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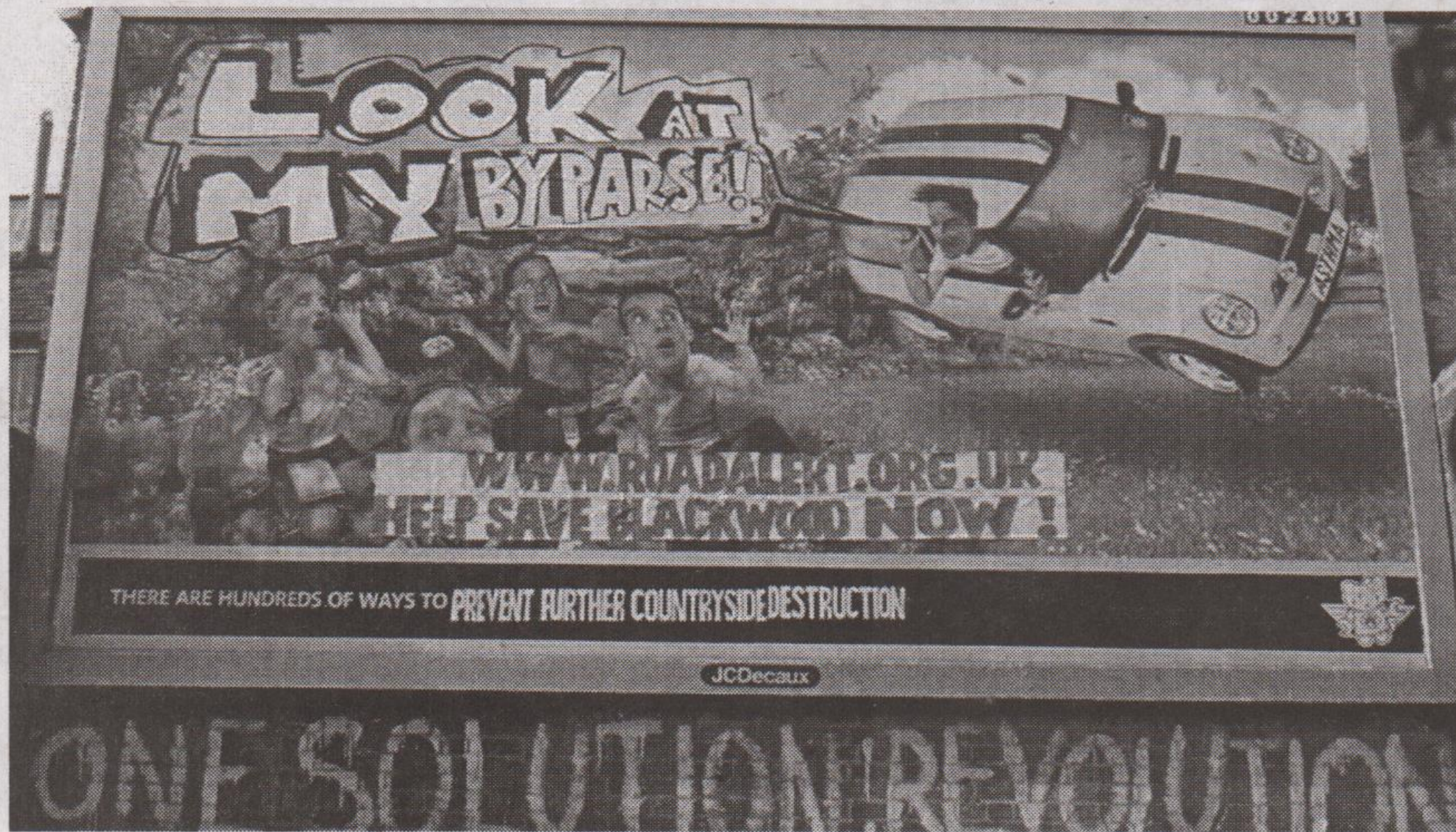
GAGGED!

