

wake up to reality



# SchNEWS

issues 101 - 150

annual

Reporting stuff you just will not find anywhere else, SchNEWS takes political thinking away from the worthy ideologues and makes it practical fun. - Mark Thomas

**A MESSAGE TO THE GOVERNMENT...**



**FROM OUR PANEL OF EXPERTS**

**WARNING!**  
**YOU ARE BEING**  
**WATCHED BY CLOSED**  
**CIRCUIT TELEVISION**

**BUY  
THIS &  
KEEP  
SchNEWS  
FREE!**

**THE THIRD SCHNEWS COLLECTION FEATURING ISSUES 101 - 150 PLUS:  
ACTIONS • ARTICLES • REPORTAGE • CONTACTS • CARTOONS & MUCH MORE**

<http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>



All contents @copyright (except when bylined...)

ISBN 0952978 1 9

Printed and bound in Great Britain by Calvert Press London.

Cover photo: PostLeeds, 4 Gremby Road, Leeds LS6 3AS

Email: <http://www.poptel.org.uk/>

ACTAC-The Technical Aid Network: 0151 708 7607

Back cover photo: Paul Write



Thanks to everyone who made this book possible.  
A list of everyones names would be impossible!!

# INTRO

by Jo Makepeace. All names in the following feature have been changed

**48 HOURS**> I head into town. It's a dum-de-dum, nothing special happening type of weekend. Rare. At the cafe, I meet Harriet to collect one of the tapes I'd asked people to do for this intro. A DiY interview. She's moaning about the mail-out: "The mailout isn't just one job of stuffing the SchNEWS, it's 600 licking the stamps and putting them on, another 600 sellotaping the addresses to the envelope, another 600 stamping the address on the envelope, and 600 stuffing with flyers plus. Every week. I'm going mad. I'm going completely stark-staring envelope stuffing-mad!"

"Are you John?" It's Ken, who Gordon's arranged to do the web-site this week as he's in Scotland at Ecotopia. I give the disk to this man I've never met before. Tony walks past on his way back from a picket of the local YMCA who are supporting the compulsory Project Work scheme [they later pull out under pressure]. The local police activist-watcher, Sergeant Keating, has been hassling them. I head down the beach, and there's a Cuba benefit going on, with Frank belting out tunes. I'd met him this summer at 'Encuentro' an international gathering of 4,000 activists in Spain, and ask him down to SchNEWSnight, our monthly 'political cabaret' cash-cow.

Everyone's pretty mashed down the club. Sunday hangovers cause a delay to the setting up of a camp at Offham, an SSSI under threat from a farmer and EU stupidity. A couple of holidaying Rampenplanners, (a Dutch catering co-op) help to move bodies and tat [the campaign is successful]. Today's *Observer* carries a piece on the police misuse of the new Harrassment Act to harrass animal rights protestors, exposed in SchNEWS a fortnight back. David's on the telly, talking about police surveillance of activists: "They should police the environment, not the environmentalists." It works well, especially as David looks like a cop.

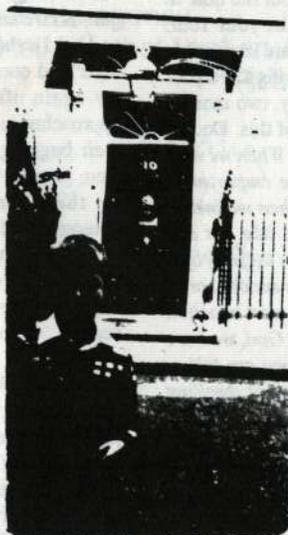
**WAKE UP!**> Encapsulating and squeezing three years of Justice? is an emotionally demanding task. Extreme images flash continuously across the mind. There's just been so MUCH of it. Like any explosive time, it would take that time again to regale the tale. In July 1994 the Criminal Justice Bill was about to be

passed before Parliament's summer recess. Across the country, and here, definitely, were the seeds of change. The e-generation politicised. Action. I went to the pub.

The Prince Albert was where Justice? met. DJs, doleys, politics, squatters- people. Margaret remembers an early meeting: a stark reminder of the break with the past. "There were 14 people there, 13 SWPers and me. Everyone else had lunched it that week." How did you deal with it? "I just didn't give them anything to do! [laughs]. The following meeting everyone turned up and we banned the selling of papers."

"A quickly put together office containing nothing but lots of paper and the energy of those who run it" was swiftly set up. The desk was a kitchen table, the office: Margaret's spare bedroom. On the desk was a motto: 'a task without vision is drudgery, a vision without a task is a dream.' The task was to go all out to scream and shout about this horrible new shadow, this strange hotch-potch of prejudices masquerading as a law. An alien and dangerous invasion into people's lives and lifestyles. Or something.

**HYPE**> One of the great features of direct action has been to unite over common ground, to link issues, to hurdle problems. We don't have to follow a party line, everyone speaks for themselves, we are honest in our intentions and are honest in self-criticism. I've always liked the self-reflective question mark in Justice?. Activists are not politicians. Sometimes we have been guilty of hyping it up but that's been in the intoxication of successful actions and as a natural, defensive reaction to press slur. In this passage from the "Foreward!" of the first book, the SchNEWSreader, there's a random sample of quotes from papers to illustrate the general tone of the media at the time...



A young Jo Makepeace looks smug at the site of an early action

We are 'naive', 'childish', 'simplistic', 'dysfunctional anarchists', 'jumping on the band wagon of today's trendy topic'. We are 'supreme idealists', 'spongers', 'woolly liberals', 'zealots' and 'airheads' engaged in 'uncharacteristic protests of a minority'.

... or at least we were until the world loved Swampy. There's a quote from Chai Ling, a Tiananmen Square demonstrator on the wall in the office: "Are we going to tell lies against our enemies who lie? Don't the facts speak enough?" We've always asked people not to believe what we write but to go and see it for themselves.

**ROOTS**> Here's not the space to relate action after action. We've written nearly three-quarters of a million words about that already. Read **SchNEWSreader** and **SchNEWSround**. But the squatted Courthouse was the birth of it all for Justice? "The council had estimated it would cost £4M for them to renovate it. When we went in, Justice? had £193 in the bank," remembers Robin. Tony: "We learned a lot from other struggles. At the Courthouse, Women Against Pit Closures came down to talk to us and it was the best thing I ever heard there. I think they convinced a lot of people we should barricade and stop the bailiffs. Up 'til then, many were saying we should just walk out and go to another squat - then along came these women from a mining village and said: 'It's your space, defend it.'" Mo: "A lot of people involved in Justice? are 17, 18 ... they don't know anything about that history. It's up to us to get that information out to everyone." It was the time we hammered out our differences, openly, in public. Often over a hundred people would sit in a circle and debate, debate, debate. It was heated, comical, exhilarating. We scabbled for the common ground but we reached it and we stood proudly together.

**SINGLE ISSUE?** You don't worry about the hole in the ozone layer when there's a hole in your roof. Environment, poverty and social sanity are impossible to divide. When **SchNEWS** invited striking Liverpool Dockers down to our first birthday party, two months into the lock-out, it was in recognition of this. Docker Bobby Moreton: "The key word is action. When we were earning say £20,000 a year, in full-time employment and could go to the pub every night, when we met at trade union meetings we used to argue like cat and dog about Marx, Lenin, Trotsky - fuck me these people have been dead for 50 years! But all of a sudden, once you are thrown into a dispute and taking part in action we don't talk about them anymore, thank God, we have to sort out day to day activities. When you are taking action your mind is working and you're not dwelling on the past." Over two years later, we are still battling the same forces of corporate power. Ordinary people, together, defending the bottom line. One Dutch activist observed: "The UK is years ahead of Europe. You don't get paralysed by factional debate. You just do it."

**THE OFFICE**> The light switch is a big red and silver heart, from some demo or another. All manner of leaflets and posters fight for every available inch of space. Colour blasts out from stencilled graffiti dominated by Frankie, the Repetitive Beast, on the far wall. A rumpled blanket on the sofa - someone's had a late night. There's an emergency condom on a string. It's never been pulled. (The same can't be said of most of the activists). It's .... The Office. Our office has been one of the few constant contact points of the 90s protest movement. Here's a sample of this week's karma bonuses - the things that keep us all going: a cheque this morning for £250 for a **SchNEWS** subscription; a newly released prisoner just called to say they want to come down to

Brighton to thank us all; an e-mail relates the story of the late Vincent Hanna, a TV political pundit, who kept a copy of **SchNEWSreader** in the loo. "SchNEWS gets read in the most unusual places," it says. (Someone jokes there were only two pages left) A sample phonelog from yesterday:

- "Have you got Resource Centre catering equipment?"
- "Isabell from CNN. Wants to do a program on the Anarchist Teapot"
- "Heavy breathing (!)"
- "Meet at Brownsword Library for Zapatistas"
- "A geezer called Sparky wants 10 **SchNEWSround**"
- "Mark Thomas wants to do a genetic action for Ch4 and looking for ideas"
- "Crap arrest at COPEX. One dropped his trousers at cameras and gave the Full Monty saying 'the law is an ass'"

Giving it a rough guess, we reckon on answering about 150 phone calls, 100 letters, and 200 e-mails a week. That makes for a pretty hectic office.

**BIG BROTHER**> Sussex Police once tried to ban our meetings by leaning on the landlord in a local pub. So we simply marched down the police station and held it there, a hundred grinning activists in the foyer and one bemused desk sergeant. They didn't try again after that. Several people have been approached to provide information for cash. They got their bugging knickers in a twist one time and we were greeted with "Hello, Devizes HQ" on picking up the phone. We are followed around and photographed and filmed and filed just about every week. It's not worth losing sleep over. When the words police, arrest, court and prison are being uttered daily the only recourse is to black humour - hence the regular "Crap Arrests" feature in **SchNEWS**.

**AND FOR OUR NEXT TRICK**> Since 1994 we've branched out, moved on, dug in (our allotment is a jewel of a forest garden). Of the hundreds involved, people are infiltrating all sectors of society, touched by what is being achieved together. Now we are under threat of imprisonment for just writing about actions (support the GAndALF 3! - see **Sch143**). Corporate power is reaching it's capitalist utopia - it's MAI-DAY! (see **Sch141**) and we are globalising ourselves in response. And, of course, there's New Labour. On his last visit to Brighton, on the election trail, we followed Tony Blair and offered him a copy of **SchNEWS** for an autograph. "I never know what I'm signing" smiled Blair and duly obliged. The world is safe in their hands? Nope. It's up to us. You and me. DiY. **This is the SchNEWS...**

...comes  
appears on paper.  
front of this **SchNEWS**, in  
RTS in London this Satur  
vice by calling 0131 533 711

...and  
**SchNEWS** readers will be h  
following tragic tale from th  
Review. A Kent egg retur  
tion after spraying toxic che  
of some unfortunate citize  
"and went to the lit  
his bladder"

I'm at present preparing to move into a dwelling where i will not be using traditional energy, ie; no mains electricity, gas or water, hense can you help me find alternative methods of;

1. Building a shower unit.

Maria Southampton

SBC NEWS was an eye-opener for me + my friends as we never get the hard facts on what's happening here in N. Wales

~~now think that the time has come to educate our children so could you be darlings and send them some too~~

At my school I'm doing a presentation police brutality. Please could send me information about the CJA and anything else relevant to the subject.

Steven Edgware Middx

Earlier this year I wrote to you because I was doing a project on homelessness for my Humanities G.C.S.E. and wished to find out more about the squatters estate agency.

I am very pleased to write and tell you that I got an A\* for this project.

Rebecca Northwood

it be sent under plain cover, you know what parents are like  
Mainly could  
Justin

I love Schnews and believe in most you report about. I want to help but living up a tree just isn't practical as I have a husband and two kids. What can I do aged 40+!

Sandra Stoke Keep it up Here, to another year!

Mark Slagh as a morman might say I read the Good Schnews Bule.

not go + do some shopping so that I can continue + feel content. honest. ANDREW GLENGALL GROVE

BIG shout going out to everyone at SchNEWS,

- PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW - THEN THEY CAN ACT

SchNEWS will become more popular than The Sun.

Mog-Ur Krieb Dragonrider,

Chatham Grammar School for Girls

We are two A-Level Media Studies students at Chatham Grammar School for Girls, and we have been asked to learn more about your organisation, as your work reminds us of the underground press of the last century, which achieved so much for the ordinary people of this country.

Alex Warringtonville

The best newsletter out!

Keep Schnews alive!

NAOMI READING

Chris Morris was Radio 1 last night, chatting about the various fanzines

THEN: he brought up Schnews,

praised it to the heavens, read out the disclaimer, talked about some other stories and gave the subscription details! It was a bloody free two minute advert on national radio!!

I like the newsheet (though lets name some names - mention capitalism and the ruling class more (but obviously not in some boring lefty sense) Norman London

It has probably been mentioned to you many times in the past, but the non-sectarianism of the paper and its emphasis on active campaigning on all fronts, as opposed to divisive infighting and endless theoretical arguments, is refreshing and, I'm glad to say, seems to be spreading across the spectrum of progressive and radical politics. Your recent front-page article on alternatives to the Labour and Conservative parties in the General Election campaign was a case in point, outlining different approaches from the Green Party and Socialist Alliance right the way through to the anarchist-lead anti-election initiatives, but arguing for none of these as the 'right' path to follow. Such non-sectarianism is welcome and vital if the alliance between Red and Green ideas is to continue to grow and bring change.

