

# Diary

## March

- ? Trespass against Trident, (anti CIA), 0378 213 889
- 5 Red Rambles Walk. Edale and Kinder Scout (6-8 miles), Meet Edale Railway Station Cafe. 11 am.
- Sat. 11 Advance to Party, all day fezzie against the CIA all proceeds to Advance Party/Liberty. YMCA theatre, opposite BR station, 12 til 12, £3. Babble, Strop, FBI, Spirala, info, food stalls.
- Tues. 14 Anniversary action at Solsbury Hill, Swainswick, nr. Bath. 11 am.
- Tues. 14 Gaining Ground Forum, LETS, co-ops etc., The Vine, St. Stephens Centre, Bobbersmill Rd., 10am - 2pm. 249700.
- Fri. 17 Critical Mass 4, Nottingham. 5.15 pm, Market Square - Reclaim the Streets.
- Sun. 19 4th annual sponsored walk for Guatemalan street children, 11am George Hotel pub, Yourgreave, Derbys. 0115 9582369.
- Tues 21 Beltane DIY conference, t.b.c., Cardiff, contact Freedom Network (see also April 3/4/5)
- Wed. 22 Portillo 3, trial of activists at Sheffield magistrates court.
- Sat. 25 Horse and Hound Ball. Hotel Metropol, NEC, B'ham. 0562 700 086.
- Thurs 30 Benefit gig. Stalingrad/The Nerves/Bob Tilton/Substandard, Skyy Club, Alfreton Rd, Nottingham.

## April

- 3/4/5 Beltane DIY conference, t.b.c., Cardiff, contact Freedom Network (see also March 21)
- Sat. 15 International Day of Action Against McDonalds. Everywhere.
- Sat. 15 Mass action against foxhunt point-to-point meeting nr. Ashford in Kent, in protest at CIA, info 0233 633037.
- Mon. 17 Mass Civil Disobedience, London. Info CND 071 607 3616.
- Fri. 21 Critical Mass 5, Nottingham. 5.15 pm, Market Square - Reclaim the Streets
- Sun. 23 Major land trespass. SAE to Land Reform, box E, 111 Magdalen Rd., Oxford OX4 1RQ. email: eartharc@gn.apc.org

## May

- 12/13/14 DIY conference, Manchester. Contact Freedom Network.

## Free Information Network

Aberdeen FIN, 36 Buchan Rd., Torry, Aberdeen, AB1 3SW.  
 Fun Times, 101a Kings Cross Rd., London WC1, Tel. 081 806 5777  
 GuilFIN, PO Box 217, Guildford, Surrey, Surrey, GU2 6FF  
 Leeds Freedom Network, 16 Sholebrook Ave., Leeds LS7 3HB.  
 London FIN, c/o 99 Torriano Ave., London NW5 2RX.  
 Never Never FIN, 8 Campbell Rd., Southsea, Hants.  
 NottFIN, Box FIN, 180 Mansfield Rd., Nottingham NG1 3HW.  
 OxFiend, Box A, 111 Magdalen Rd., Oxford OX4.  
 ShefFIN, 201 Crookes Valley Road, Sheffield S10 1BA, Twl. 0114 267 1200.  
 South Wales FIN, c/o York, The Coffee Bar, Grassroots, 58 Charles St., Cardiff EC1.  
 TVFIN, c/o Rising Sun, 30 Silver St., Reading RG1  
 Walsall FIN, c/o 17 Newhall House, Newhall St., Caldmore, Walsall WS1 3DY.

## Road Protest Directory Activists required urgently

M77, Glasgow 0141 636 1924  
 M65, Preston 0860 728244  
 A30, Exeter 0161 8617895  
 Road Alert! 0392 438015  
 0392 424469  
 01635 521770

# NottFIN

# 11



*Fuck the civil, let's get disobedient!*

**Nottingham Free Information Network**  
**Please take one**





# Green consumerism

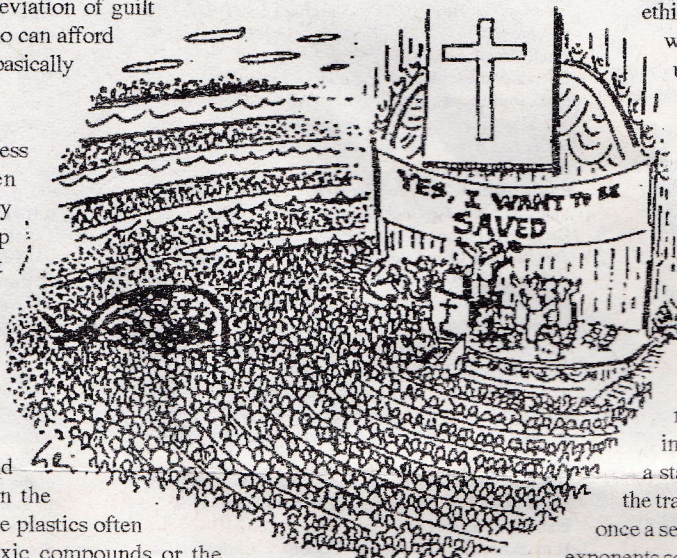
## Don't believe the hype



Many people are devoting their time and energy nowadays to green politics and, on a lifestyle, level to recycling and the use and encouragement of more environmentally friendly products. Basically the argument goes that we the consumer, by boycotting the non-recycled or more environmentally damaging products will force the producer to alter their ways and the world will be a happier place. The logic of the first part of this strategy is difficult to argue with and on the face of it, the result has been an ever growing range of green products on our shop shelves. What you can argue about however is whether the world has become a happier or better place as a result of this green consumerism.

I would argue that apart from the alleviation of guilt which is felt by the middle classes who can afford to indulge in green consumerism, it has basically been business as usual.

After some initial hesitation, the business community have embraced green consumerism wholeheartedly. Industry specifically employs people to think up new markets, different things we didn't know we needed until we saw the advert and here they have a whole new market handed to them on a plate. Whole ranges of products are magically greened overnight. In a vast number of cases the green product is a sham, in reality very little better and often worse on the environment than the product it has replaced. Biodegradable plastics often degrade from inert substances to toxic compounds or the manufacture of these 'friendly' products is anything but clean (e.g. cellophane). Some products are just relabelled and repackaged as green. The same old shit in a different packet.



Picture the scene, nice suburban middle class couple wracked with guilt, for they secretly know the part they play in the scheme of things although they won't admit it to themselves. "Darling let's replace our car with a new Ford Twyford, it does 5 more miles to the gallon and it's got a catalytic converter". The reality - there is more damage done to the environment during the manufacture of a car than during its subsequent trips to the hypermarket or wherever; catalytic converters pollute the local environment with organometallic compounds which can cause cancer and they melt and become useless the first time you put your foot down on the motorway; More cars = more roads = more cars = more asthma etc. etc. At the end of the day the 'nice' couple have a new car and green credential (status symbol). Their guilt is relieved ("at least we're doing something positive"). As green consumers they have the illusion of power their 'green' decision has given them and the motor industries who encourage these illusions and the guilt trip, their profits soar.