#1

Winter 2004

NEWSLETTER OF THE GWENT ANARCHISTS • AGAINST POWER AND PROFIT

BLACKWOOD ROAD PROTEST



On January 21 a PFI contract on 'Sirhowy Way Express' was signed, the proposed 5km road through five acres the ancient semi-natural woodland of St. David's wood, Blackwood is jointly funded by the Welsh Assembly Government and Caerphilly Council (read the local and national taxpayer) and is required to serve the purpose built factory NORMAD EUROPE Ltd who manufacture defence electronics for B-52 and K-18 aircraft and work with MOD on the Bowman chip which is installed in tanks. The controversial road has been in the development stage for some eleven years been given the go ahead by Caerphilly Council despite strong opposition and receiving some 4500 written objections from locals.

On January 29th 100 trees were chopped down by workers from Costain and Tarmac (companies involved in the famous Newbury road protest) before the work was halted by two protesters locking on to the bulldozers. Since then three camps have been set up (Kerry, Jordan & Lydon!) partly on the land that it going to be the site of the proposed road and has been compulsory purchased and adjoining land still the property of the original owners (who are 100% against the road) though which Costain have access rights – and the right to fell trees.

Costain and Caerphilly Borough Council have used the obscure 'Harry Potter ruling' to secure a High Court civil injunction on camps. In the Harry Potter case, some of the books were leaked to the press before publication. As the company didn't know the names of the offenders, they described them to the court. The court decided that persons described, rather than named, could be defendants to an injunction. This means an injunction can be served against anybody – no names are needed – so therefore any person entering or remaining in a specified area (the

woodland at Blackwood, in this case) can be immediately removed. This is the first time the 'Harry Potter ruling' has been used against protesters.

However the injunction does not apply to the adjoining land, where much of the camp is. The camps would seem to be fairly entrenched unless the bailiffs try to pull a fast one and evict when numbers are low, so the camps are safe as long as there is a presence there to maintain them, though climbers are desperately needed everyone is welcome and anybody can help, numbers tend to be lower on weekdays so visits then would be especially helpful. Getting in the way of work or helping in the building of defence is both massively important, NEW PEOPLE ARE MORE THAN WELCOME. The presence of dormice has meant that a wildlife group is taking Costain to court and maybe even criminal proceedings will occur, but don't hold your breath as courts tend to be more chummy with the likes of Costain than dormice lovers. that along with the presence of Bats has been a major level in the battle to stop a road through the last woodland in the valley in order to serve part of the military death machine. **SEE YOU IN THE WOODS**

***** STOP PRESS *****

An immediate eviction order was served today (3 march). Even if they manage to evict us from the treehouses, bunkers etc, we only have to move a few feet and we're on third party land with permission to be there. So this is far from over....



Camp Directions: To get to the camp, find the 'Rock and Fountain', head up the hill towards Pontllanfraith/Oakdale, then when you get to the sharp right hand bend towards the main road, don't bare right, turn left into a short dead end street. At the end of the road, just follow the old railway line north. First camp is about 200m up the line with a second camp about another 500m up, both camps clearly visible from the line.

Site Mobile: 07952 774525 / 07708 420 446

Politely ask subcontractors working on the Bypass to stop destroying the last woodlands in the valley. Please phone or visit them as often as you think necessary. If you contact them you may wish to point out that their machinery and staff are subject to a criminal investigation in regard to trashing dormice and bat habitats who are protected under the Wildlife Act. If this contractor pulls out then Costain and Caerphilly County Council will find it difficult to continue building this unwanted road...

Land & Water Services Ltd, Weston Yard, The Street, Albury, Guildford Surrey, GU5 9AF

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BORN AGAIN IN TORFAEN?

We wonder if Cllr. Turner and Mr. de Val's vision for children's education includes youngsters being self confident, independent, knowledgeable about the world and them being able to argue points in debate?

Do they also agree that some children are indeed sexually active and should be provided with a sex education? If the answer is yes we ask why is Torfaen Council allowing the "Living Way Church" (Pentecostal/Charismatic) use of Brookfield Junior School in Cwmbran for their evangelical meetings? Because on the "Living Way Church's" website we have the following rather scary statement: *"Youthful lusts must be shunned. Not only worldly and fleshly lusts to be avoided, but the lusts characteristic of youth, such as self confidence, lightness, impatience, impetuosity, independence, show of knowledge and being argumentative."*

Given the above you do not have to guess at what the "Living Way Church" views on gays and lesbians or women's right to have an abortion are. How does this match up with Torfaen Council's Ethical and Human Rights Policy? (If they actually have one!) If the council allow this Church to operate from council (our) premises we have an indication of how any "superschool" will be run: On Christian right wing principles based on authoritarianism no doubt?