Dave

ABERYSTWYTH  
Cefedigion

Thank you for so many belly laughs, so much inspiration and so much outrage for an-hundred-and-odd issues  
Catherine New Barnet

Tockus  
Barnet,

Is a cash donation okay? Don't spend it on beer!

Call me a hopeless cynic:

but I cannot see the election of a public school, Oxbridge educated, middle-class, white male lawyer to the highest office in the land as any sort of a revolution.

Time  
~~is~~



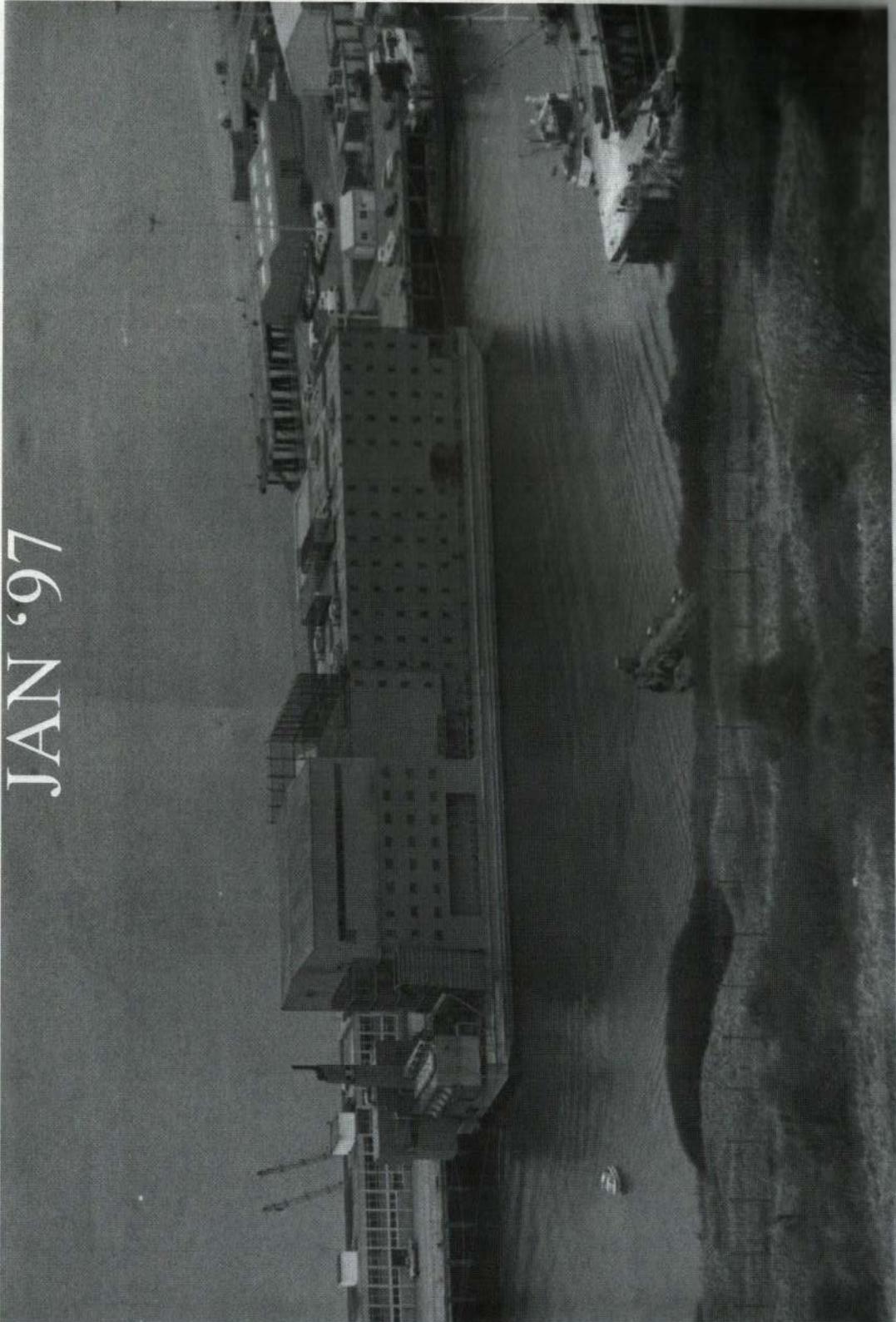
Keep up the excellent work and don't get a job - GRIND THE BASTARDS DOWN..... Mel Crynych

“E. COLI WARRIORS’ PLAUGE SPREADS TO DEVON”

Fairmile '96 - Alec Smart



JAN '97



JACK STRAW CHECKS OUT HIS SON'S NEW DIGS

Tom Barron



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER WUNNERFUL WOMBLIN'...

# SchNEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?



Free/Donation

Issue 101

13th December 1996

## UNDERGROUND OVERGROUND

*"The underground media is produced by activists - bored of not being given a platform, we create our own; bored of being misquoted, we quote each other; bored of going on actions, then rushing home to find the news either disregarding us, or distorting our deeds and words."*

Jamie, Small World Media

Did you know that just five companies own at least 85% of UK newspaper sales? (*News International, Mirror Group, Daily Mail plc, United Papers plc, & The Telegraph plc*). With that ownership comes censorship, in the form of owners with their own political agenda. Many people wondered why it was only after Robert Maxwell's death that he was revealed to be such a crook. The answer is simple: censorship, thanks to deep pockets and the libel laws.

Censorship comes when editors pander to the whims of advertisers, scared that they would pull their cash if the papers started to offend the money bags. Even after the murder of Nigerian activist Ken Saro Wiwa last year, the Guardian still ran adverts for Shell on their pages.

SchNEWS was shocked when it opened last week's Observer and a supplement about Indonesia's business opportunities fell onto the floor. Had they not heard of the human rights atrocities in East Timor? When we rang to quiz them, the Observer told SchNEWS that "this information was confidential". Phaps the next supplement will outline business opportunities in Burma?

Censorship even comes from within, from scribes either being too lazy or too busy to research a story properly, or just simply imposing their own form of self-censorship.

*"Journalists censor themselves daily, toning down or rejecting passages - sometimes whole articles. Crime reporters don't trum-*

*pet police sloth or incompetence, as the job needs inside sources."*

John Sweeney, The Observer.

Freelance journo Danny Penman told SchNEWS: "A mainstream journalist too often spends time commenting to a tightly focused group, feeding people's prejudices to hold their interest rather than opening their minds to new ideas. That can only ever have a corrosive effect on democracy, freedom of thought and expression."

Last year, a socio-professional profile of British journalists was carried out - revealing it to be an almost exclusively white middle class occupation. Half went to university, 95% are in favour of competition, 88% favour free enterprise...

### SO IS UNDERGROUND MEDIA THE ANSWER?

*"While media activists and the general public can use consumer equipment for their productions, they are severely hampered by the corporate stranglehold over the means of exhibition and distribution"*

*"Our culture is dominated by the influence of the corporate mentality as never before... A popular movement for social change must take advantage of the new technologies to further democratise the nation and to empower the disenfranchised. It is not the technology that will revolutionise society, but a movement of millions that must transform society."*

### Contacts

Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom 0171 278 4430 \*\*Bypass: listings of underground press. £2 to ByPass, P.O. Box 148, Hove, BN3 3DQ \*\*Undercurrents - 'the alternative news service' on video. Issue 6 now available for £12.95/£9.95 concs from 16B Cherwill St., Oxford, OX4 1BG 01865 203 662 \*\* INK (the trade association for small press) 0181 671 7920

### DIGITAL TV

*"Rupert wants to rule the world and he seems to be doing it"*

Digital TV is the latest advance of the information superhighway. A box by the TV will give you 150 channels beamed to you by satellite. However, before even a single box appears in our homes, the playing field isn't level. Rupert Murdoch's BSkyB has announced that it will launch a digital service next year - long before other channels get their act together. The BBC and Granada have already signed up to be amongst the 150 services offered on the new satellite. This means he is likely to achieve a 25% share of the digital market, to nestle alongside his 30% ownership of the UK newspaper market.

Such media control comes from a man who threw the BBC off his Star satellite in Asia because its news coverage was offending the Chinese government, and forced Viacom, one of America's largest entertainment corporations, to sell an interest in one of its companies to Murdoch in order to get their programmes onto BSkyB.

Anyone who stands in the way of Murdoch, may find any of his newspapers in 4 continents swiftly deployed against them. Right now Murdoch's tabloid *New York Daily Post* is being used to attack Ted Turner of CNN who have persuaded Time Warner to dump Murdoch's Fox News Channel.

### THE EVENING ARGUS...

...disgusted with falling ratings (from 100,000 in 1985 to a mere 66,000 in 1996) sacked editor Chris Fowler this week. When in charge, he instructed the Argus-owned monthly music magazine *Hyper* to censor any news on SchNEWS or Justice? Sorry to see you go, Chris, after our long and fruitful working relationship. Phaps you'd like to join our Media Training Day (see below), and see how it's really done!

### SchNEWS TRAINING DAY

*Come and find out how we do it. Training in database, news research, DTP and stuffin' envelopes! January 6th. Ring the office for details.*

**@NTI-COPYRIGHT...ALL COPYRIGHT IS THEFT...SMASH CAPITALISM!**

## Diary of a Direct Action Conference Organiser

Wednesday night 2 a.m. The phone rings...they're in. 4 people have managed to get through a broken window and re-enter the old Courthouse building. It had lain empty for years before Justice? squatted it in 1994 to protest against the CJB. During our occupation we fixed the roof, plumbing, electricity, toilets and set up a community centre.

51 days later it was all over. *Alford Developments* got an eviction notice, promising in court to use the place as a homeless hostel over Christmas (they didn't). The bailiffs came in and trashed the place... 2 years on and it's still empty. Brighton Council have threatened the owners that if immediate repairs aren't made to the Grade II listed building, the council will start work and send the owners the bill.

Thursday morning 8.30 a.m. - the police show up, and despite a huge section 6 banner hanging from the roof, letting the authorities know it's been legally squatted, they're ready to move in. Chief Inspector Martin Bailey tells the occupiers he doesn't care about the law; the squatters have committed criminal damage by allegedly breaking a window getting into the property. But what about the criminal damage the owners are causing, letting water pour through the roof?

Panic stations as we activate the phone tree - there's fifteen police, with dogs, and a battering ram smashing their way in - the irony that they are doing this in order to arrest people for criminal damage isn't lost on us! A solicitor is telling one of the occupiers on the mobile that the police can't evict, they need a court order - "But they are evicting us now!" she yells back down the phone!

Three brave souls hang from a window ledge in the cold for nearly 7 hours, by which time we can get a crowd of people, a band playing, a mobile café, lots of media coverage, a solicitor and local green party councillor - Pete West - who tells the press: "It's a pity police don't take as much action when there's a burglary." Lydia Dagostino from Bindmans Solicitors tries to reason with senior officers but gets nowhere: "The overall response was totally disproportionate to the alleged offence. It seems that senior police officers are willing to go to any lengths to stop this sort of thing happening in Brighton even if they are acting illegally."

12 noon Friday and about 50 of us assemble in a pub and walk en masse to another squat cracked in the early hours of the morning. Strength in numbers we hope. We're followed by two undercover police, and within minutes a police helicopter is flying overhead. We're in - but the place is too small, so a few of us go searching for another venue. By now the town is crawling with cops - why? We only want to hold a Conference!

Months of planning... but it's 7 a.m. Saturday before another venue is found: a 14 storey office block that's been derelict for a decade. Its grim inside, and only 2 floors are useable and there's no water or electricity. But

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send first class stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) or if you can afford it... SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. Mark "original" if you plan to copy. SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o On The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax: (01273) 685913 Email: schnews@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/

To our long-suffering subscribers - sorry! - computer & human malfunctions... we'll sort it out in '97. Contact us if you didn't get this one by post! Happy New Year!

by noon, its been made habitable, and the Conference is underway.

5 hours later, and up to 400 people have been discussing everything from green parenting to prisoner support; genetics to the ever increasing powers of the police - and stuffing their faces with vegan chocolate cake. The planned party is off - the building's too dangerous, and back at the other smaller squat the council have slapped on a noise abatement order before a note of music has been struck - but some acoustic bands still play and people party.

The theme of the Conference was about uniting different people in different struggles - about the fact that the DIY protest movement was never about single issues but against a system that puts profits and property before people. About getting off your arse and doing it for yourself. Voting with your feet and actions 365 days a year rather than crossing a box every four years. About not just fighting back but putting down positive building blocks - visions of the future.

### WRITE TO A PRISONER FOR CHRISTMAS...

**Satpal Ram** E94164 HMP Gartree, Leicester Rd, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 7R serving a life sentence for defending himself against a racist attack \*\*\* **Clive Dalrymple** HMP Pentonville, Caledonian Rd., London, N7 8TT four years for running over a coppers foot \*\*\* **Marianne Keita**, H Wing HMP Durham, Old Elvet, Durham, DH1 3HU French mother of four serving 16 years for drug offences. Limited knowledge of English - letters in French if you can please. \*\*\* **Paul Studhulm (Sky)** TJ 1655 HMP Reading, Forbury Rd., Reading. On remand for non-payment of fines during Newbury Bypass protests. Nicked while signing on. \*\*\* **Ronnie Easterbrook**, Belmarsh Prison, Western Way, Thamesmead, London, SE28.