The above is just an example of the hoax of green consumerism. There definitely are products which have less impact on the environment and it is possible to live so that you personally have less of a direct impact. It makes sense to reuse and recycle in your daily life. It makes sense to eat organic if you can afford it. Permaculture - great idea. LETS schemes are a brilliant

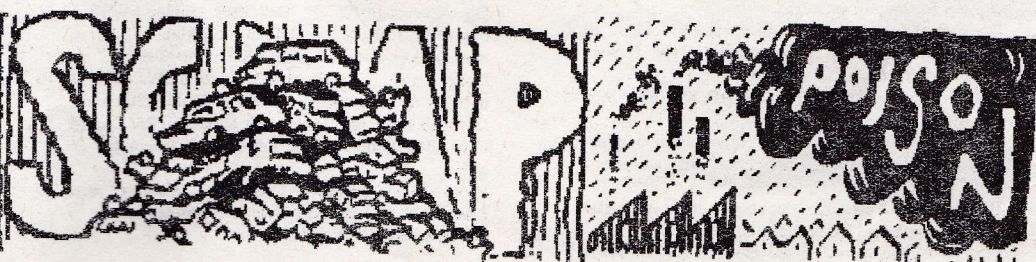
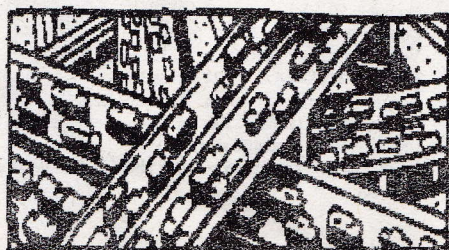
manifestation of the DIY culture. But, what are your motives for your actions what is the real result (not the one the advert tells you) of your lifestyle and do not accept the view they want you to accept - that you are solving the problems facing this planet and the life on it. Whilst there are still resources that can be exploited, mined, felled unsustainably or with the media facade of sustainability they will be exploited by any means necessary with the connivance of whatever government is in power. 'Sustainable development' will only be forced on capitalism by the exhaustion of natural resources, by which time it will be too late.

The same arguments and criticisms can be applied to ethical consumerism, vegetarianism, veganism etc where this involves a lifestyle change which is undertaken with the conscious desire to reform capitalism. That is not to say that these things are not valid in their own right. I write this as a vegan who prefers not to eat corpses and not to buy the products of murderers and exploiters.

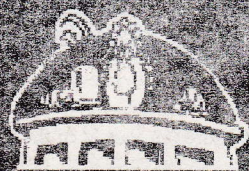
The capitalist system has an uncanny knack of taking the things that oppose it, perverting them and then making a profit from them e.g. punk rock, dance music, green concerns. Your reformist liberal ideals are not such an easily marketable commodity, but they too are incorporated into the system so that you now have a stake in maintaining the status quo. For instance the trades union movement or the Labour movement - once a serious threat to capitalism now two of its greatest exponents sold out the genuine aspirations of the people who wanted to overthrow that system which exploited them. Now our legitimate anger over the destruction of our environment by capitalism is being turned, harnessed and used to prolong and legitimise the activities of this system which is basically flawed. You cannot 'green' capitalism anymore than you can run a humane concentration camp.

Any superficial greening of our lives will either be a con or the result of the exportation of 'the problem' to the third world. The pollution and blatant exploitation with its associated genocide, ecocide, corruption, disease, famine and war will be far away happening to black people and we will put a red nose on our unleaded car to save our consciences every year and kid ourselves that we are part of the solution.

The real problem is capitalism be it state capitalism as we had in the USSR or 'free' market capitalism as we have in the western world. Capitalism must be stopped by any means necessary. Green/environmental/animal rights protest should be about damage limitation in the short term and empowerment with no illusions about the revolutionary change which is the only long term solution. This is not about a change of government to usher in a green socialist or green fascist state. This is about the destruction of the state, the taking back of our lives and our environment from the ruling class. This is about working for true freedom rather than the illusion of it which is paraded in front of us every day. Your green awareness is at best a step on the way to a true understanding of what is going on in your name; at worst it is a blindfold. Take it off. - Dr. Egg







# Prison Survival



The following is based on an extract from the proceedings of a small informal workshop at the DIY conference in mid-December in Sheffield, which were sent to us by "Justice?" in Brighton. With many people facing prison in the near future, we thought it would be useful to put out some information on what to expect when you get there. As we at NottFIN have yet to experience the inside of a prison, although this may change in the near future, we cannot vouch for the accuracy and comprehensiveness of these guidelines and would welcome any further information on prison survival you can send.

**Preparation:** It really does help to be prepared for your sojourn in prison. Females should pack a case before their trial if they think it's a possibility, males however are required to wear regulation clothing.

No toiletries/lighters/food can be taken in. Both phonecards and tobacco, (limit of 200 cigarettes, 2.5 ozs.) are very useful and serve as internal currency. Matches are also very handy. Your cash will be kept in the prison bank. No money is allowed in the cell. Take a few good books.

**Visits:** While on remand, (i.e.: before trial, when you're theoretically "innocent until proven guilty") you're entitled to one visit per day. After the trial/conviction you become a "criminal prisoner" and are entitled to one visit per fortnight or monthly. As a civil prisoner, for example if you are sentenced for breaking an injunction, you are entitled to one visit a day. It is a good idea to ask all your friends to make arrangements/bookings via a central contact (someone you can trust) who can then liaise directly with you/the prison. Otherwise, you may find that there is no space for someone you really want to see.

**Mail:** Everything sent to you will be read and censored (although if it's registered mail it's supposed to be opened in front of you). All letters sent out by you via the prison are meant to be left unsealed so they can be read. (The only exception is mail to your solicitor). It is sometimes possible to get mail out in other ways.

**Standing Orders:** Basically the few rights prisoners have (there aren't many) are laid out in these. You can ask to read a copy but might be better off buying your own (at the prison shop).

When you go in you should be offered a purple "prisoner information pack" which is very useful.

**Newspapers:** If you want to get newspapers, get a friend or prisoner support group outside to place an order at the nearest newsagents to the prison. Most prisons have one newsagent who is allowed to deliver to the prison, ask the prison which one it is. Other magazines and journals etc. can be sent in via subscription as long as they go straight from the subscription department to the prisoner.

**Radios:** Radios are allowed in most prisons. The radio should be battery operated and without an aerial or mains socket. It must only be capable of receiving medium and long wave. Short wave radios are not allowed in any prison. Batteries can normally be bought from the canteen.

**Food:** If you're veggie/vegan or want to receive veggie/vegan food and toiletries in prison you will need to join the vegetarian society or vegan society. The vegan society now does food parcels for vegan prisoners, who are often allowed to cook in their cells. Vegan Society contact Simon Russell (0424) 427393, Vegetarian Society (061) 928 0793.

**Wages:** Whilst inside, you'll receive £2.50 a week pocket money which you can spend at the prison shop on toothpaste, soap, baccy etc. Higher wages are available for working in the prison, e.g. garden or kitchen.

**Section 43:** Life in prison can be tough. In some places you'll be stuck in a cell for 23 hours a day (All prisoners are entitled to 1 hours exercise per day. If it's raining outside, you can still ask for an hour in the gym). Obviously if you don't get on with your cellmates you'll have problems. Try to be as inoffensive as possible when you arrive and don't alienate yourself from other prisoners. If you feel you can't cope, one option is a transfer to a section 43 wing. Bear in mind that the only other people in the wing will be there for their own protection (normally sex offenders) or there for the protection of other prisoners (use your imagination). You are however likely to be mistaken for a usual section prisoner, so be aware and choose this option as a last resort. Once you've been a section 43 prisoner, you won't be able to transfer back into mainstream prison without getting a lot of grief.

