brave new world of increased private ownership? If you think it's a sick joke and that we haven't all been having the time of our lives, you'll find support for your view from the Inland Revenue! Yes, the latest accounts published by the Protection Racket Registrars show that the rich have consolidated their hold on their criminal possessions in the 1980s, so that in 1984 the richest 1% of the adult population owned 21% of Britain's wealth, leaving the poorest 50% with only 7%. That is, 427,000 people owned three times as much as over 21 million of us! Don't ever believe the oft-repeated lie that this is becoming a classless society - recognise your class enemies and your class allies. Let's gang up and take back our wealth.

D.B.

HANG THE EMPEROR, NOT OMORI

Throughout the world, armed states use terror tactics to suppress dissent and maintain their own power. In Japan, anarchist sympathiser and anti-imperialist Katsuhisa Omori awaits execution. He is alleged to have caused an explosion at the offices of the Hokkaido Government from which the racist oppression of the native Ainu people is administered. Despite clear evidence that he was not involved with this explosion, August 11th 1986 saw the tenth anniversary of his imprisonment, much of it spent in solitary confinement.

CLEAR VIEW

This anniversary was marked by energetic protests. Two anarchists from Nottingham travelled to London to join in the picket of the Japanese Embassy. We were moved over the road from the Japanese Embassy (resulting in us standing outside the Canadian Embassy - pity we had not organised a simultaneous anti-seal cull demo!), but this gave us a clear view of the building.

We displayed black/red flags and placards demanding freedom for Omori, leafletted and chatted to passers-by, and kept up a steady stream of chants which intensified every time someone entered or left the embassy. An attempt was made to present a petition for Omori's release, but officials were too busy photographing us to accept it.

POT PLANT

There are reports that, later the same day, about thirty people and a pot plant demonstrated at the offices of Japan Air Lines near Oxford Street. This demonstration was brief - leaflets were scattered and adjustments worth 500,000 yen (?) made to the furnishings and a computer terminal, after which the demonstrators disappeared. Four people were later arrested but released without charge.

This incident was reported in the "Japan Times", which appears to be worried at pressure directed against Japanese targets, internationally, in support of Omori. Omori must be released. We must make sure that pressure is increased until the day he is free.

Further information: Omori Support Committee, c/o 121 Railton Road, London SE24.
* = £2,500 Olg

GRASS AND GRASSES

Bored? Fed up? Broke? Why not protect society? HM Customs and Excise will tell you how.

They've got a new leaflet and campaign out, which explains to you just how to grass up whoever you choose. If you notice anything unusual, or if you know ANYTHING that you think might help HM Customs and Excise in their fight against drug smuggling, you can now pass this information on for nothing by dialing 100 and asking for "Freephone Customs Drugs".

Whilst anyone who grasses up anyone else is a heap of shit and should be dealt with accordingly, this new freephone service does give plenty of scope for stoned games. For example, one of the things we are advised to look out for is: vehicles transferring loads at unusual times. Securicor? Molesworth contractors? Butchers? Who can you think of?

People who import or distribute dangerous drugs are murderers, and the community should tell them where to get off. People who distribute harmless drugs such as cannabis are not being revolutionary, but neither should they be harassed and imprisoned for doing their mates a favour. Dial "Freephone Customs Drugs" today (or as soon as you think you'll be able to move) and explain this to the git at the other end.

unsigned.

HAZELTON ANIMAL LIBERATION CAMP EVICTED

Hazleton Death Camp (AKA Hazleton Laboratories) is in Yorkshire, just outside Harrogate. Inside the perimeter fence, animals are tortured for human vanity. Draize tests, dropping toxic substances into animals' eyes; LD50 tests where a number of animals are poisoned until half of them die - both were common here. They often do the dirty work for smaller companies.

For 3 weeks in the summer people camped outside the fence. Up to 30 people stayed, water was available, fire wood was plentiful and a shit-pit was dug. Unfortunately not everyone used it, which resulted in a messy site. Please use the shit-pits. In a specially conducted interview, Mr P.S. Rogers, Managing Director of Hazleton Laboratories Europe Limited, gave his view of the camp:

"On a date unknown an article appeared in the Nottingham Anarchist News asking people to attend and set up a camp outside our premises. On Friday 11 July a number of people attended and set up camp on land owned by ourselves and the C.E.G.B. The trespass was initially peaceful. On the 16 July our fence was cut and several people climbed onto the roof of the main building. On the 19 July items were thrown over the fence and a further hole was cut. The most serious incident took place this Saturday (26 July) when items were thrown over the fence and numerous windows were broken. I understand that 2 trespassers were arrested by the police following this incident. At this stage there were approximately 5 tents containing an unknown number of people."

The camp was evicted on 31 July. The stay was considered a success. Many more people were made aware of a death camp in their vicinity and the torturers were harassed. The camp might be back - we can't let the torturers go about their work without them knowing we oppose them.

P.S. Animal Liberation Front's Newsletter now available, with new of local struggles on the Animal Front unsigned.

FULBECK

Fulbeck Airfield, 6 miles from Newark, is one of four possible sites currently being investigated in order to find a site for dumping nuclear waste. NIREX, the government's radioactive waste disposal agency, proposes to build a shallow repository to receive about ten lorry-loads of low-level waste a day for 50 years.

"NUCLEAR POWER IS THE SAFEST FORM OF ENERGY KNOWN TO MAN" (Peter Walker, five weeks before Chernobyl erupted.)

The primary need for such a dump is to receive waste from Sellafield, which reprocesses spent nuclear fuel, and is itself far from having an impeccable safety record. Radioactivity is one of the greatest dangers we face, threatening us not only now but also for generations to come. It is a grotesque insanity to take even the slightest risk when the possible catastrophes are so immense. Safe reactors require perfect engineering and infallible operators, neither of which exist. Accidents can lead to the escape of radiation. There is no safe dose of radiation. It would be utterly irresponsible to watch the growth of the nuclear industry without protest.

It is no good to sit back and hope some paternal authority will make everything all right. The paternal authority isn't on our side! There are huge vested interests in maintaining nuclear power, just as there are huge vested interests in maintaining a system which can allow nuclear power to happen. Once again, we find authority lying (and worse) every step of the way. There are capital, specialist jobs and a vast quantity of face to be saved. Not to mention the nuclear weapons connection which, although denied by the minister for energy, was confirmed by the chairman of the CEBG.

MANGO CHUTNEY

It is not only the danger of radioactivity which is fuelling protest at Fulbeck. There is also anger at the way NIREX and the rest of the nuclear establishment are manipulating events. At no time have NIREX stated the criteria they are looking for in a suitable site. This leads to the natural suspicion that "test drilling" will only be a method of rubber-stamping pre-formed decisions. No-one has been told the instructions which were fed into the computer which selected Fulbeck and the three other sites. Possibly it was instructed to find sites on MOD (Ministry of Defence) land with tory MPs and small populations. Possibly geological considerations were omitted entirely. As one activist put it, if NIREX discovered that the whole area was made of mango chutney, they might well claim that mango chutney was exactly what they were looking for.

Local opposition to dumping at Fulbeck is strong. It is therefore also broad, including not only the totally anti-nuclear, but also those whose main concerns are planning blight and house prices. Even the local police have been helpful to protestors, presumably being no more keen than anyone else on being irradiated. The local tory squire is the chairman of LAND (Lincs and Notts against Nuclear Dumping) and this is the organisation which co-ordinates the opposition.

UMBRELLA

LAND is a membership organisation. It arose out of a public meeting called by a local member of Friends of the Earth, and announced by means of saturation leafletting and bill posting. LAND is opposed to all unsafe nuclear dumping, whether or not it is in their backyard. It is a member of BAND (Britain Against Nuclear Dumping) ..

an umbrella organisation of groups from the four sites, which was formed in April 1986 and meets monthly.