## Newbury update

Newbury Bypass contractors Costain are still in the financial shit and have got another Extraordinary General Meeting on January 6th 10 a.m. at the Barbican Centre. Meanwhile, the Spiritual Roots camp was evicted on Wednesday. January 9-11th there's gonna be a Reunion Rampage - celebrating the anniversary of the first week when the forces of darkness were stopped successfully in their tracks, and if you ever wondered what all the fuss was about watch Channel 4 8.30pm next Tuesday - The Battle of Rickety Bridge.

## SchNEWS in brief...

People needed to stop clearance work at **Stringer's Common**, nr. Guildford. The A320 road widening scheme will cut a new route through woods, wet grassland, and an SSSI, cutting down hundreds of trees. More info/directions: 01483 32167 \*\*\* The **Early Learning Centre** are to discontinue a wooden train with a SHELL logo on it after just one complaint! \*\*\* November anti-consumer 'No Shop Day' actions in Sheffield's 'MeadowHill', Manchester's Arndale Centre and Kensington High Street by aliens, monks and a walking, talking TV espousing the dangers of consumerism! \*\*\* A new

activist network has formed in the South West, called the **Southwest Activists Network**. Their first joint action was then close a Shell garage last month, and more actions are planned for the new year. Contact them on 01458 851061. Next meeting on Jan 18th \*\*\* Dates for your diary: Dec 18th - **Kirkcuball Valley Campaign Action**, opposing supermarket development. Info: 0113 262 9366. 19th - **Vigil outside Maidstone Prison** for political prisoners **Winston Silcott**, **Raphael Rowe** & **Oliver Campbell**, 12 noon. Info: 01474 566701. Jan 8th - discussion about the future of the direct action movement at the 121 Centre in Brixton. Free pancakes! 6th - **Miners Support Group Action**. Meet 10.30 at Chesterfield BR station car park. Make some fuckin' noise! Info: 0171 672 9698. 9th-11th - **Newbury Reunion Rampage & Rally**. Details: 01635 45544. \*\*\* Check the **Zapatistas** web site: <http://planet.com.mx/~chiapas/> \*\*\* The US radical ecological publication **Live Wild or Die!** are being targeted by the authorities with one person being hassled by the FBI. Info from: **Katuah EF!**, Tennessee Valley Faction, 1414 Highland Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37916, USA \*\*\* Nice one to an aboriginal group from the **Ma Kominsing Anishinawbeg** tribe in North America, who blew up a bridge in Ontario in a battle to prevent logging and mining in old growth forests. \*\*\* **Houseman's 1997 Peace Diary** now available £6.95 from **Houseman's Bookshop**, 5 Caledonian Rd., London, N1 9DX. Tel: 0171 847 4473. Includes **World Peace Directory**, listing over 1900 active groups. \*\*\* The M77 opened Dec 6th and **Pollock Free State** dismantled - farewell, your spirit will live on...

## SchNEWSround!

Issues 51-100, photos, stories, coffee tables! Out now at an incredibly SchNEWS-funding £4.99. Phone us for your copy in time for Christmas!

## RIP Squatter Alex

On the early hours of Sunday morning 1<sup>st</sup> December **Alex Balchin** died in a tragic accident, falling from the roof of the old County Hall Building in London which was being squatted for a party. Alex might have seemed to have his head in the clouds, but he was an inspiration, bursting with ideas and a sense of fun. One of the main players behind the cheekiest squat of 1995 - the West Pier, seized in a dawn raid after the council evicted people from the beach huts; to the Nunnery in Hove, to the Squatters Estate Agents, where on the opening day he sat outside on a cushion with a sign asking passers-by to chat to him to find out about peace, love and inner happiness, Alex always had a smile on his face! He acted on his ideas, plotting and scheming, bringing colour into peoples lives. He will be deeply missed by everyone who knew and loved him. His funeral is on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2.30 p.m. at **West crematorium**. Coaches leaving from the **New Kensington pub**. Justice? sends our condolences to **Robert and Jenny Balchin** and brother **Tom**.

## In The Heart Of The Town

By David Burke : The White dot Magazine  
Email [whitedot@mistral.co.uk](mailto:whitedot@mistral.co.uk).



The following words are true. These places actually exist : You get a cheap flight to Florida. From there, you get a cheap flight to Mexico. Cancun is dreadful - a manufactured tourist resort with huge, sterile hotels facing the water and local Indians bused in from dirty tree neighbourhoods of breeze block buildings to clean the toilets and make the beds.

However, at night, while the tourists watch television in their air conditioned rooms, the locals of Cancun walk out under the stars to the zocalo, their town square.

We have town squares in this country - a park, some benches or maybe a flag or a war memorial. But what they have in Mexican town squares that we don't, even in Cancun's grubby, concrete Zocalo, are people. Children run around, teenagers flirt, old men and women talk, families argue. The whole town just sit there, enjoying the night and the company of human beings. All over Mexico there are Zocalos each different. On Isla Mujeres, just across from Cancun, the zocalos is dominated by a never ending football game played on a court inside a high fence. They could use some more grass but the scent is softened by trees and the sound of the ocean. Up the coast, in Merida, a green lawn holds the restaurants and government buildings back from the Spanish church.

Buskers like to play guitar and cold drinks are sold from the back of a truck. The horse and buggy offers romantic rides for tourists (don't take one. The local kids run after you yelling insults), a water tap sticks out the ground next to one of the benches. People use it to wet their hankchiefs and dab the heat off their foreheads until the next breeze comes along and pushes the trees around.

Carlos came to Britain from Madrid, which he says looks like any other big city. But his relatives live twenty minutes outside and their town square is always full of people. "They love cards," says Carlos, "Men go to the bars and drink very small glasses of wine and play cards or dominoes. Not usually for money. If they stay there for two or three hours, they drink two or three glasses of wine. And that's usually what they bet - no more. Here, nobody does that."

His fiancée Francesca is from Italy. "I lived on a tiny street" She says, "and in the evening, women take their chairs out and talk and do their knitting. It was irritating sometimes when I was trying to read. I could hear them shouting to each other 'Ciao! ciao!'"

Why don't we have zocalo in Britain? Well, there the weather of course. Half the year it is too cold to sit out, and we get more rain.

But Sarah Hawkes, who lived in the Canary Islands for 20 years before returning to Britain, thinks there is another reason.

"We never had a television. We had no electricity, no running water. We didn't need it. The day they got electricity in that village, the first thing people wanted before anything else was a television. The effect, was devastating. Instead of the whole town meeting in the church square, everybody stayed home and watched Television. I knew these people," she says, "They were absolutely unmaterialistic. After television, they all wanted cars. They wanted Mercedes." She found herself sitting alone in the square with the few old Cuban men who preferred to sit and discuss and philosophise. She is now at university studying French and third world development. "When I came back, it blew my mind," she says. "I couldn't believe how alienated people had become." Is alienation a medical condition? Is it a mental illness? Or is alienation something we do, like sitting in a pub and talking, or watching television? What makes the zocalo on Isla Mujeres sound like a fairy tale, and the old Cuban men sound like a bunch of eccentrics? What is it we are so busy doing, that we cannot bring ourselves to walk out the front door and join in?

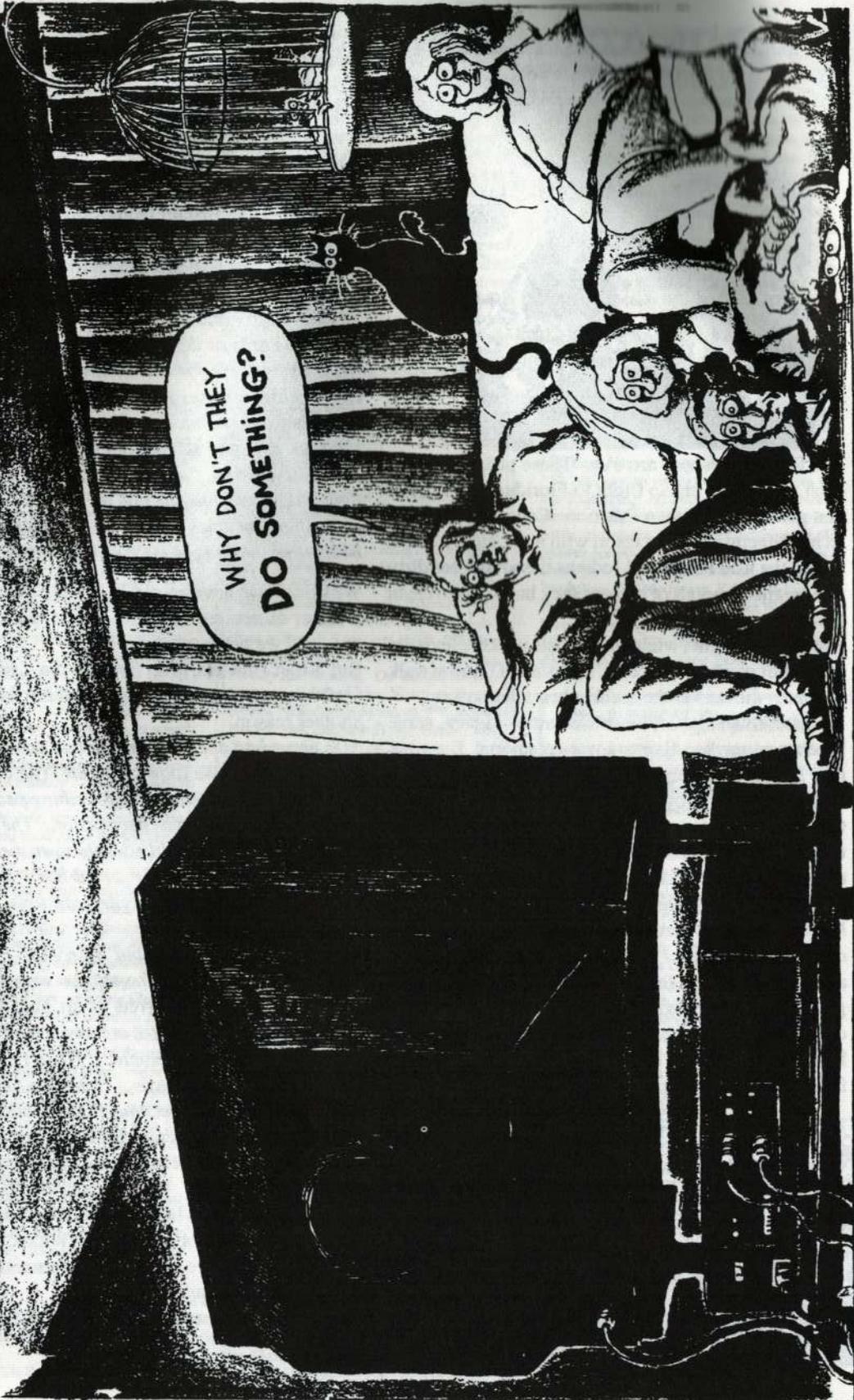
Maybe there's a word for it in Spanish.



107 2 93

Steve Gold 1993

WHY DON'T THEY  
DO SOMETHING?





WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER SHIP-SHAPE...

# SchNEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?



Issue 102

10th January 1997

Free/Donation

## HOWARD AHOY!

113.—(1) The Secretary of State may declare to be a prison—

(b) any floating structure or part of such a structure constructed or adapted for the purpose,

Provision of new prisons.

Seasick? Well watch out, 'cos Britain could be getting it's first prison ship if plans by the Home Office get the go ahead. Britain's prison population continues to soar which means more buildings are needed to house everyone - the problem is not many local authorities want them in their areas, so the Home Office has come up with a cunning plan. They are turning to a little known clause contained in the 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act to help stay afloat in the rising tide.

The purpose-built ship with a capacity to hold 480 inmates is currently in New York harbour and 'surplus to requirements'. The American company involved still remains a mystery to SchNEWS as we went to press, with the Prison Service press office telling us such information was 'confidential'.

The ship is due to be moored in Portland harbour and plenty of local people are up in arms - they've already got one prison, a Young Offender's Institute and a Ministry of Defence base. The site is near a nature reserve in waters that are clean and used for commercial fishing. But even if local Weymouth and Portland Council object to the decision, the Home Office application could get the go ahead 'in the national interest'. And as the Chief Planning Officer told SchNEWS "it's not on land, so does it

even need planning permission?"

SchNEWS hopes it doesn't go the way of Britain's last prison ship-a converted ferry called the Earl William which was home to Tamil immigration detainees until the ship ran aground from its moorings off Harwich in the storm of '87!

### IT PAYS TO GO TO PRISON

Inmates in some America jails are now required to pay \$40 for each night spent in prison! In New Mexico inmates are being charged \$21,352 for their first year behind bars. To pay this off they are allowed to labour at \$5 per hour...this means it would take over 2 years of full time work to pay off the first year of prison. When they get out, the state can repossess whatever property a prisoner may have or deduct from their wages. Nothing in the law keeps officials from forcing prisoners to remain in custody (after their sentence is served) to work - theoretically forever- to pay the ever-mounting debt.