Even if you transfer to another prison you'll find that news travels between institutions. It also means that you will be socialising with rapists and child molesters.

**What else?:** Lots of people have been through prison and survived! As long as you're clued up and not unlucky you'll be fine. Everyone agrees that the highlight is all the lasting friends you'll make. Treat it as a learning experience. Remember you are right and you shouldn't be in there. If you want to learn everything you'd need to know about stealing cars and picking locks, you'll probably come out feeling very knowledgeable! At present there are two guides being put together on prison conditions, one by prisoner support groups and one by women in the peace movement. These will list the differences between prisons, no two prisons being the same. You will find that experiences vary.

The prison reform trust provides a free information pack for prisoners: (071) 2789815.

**PAIN (071) 542 3744 can also help with enquiries.**

**Other useful addresses:**

**Release**

169 Commercial St., London E16BW.

Tel. 071 603 8654 (24 h.)

Criminal legal advice, drug counselling and referrals.

**Samaritans**

17 Uxbridge Rd., Slough, Berks. SL1 1SN

Tel. 0753 32713 (24 H.)

Confidential and free service to suicidal and despairing.

**Hyson Green Law Centre**

119 Radford Rd., Nottingham.

Tel. 0115 9787 813

**Liberty** - see contact list.

**Anarchist Black Cross** - see contact list

An excellent book, which can be obtained from your local library is 'From Arrest to Release. The inside/outside survival guide.' This book is written by Shirley Cooklin and published by Bedford Square Press. ISBN 0-7199-1253-9.

Just as we got to press there is a news story that Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, is considering proposals that all the 'privileges' described above will have to be earned by 'good' behaviour, as opposed to removed by 'bad' behaviour as is the case now. These proposals could come into force by the end of the year. This, along with the proposals for compulsory drugs tests will surely blow the already struggling prison system apart.

## MOVE

MOVE (short for Movement, which a revolution assumes) were and still are a radical organisation, started by Afro-Americans to fight for the liberation of all life forms, human and animal. They totally rejected the American Dream and lived communally in Philadelphia; they took control of their own lives.

The reaction of the American state to this was brutal, many are in prison. Mumia Abu-Jamal has been on death row on trumped up charges since the early 1980s. We are also approaching the 10th anniversary of the May 1985 massacre, when the FBI dropped a bomb on a MOVE house, burning alive eleven of the occupants.

MOVE have been largely ignored in this country, a situation which needs rectifying. We need some action in this country to mark the anniversary. For more information or to offer support, contact: **The MOVE Org., PO Box 19709, Phila., PA. 19143, USA. Phone: (215) 387-9955 or Fax: (215) 476-8812.**

Or write to **Governor Robert Casey, Main Capitol Building, Room 225, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA** - calling for the release of MOVE supporter Mumia Abu-Jamal and all MOVE prisoners. Letters from abroad are particularly effective.



## Up yours Michael!

Nottingham sabs are still going out 3 or 4 times a week despite the introduction of the criminal injustice act. Arrests have been few and far between, with the police seeming loathe to implement the act. There are currently only a handful of Nottm. sabs awaiting trial for 'aggravated trespass' in the Nottm./Leics.

area. Derbyshire pigs who seemed a bit keener to implement have dropped the charges against sabs arrested on the Meynell and South Staffs. Foxhounds. So all in all it's business as usual this season with very little difference in tactics compared to before the act. This may change at any time for political or legal reasons, so watch this space.

Nationally, over 100 sabs have now been arrested, with some forces, particularly Northants., being particularly rabid. The rates of arrest seem to be slowing for whatever reason, be it lack of money, willpower or just waiting until early cases have gone all the way through the legal system. We will have to wait and see.

The house of commons recently voted 256-0 in favour of the Wild Mammals Protection legislation which would effectively ban foxhunting etc. if it survives to become law. Most hunt saboteurs have never had any faith in our 'democratic process' and so we are not holding our breath. Whatever the eventual result, there will still be shooting and fishing in need of disruption. Don't wait for politicians, you don't need to - Get active.

If you are interested in sabbing in the Nottm. area contact **Nottm. Hunt Sabs, Box J, 10 Heathcote St., Nottm.**

**Stop press:** On the weekend of 25/26 Feb. a series of attacks took place on the homes of hunt saboteurs in the Liverpool and Manchester area. Masked individuals carrying baseball bats broke into houses smashed up the houses and beat people. We believe that these people were linked to the blood-junkie community in Cheshire and we further believe that the police gave them the addresses. No arrests are expected unless the police arrest those attacked which is a typical reaction. We will not be put off, if anything this will escalate action against these scum.

As you can see from the arrestometer, the sabs have been getting the brunt of the act so far, but with the recent coming into force of the anti-squatting and partying sections of the act and the end of the hunting season approaching, this should change.

On the opposition front, things have been quite lively. Starting with a mass action on the M11 site on Nov. 3 '94, the day of the enactment of the CJB, a brilliant occupation of the roof of the house of commons, many protest squats of prominent buildings, mass trespasses at the homes of John Major, Michael Howard, Willy Waldegrave and her parasitical eminence the queen, through an inspiring defence of the Claremont Road squats on the M11 (cost of £2 million+), the live export demos and a big illegal demo against the M77 in Glasgow - Things are cooking! Many more actions in the pipeline (M77 is going to be big). There is also a local campaign group against the CIA but we have no contact for them at present, hopefully some local actions will take place. Some demonstrations are expected at court cases, but local sabs have requested that people stay away from their trials, as they want to try and beat the act in the court first, without a demo annoying the judge and or jury. Also they are highly suspicious of some groups (e.g. SWP) who would use these trials as paper selling opportunities and to push their own agenda.

### CIA Arrestometer

(as of 24 Feb. 1995)

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Hunt Sabs       | 107 |
| Travellers      | 11  |
| Road protestors | 7   |
| Live export     | 3   |
| Tree defenders  | 2   |

Latest anti-CIA info. contact: Freedom Network, 372 Coldharbour Lane, London SW9 8PT. Tel: 071 738 6721

## Monitoring Project

Liberty (formerly the National Council for Civil Liberties) have recently launched a project with the following aims:

Monitor the use of the new Public Order measures in Part V of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

Publicise widely any unjust and discriminatory use of the new powers (Surely any use of them and/or any other law/power will be unjust - NottFIN).

Help defendants with the best lawyers available and to encourage lawyers themselves to share their experiences and information wherever this is relevant. If you know any lawyers who might be interested in being on our list, please let us know.

Challenge the possible breaches of internationally agreed human rights standards with appropriate test cases.

Join the project: If you are prevented from organising or attending a party or other event, if you are threatened with having your equipment destroyed, or if you are in any other way affected by the new powers in the new Act, please write and tell us as soon as it happens - within 3 days if possible.

In the first instance, please contact Michele Poole of Advance Party, PO Box 3290, London NW2 3UJ. 081 450 6929.