Protestors at these sites have been much in the news because of their use of non-violent direct action (NVDA), a tactic previously associated in the media with woolly-hatted marginals. And yet here we saw respectable pillars of society sitting in the road and blockading to prevent contractors' vehicles from entering the sites. At Fulbeck, NVDA was organised by an informal grouping of individuals who could call out 150 protestors within half an hour (or more than 250 with advance warning) by means of telephone trees in three towns and twelve villages. Tactics are decided on the basis of consensus of all present.

All this effective NVDA was obviously too much for NIREX. So the government's waste agency used the state's courts to obtain an injunction to forbid 20 named people and anyone else from preventing NIREX and their contractors from entering the site. (The CEBG wanted the hearing in a closed court.) An appeal is being lodged against this injunction, as is a cross petition. The results may be known before this paper is printed. Meanwhile, women chained themselves to a barricade, people held vigils, and the gates were welded together.

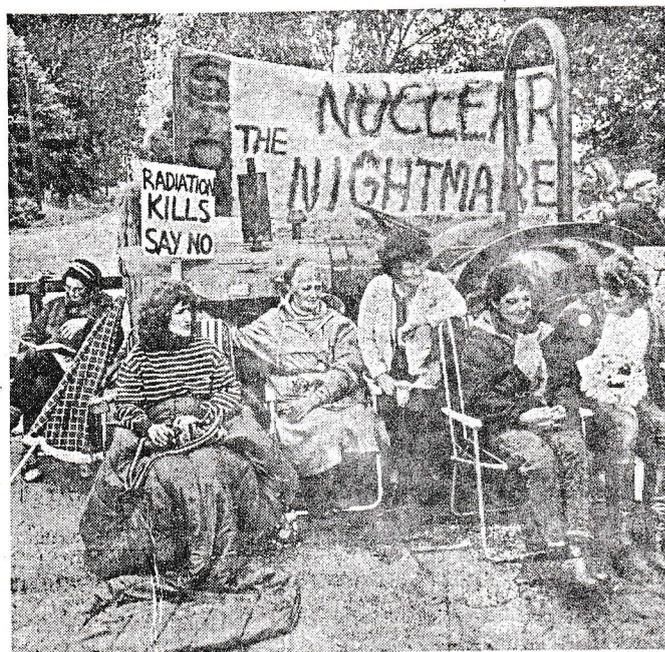
PLAYING CARDS

Fulbeck was the last site entered. Five days after the injunction was served, a NIREX convoy entered on September 23rd. Protestors threw down flowers which got crushed. No local police have been used at the site since then, it's mainly Ministry of Defence Police, many from Molesworth. There were about seven contractors' vehicles, 30 police vans and police dogs.

At the time of writing, contractors have been going in each day, but have been playing cards and have not yet started any drilling. LAND have been monitoring everything that goes in or out of the site. There have been some odd sightings, such as the lorry with no number plates and its name painted out, or the car which went in with one number plate and came out with another.

SINISTER

And things get yet more sinister. The state's nuclear power industry has secret police - as it must have, to protect something as lethal as radioactivity. LAND's barrister recently had her car broken into at Grantham. No valuables were taken; her briefcase was found in the car park.



Ⓜ We shall not be moved... women chained and padlocked to the gates at Fulbeck airfield wait for NIREX officials to try and gain access.

At 3.00am in the morning, on Sunday 28th Sept. an Anarchist from Nottingham was beaten up in the L.A.N.D. caravan

where he and a Chesterfield woman were staying.

The two attackers, who were local and well spoken, said "We don't want your sort here, ...If you're not gone by seven in the morning, we'll come back and kill you!"

Then, at 10am on the following monday, a local L.A.N.D. activist had her rib and elbow cracked in a similar attack, in her back garden.

Whoever was responsible (M.O.D.? Hired thugs?) an M.O.D. vehicle only 15 yards away "Heard nothing", and the police have officially denied that anything happened on Saturday night at all.

As anarchists, we are aware that the law is there only for the benefit of those who control

6.
it. To successfully oppose the Vested Interests of the nuclear industry, which are also the Vested Interests of Capital and the State, we must go beyond the law. The nuclear issue is too important to be left to judges who'll probably die of old age before any waste gets dumped anyway. Whatever the outcome of the appeal against the injunction, we wish the people of Fulbeck to put respect for the planet above respect for the law.

A LAND activist has said "NIREX are on the high road to nowhere". If you want to help them on their way, contact Pat on Newark 892627.

Lady Olga

LETTERS

ALL LETTERS SHOULD HAVE A NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED, WHICH WE WON'T PRINT IF YOU ASK US NOT TO.

In reply to "Trying to work with the authoritarian Left"

I myself am one of the marchers. The leaflet is not the only thing about the R.C.G. politics I disliked, there are several.

I agree that the meeting was pre-planned by the R.C.G. Since none of their members had the decency to stay in the squat which some Anarchists had arranged for us to stay in.

One member of the R.C.G. thought it was a disgrace that men had the cheek to print the leaflet. About five minutes later she contradicted herself and said it was good that men noticed sexism existed.

And so it went on. The people who produced this leaflet are definitely not racist, nor are they themselves sexists.

I shall now go on to mention some of the other things I disliked about the R.C.G.'s politics.

One thing is that they're mostly middle class. They talk about splits in the working class and say they're becoming middle class if they buy cars, washing machines or videos. Shite. Shite. The working class buy material goods because the standard of living has changed. In the 30s, people didn't expect to have carpets or inside toilets. Now they quite rightly do.

I felt their not wishing to stay in the squat was pure snobbery. If any of them were working class they wouldn't have objected I'm sure.

Those middle class shits had the cheek to tell me I'm not oppressed. I also felt I'd been accused of racism on that march. Fortunately Gavin, one of the Manchester Anarchists, stuck up for me on that occasion.

They believe the unemployed will run a revolution. This is rubbish. The unemployed don't eat properly, have no money and usually haven't good education, amongst other things.

The people who have been fighting back against the system are the miners, factory workers, nurses to name a few.

Of course it's the working class with so called "middle class" attitudes that are fighting back. They've got something to fight for, their right to work. It's not because they'll lose their cars or washing machines but their trade and life style will have gone too.

Onto racism. There is racism from blacks to whites, not just the other way round. O.K. so there are reasons for it but about Asian racism, Pakistanis vs Indians, also Africans vs West Indians.

When I mentioned racism towards the Scottish it was completely ignored. Most people aren't aware of the Highland clearances.

And anyway, if you're against racism you should be against all racism, agreed?

That's all I have to say. Any comments or criticisms welcome.

Yours Anarchistically,

Amanda Richardson

The leaflet in question was written by marchers on the Viraj Mendis march, to challenge his deportation to Sri Lanka (See N.@.N. no.9). It was written mainly in response to the sexist behaviour of the other marchers, and the Revolutionary Communist Groups attempt to run the march as their own.

The leaflet aroused much bad feeling on the march, and was criticized for being inappropriate in its content and its timing.

As individuals we agree and disagree with different aspects of what happened, but as a group we STRONGLY disagree with much of this letter.

We decided to print this letter because it contains many views you come across daily, and is typical of many peoples attitude. We also felt the need to print a group response and to dissociate ourselves with any anarchist thinking along these lines.

We feel it is totally wrong of the writer to compare black and white racism as in any way similar, or to call any black mistrust of whites 'racist' at all - implying an ignorance and right-wing attitude on their part, similar to white racism. It underestimates the issues at stake and misrepresents black attitudes and direction in a situation such as an anti racist march.