\*So many people are being sent down in the USA, that telephone 'helplines', just for prisoners have been set up. For \$2.50 a minute you can hear answers to Frequently Asked Questions about the Big House, such as how to reduce your sentence, what things to bring to prison, and tips like: see a dentist before you go in... Something for British Telecom to think about.

### ROADRAGE

Re-union rampage antics on Thursday when people opposed to the Newbury Bypass decided to build a road through Sir George Young's back garden! 10 people were nicked for "conspiracy to cause criminal damage" in an action Assistant Chief Constable Robert Davies described as "deplorable". But what about these 'deplorable' bail conditions - banned from within 3 miles of Maidenhead and Newbury and 1 mile from the Bypass. They must stay at home in the evening and are not allowed to attend any demonstrations. The cops also confiscated everyones boots for forensic tests. 01635 45544

### Crap arrest of the week

Lawrence O'Dowd was fined £100 by York magistrates for saying "Miaow" to a police dog. The unemployed 18-year old was arrested by Sergeant Fred Taylor and charged with using threatening and abusive words and behaviour. Poor Lawrence was also bound over for two years to keep the peace. He was unavailable for comment. Obviously the cat got his tongue!

### ALL OUT FOR A WORLD WIDE STRIKE

Liverpool Dockers, on strike now for 15 months against casual labour practices, have called for a world-wide strike of docks on the 20th January. Ports around the world that have agreed to go on strike include Japan, Australia, New Zealand and the West Coast of America, and they are now working on Europe and Canada!

There will also be a mass picket on Seaforth Docks, Liverpool on the same day. Call 0151 207 3388

\* 350 workers at the Magnet kitchen manufacturing factory in Darlington are in their 20th week of striking, after six months of negotiations about pay increases broke down. They are holding a Mass Picket on 14th February. The St. Valentine's Day Wipe Out will protest on the picket line outside the factory all day. Get up there for some action. Magnet Factory, Allington Way, Yarm Industrial Estate, Darlington 01325 282389

\* Workers at the Glacier RPB engineering plant in Glasgow are continuing with their round the clock sit-ins. The 103 skilled workers were sacked two months ago when they objected to the introduction of unsafe working practices and changes in their contracts, which included a reduction in their wages.

\* Next Justice? meeting on 21st January features "Flickering Flame", the Ken Loach film about the Liverpool dockers. Plus Reclaim The Future film by Conscious Cinema 7.30 p.m. @ the Albert Pub, Trafalgar St.

### Did you know?

- 75% of prisoners were unemployed before they went inside
- 46% had drink problems
- 35% had drug problems
- 33% had been in care
- 28% had chronic housing problems
- 15% had mental disorders
- 10% had tried to commit suicide.

(1994 figures)

*It is not enough to curse the darkness. It is also necessary to light a lamp*

## VIVA ZAPATISTAS!

January 1st 1994. Thousands of Indians armed with machetes, clubs and a few guns occupy four of the major towns in the Chiapas region, southern Mexico, and declare war on the Mexican government. The government respond by sending in troops thinking the uprising would be over in days. Three years later and they're still there!

\*Read Rebellion from the Roots by John Ross; First World ha,ha,ha by Elaine Katzberger and Post Scriptum - the European Zapatista solidarity paper available on disc or paper (English, Spanish and a bit of French) from: L'Europeo des luttes, c/o Schwarzmärkt, Kl.Schaferkamp 46, 20357 Hamburg, Germany. Zapatista's web-site <http://planet.com.mx/-chiapas/>

## THE PLUS FILES

It's not all doom and gloom and endless direct actions...is it? From now on each issue of SchNEWS will spotlight people out there doing it, building a better future now...if you're one of those people or would like to make a nomination, drop us a line at the SchNEWSdesk.

## SLEAZE PLEASE HOTLINE!

Fed up with MPs who moan about dole-scrangers while they give themselves a nice pay rise and a few more directorships? Bosses who sack half the workforce, cut the remainders pay then give themselves a nice big bonus? So are we - so let's expose them. Ring the SchNEWS desk with your sleaze please..... **No.1 Steven Norris MP.**

Yes, the ex-minister for transport, instrumental in the privatisation of railways, and the growing mess that is Britain's bus services, has become part-time director of Stagecoach Ltd - one of the most prominent companies buying up the bus and train network. Stagecoach actions have been described by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission as 'predatory, deplorable and against the public interest', so Norris should fit in well. His salary? £50,000 a year.

## SchNEWSround

SchNEWS issues 51-100 and lots more. If you want to a copy, send us a fiver. It would also be handy if people could order the SchNEWSround from their local library, so that we get increased sales, and other people get a chance to read it. The ISBN number of the book is 09529748 0 0.

\*We could really do with a couple of people in the Brighton area who are willing to help distribute the SchNEWS each Friday around town to various cafes, shops, pubs etc.\* Can you type? Know anything about web sites? We need help in giving our website a good spring clean, and get the back issues on line. E-mail Toby at: [schnews@brighton.co.uk](mailto:schnews@brighton.co.uk).

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send first class stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) or if you can afford it... SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. Mark "original" if you plan to copy. SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o On The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax: (01273) 685913 Email: [schnews@brighton.co.uk](mailto:schnews@brighton.co.uk) E-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

Warning: Both our computers are very ill and our database has got a migraine...we are working day and night to rectify the situation...in the meantime expect a few blips till the end of the month, dear long suffering subscribers. We are sorry...Honest

## SchNEWS in Brief..

Haringey Solidarity Group have produced an informative leaflet about filling in the Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) forms for new claimants or those attending a restart interview. Send SAE to PO 2474, London, N8 or call 0181 802 9804 \*\*\* The TUC have produced a leaflet outlining the implications of the JSA for people in work SAE to Jobs not JSA!, TUC, Gt. Russell St, WC1 B3LS. Tel. 0171 467 1319 \*\*\* The anti roads protest continues to grow with the occupation of the four lane B31 in Freiburg, Germany. 50 activists built a village of tents and treehouses for nine days, before being evicted by 2500 police in a ten hour marathon. 700 protesters were blocked from the site so shouted support from outside \*\*\* 100 activists turned up at Chatsworth House, near Chesterfield last Sunday to protest against plans by the Duke of Devonshire to start open cast mining on his land With a sound system playing noises from open cast mines they certainly made their presence heard! 0181 672 9698 \*\*\* The British Hemp Stores have produced a glossy catalogue of their creations, cool clothes (okay we stand accused of promoting consumerism, but we all need clothes, eh?)

\*\*\* Latest from the Luton massive - Exodus are waiting for an appeal date to try and overturn the decision to evict them from Long Meadow Community Farm. Contact us for details of how you can help defend the farm \*\*\* The Terry O'Halloran Memorial Fund present an afternoon of poetry readings and messages in honour of the prison rights campaigner who died at a tragically young age. Meet 2pm, Sat 18th Jan, @ Karl Marx's tomb, Highgate Cemetery, Swans Lane entrance (Tube: Archway) \*\*\* Do the recent reports on genetically engineered soya beans worry you? How about this one? Scientists are well on their way to perfecting xenotransplantation - the art of breeding a genetically engineered pig as a living spare parts factory, then using its organs for transplantation into humans. Lovely... \*\*\* Any of you Somerset lot fancy a gander at some cool photos? Matt will be exhibiting pictures taken over the last seven years, charting the rise in the direct action movement. Get down to the Brewhouse Coal Orchard in Taunton, (01823 274608) \*\*\*How CJA defiance has spawned such babies. The latest is the Lancaster Bookcellar, a radical book/infoshop at 9 Meeting House Lane, Lancaster (01708 381204) \*\*\* Direct Action On Tour! there will be gathering in Bradford/Leeds on 25/26th Jan, to get involved in a direct action trip to Germany in May. Details: 0113 262 9365

\*\*\* The Garden Gnomes Liberation Front are doing people a favour in Normandy, where masked commandos nick gnomes and free them into the woods. \*\*\* A new mag for all you tokers Cannabis UK No. 3, only £1 and includes a free bag of seeds. SAE to Conscious Shopping, 1a Market Place, Glastonbury, Somerset \*\*\* Did anyone see Dave Heard get run over by a police van at the Whately Quarry protest on 4th Dec? Contact us and we will pass on your details \*\*\* We'd like to try to get together a list of friendly solicitors. If you know of a legal practice dedicated to fighting for our rights, please let us know \*\*\* Midland free party heads might want to check out the Tribe of Twat parties. The cheeky blighters have been stompin' it up...under the M1! they have also sent us a guideline sheet produced by solicitors McGrath & Co, which will be useful for any travellers currently facing eviction proceedings. Send us 4 first class stamps for a copy \*\*\* Paul Flynn, Labour MP for Newport West, has told a Welsh language news programme that 'magic mushrooms' are the 'truffles of Wales' and the Welsh Development Agency should help local youngsters exploit them! He swiftly added that he was joking!

## AND FINALLY

### Going down for going down

Watch out kids, oral sex can get you a life sentence in the State of Georgia! American media were silent on this point as the recent Olympic "games" got under way in Atlanta, but foreign newspapers took pains to warn their readers. The Melbourne Australia "Age" advised any in its readership who might be thinking about attending that "The full fury of Deep South justice is reserved for the crime of oral sex, which can incur a life sentence and a prison category second only to death row." There are more than 30 prisoners in Georgia jails with sentences of 16 years or more. The newspaper notes that in Georgia's law books this offence is classified as sodomy "suggesting a certain confusion in some quarters". Quite - but what SchNEWS would dearly like to know is how do they catch the culprits in the first place - undercovers cops?

Taken from the excellent anarchist publication 'the Match' PO Box 3012, Tucson AZ 85702, USA. A fiver should cover the cost of one issue - no cheques tho' please...

Disclaimer. The SchNEWS warns all readers not to get too close to any floating vessels at present, especially if Michael Howard is stood next to it rattling a big bunch of keys. Always take a snorkel, and do not be so wet behind the ears as to believe that prison ships are to answer to society's ills. Then you will have your sea-legs for life's long tempestuous cruise. Honest.

# WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER FIRED UP... SchNEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?



Issue 103

17th January 1997

Free/Donation

## REUNION RAMPAGE!

*"What's worse? The temporary end of a bit of replaceable machinery or the permanent end of one of Britain's most beautiful landscapes? They had it coming."*

Newbury resident

The anniversary of the beginning of work on the Newbury Bypass was marked with a rally of around one thousand people last Saturday. *SchNEWS* had gone along with bits of ribbon to tie onto the fence in "symbolic protest" but as the day unfolded rather more "decoration" happened than many of us bargained for. Fencing was breached, a trickle of activists entering under cover of heavy fog. The trickle became a flood, as more fence surrounding the old Middle Oak camp was cut and pulled down. As police and security looked helplessly on people got more and more cheeky, culminating in a spectacular fireshow provided by a dumper truck a portacabin and the cab of an enormous crane. Youthful campaigners and middle England alike registered their disgust at the wasteland that is now Newbury.

When *SchNEWS* asked Costain to comment on the action they replied, "*We have always supported peaceful protest, but unfortunately after Saturdays events we can no longer support the protesters.*"!

### Who are the real vandals?

Over the last year some of the most beautiful countryside in the South East has been trashed. Wave goodbye to 3 Special Site of Scientific Interest, an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a registered battlefield, 12 sites of archaeological importance, 10 000 trees, a snail's habitat and a colony of dormice. All this for a £101

million road which even the Dept of Transport and local council admit will not solve Newbury's congestion problems.

So was it just so-called 'outside agitators' that joined in the damage? One Newbury woman said "*it's about time something like this happened*", and later a middle-England resident actually asked one protester, sitting on a digger, "*is there some way I can damage this?*"

Rally organisers Friends of the Earth, sang a different tune "*the few malicious hotheads who ruined what had been a wholly peaceful rally....betraying the values of the green movement.*"

Much has been made of how the roads protest movement has shown its true colours and become violent, descending into "chaos and crime".

"Violence" is a very emotive word, and easy to band about. No security guards or police were injured, but one protester was hospitalised and another run down by a police horse. In fact the lead up to the 'Reunion Rampage' saw overkill police tactics continually harassing anyone in the Newbury area stopping and searching vehicles and nicking people for the most minor offences. So far 950 people have been arrested in a year of protests, some spending time inside on nonsense charges, like breaking the ridiculous bail conditions and

### Crap arrest of the week

For not wearing a seatbelt. Thames Valley Police pulled over a carload of "dodgy lookin' geezers". After five minutes of being parked by the roadside, Jay decides to take off his seatbelt - and is then arrested and spends 23 hours in Newbury police station. for? Yes, you've guessed it, not wearing his seatbelt!

High Court injunctions stopping their right to protest. People had obviously had enough..

Now *SchNEWS* would never encourage its readers to take part in such activities, but why is damage to property considered violent? The "Swords into Ploughshares" women were never considered violent for causing £23 million worth of damage to a hawk jet on its way to Indonesia...

\*Some people's masks were pulled off during the action by other protesters. This MUST stop, as people have been sent down in the past after being identified from photos. There are many reasons people may have for masking up (like it was pretty chilly on Saturday) such as outstanding warrants or a desire not want to end up on a Police file. That's their decision.