A standard monitoring form to fill in the event of any incident, is available from the above address.

Any lawyers or trainee lawyers willing to act as legal observers on an occasional basis, please phone Liz Parratt on 071 357 8689.

# Liberty



## Faslane Peace Camp

Certain old warriors at the camp will shortly be moving on to new challenges, but would be happier going if new people arrive to take their place.

If anyone thinks they would like to live here then come and visit and if you feel happy with the place and the place feels happy with you, then move right in.

What have you got to lose? Faslane Peace Camp is a community and therefore everyone that lives here is responsible for the survival of the community.

This is **living anarchy**, day to day, by deed and not just word.

Can you handle it? Of course you can. It's the natural way to live. Caring and being cared for, out of respect not force - it's the way forward, the only way the human race can survive.

**Take Responsibility - it's your future!!!!**

## Crap Arrests of the Week

1. For possessing a sense of humour in Wales. Footie fan arrested at Swansea v. Middlesboro'. Asked a pig "are you escorting us to the station mate?" Pig: "Shut your mouth and keep moving." Footie fan: "If you or any of your mates are going to police the Shoreham protest, could you give me a lift?" Pig: "Shut your gob or you're nicked sonny." Footie fan: "I didn't realise that being in possession of a sense of humour was a criminal offence in Wales." He was then nicked and charged under Section 5 of the public order act for threatening and abusive behaviour.

2. For pressing a button on a pedestrian crossing at Shoreham and then forgetting to cross.

3. Six people nicked at Edinburgh CIA demo rally for cheering on news of the death of alcoholic tory MP.

Compliments of SchNEWS, Brighton.



## Housing co-ops

Did you know that there is a way that you and a group of friends can buy a big house and get the government to pay for it. If not, then read on. The way you do it is by using a legal structure called a housing co-op. In a nutshell a group of you get together form a housing co-op, which then rents a house back to you for more money than the co-op needs to pay the rent or mortgage on the house and the best bit is that the City Treasury pays for it all with housing benefit. The following is a simplified step-by-step guide to home ownership on the dole.

Pick a name for your co-op and register it with The Register of Friendly Societies. This will cost about six or seven hundred pounds and is the major obstacle to overcome. For a fully mutual co-op you will need 7 or more members and all members must be tenants or prospective tenants. Once you are registered you apply for a tax exemption. Although the co-op is a business making money by charging you rent as a tenant, this income is not taxable.

Now you can start looking for a house and here you have two options - buy or rent.

**Buying.** As a rough guide a co-op of 5 people could buy a house up to £60,000 and 10 people could manage £100,000. You will need to raise a deposit (up to 25%) but there is a group called Radical Routes (address at the end) which can lend you the deposit. You then approach a bank or building society for a mortgage. Some are more amenable than others and it helps at this point to have some straight, professional type people in the co-op even they never intend to live in the property (we all know someone like this). Then you move in.

**Renting.** This is a slightly easier option to start with. The idea is that the co-op approaches the landlord of a large property and rents the whole property from them at a lower rent than if he/she were to let it out to several individual tenants (less hassle for them all round). The co-op then sub-lets to its members - You become your own landlord. You will still need some money up front to pay the rent until the housing benefit is sorted. Again Radical Routes can help.

Whether you buy or rent, the income from housing benefit will be greater than the rent or mortgage on the property. The co-op as a business makes a profit. This money can be saved up and used to buy a property if you are renting, or used to improve the property if you already own it. Although it seems like a scam, it is totally legal. After all it's only what money-grabbing landlords are doing all the time. There are many co-ops around the country but not many in Nottingham as yet.

For more detailed information and help in setting up a housing co-op, contact

**Radical Routes, 24 South Road, Hockley, Birmingham B18. Tel. 021 5511679.**

### How to buy a house on the dole

## Mushroom attack 2

In January of 1994, a large group of fash decided to trash Mushroom Bookshop in Nottingham, when they discovered that the concert they were travelling to in London had been cancelled due to a large mobilisation of anti-fascists.

On Feb. 18 just recently, 12 of them were sent down. Stephen Bradley, 24, of Lanarkshire, the only one they actually proved was in the shop, got 3 yrs. for violent disorder. All the rest admitted threatening behaviour and got two months. Another two were bound over to keep the peace for one year in the sum of £750.

Three of the fash were local - Paul Lindley, 26, of Pinfold Lane, Stapleford; Kevin Norman, 26, of Revelstoke Way, Rise Park and Paul Burns, 23, of Chaddesden, Derby.

Another fash who delivered a van load of his mates to the court, returned after the case to find his van with slashed tires and other damage. He then received some community justice from some concerned citizens as a result of which he ended up in the QMC. The police have made one arrest in connection with the incident.

Mushroom Bookshop have distanced themselves from the attack, as they do not condone violence.

## Right Off Rant

This is not meant to be an attack on all road protesters, in fact some of my best friends are road protesters!!! This article has been written to point out in my humble opinion some discrepancies in the ideology of some of these new radicals.

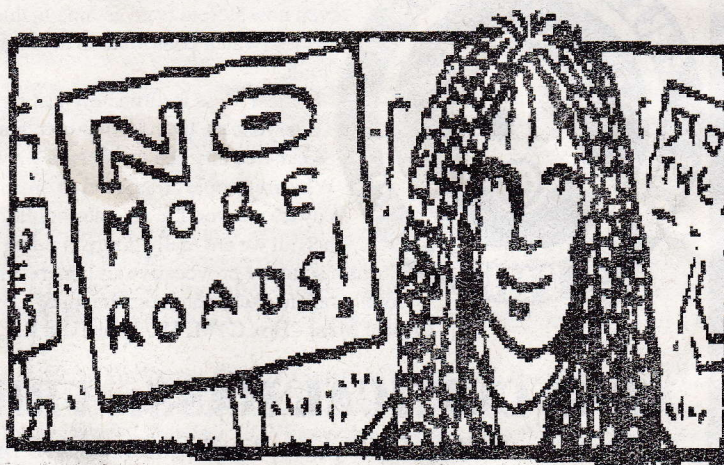
At Twyford Down, that most famous of battlegrounds for the earth, when protesters were offered a meal at the end of the day, it would often be of meat. Not only was the meal of meat, but members of "the tribe" would go out and hunt it themselves. Something like a British Ted Nugent of "Whack 'em and snack 'em" fame (may he be whacked and snacked by a grizzly). With Winchester only a few miles away and most of the people being of an alternative appearance this shook me to my roots. (But hey, "vegetarianism's for trendies!"). How can these people be fighting for a better world when they have no respect for their four legged and winged brothers and sisters. Are we saving the environment just for ourselves or for them as well. They already have to survive the farmers' guns and traps and the hunters let alone a bunch of people playing at being hunter gatherers.

A number of the protesters wrote to Prince Charles to get him to intervene and stop the new road. A little bit naive I think. Prince Charles couldn't give a fuck about the pleas of the populous, he only listens when it suits him, whipping up hysteria over architecture, in the end who gives a damn, a multi story block is a multi story block, they're built mostly with the intention of making more money for rich people just like Prince Charles - which is one of the reasons roads are built; to help make the fat cats fatter. You will not get divine intervention from Prince "Jesus" Charles as he's been sold the idea that roads = money, and he believes in economic growth, the answer for us all!!