The letter is also extremely patronising to the unemployed, they are not ignorant and unable to feed themselves. Whilst the writer is at pains to criticize the middle class organising working class people, she rules out a whole section of the working class as unrevolutionary in favour of those aspiring to be middle class.

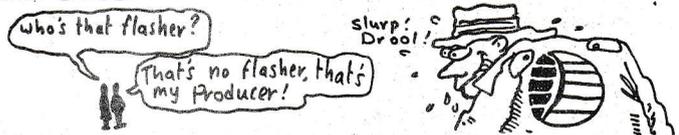
We felt it was better to criticize this letter and print it rather than not use it at all, as it contains many attitudes we wanted to comment on.
NOTTINGHAM ANARCHIST GROUP.

CENTRAL TV'S MORAL "STAND"

AS THOUGH NOTTINGHAM'S PROSTITUTES DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH TO PUT UP WITH FROM PUNTERS, PIMPS AND POLICE, THEY ARE CURRENTLY HAVING TO CONTEND WITH THE SORDID ATTENTIONS OF THE LOCAL PRESS ASWELL.

CENTRAL T.V. IN PARTICULAR IS HAVING A FIELD DAY OVER THE LATEST VICE SQUAD ROUND-UPS - OVER 800 ARRESTS SO FAR THIS YEAR.

IT'S ASTHOUGH THE POLICE HAVE ENLISTED THE HELP OF THE MEDIA TO EMBARRAS PROSTITUTES INTO GIVING UP THEIR "LIFE OF IMORALITY". DRAMATIC, OUT OF FOCUS, LONG DISTANCE SHOTS OF WOMEN GETTING INTO B.M.W.S HAVE ACCOMPANIED THE NEWS REPORTS. IF YOU SEE A MAN IN A MAC SNEAKING OUT FROM BEHIND A TREE ON THE FOREST, POKING SOMTHING LONG AT AN UNSUSPECTING WOMAN, IT'S NOT A FLASHER...IT'S A HACK WITH A ZOOM LENSE!



HEAVY FINES FOR THE PENNILESS.

POLICE WOMEN POSING AS PROSTITUTES TO TRAP CURB CRAWLERS CAUSED A STIR IN THE HYSON GREEN AREA LAST YEAR. NOW POLICE, LOCAL RESIDENTS (LIKE MARY "THEY SHOULD BE IMPRISONED" RAE) AND MAGISTRATES ARE MAKING LIFE EVEN MORE MISERABLE FOR WOMEN FORCED ONTO THE STREETS BY FINANCIAL PRESSURE AND DOMESTIC HARDSHIP.

FINES OF £300 HAVE BEEN IMPOSED- THE LOGIC OF WHICH GETS LOST SOMEWHERE...IF A FINE IS TO PUNISH AND DETER, HOW IS A PROSTITUTE TO GET HOLD OF SUCH MONEY EXCEPT BY PROSTITUTION? SAVE IT OUT OF HER GIRO PERHAPS??

FOLLOWED BY REPORTERS

BUT EVEN WHEN THE COURT CASE IS OVER, SOME PROSTITUTES HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN FOLLOWED HOME BY REPORTERS, AND FILMED AND NAMED ON T.V. ONCE BACK ON THE STREETS LATER THAT AFTERNOON. AS A WOMAN IS SITTING WATCHING JELLY WITH HER KIDS, HER NAME CAN BE FLASHED UP ON THE SCREEN, ALONG WITH THOSE OF OTHER PROSTITUTES FINED THAT MORNING.

THE LAWS AND MORALITY IN THIS COUNTRY MAKE LIFE HARD ENOUGH FOR THESE WOMEN AS IT IS, WITHOUT THEM BEING HELD UP INDIVIDUALLY FOR EVERYONE IN THE CENTRAL REGION TO POINT THE FINGER AT.

WOMEN AS COMMODITY

RECENTLY, HARRY PHIBBS OF THE FEDERATION OF CONSERVATIVE STUDENTS, SAYS THE "SERVICE" OF PROSTITUTION OUGHT TO BE LEGALISED. BUT TO HIM IT'S THE LOGICAL CONCLUSION OF RIGHT WING LIBERTARIAN POLITICS. HE SAID RECENTLY ON CHANNEL FOURS "COMMENT" THAT "PIMPS SHOULD BE TREATED LIKE ANY OTHER ENTREPRENEUR". WITH WOMEN, OF COURSE, AS THE COMMODITY. HE SAYS HE ISN'T MORALISTIC LIKE "PURITANICAL FEMINISTS" WHO HE CLAIM WANT PROSTITUTION TOTALLY ILLEGAL (NOT ME MATE.) SOMEBODY CUT HIS BALLS OFF, PLEASE.....

Laura Biding

FOOD

For all followers of McDonalds: It appears that the chemical used by them to defoliate South American rain forests is none other than Agent Orange! This highly toxic poison was used by the U.S. in Vietnam. The government is now facing many law suits from GIs who handled the stuff and have suffered serious consequences. What must it do to the people its dropped on?

McDonalds is also facing a big law suit brought by the widow of a man who a couple of years ago went crazy and shot dead 20 people before he was stopped. The man was a big eater of McDonalds and it may well have been the additives that altered his brain.

Meanwhile in Nottingham Veggies goes from strenght to strenght. The local Annual General Meeting was enthusiastic in mood as members reaffirmed their commitment to campaigning for greater awareness on the political issues of food.

Veggies are prepared to take their burger stall to all manner of unlikely places to win converts away from the all-too-normal junk food. They even set up shop in the Square for the official royal wedding celebrations. This shows an admirable desire to reach out to people not normally caught in the Alternative dragnet. But it would have been better if Veggies had made clear that they disapproved of the royal junketing; the royal hunting, shooting & fishing; and royalty generally

A.P. KURIAN

Trapped! Dogs turn on police handlers

A POLICEMAN struggles on the ground with a snarling Alsatian during a dogs' display that went wrong yesterday.

Constable Michael Gee, 27, was bitten on the bottom and thigh when he posed as a criminal to show off the police animals and their handlers at Thames Valley Police dog training school in Sulhamstead, Berkshire.

And dog handler PC Keith Whelby, 38, ended up with a bitten hand and wrist as he tried to pull off two Alsatians who got carried away in the excitement.

Both officers were treated in hospital for their wounds, which were not serious.

The three-day trials featured police dogs being put through their paces, tracking and chasing fleeing bandits across the school grounds.

A police spokesman said: "It was rather unfortunate—the two dogs got a bit over zealous."

GOOSE FAIR

THIS YEAR SEES THE 692ND GOOSE FAIR. TRADITIONALLY AN IMPORTANT EVENT LOCALLY IN TERMS OF TRADE AND FESTIVITY, THE FAIR IS NOW A VAST NOISY AND SORDID SPECTACLE.

FOR MANY IT IS STILL AN EXCITING EVENT TO LOOK FORWARD TO, THERE IS MONEY TO BE SPENT AND TO BE MADE. FOR OTHERS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN, IT IS A TIME TO STAY INDOORS AT NIGHT AND TREAD WARILY DURING THE DAY. THE ATMOSPHERE ON THE FOREST IS LIVELY AND EXCITING, FOR THOSE IN LARGE GROUPS WITH PLENTY TO SPEND, BUT TENSE AND INTIMIDATING FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO BE LEFT IN PEACE.

UNLIKE THE ROCK 'N' REGGAE FESTIVAL, THE RACKET THAT CARRIES ON ONTO THE NIGHT IS NOT A FOCAL POINT FOR A COMMUNITY ENTERTAINING ITSELF, BUT THE SOUND OF THE ONLY EVENT IN THE YEAR THAT BRINGS NOTTINGHAM TO WHAT IS NORMALLY REGARDED AS AN AREA WITH NOTHING TO OFFER... EXCEPT FOR

THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT BEFORE THE FAIR BEGINS IS KNOWN LOCALLY AS "RAPE NIGHT", WHEN GROUPS OF MEN ROAM SEARCHING OUT THIS YEAR'S VICTIM.