\*Sharon Locke has been sent down for Newbury protests for 21 days, letters of support and solidarity can be sent to Sharon Locke TG2827, Holloway Prison, Parkhurst Rd, London, N2 0NU.

\*Read 'Battle of the Trees' a personal account of one mans experience of the Newbury campaign. Available for £2.50 + SAE from God Haven Ink, PO Box HP94, Godhaven, Leeds, LS6 1YJ

\*Newbury T shirts are on sale to raise funds for their campaign at £8 or £15 for sweatshirts (plus £2 Postage). Cheques to Third Battle of Newbury, PO Box 5520, Newbury, RG14 7YW. 01635 45544. All T shirts are fire proof we have been told!!!

\*Public Transport faces a further set back as London Transport announce that they received £400 million less than they expected from recent government spending. The Conservatives have also pledged to privatise the tube if they win another term of government.

SchNEWSnight Sat 18 @ Sanctuary 8pm

## ATTENTION ALL JOBBEERS

You thought the Job Seekers Allowance and Workfare were bad? Well those nice caring people in the gov't have found yet another way of saving a few quid. Contract for work is a new scheme planned that will effectively demolish the welfare state as we know it and extend workfare massively. Under contract work anyone who has been signing on for over two years will be handed over to a private company who will give you the equivalent of your dole for work. If you choose to leave the scheme or employment and turn up at the dole to sign on again you will be sent straight back to the private company. The scheme is soon to be on trial in London, Glasgow, Manchester and Leeds, there will be four schemes in operation two run by the private sector and two by employment services to see what has the best results, no prizes to those who guess which will come out on top, especially as the private sector is run purely for profit! So say bye bye Govt run Benefits and jobcentres and hello privately financed schemes pushing you into more shitty unpaid jobs.

## HUNGER STRIKES

42 asylum seekers at Rochester Prison, Kent have been on hunger strike since 6th January. Rochester is a prison and people who have committed no crime are being locked up, some facing deportation, others awaiting the outcomes of appeals. The Prison Service told SchNEWS "The immigration detainees are not treated any differently from other inmates." But this is exactly why they are on hunger strike in the first place - they haven't done anything wrong apart from ask for asylum, with some held for two years waiting to appeal! One detainee complained "I have just gone from gone from one prison (my country) to another". A letter smuggled out of Rochester told of prison staff taking 'pleasure' in unnecessarily "ordering us to give continuous random urine samples, taking our pictures, finger-prints and bodily searches".

\*Prison officials are understood to be looking at putting asylum seekers in the soon to arrive prison ship as they are felt to be more 'docile'.

\* In 1996 a record number of suicides took place in British prisons, 64 in all - 36 prisoners on remand.

\*On January 6<sup>th</sup>, animal rights prisoner Barry Horne began a hunger strike in order to persuade the government to end all links with vivisection within 5 years. Due to deteriorating health, he was due to be moved to the medical centre on Wednesday. 5½ months on a prison vegan diet, and a bout of flu meant that Barry didn't begin his strike in the best of conditions! Barry is in good spirits and is extremely positive - and totally committed to the successful conclusion of this strike.

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send first class stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) or if you can afford it... SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. *Mark "original" if you plan to copy.* SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o On The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax: (01273) 685913 Email: schnews@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>  
Next Justice? meeting: Films about the Liverpool Dockers. Jan 21, 7:30 pm @ Albert Pub, Trafalgar St.

There is a national vigil outside Bullingdon prison, near Bicester, Oxfordshire at 12 noon this Saturday (18<sup>th</sup> January). Info: (01954) 230542. Write to: Barry Horne VC2141, HMP Bullingdon, P.O. Box 50, Bicester, Oxon.

65-year-old "category A" prisoner with a dodgy lung **Ronnie Easterbrook** has been on hunger strike since January 1<sup>st</sup> in protest against "inhumane conditions" - he wants to be de-classified so he can be moved to a better prison. Write (B88459) at HMP Belmarsh, Western Way, Thamesmead, London, SE28 0EB.

## HILLS NOT HOLES

On a dark night two moons ago, locals unhappy with the corporate moonscape created by the ARC superquarry at Whatley in the Mendip hills, took action. It appears that a section of the railway line running from the quarry to the Westbury depot was removed. A line is used exclusively for transporting roadstone blasted from the quarry so no life was put in danger. Shortly afterwards an anonymous saboteur claiming to be from "Hills not Holes", was interviewed on Radio Bristol concerning the action. This resulted in Richard Dixon, ex Lib Dem councillor for the East Mendip ward, who is taking the injunction against the quarry extension through the High courts, having his house raided at 8 am. The police spent ten hours searching his house, forensics even going through his Hoover bag, whilst he was dragged down to the station and "Interviewed extensively". Somerset Police had, amongst other things, confiscated all of the paperwork concerning the quarrying injunction, effectively crippling the case against ARC until they are returned. Four other people were also pulled in for "Conspiracy to cause criminal damage", all but one were later released. Mick Ashton (Mick the Hat) was pulled up on warrants resulting from previous Anti-Roads actions and has gone down for a seven month stretch! Write to Mick Ashton (aka Mick the Hat) BC3059, HMP Horfield, Cambridge Rd, Bristol, B27 8PF. "Hills not Holes" can be contacted at "Mendip Hills not Holes", PO Box 2113, Shepton Mallet, BA4.

## A30 UPDATE

A special court order was obtained to allow bailiffs to evict Fort Trolheim, the second camp on the A30 route last Sunday, whilst many activists were still at Newbury. A violent dawn eviction, during which air pipes to tunnels containing protesters were cut and activists were hauled up shafts, led to the arrest of 17 people for obstruction of bailiffs. All were bailed on condition of not entering a fifteen mile boundary around the site, making it impossible for many activists to sign on, or even use roads leaving the county.

Fairmile, the biggest of the original 3 camps, is on Red Alert and in need of more support. For directions call 01404 815729

## Schnews in brief

Troops of baboons have been ambushing cars along South Africa's busiest highway with showers of rocks. Police are using more rocks to chase the anarchic primates away \*\*\* A burial site is being sought for 60 000 cubic metres of nuclear waste. If you have any ideas about where they should stick it call British Nuclear Fuels Limited on 0171 2229717. The next Women's Peace Camp action at Sellafield is on Saturday 25th January \*\*\* Alleged editors of ALF Newsletter and the Green Anarchist magazine have been charged with conspiracy. Their crime? That "Somewhere in the world over a five year period (they're not sure when) I conspired with people (most of whom I don't know) to incite other people (they don't know who) to commit criminal damage (they don't know what) and the conspiracy continued into the day after we were charged...". A tour to raise awareness has been organised. They will be in Brighton on January 29th, at Sussex University at noon and at the Unemployed centre at 7.30pm. For other dates call 01438 749372 \*\*\* On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January the £5.5 million Wells relief road was opened by John Watts. He was heckled and the stage was rushed, he was unable to officially open the road as a mischievous activist stole the ribbon before it could be cut (presumably to be tied to fences at Newbury the next day).

## and Finally

Know of a politician or celebratory that takes themselves to seriously? Well fear not, cos Noel Godin is coming to Britain. The champion fan-thrower and author of 'Cream and Punishment' has spent the past 20 years cruising his way round Europe targeting celebratory who need to be lightened up.

Attacks are meticulously planned and require a minimum of four people. 'The crucial thing is not to throw the fan, but place it and, most importantly not to give a damn about finding a safe escape route, even if that means being beaten senseless by dreary security guards. We use only the finest patisserie ordered at the last minute from small local bakers. Quality is everything. If things go wrong, we eat them.'

His "cream crusade" appears to gathering momentum and he is in regular contact with groups in Paris, Canada and Switzerland where five cabinet ministers were recently flamed simultaneously. Now he's looking to turn his attention to England "We are only just beginning. We feel ready now. We are strong in numbers. A genuine International Brigade Patisserie has been born. We believe that we are capable of achieving great things in the near future. For instance, I firmly believe that we can fan the Pope."

## Disclaimer

SchNEWS warns all readers not to do anything naughty with earth moving equipment. Never act upon a burning desire to torch a digger. Keep your matches in your pocket and carry on tying those yellow ribbons to the old oak tree. You will then feel content. Honest.



“NEWBURY PROTESTORS TRY OUT THEIR NEW MOBILE BBQ @ REUNION RAMPAGE”

Andrew Tester



# A ROAD TOO FAR?



- ① Dance round Centre Oak.
- ② Crane climb & fire breathing
- ③ PortaCabin smash + burn
- ④ Rocking Rover bumper bumps. BP
- ⑤



Newbury Rally  
 Sat 11th Jan 1997  
 £5/£3

# NEWBURY: JAN 11 1997



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER RAVIN' LUNATIC...

# Seh NEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?



Issue 104

24th January 1997

Free/Donation

## CLUBS TO SHUT SHOCKER

*"Heavy regulation and surveillance could stifle the creative potential of night life: to sanitise dance culture is to destroy its anarchic, hedonistic essence."*

**Mixmag**

You're on your way to your favourite club, but when you get there a notice is pinned on the door. "Sorry, this club has been closed by the council because the police suspect drug dealing/taking was taking place on these premises."

**Come again?**

As the General Election draws near the government are fighting our nation's "declining morality" with a puritan revolution they hope will make clubs clean up, clamp down or shut up shop.

Last week Brighton Borough Council refused to grant the licence for this year's Festival of Freedom. The decision wasn't helped by new government guidelines concerning dance events, which the police waved in the air at the meeting to back up their objections. Yes, the event could go ahead if the police could have CCTV cameras and a large presence. Festival of Freedom, gulag-stylee? And most probably, if it was a paying event, giving the council loadsa money.

With the popular panic concerning Ecstasy, two sets of government proposals to regulate festivals, parties and clubs have emerged. One is a programme of guidelines released by the Home Office (see contacts list). The other is the Private Members Bill by Barry Legg, Conservative MP for SW Milton Keynes, who was involved in the oh-so-moral Westminster Council "Houses for Votes" scandal.

The Home Office paper is a series of guidelines and recommendations for local authorities when granting public entertainment licences. Organisations like Release, Lifeline, the Scottish Drugs Forum and Megadog had some input, helping achieve some positive points like the provision of free drinking water, good ventilation and chill-out areas. However, 20% of the guidelines are so bad they make the rest unworkable!

These include increasingly stringent searches, anti-drug notices, strict security, exclusion of convicted drugs offenders (erm... how?), installation of CCTV cameras... There was also the idea, before it was laughed out of the paper, that there should be intervals of silence during the evening so those dancers can calm down and not get "over excited". Instead, now DJs will be legally bound to quieten things down if people start whipping themselves up into a mad frenzy. Your local Techno DJ could find themselves on the wrong side of the law if they don't see the signs and start playing more laid back tunes.

Inevitably, it will affect festivals such as the Hackney Homeless and the Deptford Urban Free, just as it has the Brighton Freedom Festival who now have to compete financially with the heavy demands of the new licence requirements.

### NOT SORTED

*"If we are not careful night-life will turn out to be no different from the bland consumerist playground of chainstores and fast-food outlets which punctuate the daytime economy"*

Andy Lovatt & Justin O'Connor,  
Manchester Metropolitan University  
Institute for Popular Culture

Legg's new Private Members Bill, launched with Leah Bett's parents by his side, received its 2nd reading last Friday with no opposition. It is likely to become law in March. It will provide councils

with the power to shut down clubs immediately if the police suspect drug taking or dealing. At present clubs can stay open pending appeal. Legg states, "my Bill will allow local authorities to clamp down on clubs that are involved in encouraging the use and dealing of controlled drugs."

There are inherent contradictions and side effects of both Legg's Bill and the guidelines. Firstly, is the provision of drug advice at festivals an admission that organisers are aware of "drug misuse" at the event, and would a festival thus be liable to closure? Also, will desperate club competition mean that rival clubs may "snitch" to authorities so "offenders" will be closed? And what proof do local authorities need in order to close a venue or party? Just vague "suspicion"?

In any case, this puritanism will not stop people taking drugs. The likely consequences are that the scene will head further underground. The CJA outlawed the free party and forced people into clubs; yet the Bill and guidelines will sanitise, sterilise or close clubs, and make obtaining licences increasingly hard.

Clubs, parties and festivals are the few areas in our culture where we can express our creativity; where barriers of race, class and sexuality are transcended. Yet this freedom of expression is being quashed. These requirements are another attempt to "clean us up". We need to enlist the support of club owners and dance organisers, for it is also their jobs and their lifestyle that are on the line.

### GET INFORMED - GET ORGANISED

\*\* Release Advice and helpline on drugs and legal matters 0171 729 5255 \*\* *Code of Good Practice for Safety at Dance Events* guidelines available from the **London Drugs Policy Forum** 0171 332 3084 \*\* *"Sound Advice"* info booklet for SAE from **Advance Party** 0181 450 6929 \*\* [http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/tash\\_lodge](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/tash_lodge) \*\* **United Systems** International free party network. SAE for newsletter 0181 959 7525 \*\* **Festival of Freedom** are carrying on, with a bigger and better festival for 1998. 01273 727309 \*\*

### Crap Arrest of the Week

For throwing a snowball. A sixty year old Shoreham veteran was nicked by those happy-go-lucky constables from Kent after joining in a mass snowball fight. Two years of pent-up anger and frustration over the impartial policing of live export demos spilled over in a very one-way snowball fight, resulting in the cops getting their riot shields out, and arresting the said man. He was later released without charge.

not knowing whether to save or savour the world makes planning a real bitch...