I've been told by a road protester, newly arrived in Nottingham that there's no such thing as class in society, and there's no class struggle. What? Pardon me? Are you living on this planet? Take a long look at the streets of Ruddington and the Park and then at Sneinton and Radford. Can you spot the difference? The areas are worlds apart, the worlds of the haves and the have-nots, the rich and the poor, the ruling (upper/middle class) and the ruled (working class). Get the picture. To say there's no class difference in this country is to ignore a struggle that continues from before the Watt Tyler Rebellion. It also betrays the class origins of the person who said it and to which, when they've finished at playing at being a radical, they will happily return to.

It is the rich that gain from road building, the hauliers, the construction company bosses, the department store directors, it is the poor that mostly suffer from pollution and loss of housing, look at the M11 and Wanstead. So a member of the upper class soils their hands in protest, when the fight is on their back door, but at the end of the day they go home to their large suburban houses with two cars, the lifestyle that can be blamed for this very problem.

Another shock to me was some of these people take a pro life stance on the subject of abortion. They surely don't know what they're saying? It's every woman's right to decide what she wants to do with her body, and she should be given every opportunity to follow that decision. The closure of abortion clinics and shorter termination times that pro-lifers strive for would mean more deaths through back-street abortions and suicides by those whose lives would be ruined by having a child. This is hardly helping to build a better world. If they want to fill the already overflowing world with the fruit of their loins, well that's up to them. But they should leave others to make their own decisions. The answer I think is not "never trust a hippy" but to be aware of those "hippies on the outside but raving Tories on the inside." - Fred Ludd





# Socialist Wanker

## The enemy within

In NOTTINGHAM 10 we commented on the sexist/racist/homophobic individuals involved in the so-called 'alternative' scene. Now it is time to examine the influence of a hierarchical, more visible, but no less dangerous element - The Socialist Workers (sic) Party. First of all let it be understood that this article is not necessarily directed at individual SWP members, but at the Party and its tactics.

It is possible to view the SWP as, at best an irrelevance, at worst a nuisance. The SWP are often the butt of jokes about ineffectual paper sellers and calls for a 'TUC General Strike' to 'Make the Tories Pay', but their endless self-promotion and hidden agenda have proved seriously damaging to a number of campaigns, especially the fight against the Criminal Justice Bill.

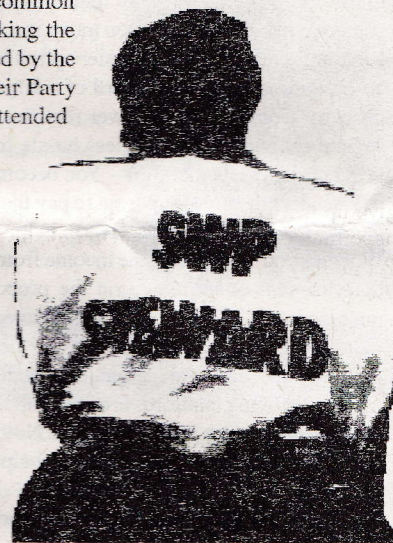
Various campaigns have been fighting against the insanity of the car culture and rabid road building - with no party-political affiliations - since the first days at Twyford. As the anti-road movement gained increasing publicity in the national media, the SWP suddenly appeared on the scene. Late last year the No M11 Campaign organised a tree dressing ceremony for the old Sweet Chestnut tree in Wanstead. We knew that the tree was under threat of destruction, and this ceremony was one of the last to be celebrated before its ignominious demise. Members of the local SWP, knowing that local and national media would be present, chose to send a number of paper sellers. A few weeks later, when a march took place along the route of the road the SWP turned up with dozens of their imaginative black and white placards. A demonstration against the effects of a motorway ploughing through the land, homes and communities was effectively hijacked by opportunist publicity seekers.

SWP members may claim that they fully support the anti-road campaigns and wish to show their support. In that case where were they when the site invasions took place, when squats were being barricaded and defended, when the time came to face hundreds of Police and security in defending the Chestnut Tree? Where were they when protesters were being physically and sexually assaulted by Sheriff's Officers, and digger divers had their arms broken by security? Where were they when hard work had to be done and there were no TV cameras or reporters to note their presence?

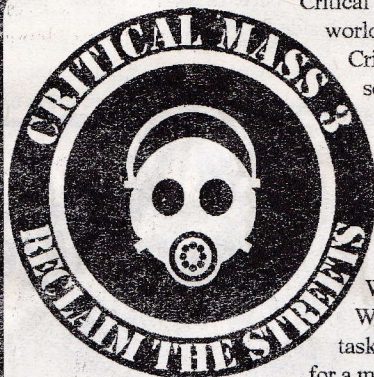
Recently, the movement against the Criminal Justice Bill has suffered the involvement of the SWP. Many groups affected by the Bill formed a coalition and mounted a campaign to defend their right to exist - again without *any* party political bias - including; Road Alert, SQUASH, Friends & Families of Travellers, Advance Party, No M11 Campaign, Hunt Saboteurs Association, Alarm UK, Freedom Network, SQUALL and the Exodus Collective. Groups whose activity has generated media and public interest because of their direct action protests. Groups working together to fight a common cause, until the appearance of the SWP. With no regard for the coalition or those involved they set about hijacking the campaign to serve their own ulterior motives. At the National March against the Bill, held on May 1st and organised by the Advance party, the SWP took vanloads of 'Ban the Bill' placards with their corporate logo. They ensured that their Party name would appear in any coverage of the demo, giving themselves a validity they do not deserve. 15,000 people attended the march to defend the rights of people to travel, squat, party and protest, people whose interests were disregarded by the media whoredom of the SWP. If the Socialist Workers wished to support the march, and could offer placards and banners, why did they not work in conjunction with the organisers and other groups? Could it be because their resources exist purely for selfish gain - even at the expense of a national campaign? Following that experience a number of groups have pulled out of the National Coalition, not wishing to see their causes fall victim to such political hijacking. Yet the SWP continue to organise events in their name and claim the support of the Hunt Saboteurs Association, No M11 Campaign etc.

This experience has also been felt at a local level. The Nottingham Campaign Against the Criminal Justice Bill involves party people, hunt sabs, EF'ers, travellers, squatters and individuals from left groups such as the Revolutionary Communist Party, Campaign Against Militarism, Militant, Young Labour and Trade Unions. Local SWP members have attended meetings and agreed, like everyone else, to fight the Bill and not use the campaign as a platform for individual political groups. Everyone has stood by this agreement, except for Nottingham SWP members. They persist in printing flyers and posters for local CJB events, associating them with their party - despite being asked by the rest of the campaign not to.

It appears that while an issue attracts publicity the Socialist Workers Party will use it to serve their own self-promoting hidden agenda. They turn up at public events with placards and paper sellers and squeeze every drop of available publicity out of a campaign. By mid November squatters will be suffering violent evictions and travellers risk having their homes destroyed and children taken into care; people going to free parties, saving animals lives or protesting against eco-destruction will face hefty fines and imprisonment. But what does the SWP care, after all this is a great recruitment opportunity.