IN RECENT YEARS, WOMEN IN THE AREA HAVE ORGANISED PATROLS, BOTH TO HIGHLIGHT THE SICK NOTIONS THAT MEN HAVE AND TO WARN THEM FROM ATTACKING. THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE IS WRITTEN BY A WOMAN THAT TOOK PART LAST YEAR AND HAS RESERVATIONS ABOUT HER SUPPORT FOR IT. HOPEFULLY THIS YEAR AN EFFECTIVE AND USEFUL PATROL WILL TAKE PLACE, TO HELP MAKE THE STREETS SAFER FROM MALE VIOLENCE.

L.B.

Goose Fair approaches, and along with it "Rape Night", reminding me of last year's fiasco in Forest Fields.

Some women got together to do something about Rape Night but there wasn't much time to sort out anything such as what we wanted to do and why.

It ended up with a smallish group trapesing around Forest Fields, some wanting to do one thing and others wanting to do another, getting smaller and smaller as more of us got pissed off, and in the end I reckon not achieving anything much. Well, it did make me think about things abit more.

Rape, and other violence against women, happens all the time, not just on Rape Night. And it happens everywhere, even in The Park and Mapperly. Not just in Forest Fields. And usually it happens in people's homes by men known to the woman, not on the street by strangers. I suppose everyone reading this knows that already, and most of the women last year knew it. And yet there were quite a few women, me included, who had made a special trip to Forest Fields (maybe from The Park or Mapperly even!) to come to protest about Rape Night.

There seems to me something wrong with protesting against just Rape Night. It feels like taking the defensive and doing things on someone else's terms. It's like going along with the idea that the Evening Post and all the others who get so disgusted about Rape Night push. That is, that it's a few evil men who rape, that they do it in dark alleyways and streets, that these streets are where working class people live, a large proportion of whom are black... Oh yes! and it's probably something to do with those "awful prostitutes" too, and of course it only happens once a year, or maybe on a few other exceptional occasions when men can't control their lust.

Who is it that benefits from making a big deal about Rape Night?

I don't think Rape Night should be ignored, but I do think that any action taken shouldn't reinforce all the myths about rape. And since Rape Night can only exist because of the myths that are there all the time. Ignoring these attitudes and their causes, and putting all the emphasis on Rape Night I reckon is missing the point.

On Rape Night (and Day) I want to take action against all violence against women. The porn shops the wank off mags, the adverts, the videos etc.

Whatever you think about this, don't lock yourself indoors on Rape Night. Take to the streets, and let other people lock themselves indoors because they're afraid of rampaging women, misdirected spray paint, shattering glass, low flying bricks etc.

If we make more noise than the boys, maybe WE'LL make the headlines and Rape Night will become our night.

RECLAIM RAPE NIGHT

Unsigned

NOTTINGHAM - The Future?

Over the last few weeks, that Guardian of the interests of all Nottingham people - The Evening Post, has been running a campaign entitled 'Nottingham, The Future'. It is about the decay of Nottingham's inner city areas. It highlights the large amounts of wasteland left by the destruction of local industries and the pulling down of Basford and Balloon Woods flats and the decay of housing in areas such as Lenton, Radford, Hysin Green and Forest Fields. It objects not because people have to live in these areas where there are now bomb sites instead of work places and homes, but because it is unsightly and could give Nottingham a bad name and reputation.

The Post's solution to our problems is finally revealed - Private investment to revitalise the economies of these areas - and lower rates. In this way, they say, unused land would be built upon by enterprising businessmen providing jobs and homes. The eyesores would be gone, 'nice' (Barret) houses would materialise and the jobs created would reduce poverty. Ha fucking ha! That sort of solution caused these problems in the first place. When the economic scene gets bumpy (as it always has and always will do under capitalism) these new industries will only sod off again leaving the people who actually live in these areas just where we are now. It is obvious to see whose interests the Post is representing. Those of its owner and his class. The y scream blue murder when it is suggested that Public money be injected directly into these areas. It seems that to be effective it must pass through the sweaty palm of some vulture-faced goon in a suit. (and into his pocket as well)!

The City Council is no better, they want to do the same - only they want to be in control, giving the same money to overpaid bureaucrats to build council owned homes and industrial units. They may have already forgotten but we won't, that they were also responsible for the screw ups in the past. Who built Hysin Green and Basford flats anyway?

No, the problem cannot be solved by those who created it in the first place. There can be no other solution than giving control of these areas to those who live in them, and the resources to do with these areas what we want. Whose city is this anyway? And what makes them think that we want their sorts of jobs - 8 hours of boredom and drudgery, only to see the wealth syphoned away to the boss instead of enriching the lives of those who created it?

No, they won't ever give us control and resources in the areas where we live and work, it's up to us to take it. That's the only solution.

P.S. I hear they also suggested that people plant lots of flowers in their gardens!

RAY ZISTER

MOLESWORTH

16 SEPT.

Two coaches carried about 75 people from Nottingham to the blockade of building contractors vehicles at USAF Molesworth, the proposed cruise missile base in Cambridgeshire. The buses arrived at about 6am and people began to sit in the entrances to the base which had been targetted by peace action network, peace corner and Cockbrook lodge gates, immediately. There were over 100 people in all from all over the country.

After the first quiet half hour it was sussed that much of the construction traffic was being sent to a third gate in convoys along the new road which was purpose built to take the massive cruise missile transporters and their convoys. So the seventy odd people at peace corner moved the blockade to the entrance of the new bypass road. Traffic was stopped here for about twenty minutes. Included in the traffic jam was a bus load of children on their way to school, and although blockaders offered to let them through, they decided to stay because the driver was getting paid anyway and the children thought it was more interesting than school! When this particular blockade was cleared (with a fairly rough hand by the police) they moved back to peace corner gate. By this time about twenty people had successfully stopped all traffic getting into the base at the third gate (Molesworth village). The police were forced to use the peace corner gate again which meant that every time a car or a lorry wanted to use the gate, a hundred or so police were marched through from inside to clear the way.

There were various attempts to climb onto and into lorries and pickups as a way to sneak into the base, but unfortunately all were discovered.



During the six hours of blockading there were six arrests for obstruction because the police seemed reluctant to make many arrests (for fear of publicity perhaps)

Although not one vehicle was prevented from getting into the base, there were many delays. This was because the police vastly out numbered people (they always do). The use of walky talkies to pass information from gate to gate about the movements of police, contractors and blockaders was successful in aiding more constructive and inspired obstruction, and for the first time at Molesworth people actually out manouvered the police and began to block a main road, taking the initiative, and forcing responses from them.

The process of blockading; sitting down in the road, being moved, going back in the road again and moved again repeatedly until threatened with arrest began to seem empty and mechanical eventually...

A DAY AT MOLESWORTH or WHY THE PEACE MOVEMENT FAILS. (. . . it goes on and on and on)

Could it be a sense of complacency that turns anti-cruise actions into jolly fiascos. What is the point of trying to cooperate with the police? - keep the mood friendly - just sing at the police & they might perhaps throw in their badges and join you? I think a police-persons first reaction would be to have a good laugh - and well they might because it must look so funny. How are 'peace' protesters to be taken seriously when they insist on tactics like these. Of course, its all much nicer and nobody is as likely to get their heads kicked in, but its too much of a compromise. If its something you take very seriously, why encourage people to make fun of you?