©NTI-COPYRIGHT - INFORMATION FOR ACTION

## UP WHERE THE AIR IS CLEAR?

Last week saw the go-ahead for the £172 million second runway for Manchester airport, part of a £500m development scheme for Cheshire. 1000 acres of greenbelt including 43 ponds, ancient woodland, 15 km of hedgerow, significant river geological features, protected species (badgers, bats, Great Crested newts), 21 buildings including four 17th century Grade II listed homes will be covered in a two mile strip of tarmac. Lovely.

There will be runway walks every second Sunday starting the 26th Jan (meet 10:45 Piccadilly Station, Manchester, or 11:30 at the Ship Inn, Styal.) There are also plans afoot to set up camps, so those willing to get into the Non-Jet-Set should contact Manchester Earth First! on 0161 224 4846.

According to the Climate Action Network at a UN Conference on Global warming last year, "If the airline industry was a country it would rank eighth in the world in terms of emissions." It's time to hit them as hard as the road builders have been! Go for it!

## WHAT'S UP DOCKS?

On Monday eighty ports around the world took some form of industrial action in support of the 500 sacked Liverpool dockers. Dockers in Australia, America, Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Japan, Montreal, Denmark, Sweden and elsewhere joined together in one of the biggest shows of international solidarity for years.

At the Seaforth docks in Liverpool 14 people braved the coldest night of the year and chained themselves onto the top of the 150 foot gantry cranes stopping the unloading of a grain ship - for 27 hours - not just in support of the dockers but also to show disgust of the unloading of genetically engineered soya beans coming in through the port. On the ground traffic was disrupted by a convoy of over one hundred taxi drivers.

The Liverpool dockers went on strike seventeen months ago in protest against casual labour and have been an inspiration to us all. However, they are in desperate need of cash. Donations please to the Merseyside Port Shop Stewards, c/o TGWU, Transport House, Islington, Liverpool, L38 EQ 0151 207 3388  
...That's all folks!

## GE Blues

US pressure on the European Parliament has led to the decision last week to allow Genetically Engineered food to be sold without labelling. Despite the UK Government vowing in December that it wouldn't be pushed around by America, this is one piece of commercial protectionism they can't do anything about. The only way now to check if food has GE ingredients will be to ask the European Commission if it's on their register.

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice!). Or, if you can afford it... £15 for a year's subscription, or the SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. Ask for "originals" if you plan to copy and distribute. SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o On The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 E-mail: schnews-s@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

Too many drugs affect both Legge Bill and both Bill's legs. How much wood would a legless woodchuck chuck?

## Party & Protest

**23rd Jan** Support the Asylum Seekers Hunger Strike - meet outside Home Office, 5-6:30 \*\*\* **26th Jan** Rochester Prison, Kent, 2pm. Coach, Hackney Town Hall, 12:45. Contact Brian 0181 986 3606 \*\*\* **28th Jan** SchLIVE & Conscious Cinema at Sussex Uni, East Slope Bar. 01273 685913 \*\*\* **31st Jan** Menwith Hill blockade. Cat or Helen on 01943 468593 \*\*\* **1st/2nd Feb** Party and Action to celebrate birth of spring. Faslane Peace Camp 01436 820901 \*\*\* **1st Feb** Anniversary of Jill Phipps' death. Nation-wide actions. Contact 01203 632 873 \*\*\* **1st Feb** Groundswell Conference against Job Seekers Allowance. Chestnut Community Centre, 280 St. Ann's Rd, Haringey, 12-6pm. "Project Work" is about to be tested in 29 new areas affecting up to 100,000 claimants - come to meeting to help co-ordinate nation-wide resistance to these attacks Info: PO Box 2474, London N8 \*\*\* **3rd** SchNEWS training day. Call 01273 685913; followed by meeting on Project Work at Albert Pub, Trafalgar St., Brighton \*\*\* **8th Amsterdam Reclaim the Streets!** Contact London RTS for coach on 0171 281 4621 \*\*\* **8/9** Anniversary of Mike Hills' death: Nation-wide actions against hunting. 01203 632873/ HSA 01273 622827 \*\*\* **8th** Football Solidarity! Brighton Independent Supporters Club ask supporters from other clubs to turn up in their colours to show solidarity at the Hattlepool game. 01273 870875 \*\*\* **14th/15th** anniversary of the Sea Empress disaster. Mass direct action against oil industry and Milford Haven Port Authority 01749 812665 (more info next week) \*\*\* **15th** Farnham Fusion Festival, 4 rooms of music mid-day to midnight - £12 01483 454159 \*\*\* Mask-making workshop for dedicated protesters, discretion guaranteed. Brighton venue. Bring old newspapers, oil paints, flour, wallpaper paste... 0850 974181 \*\*\* Campaign Against the Arms Trade One-Day Conference to plan actions to stop the torture trade: Caxton House, London N19 (Archway tube) 0171 281 0297 \*\*\* **SchNEWSnight**, political cabaret at the Sanctuary Café, Brunswick St. East, Hove. Performers welcome to contribute. Ring Justice? \*\*\* **21st** Reclaim The Valley on the anniversary of the first battle of Daisy Nook camp, actions organised against the M66 extension. 0161 344 0255.

FLANNEL  
DEBUT  
TOUR!

Sorted, 'appenin' Brighton band on the road in April - seeking more venues! If you 'appen to 'ave one - call Flying Fish on (01273) 680077. 'Avin' one! Innit!

## Police Ban for Peaceful Protest

Peaceful protests involving gatherings of more than twenty people "normally go unchallenged" but the High Court has thrown its weight around by ruling that people have no basic legal right to such gatherings. The decision, respecting the "trespassory assembly" provisions of the Criminal Justice Act, over-turned an appeal case in which Salisbury Crown Court had said there was no case to answer for two people who had been arrested for being within four miles of Stonehenge, where the police had ordered an exclusion zone. Salisbury Crown Court was criticised for accepting that "any assembly on the highway is lawful as long as it is peaceful and non-obstructive of the highway." That, says the High Court, is "mistaken." The protesters involved will try to take the case to the House of Lords, and onto the European Court of Human rights, to have their acquittals re-instated. The moral of the story: don't have more than 20 friends!

## THE + FILES

+ We can't be always at the barricades, and criticism is more effective backed by positive human solutions to the world's needs. So here's something to look forward to...

+ Does the thought of 40-hour fun-free weeks of multinational misery not appeal to you? Are your whiskers too sensitive for the rat race? Then this is for you ... On Sat. February 1<sup>st</sup>. Oxford Uni are holding an alternative careers fair. From 10am-4pm @ the Examination Halls, High St, Oxford, there will be speakers, potential employers and stalls. Also a workshop on alternative media featuring a SchNEWS bod. Ring 01865 316121 for details.

## and finally...

It may be bloody obvious to most of us at SchNEWSdesk, but now its official - successful politicians and stockbrokers share many of the characteristics of clinical psychopaths. Research by Liza Marshall at the Caledonian University in Glasgow claims that these so called "high flyers" are selfish, callous, remorseless, pathological liars, and basically anti-social, parasitic con artists (you get the picture!). The difference, it seems, is that these psychos don't break the law. But since they made up the laws in the first place it's not surprising (or if they do, they get the best solicitors or feign senile dementia).

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS warns all readers not to attend free parties. Ensure that the only movements you make are economically useful, and sit at home and listen to Des O'Connor albums. Never attend any party that does not include jelly and ice cream and always blow out the candles before the cops arrive. Then you will be bored. Honest.

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice!). Or, if you can afford it... £15 for a year's subscription, or the SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. Ask for "originals" if you plan to copy and distribute. SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o On The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 E-mail: schnews-s@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

Too many drugs affect both Legge Bill and both Bill's legs. How much wood would a legless woodchuck chuck?



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER DIRT DIGGIN'...



# SchNEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?

Issue 105

31st January 1997

Free/Donation

## DIG THAT! Sheriff Sore After Seven Day Shafting

*"It's the only way to get a voice these days. I feel if I had just written to my MP, would I have achieved all this? Would you lot [the assembled media] all be here? I think not."*

Swampy, yesterday.

The last protester along the route of the A30 in Devon emerged from the tunnels at 8:45 p.m. last night after a week underground - setting a post-war eviction record.

Fairmile, the last of the three camps on the A30 route to be evicted, was established over two years ago (pre-dating Newbury) to block Britain's first private road from being built. Not only does it cover more countryside in Tarmac but it's also a symbolic starting point for a disastrous new government policy. Swampy, Animal and the now-famous moles didn't put the Earth first for the media to focus on their lifestyles, they did it to expose this scandal. So here are the facts:

In 1992 the Chancellor announced a private finance initiative which would give a new lease of life to the road building industry. The Design, Build, Finance, Operate (DBFO) scheme was announced. This meant that companies who build roads are not paid immediately, but instead after a 30 year period are given an undeclared amount based on pre-set shadow tolls. In other words the road builders get paid for each vehicle that uses their road. Responsibility is then given to the road builders to encourage motorists to use the road - flying in the face of the government's own admission that new roads create more traffic. This would be done by sign-posting and by encouraging development along the route. Devon County Council has already set aside land along the route for a new town with an expected population of 10,000, a technology park, a power station and an extension to an existing quarry, effectively extending the urban fringes of Exeter to the east by eight miles. This DBFO

scheme, dubbed Destroy, Burn, Fell, Obliterate, is the first road of its kind (it's nearest cousin is the Channel Tunnel). It's a financial nightmare and one with a dubious safety record. The new roads programme means that safety and environmental protection are of little relevance to the private sector profit-making companies who are responsible for the construction of this and many other roads. And just to show they mean business, the Government chose this week to announce the widening (to dual-carriageway) of another section of the A30. European super-trunk route here we come.

The main problem facing bailiffs were the complex tunnels into which protesters have dug - "Built by gypsies with candles", as the Deputy Under-Sheriff put it on Thursday. Meanwhile police have been hassling tunneller's parents for information. But this has been countered by devious actions from activists determined not to let the forces of darkness get away with the abuse of the planet for profit. Last week the Under Sheriff and his men were woken at 4 a.m. by a hoax fire alarm and were forced to wait in the cold car park while the building was subject to an intense safety inspection. Another group of activists targeted *Balfour Beatty*, the company who are building the road, by climbing a crane opposite Parliament owned by the company and unfurling a banner saying "Privatised Vandalism - stop DBFO roads. We Love You Fairmile!" The crane was held for most of the day, and all the crane's occupants were arrested for offences including Aggravated Trespass.

The demands made by the protesters include: removal of harsh bail conditions; secrecy behind DBFO schemes be dropped; and what's left of the beautiful site is preserved until an unbiased & open public inquiry looking at all secret information surrounding the scheme.

A30 campaign: 01404 815729

### SMUG SELF-CONGRATULATORY BASTARD OF THE WEEK

*"We'll have them out in 24 hours ... I think you'd call it a hat-trick"*

**Trevor Coleman, The Under Sheriff of Devon.**

Employed by the High Court, Under-sheriff Coleman has the satisfying job of evicting travellers and gypsies. Usually a solicitor, this man has been hassling people in his spare-time for the past seven years. Now he has finally come up against a group of individuals organised enough to keep his bailiffs from taking control of any land. If you would like to have a friendly chat with the Under Sheriff call his office on 01392 436244.

### RECLAIM THE COAST!

On 15th Feb '96, heading for the Texaco refinery at Milford Haven in Wales, the Sea Empress oil tanker ran aground off Pembrokeshire, spilling 72,000 tonnes of crude oil.

14th-16th Feb sees actions to mark the anniversary - and the oil industry's cover-up. Milford Haven Port Authority cut back on safety procedures, whilst Texaco squeezed the tanker into the Haven at low tide to save money, then refused to pay any of the clean up costs. The same could happen again.

It's time to hit the earth rapists where it hurts. The UK economy depends on bleeding the Welsh coast dry. Most of the coast is a "Special Area of Conservation" (Europe's highest conservation legislation) but despite this, Texaco, Elf and Gulf all have refineries in Milford Haven. By October full-size oil rigs will be in operation. National Power are now planning to burn Oremulsion, "the worlds filthiest oil", at Pembrokeshire Power Station. The "fly ash" from burning is incredibly dangerous to the eco-system, and would be catastrophic in the event of a spill - Oremulsion does not float on the water surface.

The only way to stop another Sea Empress disaster is to shut down Milford Haven. Direct Action to save the Welsh environment is already established with the most high profile campaign being the one in response to the devastation from open-cast coal quarrying tearing across the valleys. A massive action is planned for the anniversary of the disaster on Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Feb. A safe camping space will be set up the day before. Arrive from noon, Feb 14<sup>th</sup> for briefing on the issues, safety at oil refineries, direct action training, legal briefings etc. There's also a crèche. Details (from 12<sup>th</sup> Feb): 01749 812665. Bring very warm clothes and bedding, and waterproofs. If you can't make it to Wales then target your local oil industry outlet. See SchNEWS in log for travel info.

SchNEWS training day - find out how to get involved.  
Mon 3rd Feb @ the Justice? office - call for details.