*Just another copper!*



Critical Mass which started as an informal bike ride home of 50 people in San Francisco, has now spread around the world reaching Nottingham. Critical Mass is growing simply because people realise how much fun it is.

Critical Mass highlights the problems generated by the Kar Kulture, pollution being a major concern. One child in seven now suffers from asthma in this country. Exhaust fumes containing greenhouse gases, lead and nitrogen oxides (which contribute to acid rain) choke our cities. Green spaces and houses are lost as even more roads are built.

Critical Mass is ultimately just a group of cyclists riding from A to B as a sort of organised coincidence.

Everyone on the has their own reasons for being there. Some people want more bike lanes, some people want a car-free city centre. Others want to confront a bankrupt system and see Critical Mass as part of the struggle.

Why are people compelled to organise their lives around the pointless and demeaning exploitation we call work? Why do we worship the automobile? What would an alternative future look like?

When all we are really doing is riding from here to there on our bikes, it is amazing that in attempting such a simple task, so many provocative and interesting questions arise.

for a moment each month the dream of a future where no-one is in charge becomes possible.

Critical Mass - Box CTM, 180 Mansfield Rd., Nottingham NG1 3HW.

## **NEXT CRITICAL MASS: FRIDAY 17 MARCH, 5.15 P.M.**

Meet in The Old Market Square, Nottingham at 5.15 pm, and every third Friday



# Fluff off!

Would you believe it, pacifism is making a comeback? At the July 24th Criminal Justice Bill march in London, leaflets were handed out, credited to the Freedom Network, which advised us:

*The Criminal Justice Bill attacks our right to peaceful protest. It is vital that we defend this and our other rights in a peaceful way. In the past, large events have often turned into 'riots' by a combination of heavy handed policing and violent agitators in the crowd.... The law and order lobby and most of the media would jump at any chance to portray us as violent hooligans.... This is our chance, instead, to show them that we can come together peacefully in large numbers to have a good time and to defend our lifestyles with dignity and humour... The leaflet suggested we keep it fluffy (!) and if one or two individuals become aggressive forming a circle of non-violent people around them can often be effective.... Join hands with others who also do not want to get involved. If the violence continues, you could all sit down.... This will isolate those being violent.... as a last resort, you can form a 'doormat' by all lying on the ground.*

The author does realise though that: *this may not be a good tactic in the face of attack by mounted police.... However the police will have been informed that people who want to keep out of trouble may adopt these tactics and of course The police are all individuals with families, emotions and problems of their own, try to be friendly and polite.* What's going on? Didn't we learn anything from the Eighties, from the miners, travellers, printers, anti-poll tax struggles - that the press is against us anyway; that cops will wade in no matter how we march, when they want/are ordered to? It is a sad sign of these times of disillusion that the green, liberal, eco-nice movement, with this pacifist ideology is growing.

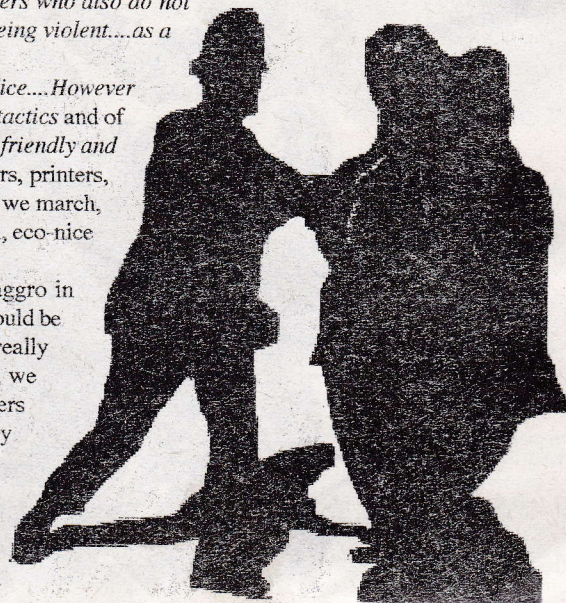
Non-violence as a tactic is sometimes vital, especially on demos in the West End. Starting aggro in Whitehall on the demo, in the most filmed area in the world, could have been suicidal. Violence should be on our terms, not on the cops. But blanket non-violence as an ideology is just as suicidal. If we really think we can change the world, make it a better place, live without exploitation and repression, we have to recognise that the capitalist class that benefit and enforce this profit system and their hangers on aren't going to give in at the sight of a peaceful sit-down. They are going to have to be forcefully dispossessed of their power and wealth - just as they have dispossessed us and kept us in line every day, with violence.

But every right we have, the rights the Freedom Network trumpet has been won from them by force or the threat of force, by the working class. Even non-violent protest is always backed by the unspoken threat of our violence. **Our force is the only thing they fear.** We are daft if we give up that power. The cops know this, which is why they batter us at every convenient opportunity - to keep us afraid to fight back. Far from opposing much of the Criminal Justice Bill, as they say, most cops are rubbing their hands, slaving at the extra powers they will have to legally beat the crap out of us even more.

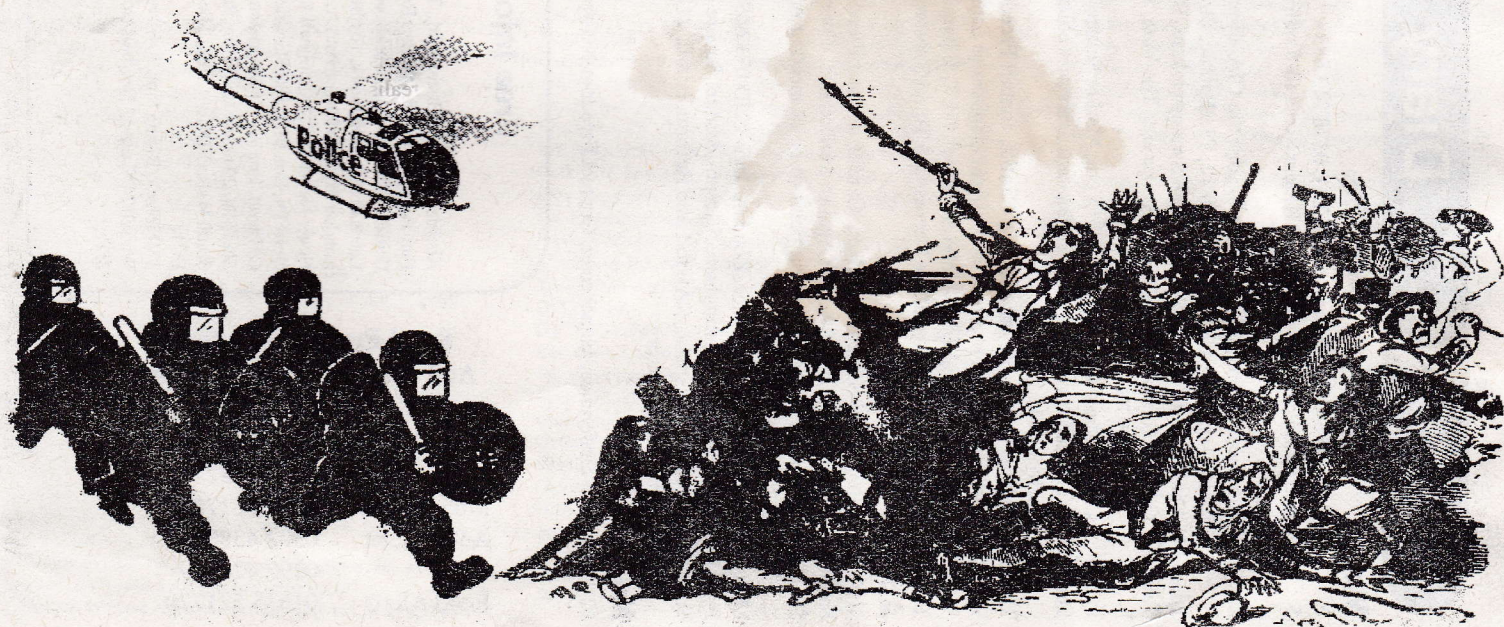
Riots are caused by our anger at our powerless situation in this world. No they're not ideal, a lot of shit goes down but they can be empowering, full of joy and creativity. Glimpses of the power we could hold and the changes we could make. The Freedom Network wants us to stay non-violent - because they too, children of the middle class, jostling for a place in the system, they too are afraid of our class power. They didn't even mention police violence in the leaflet.