The people who take part know at the outset that the effects of the action are going to be limited, as always, by the pigs. We know exactly where they stand and what their attitudes are - anything they say to put this out of your mind is simply P.R. - an attempt to lull the enemy into a false sense of security through "we're nice people really" ploys. Why render actions totally ineffectual by going along with it? Frankly, the "Forces" patronising attitude makes me heave - I don't see the point in encouraging their smarm. It's just masking the issues. It's not a game - it never has been. Everybody should remember that and stop playing.

PUNCH & JUDY

TNT

21 SEPT.

Just outside Leicester, at Syston/Thurmaston, there's a TNT depot. TNT are the firm that distribute Murdoch's News International rags. In furtherance of the dispute over the move to Wapping



and the sacking of 5000 printworkers, a support group in Leicester organised a 'picket' of the TNT depot. We heard that the Trades Council were organising transport from Nottingham. In the event, only 10 people from Nottingham turned up at the picket. And 9 of those were Anarchists! If all the words written in the so-called revolutionary press calling for solidarity with the sacked workers were laid end to end, they'd probably reach to Wapping and back. But when it comes to doing something, what happens? Trots obviously prefer their beds to Class Struggle.

In the event 45 pickets failed dismally in their attempt to stop distribution of the Sunday Times and News of the World to the Midlands. Most of the people took time enough off from selling papers to each other to shout "SCAB" at the passing trucks, and that was it. Sufficient, no doubt, to sew another campaign ribbon on the red flag but a completely worthless activity. The only people to even step off the pavement were anarchists. One of them was nicked and charged with assault.

A few days earlier I had been at the Molesworth Blockade: at the (main) Peace Corner gate there had been 40 blockaders against 100 police. Yet every vehicle was stopped, some by as many as 20 minutes. Now at Syston, the tables were turned, this time the police were heavily outnumbered. And what happened?? Nothing. Its about time that 'the left' learned a few lessons from the 'pacifists' they seem to despise so much. That and a bit more creativity and commitment might turn completely meaningless gestures into something Thatcher, Murdoch and co. might lose some sleep about.

MR. PLOD

IN SICKNESS

AND IN WEALTH

If you have ever had to wait days for a doctor's appointment, spend hours in a hospital waiting room or suffer for months before having an operation (at the beginning of this year, approximately 600,000 people were waiting for NHS operations), perhaps you have wondered if our rulers and bosses are prepared to put up with the same conditions. Ill-health is often caused by poverty; those least likely to fall sick because of bad housing or nutrition or dangerous jobs are, of course, the same people who can by-pass the effects of NHS cuts to obtain immediate and luxurious treatment.

The NHS has its dehumanising hierarchies, regimentation, secret files, contempt for women and insistence on a drugs and surgery approach. It is far from the health care system we would choose. Yet most of us have to resort to it at various points in our lives. However, cutbacks and privatisation mean that the treatment we receive becomes less and less adequate. This is inevitable when those who have the power to make decisions affecting our health also have the money to escape the consequences of their decisions. If the ruling classes had to use the NHS rather than being able to buy private treatment, we would all be provided with a better standard of care. But they don't want money spent on health care for all. They'd rather keep it to ensure priority treatment for themselves.

BUPA

It makes all the difference.

And private health care doesn't come cheap. More and more of the rich are using BUPA (which even owns some of its own hospitals) or other medical insurance schemes. Rich scum who are paying their own BUPA fees are forking out about £250 a year (each) if they're under fifty and live outside London. This does not cover alternative healing, nursing homes, private visits to a GP, health checks, appliances, routine dental treatment or normal maternity - so you have to be pretty rich to be a private patient, even with insurance. Most top companies now offer medical insurance as a perk to their already overpaid executives. BUPA has 35,000 company schemes (3,000 new companies joined in 1985 alone) and these are eligible for tax relief.



IMMORTALITY

Private establishments in return are geared to the "needs of the businessman". The Park Hospital, near Burntstump Park between Nottingham and Mansfield, offers secretarial services, photocopying and telex in addition to four operating theatres, fine wines and nurses vetted for their looks. And no bare wards or strict regulations for these sick people - beds are in single rooms with telephone, shower, colour TV and video. Visitors can come any time of the day and can arrange to stay overnight. This three year old hospital has facilities for intensive care, open heart surgery, in vitro fertilisation, physiotherapy and everything else. Short of immortality, there's nothing money can't buy.

Slightly down-market from the Park Hospital is the Convent Hospital on Mansfield Road. It's a registered charity (!) which will let you have a single room and bath for a mere £135 per day.

QUEUE JUMPING

The University of Sheffield Medical School Report estimated that every eighth person admitted for in-patient elective surgery was treated in the private sector. They jumped queues, which meant that patients who couldn't afford private surgery had to wait even longer.

Paybeds are also available in NHS hospitals such as the City and the Queens. This shows clearly that private patients are stealing from the rest of us - these beds should be available for all who need them, regardless of income.

FREE DAILY PAPERS

After your operation, perhaps you'd like to convalesce. Nottingham is littered with private nursing homes. You pays your money and you makes your choice. The Firs Nursing Home (previously an NHS maternity home) on Mansfield Road, for example, costs between £190 and £230 per week. Or there's the Apricot Nursing Home in West Bridgford. This was opened in April this year by popular parasite Kenneth Clarke MP, and guests at the opening included such caring people as Richard Ottaway MP and two Tory city councillors. (MB Crowe and BA Marshall.) "No expense has been spared on creating a relaxing and comfortable atmosphere". This "true home from home" which "continues to give not only the finest quality and luxury but safety and peace of mind" (and free daily papers) can cost a mere £240 a week.

Private enterprise also flourishes in other health related fields. If you don't want to mix with the plebs in an NHS ambulance, ring BN Gibson Ltd for an ambulance geared to your requirements. "Professional care for you and your family" can be bought from nursing agencies such as the British Nursing Association, who will send nurses or auxiliaries to your home as you specify. One qualified (i.e. NHS-trained!) nurse in your home daytimes for a week will cost about £400.

RIOT POLICE

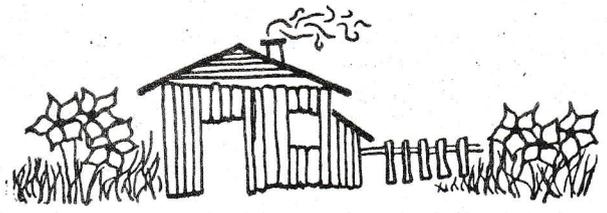
These are some of the privileges which are being bought by the same people who are engineering the decline of the NHS. Quality health care should be available for anyone who needs it, but ordinary people have to put up with deteriorating services and long queues. We all have a responsibility for our own bodies and should take care to keep them healthy, but we also all live in a world which cares more for profit than for people. Pollution, cars, junk food, tobacco, radiation and riot police are just some examples of things which keep capitalists rich and in power, and make us sick. We need health care, and until we create anything better the NHS is all we've got. We must defend it from those who profit from our ill-health as they profit from the rest of our lives. Whilst they're getting richer running their own establishments, whilst they can afford to by-pass the NHS, they're not going to give a shit about its decline. Whilst there is capitalism, there will be capitalist medicine. Society itself is sick; revolution is the only cure; but in the meantime, who's going to mend our broken bones? The rich and powerful steal their wealth from us and they steal their health from us. How much longer are we going to let them get away with it?



HOW RELEVANT ARE THE IDEAS OF "GREEN POLITICS" TO ANARCHIST THINKING TODAY? IS "GREEN ANARCHISM" THE WAY FORWARD, OR IS IT HOPELESSLY ROMANTIC AND OUT OF DATE?

It's too easy to slag off the Greens as drippy, hippy reformists and leave it at that: so I thought I'd better say it in more detail.