©NTI-COPYRIGHT - INFORMATION FOR ACTION

## 2 years for no crime

Ejike Emenike, 30, is pastor of *The Lord's Anointed Ministry*, Lagos. He arrived in Britain last February after being beaten and held by Nigerian security forces for denouncing the government over the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa and many other campaigners. Lying close to death in Rochester Prison, Kent, he has been on hunger strike since January 6<sup>th</sup> and refusing fluids since the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Although he has now agreed to start accepting rehydration treatment, another 5 refugees are also refusing food. A prison office spokesperson said, "We cannot force them to take any water if they have made a rational decision of refusal". Ahem, excuse us, but where does rationality come into it? The Home Office told us that a mere 1,295 asylum seekers (at refugee status) were granted entry into the country last year, and an estimated 750 refugees are placed in detention centres and jails each year - for committing no crime.

They come seeking refuge from military regimes and political persecution. The hunger strikers at Rochester come from Nigeria, Russia, Romania, Algeria and Somalia. They left their homelands in the face of persecution. They seek refuge in a country completely alien to them, traumatised and confused. It's ridiculous that the first thing any refugee would do is to confide in an official...yet one of the Asylum Bill's main provisions is to deport refugees back to their home country in circumstances where refugee status isn't sought immediately in the first country they reach.

These people have committed, and are accused of, no crime. Yet they are subject to strip searches, fingerprinting, and have no access to legal aid. There are long delays in processing their applications. Currently 60,000 detainees are awaiting decisions.

Despite Widdicombe's protestation, a spokesman from the Church's Commission on Racial Justice said, "I consider the authorities to be responsible for these men, as there is no need for them to have been detained for this amount of time."

\*\*\* Any employer found hiring a refugee without a work permit is liable to a £5,000 fine - so employers will not consider job applicants that look like they are "illegal immigrants" \*\*\*

**Michael Howard's** attitude is rather two-faced in light of his family background. Howard's father, Bernat Hecht, was a Romanian Jew, who thanks to the liberalisation of Britain's asylum laws in the late 30s - got out before the Nazis and their Death Camps arrived \*\*\* **Banner Theatre** launch a new show on Valentines Day, about the plight of asylum seekers under the new Immigration Act. Info: 0121 440 0460 \*\*\*

On January 18<sup>th</sup> a vigil was held for animal rights prisoner **Barry Horne**, currently on his third week of hunger strike, demanding the government end all links with vivisection within 5 years. About 200 supporters attended the vigil at HMP Bullingdon in Oxfordshire, then outwitted the police by heading straight for a mice and rat breeding house. One protester said, "The supplier of rodents for vivisection was taken aback as people ripped down fencing and smashed anything that could be broken. Eventually police reinforcements arrived, so the Tactical Demolition Squad' moved to Hill Grove Farm - a cat breeding house for vivisectioners. 15 cats were rescued, but police roadblocks later led to 7 arrests and 5 of the cats being taken. The other 10 have safe new homes."

## SchNEWS in quite long

\*\*\* Transport from Brighton to Reclaim The Coast in S. Wales (Reclaim the Valleys III - remember Selar); Manchester (Reclaim Daisy Nook & Airport camp) and then home again is being sorted out. Cost for the week is £25 including petrol. There's only 12 seats - get your tickets now! Call 01273 685913 \*\*\*

A Newbury protester is on Hunger strike demanding a judicial review of the policing of the Newbury protest. He could do with letters of support, send them to Sean O'Reilly, KG 3399, HMP Bullingdon, P.O. BOX 50, Bicester, Oxon, OX6 0TR \*\*\* The financial collapse of Russia is more than a storm in a D-Cup. Women at one underwear company are now being offered payment in bras! One woman said "It's convenient for me, you can earn up to 40 per cent more than your salary by selling these items." \*\*\* Pepsi are to pull out of Burma as of May 31. The largest corporation so far to respond to the growing consumer pressure to get the hell out. They must be feeling pretty blue... More info from the Burma Action Group 0171 359 7679 \*\*\*

Hundreds of street vendors ran amok in the Indonesian capital this week after public-order officials drove over the merchandise they had laid out on the roadsides. 500 of them looted, set alight the official's cars then burnt down the district chief's three-storey office in revenge \*\*\* **Zimbabwe's** Forestry Commission has announced that it plans to give baboons the Pill - the timber industry is losing "valuable trees" to the voracious creatures. Strange considering that Africa's forest are the most depleted on the planet. And why could that be? 'Cos the timber industry's chopping down all the trees, of course! \*\*\* A Turkish landlord, determined to out-do Brighton police who recently smashed through the wall of a grade II listed building to evict three squatters, climbed onto the roof of a building brandishing dynamite as a threat to a tenant with qualms about his rent. \*\*\* OK, so their demand - an end to state intervention in the banking world in favour of good old free market capitalism - leaves us disaffected types somewhat cold, but we'll still raise a glass to the 3,300 staff of French bank *Credit Foncier de France* who took their Governor and 10 top executives hostage for six days and festooned the marble pillars of their hallowed edifice with cartoons of the French president and finance minister in various stages of painful execution! Although the fat cats have now sadly been freed, pin-striped protesters continue to occupy the building and for what it's worth, the action has resulted in a government pledge that planned bank restructuring will be revised. \*\*\* What a surprise - a new report out yesterday by the Round Table Group says that bus de-regulation has been bad for passengers. Predictably, the Conservatives won't do anything, Labour won't say anything - and after their support of the Newbury Bypass the LibDems can shut their hypocritical public transport faces. \*\*\*

SchNEWS would like to squash rumours that that the Royal yacht Britannia is gonna end up as a prison ship - and point out that the old Pontin's holiday camp being looked at for a jail is the shape of... a liner! \*\*\* SchNEWSnight meeting, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 7pm Albert Pub for anyone willing to help perform in or help organise these mega-monthly fund raisers. \*\*\* Protesters from Cyndeithas Yr Iaith Gymraeg (Welsh Lan-

guage Society), fighting for equality of the Welsh language in Wales, occupied offices of William Hague, the Englishman imposed on them as Welsh Secretary. They found more than they expected when a filing-cabinet examination uncovered pornography belonging to David Moyle, the MP's election agent. Info: 01970 624501.

## PLANE PANE

Protesters at Manchester Airport objecting to the building of a second runway have squatted trees on the route of the new construction. They intend to broaden out direct action campaigning from roads to all transport issues. However, after spending six nights being camped 500 yards from Manchester's current runway, opponents have had enough of being kept awake by screaming planes and are applying to Manchester authorities for a grant to cover the cost of double glazing on their treetop homes. One activist said, "After a late night round the camp fire discussing alternative strategies for creating jobs in the region, the last thing I need is to be woken up at dawn by a jumbo jet."

## THE + FILES

*Well Health* are still running their "Give & Take" stall at the local Thursday market at Conahs Quay in Flint, Clwyd. Everything on the stall is FREE; people bring what they don't need and take what they do. Simple! The stall is going great, but their main problem is storage and they are trying to raise money to fund a depot. So far they have raised £3000. Contact: "Sharing", 10 Corporation St., Flint, Clwyd, CH6 5PG.

## and finally...

Last week, in the continuing moral panic debate about ravers, ecstasy and all things associated with such devil worshipping, Barry Legg's Private Members Bill went through on the nod. The Bill will give police the power to shut down clubs immediately where they suspect drug taking or dealing is taking place. Supported by Leah Betts' parents, the Bill will apparently help save young people's lives. On its second reading it was unopposed, but still MPs waffled on and on. Why? Well, so they could waffle so long that they "talked out" the next scheduled debate - on the Cold Weather payments (Wind Chill Factor) Bill. Cold weather payments of £8.50 are issued when the average recorded temperature is freezing or below over a seven day period, but takes no account of the wind chill factor, which can make things feel a lot colder. Age Concern had hoped the legislation would have benefited nearly 2 million of the UK's poorest pensioners who face a deadly struggle with the cold every winter. It's estimated that winter weather kills up to 50,000 pensioners every year - rather more than any ecstasy tablet.

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS warns all readers not to dig the notion of tunnels. Subterranean living for any length of time can leave you truly shafted, and Going Underground can get you in a real Jam. Stay away from probing Sheriffs, and ensure that your only contact with moles is with the ones infiltrating your meetings. This is how you will feel soiled. Honest.

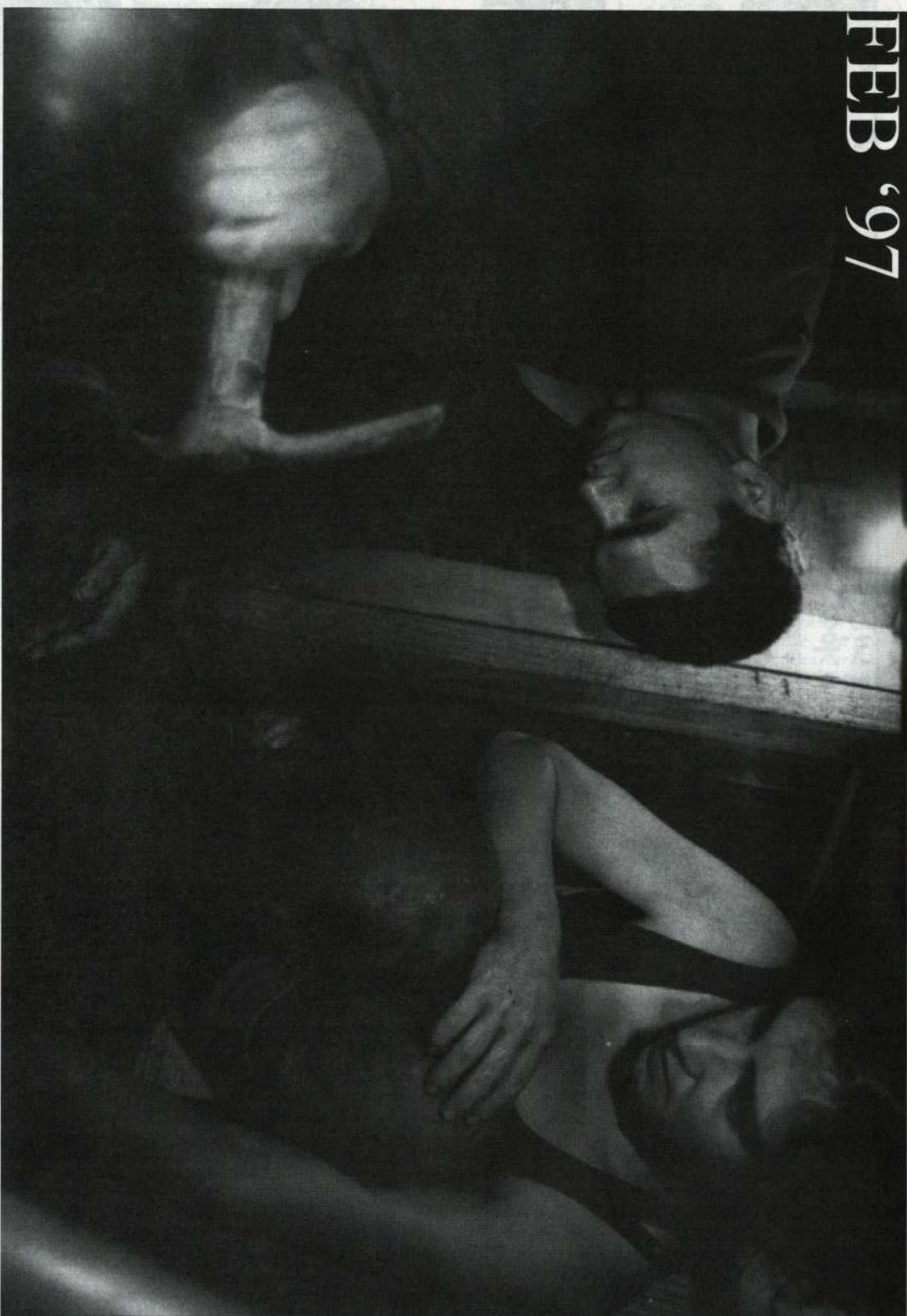
## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice!). Or, if you can afford it... £15 for a year's subscription, or the SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. Ask for "originals" if you plan to copy and distribute. SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o On The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX

Tel/Fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 E-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>  
eco-trip party and gathering 8th Feb, 24 Porden Rd, Brixton 10pm onwards £8/£4. And the Anarchist Teapot are back in the area, Monday to Saturday 12 noon till 6 p.m., bottom of North Road.

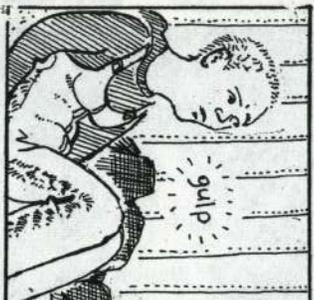
FEBB '97



“THEN I DONE TROTSKY LIKE THAT!”

Tunneling @ Fairmile - Andrew Testa

**PEOPLE IN DANGER FROM STRONG MAGNETS**  
K. EVANS



That's a labrett stud there, and I've had my eyebrow done, and I've got 17 earrings altogether, I think, and then I've got a ring in my left tit and two studs in the right...



Yeah - that was a brilliant rush, like, better than getting me nipples done, and the unusual thing is it goes sideways - not vertically. No! I really don't want to see it!! like most of them more tea?