GM IN YOUR SUPERMARKET

Once again the government isn't listening, last year there were meetings around the UK to gauge the public's opinion on GM crops, the public were overwhelmingly against them. This hasn't stopped the government giving the go ahead to commercial growing of GM maize despite there being no medium or long term safety tests to find out what effects GM crops will have on animals, humans and the environment. But we don't have to wait until then to start eating GM foods - they're already in our supermarkets! In the UK the two GM crops we are eating are soya and maize which are found in around **80%** Of processed foods in your supermarket.

Why aren't they labelled?

Only GM soya and maize proteins have to be labelled as GM, but other soya and maize ingredients (known as derivatives) do not, such as lecithin (from Soya) and starch, glucose and dextrose (from maize) so even if a product does not state that it is GM it may still contain GM ingredients. GM is also getting into our food chain as GM crops imported from the USA are being fed to farm animals i.e. chickens, pigs and cows and are therefore getting into milk, eggs, cheese and meat. **There is no requirement for food from animals fed on GM crops to be labelled as GM.** So why at a time when more and more people are choosing to buy non GM or organic produce, is this madness being forced upon us?

It's not to feed the hungry as the corporations claim, as **we already produce one and a half times the food needed to feed the world.** It's about money, the corporations who produce and patent the seeds will control our food chain, their profits will be massive while the environment and our health will be exposed to irreversible damage.

In North America there have been three epidemics related to GM products:

- A food supplement Tryptophan which was being successfully produced for many years, then in 1988, Showa Denko changed one ingredient to a genetically modified organism. This resulted in **37 confirmed deaths and 1500 permanently disabled people.**
- A genetically engineered insulin. Colleen Fowler, a Vancouver health policy expert, has associated **8 deaths** in Canada and hundreds in other countries as well as thousands of victims suffering from side effects. Such as anaemia, memory loss, seizures and permanent brain damage.
- The International Herald Tribune and Friends of the Earth have reported cases of people suffering from life threatening **Anaphylactic Shock** after

eating food containing the GM maize Starlink which had only been approved for animal feed.

The British public, are led to believe GM crops are own only to produce food. However in the unregulated situation in the USA, they are also used to produce powerful drugs in open farmland, instead of in tightly controlled factories. The UK imports 3.5 million tones of soya and maize each year, most of it coming from the USA. In 2001 68% of their soya was GM and was deliberately mixed with the non GM crops making it difficult to avoid.

The production of GM crops must be stopped! People are taking action worldwide. Boycotting supermarkets such as Sainsbury's, Asda,

Tesco & Safeway as well as taking direct action against the corporations behind this, such as Monsanto & Bayer and who put profits before our future.

For information on products that contain GM ingredients go to the shopper's guide on www.Greenpeace.org.uk