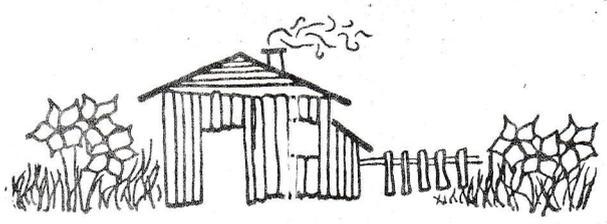
Just for the record there are some obvious pros to the Greens: I too would like food that wasn't dripping in pesticides and things of that ilk. However, this seems to have mutated into whole-food shops selling "organic spuds" at 20p each (or so it feels). So, out with the long knives.



As a Gloucestershire lad, I'm always pissed off with the endless romanticism of the Greens towards Rural Life (although this is more true of the broader Green Movement than Green Anarchists). Modern agriculture is the reserve of either the five-acre family farm conned into huge loans for machinery by banks, or the "Business Farmer". This is usually some git who employs farmhands to do all the work while he rakes in the cash, which is topped by the EEC's subsidy racket.

As for the farmhands the actual rural workers their position hasn't changed for the past 50 years. They have no union (and I doubt many farmhands would want to join one). They're the lowest paid workers in the country and have the dubious honour of working in the most dangerous unhealthy, boring -- you try driving a tractor up and down a field all day -- shitty (literally), industry in the land.

Green Anarchists would probably be better off helping farmhands organise themselves than writing glowing eulogies to organic tomatoes.

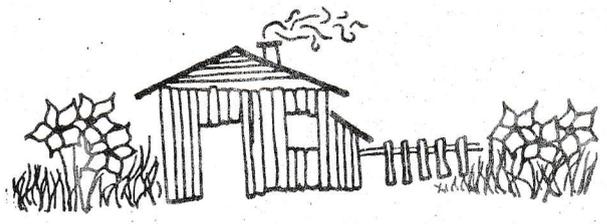


Also Greens have a nasty urge to stay aloof from the working-class as though ordinary people who should be sneered at for being ignorant flocks of TV-addicted sheep.

The most blatant show of this "We-don't-want-to-get-our-hands-dirty-by-mixing-with-them" attitude

was with the "WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PRINTERS" editorial in the magazine Green Anarchist (No 11, April/May 1986).

We're all aware of the shortcomings of the Printers' Dispute at Wapping, but since when did the shortcomings of the Peace Convoy stop GA hailing them as heroes?



GA would have us believe in their "Revolution in the Periphery" -- a half-baked theory where we all take to the hills and indulge in things that GA are still trying to think of. Probably it'll be eating Organic Tomatoes. Lots of them. Among the groups GA name as instigators/participants of this revolution are The Convoy (surprise, surprise), Bikers (!!!), Survivalists (--neo-fascists and week-end Rambos), and the Radical Greens. In fact the only mass grouping GA point to are the young unemployed. If Green Anarchist want to shut themselves off from mass support, it's their own graves... etc. In the very same issue of GA, the example given for this revolution is the fall of the Roman Empire. GA say it was due to the people leaving the towns and going to live off the land; and nothing to do with the fact that hordes of Goths, Visigoths, Vandals and Huns and were kicking several shades of shit out of the Eastern Legions.

So, GA look to ancient times, conveniently ignoring all the millions of changes that have occurred in the meantime. The rise of the Monarchy, the Vikings, the Normans, the Tebbits, the end of the feudal system, the rise and rise of Parliament, the birth of Capitalism, the Industrial Revolution, et al.

Green Anarchist should be looking at recent history for lessons and examples. The lessons of Russia 1917 (Before Uncle Lenin hijacked the Revolution) and Spain 1936 (Before the Stalinists and the Liberals put the boot in). Industrial workers collectivizing the factories, Rural Workers collectivizing whole villages, people waving the old Red'n'Black, Anarcho-Syndicalists going misty eyed and reaching for the Whisky bottle, and a whole host of much more practical things.



PEASANTS ON A COLLECTIVIZED FARM IN THE SPANISH REVOLUTION

Of course, I'm not implying that we live in pre-revolutionary times, but Green Anarchists should review their theory of "How To..." drastically. We don't live in a feudal system anymore -- we exist in an industrial, capitalist society.

Green Anarchists fail to see how the state functions -- counter culture strategy is a back-burner. They should learn fast.

PHIL HEDGEHOG

WHOSE BENEFIT?

The place: Hyson Green Boy's Club, the time: Friday evening, Sept 12. The masses gathered to see Patti O' Doors and Fieldwork play and to support the 'Justice for Mineworkers Campaign'. Pity Cancer Research weren't the beneficiaries...

It seems that the assembled 'right-on' Left scene in Nottingham, like everywhere else probably, is still into carcinogenic cash crops in a big way, regardless of those who aren't, or who actually can't survive long in a room and have to cut their way through because of the smoke.

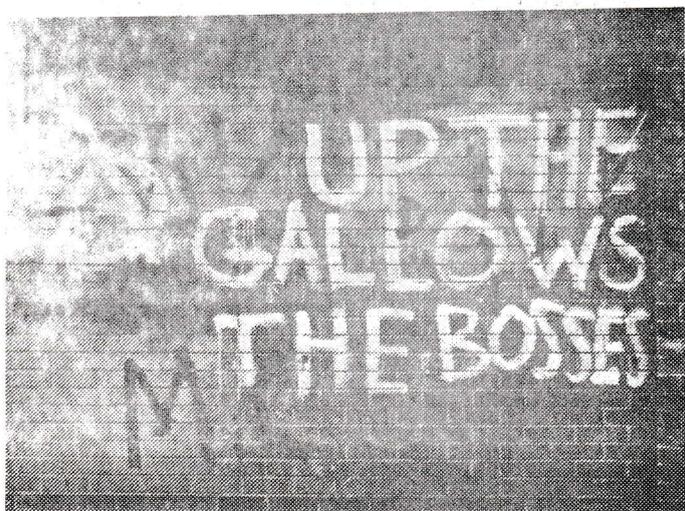
I don't need to go into the statistics, because most smokers know them already (and anyway, I don't see why it should be my responsibility to look them up, when I don't smoke). Except, that is, for the one about 'side smoke'. When you (absent mindedly) wave your cigarette in someone's face, the smoke she or he breathes in, because it has not been drawn through the cigarette and filter (if there is one), contains far more carcinogens than the filtered smoke. Most smokers never get a lungful of this smoke, cos the heavier tars in it pretty soon settle out and don't hang around long in the atmosphere. Most smokers, as I've mentioned, already know what the hazards are, and most want to give up. It's not the giving up that's the problem but the reasons why you smoke in the first place. Sort them out and a smoke-free life is easy... or would be.

Smoking affects everybody who comes near it. Only one fag is enough to turn a non-smoking room into a smoking room, and it's just tough on the rest of its occupants. Now usually I can put up with a moderate amount of smoke, but that Miners' Benefit was BAD. A couple of times I had to escape outside to let my eyes recover. It didn't benefit me.

When is the left going to realise that the revolution begins in the smoking room - that, apart from the political, economic and other 'right-on' reasons, taking responsibility for what you inflict on everybody around you has to be a fundamental part of change. And that means: **THINK ABOUT OTHERS BEFORE YOU START TO LIGHT UP YOUR NEXT FAG!**

I'm not guilt tripping you, I'm just an angry non-smoker.

WILLIAM TELL



HYSON GREEN FORUM

Two of us went to a meeting organised by the Hyson Green Forum. We walked in a bit late having had trouble finding the place, and looked around to find the only seats available next to two uniformed coppers (on duty?): Here's a quote from the handout;

'The Forum first met in December 1985 as a result of unrest after the last Goose Fair. Since then we have met five times and a variety of subjects have been discussed including the future of the flats site and local unemployment. We exist to enable groups, representatives and residents of the Hyson Green and Forest Fields areas to meet, share information and take steps to bring about change in our community.'