Before the demo there was talk (luckily not implemented) of stewards carrying spray cans to spray paint anyone 'behaving violently', so they could be easy target for the cops (This is now rumoured to be just a rumour? - NottFIN). In fact stewards did go round ripping masks of the faces of people who'd decided they didn't want to be identified. This shows what side they are on - and it's not ours. Be warned.

The above article was taken from the Sept. '94 issue of Contraflow. Whilst having been involved in many actions, and seen the powerful use of non-violence (for instance Twyford Down), I agree with the criticisms of the Freedom Network's 'pacifism'. Recently attending a road protest workshop in London, I encountered a self-confessed 'fluffy' who argued the position as set out in the 'Keep it Fluffy' leaflet. He then proceeded to tell us how we must replace this government with a green government which would legislate into being his green utopia; and this workshop was part of the 'Anarchy in the UK' programme of events. Fortunately he was the only person expressing these sentiments in the meeting and I think there has been quite an anti-fluffy back-lash within the environmental movement. There are some seriously naive people about, but this is changing rapidly. Fuck the Civil let's get Disobedient. NottFIN



Battle of Cable Street - Fluffy, NOT!





Welcome to NottFIN 11, it has been a while. Our absence has not been due to a lack of things to say and publicise, but purely financial. Each one of these things costs us about 10p to produce and then we give them away free. Any help you can give us in this direction will be greatly appreciated. A special thanks to the Ragged Trousered Philanthropic Fund for a gift of £200, which will enable us to print this FIN and the next.

If you haven't seen a FIN before, Free Information Networks grew out of the Traveller/Free Festival scene and developed into more city/community based papers providing information on subcultures and the fightback against this earth-raping, repressive and exploitative system. NottFIN is just one of a network of FINs and other publications around the country. Although we glean much information from this network, we also rely on you writing and sending us stuff particularly about local issues. We apologise to anyone who has sent in information which has not appeared in print as it has become out of date before we can afford to produce this FIN.

On proofreading this issue, it appears to be quite negative, with several groups, on the face of it working for positive change, coming in for some stick. If you feel that you or your actions have been criticised we would welcome your response to this. It would be good to get some constructive debate going.

Many thanks to Practical History, 121 Raiton Rd., London SE24, for producing The Battle For Hyde Park, a fascinating account of radical protest in Hyde Park 1855-1994, from which we nicked some graphics for this FIN.

There should also be an animal rights supplement, included in this issue, this gives us more space in the FIN for other stuff. The supplement is kindly produced by Nottm. Animal Rights, - Meeting every 2nd Thurs. at The Rainbow Centre, Mansfield Rd., Nottingham

Enjoy reading this FIN and we hope you act on it. If you see us at an event with a stall or a bucket, please give us some cash. See you soon.

## Contact List

Active distro. BM Active, Londonn WC1N 3XX (catalogue 29p stamps +sac).

Advance Party - Fighting for the rights of sound systems & party people. PO Box 3290, London NW2 3UJ. 081 959 7525.

Advisory Service for Squatters. 2 St. Pauls Rd., Islington, London N1. 071 359 8814.

AK Distribution. 22 Lutton Place, Edinburgh (write for catalogue). Anarchist literature.

Alarm UK - co-ordinating & advising local opposition to road schemes. 13 Stockwell Rd. London SW9 9AU. 071 737 6641.

Anarchist Black Cross. PO Box 3241, B'ham B83 DP or London ABC, c/o 121 Raiton Rd., London SE24. Supporting class struggle prisoners.

Anarchist Communist Federation. 84b Whitechapel High St., London E1 7QX. Produce 'Organise' magazine, send large sac.

Anti-Nuclear Network. c/o 265 Seven Sisters Rd., London N4 2DE. Federation of autonomous local groups opposed to nuclear power. Latest newsletter (8A4)40p + sac.

Bad Attitude. 121 Raiton Rd., London SE24 0L. 071 978 9057.

Bypass. c/o 21 Cave St., Oxford OX4 1BA. Review/listing service for zine/pamphlet producers. Send in publication to receive listing and free copy.

Campaign Against Campsfield. c/o 111 Magdalen Rd., Oxford OX4. 0865 724452. Protest at imprisonment of asylum seekers at Group 4 run centre.

Campaign Against Child Support Act. Kings Cross Womens' Centre, 71 Tonbridge St., London WC1H 9DZ. 071 837 7509.

Catalyst. The Field, Higher Penpol, St. Veep, nr. Lostwithiel, Cornwall PL22 0NG. Campaigns, boycotts, civil animal rights environment etc. Sac for more info.

Class War. PO Box 1021, Edinburgh EH8 9PW. PO Box 772, Bristol BS99 1EL. PO Box 4297, Dublin 1, EIRE. Groups nationwide and international.

Contraflow. 56a Infoshop, 56 Crampton St., London SE17. /fax 071 326 0353. Excellent subversive newspaper.

Counter Information. Pigeonhole CI, c/o 11 Forth St., Edinburgh E111, Scotland. Free/donation + sac. Direct action, prisoners, class struggle around the world.

Critical Mass (Nottingham). Box CTM, 180 Mansfield Rd., Nottingham NG1 3HW. Monthly mass cycle ride thru' the streets of Nottingham to create a car free space. Every 3rd Fri., Old Market Square, 5.15 pm.

Critical Mass (London). Last Friday of every month at NFT Piazza, South Bank, Waterloo at 5.45 pm.

Dongas Tribe/Friends of Twyford Down. c/o 10 Nelson St. 0258 73795.

Do or Die. c/o SDEFI, Prior House, 6 Tilbury Place, Brighton BN2 2GY. 70p + sac. A voice of British Earth First!, environmental direct action.

DS4A (Distribution Service for Anarchists). Box 8, 82 Colston St. Sac for catalogue.

Earth First! Action Update. Manchester EF1, Dept. 29, 1 Newton St., Piccadilly, Manchester M1 1HW. News, actions and contacts. £2 no cash for next 5 issues.

East Midlands Anarchists, box EMAB, 88 Abbey St., Derby

Faslane Peace Camp. Shandon, Helensburgh, Scotland. 0436 820901. NVDA against Trident nuke weapons and Clyde sub. base.