BUSH - PROFIT BEFORE PEOPLE

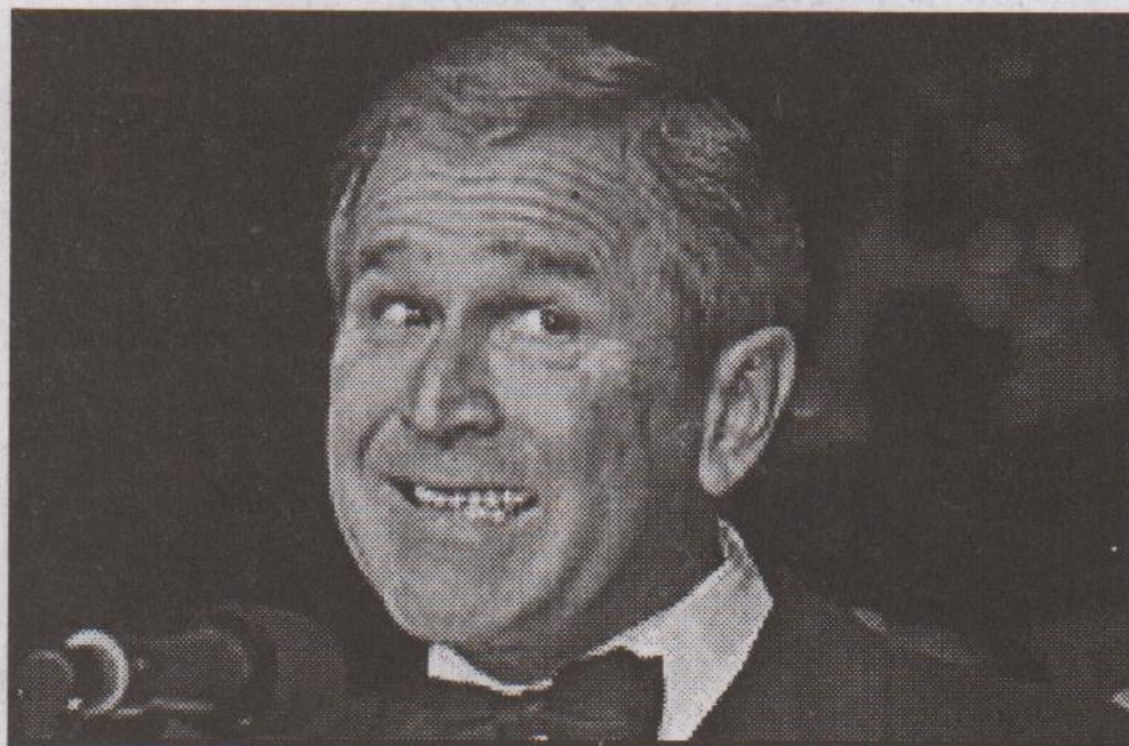
A recent report sent to the French Government from its' diplomat and intelligence officers in the US revealed startling figures. It showed that by mid November 2003 the US army in Iraq had already suffered 1700 deserters, the majority were troops on leave, who chose to disappear rather than return to Iraq. The report also revealed (again by mid November) 2200 seriously wounded and a further 7000 soldiers were evacuated because of psychological problems and other illnesses. Add this to the 16,000 (10,000 civilian) Iraqi's killed, that's a serious amount of wasted lives and messed up people.

But do Bush and his cronies care? Of course they don't they've got the oil!!

Have a guess how many funerals or memorials Bush has attended for soldiers killed in Iraq!

You've guessed it - **NONE!**

How many fund raising events have Bush or vice president Dick Chaney attended? **100!** Get the picture!?



The cost of this immoral and illegal war for oil, to the US taxpayer (up until the end of 2003) was \$100 billion; while 9 million US workers are unemployed and 43.6 million Americans are without health insurance (this means no access to doctors, dentists or hospitals).

A few more facts about the man who preaches freedom and democracy:

- As governor of Texas, executed more prisoners (152) than any other governor in modern US history.
- Became the first US president to ignore the Geneva Convention by refusing to allow access to US held prisoners of war.
- First president to execute a federal prisoner in the past 40 years.
- In 2002, 3 children were executed. The US is the only country openly to acknowledge executing children.

The list could go on and on and on!

George Bush we find you guilty of murder, human rights abuses, exploitation, environmental destruction.....

As he said "You're either with us or against us"

Do we really have to answer that!?!?

DON'T DONATE TO LABOUR

If you are a Trade Union member chances are you are paying money to Blair and co from your union dues. It's called the "political levy" and goes to Labour Party coffers. This is the party who wages war on your behalf and in the process has resulted in the deaths of thousands of people. Blood for oil company profits comes before the welfare of the populations either in Iraq or here. If you do not want to contribute financially to the Labour Party and subsidise Blair and his cohorts copy the following and send it to your work's wages section. You can send a copy to your Trade Union's local head office.

Political Fund Exemption Notice.

I hereby give notice that I object to contributing to the political fund of the union and in consequence exempt, in the manner provided by Chapter 6 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (consolidation) Act 1992, from contributing to that fund.

Sign it, print your name, union membership number, address, union branch and date. Tony Blair's money will then be in your pocket. Enjoy!

DISCLAIMER: All things here included are completely in jest, and we remind all readers to OBEY THE LAW at all times, even if its a complete crock of shite designed to protect the rich and powerful who destroy our world.

Gwent Anarchists

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Gwent anarchists are a group of like-minded individuals who feel no need to give over their power to elected representatives who will only work for their own interests anyway. We believe in autonomy, respect and justice and are against all forms of exploitation and bigotry. **GAGGED** will hopefully appear on a regular basis from now on. regular open meetings will be starting on wednesdays in Newport. if you want to get in touch and get involved in any way please contact us.