The discussion centred around the Hyson Green Law Centre, and how to keep it open in view of cut backs by the Inner City Programme, which is their main funding body. The main problem being that the Community Advice Bureau was also in direct competition with them for the same funding. In principle it was put over as a case of either 'they go' or 'we go'.

As Anarchists there are points about the ways this group organises, and issues it sees as important, that we found very difficult to agree with. Firstly, they see C.P. schemes as a 'palliative that works'. I don't see how a scheme whose primary aim seems to be to reduce the governments unemployment figures, without paying people any more money, is helping to alleviate a situation. -- I'll agree that it isn't curing it!

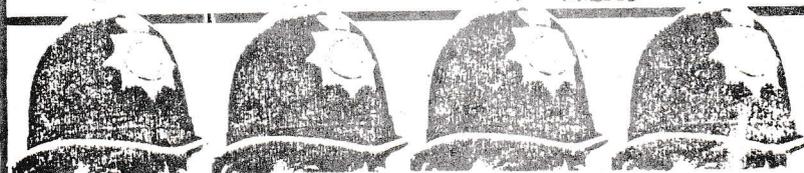
Secondly, it seemed from their discussions that both the CAB and the Law Centre provided facilities which were both necessary and different. The CAB providing more of an information service in which people then went off to sort out the problem themselves, and the Law Centre providing help especially for people having problems with the DHSS and racism, but giving more individual attention and follow up to their clients.

Instead of an attitude in which both discussed the matter and came to some kind of compromise, the attitude pervaded that it was necessary to get popular back up so that the Law Centre would get the money. - Nobody from CAB was present at the meeting. They also said that if they did not get the funding the Law Centre would close. There are 3 full-time workers at the centre, one of whom is a solicitor. It goes without saying that a large proportion of the money must go towards their wages. It seems baffling that people's commitment to something suddenly drops when they no longer have a healthy wad of notes in their pockets. The government will not help us to continue groups that it does not see as necessary, we cannot therefore depend on their funding to keep these centres open. Surely there are ways in which such places could be kept open on a part-time basis with fund-raising, rather than closing them down completely. This does not mean that I don't believe that people should have a decent living standard, but when the money's gone, it quickly shows where people's commitments lie.....

Thirdly, it was suggested that a petition should be made and that groups should sign it. Well, this seems o.k., because we wanted the centre to remain open. But the final straw for me, was when somebody asked the coppers if they wanted to sign it -- obviously believing that they would hold some weight in benefitting the cause! The two officers seemed pretty amenable to the idea, but their sergeant got a bit pissed off; 'We're not supposed to get involved in anything political.'. How can the police be seen as important when they uphold the government, and are directly in opposition to many of the problems of the people going to the Law Centre?

All in all it was quite a depressing meeting. I believe that it is important for members of the community to meet together to discuss problems, and how to overcome them. But when the people have such a blinkered view of what is around them I find it extremely difficult to compromise.

Cyril & Flo
Masses



REVIEWS

"LISTINGS" 1 PRODUCED BY THE RAINBOW CENTRE.

10p DONATION.

AVAILABLE FROM THE BLACK RAVEN BOOKSTALL AND THE USUAL OTHER OUTLETS.

"Listings" is a bi-monthly magazine designed to operate as a diary of events and meetings held by "campaigning groups and voluntary organisations".

It also invites articles by and about local groups.

Who these groups and organisations are depends very much on your definition of "alternative". It contains little mention of any left wing, class, black or women's politics. It would be good if this changed as the magazine becomes more established and the editors expand their priorities outside Nottingham's tight-knit and middle class C.N.D./ Green/ Vegetarian/ Recycling circles. On the other hand, as the magazine is M.S.C. funded, it will have to watch how 'political' it is. It must surely be possible to fund something as useful as a listings magazine without having to go to the government for money. It doesn't seem to make practical or political sense.

Hopefully, "Listings" will prove popular though, and prove as useful to groups and individuals as it aims to be.

L.B.

OVERCOMING HOMOSEXUALITY (CONFESSIONS OF TWO DEVIANTS) PERFORMED BY "IT'S JUST A PHASE PRODUCTIONS", AT THE ICC ON SEPT 12th

A success at the Edinburgh Fringe, this play consists of performances by two gay men describing their lives and being gay. By picking episodes from their childhoods and teenage years, and right up to the present day, they present a powerful statement on gay love and the fears and practical problems of coming out of the closet. We learn of Jamie's crushes on other boys at school, and of Darren's "double life", on the street straight, but living it up in the gay clubs in Manchester.

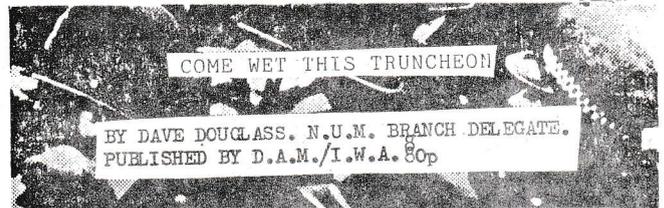
It is both chilling and very funny. Using slides and taped voices and music, some horrific reactionary statements on Homosexuality are pounded into the audience in much the same way that the same message is hammered home everywhere in everyday life. But then some bits are so laughable that the audience cannot hold back. But as Jamie and Darren explained afterwards, you can tell what kind of people are in the audience by the laughter: what gays found side-splitting would often be missed entirely by straight people, who would nevertheless find other parts funny.

This is what gives "Overcoming Homosexuality" its appeal: it speaks to both straights and gays - there is something for everybody.

The sad news is that they've stopped performing it now. The good news, though, is that they've been given a grant to make a film version. So hopefully it'll be available for a wider audience. They're based in Leicester, so perhaps they'll even come back to Nottingham with a video. I hope so.

Many thanks to Nottingham Lesbian and Gay Community Centre Co-operative Society and "Gay Nottingham" for getting it together.

William Tell



Since the miners returned to work there's been a lot written about the strike, the left have been busy telling us (and the mining communities) how they should have done it and the lessons to be learnt for the future, others have concentrated on the civil liberties aspects of the strike - many of them coming to conclusions that the anarchist movement has been warning of for years. Come and wet this truncheon goes beyond the empty rhetoric of the left and glows with realism, a NUM branch delegate Dave Douglass's account is based upon his own experience and that of other men and women in the coalfield. People for whom the class struggle is an every day reality, not a political theory wrapped in the liberal middle class smugness that permeates so much of the anarchist movement in this country. The state was determined that the strike wouldn't succeed they used many of their tools, to their utmost. But it is the vengeance with which the police/army carried out their duties that is both the main thread of this pamphlet and one of the most telling aspects of the struggle. The way the police acted made it impossible to see a time when they remember their class identity and return to the correct side of the class line.



The accounts given are awesome, they are awesome without being sensationalised, even I found myself having to stop and remember that these are real people, real lives - not some horror story of a futuristic world. That the men and women of the coalfield stood and fought for so long in the face of the state forces is a testament to the power of people to organise together to defend their lives and their communities.

Come and wet this truncheon is no comprehensive guide to the events in the miners strike, it is a brief account of some of the events which happened to some of the people, there are many experiences still untold, but for those who fought in the dispute these events will be with them forever, for thousands of people the miners strike was the time the fact that we aren't being 'policed by consent' was brought home to them - at the end of a truncheon, a riot shield, a road block or in their home. I'd strongly recommend this pamphlet, published by DAM/IWA to one and all - especially those in the anarchist movement who have doubts about supporting the miners/ printers/silent night strikers maybe the harsh end of the class struggle in writing will shake them from their middle class day dreaming. And when you've read it encourage those who still believe the police are here 'to protect us' to read it. Maybe two quotes from the pages of Come and wet this truncheon will form a fitting end to my ramblings. "Whoever it was who said "if they come for me in the night, then they will come for you" in the morning...." was dead right. We've had some of it, now I believe they are looking for you".