Faslane Focus Newsletter. As above. 20p + sac. Also donations required for 'Faslane Bust Fund'.

Festival Welfare Services. 61b Hornsey Rd., London N7

6DG. 071 700 5754. A5 sac for fezzie survival guide.

Freedom Network. 372 Coldharbour Lane, Brixton, London SW9 8PT. 071 738 6721. Fax. 071 737 4320. email: freedomnet@gn.apc.org

Friends and Families of Travellers. 33 Bryanston St., Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AZ. 0258 453695. Travellers support group to help defend Travellers' way of life and rights. Sac for info, pack and regular newsletter.

Flux Collective, Box A, The Rainbow Centre, 180 Mansfield Rd., Nottingham.

Green Federation. c/o The Greenhouse, 1 Trevelyan Terr, Bangor, Gwynedd L57 1AX. Aim to buy land to give free camps/fairs/festivals a space. Send a donation of at least £1 to receive more info. and to help get this project underway.

Greenleaf. c/o George Firsoff, 96 Church Rd., Bristol 5. Quarterly journal of Robin's Greenwood Gang. 90p inc. p+p. Sacred sites, road protest, paganlink, poetry.

Haven Distro. BM Haven, London WC1N 3XX. Publications, records, tapes, posters. Mainly @narchist. Sac for catalogue.

Hawkfrendz/Zephyr Publications. PO Box 6, Wallasey, Merseyside. L45 45J. Henge, Hawkwind, cannabis booklets. Sac for list.

Hunt Saboteurs Association. PO Box 1, Carlton, NG4 2JY. 0115 9590357.

Leicester Anarchists, PO Box 320, Leicester, LE1 5ES.

Lesbian and Gay Switchboard. Emergency 071 837 7324.

Liberty (formerly National Council for Civil Liberties). 21 Tabard St., London SE1 4LA. 071 403 3888.

Monitoring implementation of the CIA. Supply a Travellers' Campaign pack.

Liberty Public Order Monitoring Project. c/o Michele Poole, Advance Party, PO Box 3290, London NW2 3UJ. 081 450 6929.

London Greenpeace. 5 Caledonian Rd., London N1. Open meetings every Thurs. 8pm at the above address, except last Thurs. of month - Public meetings 6 Endsleigh St. WC1. Fighting McDonalds 'libel' writs - support needed.

M65 Protest, Blackburn, Lanes. 0124 776642 or 0772 704103.

Megatropolis club/ parallel university. Thurs. 8pm. £5/£3 concession. Heaven, Charring X/Embankment tubes. 081 960 1480.

Musicians Network/Festival Music Co-op. 181a Brecknock Rd., Tuffnell Park, London N19 5AB. 071 278 0503 or 071 515 4205. Open meetings and 'The Gathering' Jam Session every Tues. 8-11pm. at Old Farmhouse pub, 291 Kentish town Rd., London NW5. Sac for latest newsletter.

Nomadic Peoples Action Group. c/o The Trinity Centre, 53 Ramsey Rd., Winchester SO22 5DE.

Nottingham Anti Fascist Action, PO Box 39, Mansfield GPO, Notts.

On The Fiddle. The Levellers Information Service, PO Box 4044, London W9 3ZN. 24h. info.081 964 2828.

Open Eye magazine. PO Box 3069, London SW9 8LU. 52xA4 £1.60 inc. p+p. State investigation, old/new world orders, D-notice censorship, reviews etc.

Outlook mag. 87 Kirkstall Rd., London SW2 4HE. Bi-monthly mag. Events, reviews etc. £1.45 + 30p p+p.

Oxford Earth First! Box E, 111 Magdalen Rd. Oxford OX4 1RQ. 0865 201706. Eco-action forthcoming events.

Peoples' Land Group. 58 Clarence St., Burnley Lanes. Land Trust. Newsletter free to members (£3 min. subscription).

Pollock Free State. c/o Glasgow EF1, PO Box 180, Glasgow G4 9AB. 041 636 1924. Protest camp in path of proposed M77 motorway - much action in the New Year.

Planet News. 87 Kirkstall Rd. London SW2 4HE. Free/subscription newspaper.

Practical History - producing excellent short publications on radical history, putting current struggles in perspective. Available at present 'Battle for Hyde Park: ruffians, radicals and ravers, 1855-1994, send stamps. 121 Raiton Rd. London SE24. fax. 071 326 0353.

Rape Crisis. Emergency 071 837 1600.

Release. 24h. confidential advice and helpline on drugs and legal matters. 071 603 8654. Office 071 729 9904.

Road Alert! Up to the minute info. on road protests. New address - PO Box 5544, Newbury, RG14 5FB. 01635 521770. fax. 01635 521660. email: roadalert@gn.apc.org

SchNEWS - Excellent weekly news sheet following the progress (or lack of it) of the criminal justice act. Produced by Justice?, Brighton's Campaign in Defiance of the CIA. c/o on-the-fiddle, PO Box 2 600, Brighton, E. Sussex. 01273 685913. email: justice?@intermedia.co.uk

Scottish Federation of Anarchists. (£1 for magazine, sac for newsletter). Box 1008, Glasgow G42 8AA.

Sheffield Anarchist Group. PO Box 446, Sheffield S1 1NY.

Solidarity Federation, PO Box 29, SW PDO, Manchester M15 5HN.

Spiral Tribe. Steve 071 732 8653.

Squall, c/o 2 St. Pauls Rd., London N1 2QN. Magazine for the Squatter/Homeless. FREE, send A4 sac. Excellent commentary on CIA.

Squatters Action For Secure Homes (SQUASH). 2 St. Pauls Rd., London N1 2QN. Voluntary group opposing the criminalisation of squatting. 071 226 7639 for further info. meetings etc. A4 sac for publication 'A Crime to be Homeless'

Stone. 45 Westwood Hill, London SE26 6NS. Fezzie list free/folk/fayres/camps.

Subculture Alternatives Freedom Foundation (SAFF). 6-8 Burley Lodge Rd., Leeds, W. Yorks. LS6 1QP. Safeguarding the Right to Freedom of Belief for Religious and Philosophical minorities.

Survival International. 310 Edgeware Rd., London W2 1DY. Campaigns for native peoples' rights.

Teepee TV. Independent film/TV co-operative. 071 735 5926.

Travelling Itinerants' Truss. West Down, c/o Chilbolton PO, Chilbolton, Stockbridge, Hants. Traveller group seeking contact with other groups and individuals to act against the legislation to repeal the 1968 Caravan Sites Act.

Tribal Messenger mag. c/o John Pendragon, box 21, 118 Grosvenor Rd., Bristol. £2.60 inc. p+p. Comprehensive fezzie listing + articles.

Undercurrents - Alternative News Video. No. 2 now available £9.50 inc. p+p. Small World, 1a Waterloo Rd. London N19 5NJ. 071 272 5255.

Vegan Society. 7 Battle Rd. St. Leonards on Sea, E. Sussex TN37 7AA. 0424 427393.

Veggies Catering Campaign. 180 Mansfield Rd., Nottingham NG1 3HW. Sac for comprehensive animal rights calendar (updated monthly).

If you know of any group etc. that should be on this list, then tell us

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