"Perhaps your faith in the guardians of law and order is too deep to be shaken by this small pamphlet. You may one day have it shaken in a different manner by those you so implicitly trust".

Review by Ste.R.Cleer.

Available from Black Raven Books

ISCUMBAGSI

Scumbags of the month? Absolutely no contest: the prize must go to Molesworth Peace Camp. It seems that campers there have been upset not so much by the three rapes that have happened there, but by the outrage from other sections of the peace movement. Campers have said that they just want to get back to being a normal Peace Camp: they have picketed Peace News for daring to publicize the rapes; they have threatened legal action against Greenham women; and on top of all that they're trying to make rape legal!!! Molesworth Peace Camp are introducing "consent forms"! Visitors who wish to stay at the camp will be asked(?) to sign a form consenting to sex (at any time) with their 'partner'. Rape in marriage is already legal. But that's not to say it doesn't happen. 'Consent Forms' will do nothing to prevent rape, but it will mean that Molesworth Peace Camp can close its eyes even more tightly against the war that is going on all around us.

A recent Central TV programme on Aids included a contribution by a local member of 'Moral Rearmament', an organisation that makes Ghengis Khan look positively liberal. Among the more moderate of his wittering was that "homosexuals ought to be shot". If you want to tell this loony what you think of him, he can be contacted at his firm:
Richard Hawthorne
Business & Publicity Printing
Palm Street
New Basford
Nottingham. Tel: 701421

Flushed with the success of the recent 'Million minutes for Peace' campaign, planning is now going ahead for a much more ambitious project. It is to be called '40 million minutes for peace'. The City Council, who sponsored the first project, have been joined by the County Council, the Chamber of Commerce, the Trades Council, many Churches and the Government in this exciting new venture. The idea is that each participant should donate 40 million minutes for peace, during which time they will pray, meditate, or think meaningful thoughts. They will not take part in any confrontation. Since the time donated approximates to the normal lifespan, these people will pose no threat at all to the existing order. Poverty, oppression, racism, sexism, waste and pollution will still exist, but there won't be any fighting. Now, won't that be nice?

This next item should perhaps been in the Letters column. But I think its more at home here.

Dear NAN

I was just wondering - did Veggies pay for the advertising space in last months issue? And will everybody get the chance to respond to letters concerning them in the very same issue, as Laura Bhorning did? Just in case I don't - sorry for being self-righteous/any inaccuracies.
Yours I. Masmartarse.

Always eager to bring you news of local initiatives, I was hoping to do a review of the latest copy of NOTTINGHAM EXTRA, a publication with whose views I do not wholeheartedly agree but which is, nevertheless, a useful contribution to the local political scene. However, the only outlet I can trace is Mushroom whose portals I cross on risk of arrest. So, no review. A pity, and I thought that nice Mr Sheffield was after a wider interest.

I am beginning to be swayed in favour of the anti-flyposting group. Something as ugly as recent flyposting by the SWP and RCP deserves to be ripped down! These groups specialise in two types of poster. The first is mass-produced national poster advertising some demo or group in London (or some other place more than 100 miles away). These are often stuck up in multiple, all the better to dominate the scene. The design of these posters is worse than dreadful, but it shines way above the other type. These are the ones where a spindly hand outlines the barest details of a meeting beneath a printed masthead of the (national) group. Is it really surprising that your posters get defaced, ripped down, have masses clamouring for their removal? Lets have more imagination, more creativity. Lets have posters that are worth defending. Or are your ideas as boring as your posters. And another thing: come the revolution all those anti-social elements who cover other posters will be shot against the wall where the infringement took place.

Weep for Brandon Bravo! The poor old thing (Tory MP for Nottingham South) found the beds in London's Carlton Club too uncomfortable - so he bought his own and moved it in. We say: he's bought his bed, let him die in it (soon).

In applying for a court order to evict protesters from their land Hazelton Laboratories presented an interesting item of evidence; a copy of this humble organ. But where did they come across it? Written across the paper in a clear hand is 'Mushroom June 86'. No doubt the paper was bought by the police in Nottingham and then circulated to all perhaps interested parties. The only worrying thing is that the only other copy of that issue sold in Mushroom went to a MOD plod at Chilwell. I wonder what else they buy? Is there anyone reading this who isn't an agent of the state?

A few weeks ago a certain anarchist (an advocate of the individual-situ-nihilist position of "if it moves, destroy it, and if it doesn't move destroy it as well") engaged in two quite ferocious arguments against the suggestion that there was any place for cars in a revolutionary society. He argued that all cars should be trashed and that the owners of anything larger than a Cortina should be strung up without delay. Imagine the surprise of my informants, then, when they saw the very same large hypocrit riding in style from the anarchist camp in Sheffield back to Nottingham in the passenger seat of a Rolls Royce. There is a rumour that the driver was subjected to non-stop anarchist abuse for the whole of the 40 miles. Personally, I doubt it.

Things are, it seems, not as democratic as they might be in the local Anti-Apartheid branch. Recently a general meeting was told it had no power over the executive committee and was unable to reverse, or even debate, any decisions. As it happens a reading of the AA constitution shows this not to be so. But Stalinists are not beyond using deceit to impose their lust for power in democratic organisations. May I suggest that members of Nottm. AA take any assertions from any member of the Communist Party with an extremely large pinch of salt.

Finally. Welcome to Nottingham, Wildcat. I hope you soon settle in and find something to do. All contributions, information welcome. Bring out your dirt. Bring out your dirt!!

COUN XXX

LESBIAN + GAY

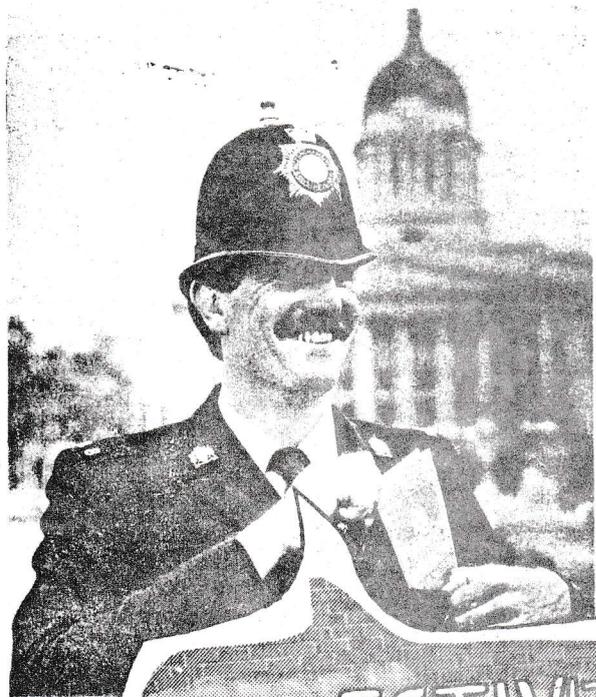


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CONTACT US IF YOU'D LIKE US TO DO A BOOKSTALL AT YOUR MEETING OR EVENT.

As well as a range of political books, pamphlets, magazines papers and periodicals (Many local) we stock records (including the ever popular "DIG THIS" Miner's benefit album) and a range of badges and stickers.

Lest we forget the countless children burned alive in napalms fire
Lest we forget the dead civilians lying tangled in the wire
And the faces of the women raped and shattered to the core
It's not only men in uniform who pay the price of war
Lest we forget.



For Remembrance Sunday, November 9th

The photo shows women after the fascist bombing of Malaga,
Spain, 1937.