**PEOPLE IN DANGER FROM STRONG MAGNETS**  
K. EVANS



You do get some funny moments, havin' all these piercings. Remember that time we were coming through customs at Morocco airport?



Chris kept setting the metal detector off. He emptied his pockets, and then he took off his jacket. Then he took his trousers off, and it was still beeping, so the customs officer took a quick look in his knickers...



He waved after that."



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER FOOTBALL CRAZY...

# SEAGULLS NEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?



Issue 106

7th February 1997

Free/Donation

## FANS UNITED!

*"This is not about supporting Brighton & Hove Albion for the day. It's about supporting fellow football fans in their hour of need. It's about sending a message to the world that football belongs to the FANS."*

Internet Seagulls

There is going to be a unique day in British football in Brighton this Saturday. As a protest against the way Brighton and Hove Albion F.C. are being run into the ground, footie fans from around the country - and the world! - will be converging on the Goldstone to show their support. Imagine a football match where the terraces are full of people in different shirts, having a laugh and protesting against the Brighton board.

This will be followed up by a demo outside the headquarters of the F.A. on Wednesday to pressure them to do something about the situation.

### **THE ARCHER: a tale of money, greed, & balance-sheet football.**

*"Football clubs are not toys for rich businessmen."*

Internet Seagulls

So what's been going on at the Albion? In a nutshell, Bill Archer, director of Focus DIY and Pet World who lives in nearby Blackburn (just 250 miles away) having conned his way onto the board for just £56.25, then sold the Goldstone Ground to property developers on the quiet. He had hoped that planning permission would be granted for a new stadium in Toads Hole Valley, where he would build his retail empire around the ground and make a packet. But Toads Hole is in a conservation area and the local council didn't give planning permission, leaving Brighton facing the prospect of being homeless (and out of the football league if they are relegated) come May.

Archer won't quit - his ego won't admit failure. Even after all the direct action the fans have taken he is still there. A new consortium is waiting in the wings to take over, and mediators have been brought in to supervise the talks. But who are these mediators? Members of the CBI! What have they got to do with football? They're part of the whole process of business interests dominating football more and more. Money before clubs and fans.

*"Profiteers out of football. It's our game not theirs."*

Brighton Independent Supporters Club banner

What's been happening at Brighton however is just the thin end of the wedge. Just in the past few weeks, Bournemouth have announced their on the verge of extinction; Millwall's shares have been suspended (they've been selling players recently to pay off debts made by bad property investments); and financial consultants have started appearing on TV talking about football. In fact, its widely rumoured that Newcastle's decision to go on the stock market helped push manager Kevin Keegan over the edge, leading to his "shock" decision to resign. Out of 92 clubs its estimated that at least six are on the verge of extinction.

Despite the media hype that things are rosy for our national game, it's only a minority of clubs who are "alright jack". The rest are forced to beg, steal and borrow premiers league crumbs just to stay alive.

### **The nightmare scenario**

Imagine this. You stand up to cheer a goal, and your thrown out of the ground. Your join in with a chorus of 'We hate Leeds' and your asked to leave. Brave New World? Well, no its Brave new Old Trafford, where Manchester United now make more money from their souvenir shops than gate receipts. (What's next? Cantona blow-up dolls!)

Silly old us, we thought that the idea of football was to forget about work and shopping for a few hours, meet your mates, let off a bit of steam, have a laugh...now however, it seems since the money vultures have moved in its goodbye to passion and hello to the passive spectators.

But that's not all. Thanks to the Criminal Justice Act footie fans are once again feeling the long arm of the law. The Act introduced the incredibly vague "intentional harassment", which means you could face up to 6 months inside if you do something that is "likely to cause alarm or distress"! What? Like wind-up opposition supporters? Surely part of the pleasure of footie is being able to shout, taunt and let off steam harmlessly at opposing fans? If you've got a spare ticket and want to sell it - even at face value - watch out. You could be nicked

for 'ticket touting'. Then there's stop and search - last season just 30 people out of an attendance of 22 million got caught with offensive weapons, so this law seems a tad excessive. Still, I suppose its what you define as 'offensive'. Footie fans have had asthma inhalers, mobile phones, celery, even the souvenir issue of the South Wales Echo confiscated by cops!

And its set to get worse - the F.A. might have announced their 10 year plan to support footie from the grass-roots but it doesn't say much when they wash their hands of the plight of Brighton. Their interests seem only in the premiership and the bid for 2006 World Cup. Meanwhile European Super Leagues, pay-to-view, and more Bond Schemes here we come.

But it doesn't have to be this way... What's happening in football mirrors society at large, the rich are getting richer and the poor, well we are sure you know the chant. If it doesn't make a profit then wave goodbye. But does everything have to be measured by money? Football clubs - like hospitals, schools, art centres, parks etc. are community assets not business, that play an important role in many peoples lives.

So what's the answer? Independent Supporters Association and fanzines have given fans a voice and helped slow the rot. Brighton supporters have shown the way with imaginative and effective direct action (would they have gained so much publicity if they'd just written to a few MP's?) Football doesn't need more millionaires with egos coming to save clubs from extinction, it doesn't need more bond schemes and increased ticket prices, it needs real fans being listened to seeing its they who pay the wages, and being democratically elected onto the boardrooms with an input in day to day decisions.

And when we've got democratically run football clubs then we can get on with the job of *overthrowing capitalism* and building a world based on the needs of people rather than profit...!

**Let the FA know your fed up with them doing sweet FA**

Phone & Fax blockade:  
Mon 10th till Wed 12th Feb, on:  
phone: 0171 262 4542 / 0171 402 7151  
fax: 0171 402 0486

**DEMONSTRATE!** Wed 12th Feb, outside Lancaster Gate, London, 11a.m.

## Bye-bye, right to protest!

At Newbury, the first person has been sent to jail for breaking a High Court injunction that bans him from "interfering" in the Bypass in any way. Martin Edwards, known as "Nissan" got the automatic 3 months and will be living at HMP Reading, Forbury Rd, Reading, RG1 3HY, so send your letters of support.

So far 30 people who are deemed to be "persistent protesters" have had their right to protest removed thanks to evidence gathered by private detective firm Brays Security. In a reply to Labour MP Brain Donohoe, the Dept of Transport admitted spending £477,000 on private investigators in 1995, so god knows what the figure was last year.

## CJA Victory

Thirty nine people nicked at the blockade of the Farnborough air show in September had their cases thrown out of court this week. The police managed to get their map reading knickers in a twist and charged people with 'aggravated trespass'. However, this means you have to be on private land disrupting a 'lawful activity' (i.e. selling weapons to anyone that will buy them) - when in fact the sit-down in the road had taken place on public land. The Air Show is one of the most important dates the calendar for arms dealers, and protest organisers Campaign Against The Arms Trade aim to be back next year. CAAT: 0171 281 0297.

## Military Sponsorship

Whilst student grants are disappearing and tuition fees threatened, and the Blairite leadership of the National Union of Students insists that free education is not realistically achievable (a policy designed to give an incoming Labour government an easy time), the military are offering sponsorship to get you through university - and under their control. The Navy are holding a recruitment day at Sussex University this Tuesday. In response students are taking action, angry that the only way some of them will be able to pay their way through Higher Education, avoiding massive debts, is to accept military sponsorship, and eventually employment. Meet outside Falmer House at Sussex Uni, 11:00 a.m., Tuesday; and tell the N.U.S. what sell-outs they are: calling 0181 345 6789, and asking for pager "NUS 20" will send your message to all their pagers...

## Mass Suicide called off

Six thousand U'wa Indians in Colombia who had threatened to commit mass suicide in protest at plans to explore their ancestral lands for oil, have won a court case against the US oil giant Occidental.

Colombia's highest judicial authority, the constitutional court, upheld the U'wa's claim that their cultural integrity was at stake, and ruled that Occidental should shelve plans to survey what one company spokesman called "potentially some of the largest reserves in Colombia."

## Itchin' for a kitchen?

### Don't stick with Magnet!

Five months ago 300 skilled workers were sacked for taking legitimate strike action against Magnet Kitchen Limited, Darlington. A 3% pay rise had been offered to only 60% of the workforce while the other 40% were

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?). Or if you can afford it... £15 for a year's subscription, or the SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. Ask for "originals" if you plan to copy and distribute. SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o On The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 E-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

This week's SchNEWS brought to you by FOUR FULLY FUNCTIONAL COMPUTERS! Huzzah!

offered a nil basic rate rise for the fourth consecutive year. This offer was so unfair the majority voted to reject the offer unless everyone was treated equally. Since then the company have refused to negotiate already spending 10 times as much cash on increased security than it would if it had given everyone an equal pay rise! There is a mass picket on Valentine's Day at 6:00 am, meet at the main gates of the Magnet factory, Allington Way, Yarm Industrial Estate, Darlington. Call them on: 01325 282389.

## It's not just the footie fans being shafted...

Seventy textile workers have been occupying their factory in Tottenham, North London since 24th January - a little annoyed that they haven't received any wages for nearly a month. The workers produce 400-600 jackets per day, earning between £120-£200 per week. They're expected to work up 80 hours per week, over all seven days. When they began the action, wages were paid in dribs and drabs until it was announced one of the directors had disappeared with all the company's cash and they were now bankrupt.

However, as if by magic another company selling very similar products has been set up with the same directors - a clever way of legally avoiding paying the company's debts, including the £40,000 in unpaid wages. So, the workers are staying put until they get the cash... if you can help or would like further info, call 0181 806 6636.

## Newcastle rampages for Newbury

In Newcastle Newbury solidarity actions took place over the weekend of the Reunion Rally. Mott Macdonald offices (how are they involved in Newbury) were occupied, information uncovered and old Christmas trees were planted in filling cabinets. The dodgy construction company's links with Nissan, local roads, oil refineries, and nuclear bunkers were discovered, all activists rummaged around the offices. The action coincides with pledges to resist the construction of Newcastle United's new stadium on moor and parkland. Campaigners however fear the could well get a "bloody good beating" from United footie fans not prepared to let anyone get in the way of their football! To get involved in the campaign contact Newcastle Earth First! 0191 273 4997.

## Fore!

Last Friday saw an assortment of activities going on in and around the giant golf balls on Menwith Hill in Yorkshire. Menwith Hill, where the American military gather economic, military and diplomatic info by listening to C.B.s, radios, land & mobile telephones anywhere in the northern hemisphere, is the biggest spy base in the UK. Activists broke into one of the domes and damaged equipment. The "Pusher system", which allows the US to listen to pirate radios, private conversations and even embassies, was switched off. Menwith Hill Peace Camp, however, is now facing eviction. Info: Tracey 0113 2629365.

Meanwhile, Lindis Percy, Bradford midwife and long time peace campaigner, has been sentenced to 9 months in prison for breaking her injunction restricting her from entering Lakenheath RAF base. Please send her letters of support to: D1 Medical Wing, HMP Holloway, Parkhurst Rd, London.

## The + files (It aint all doom & gloom!)

+ Hamburg's second team, F.C. St. Pauli, who play in the Bundesliga, has been a symbol of anarcho-punk soccer ever since the sixties when their keeper was an anarchist squatter. The club organises anti-fascist activity and is a favourite of free-thinking fans everywhere. For more details call Sven in the club shop on (0049) 40 439 6961.

+ 17 Workers for White Arrow Express parcel delivery service were facing victimisation at their workplace for refusing to enter a dangerous warehouse. A 2 day strike, coupled with Wigan articulated lorry drivers threat to spread the action led to the workforce being victorious.

## Prions

Here is a little known fact about BSE... currently infected carcasses are being burned in pet crematoria. Prions (proteins), a probable carrier of BSE, cannot be completely destroyed by incineration at these temperatures, and emissions tests have found them in flue gases. This means that these microscopic killers fly around in the air and enter soil and food chain. For more information, see article in Professional Engineering Magazine, Nov 96. Info: 01792 851599 or [alanwatson@gn.apc.org](mailto:alanwatson@gn.apc.org)

## ...and finally...

"We need to fight a war. But we aren't spending enough on the weapons. Our weapons should be food, homes, and schools. The enemies are poverty and injustice."

If a politician knocks on your door in the run-up to the election, and tells you there isn't enough cash to sort out the social problems in this country, ask them this: with an under-funded NHS, cuts in education, the privatisation of almost everything useful the government used to run, and a generally shitty standard of living outlook, why do 10% of all our taxes - including VAT - go to the military?

On top of this, 50% of all government "research and development" funding is tied to military projects. If we can't afford weapons in the war against widespread poverty, or to provide free healthcare or education then why are we spending £33 billion on Trident, our nuclear genocide system?

Roger Franklin, 55, decided he'd had enough of this situation and has been withholding 10% of his taxes for the last 15 years. He now owes the Inland Revenue £7000. He was found guilty of contempt of court last week for ignoring a summons to pay his debts, and is spending a second term in prison, despite clearly explaining he will "pay all the taxes now owing if [he is] assured that they will be used for peaceful purposes only." He's campaigning for individuals to have the right to divert taxes to non-military projects. More info: *Conscience* 0171 561 1061.

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS warns all readers not to attend any illegal matches or take part in any criminally bad play. Always stay within the law. In fact, please just sit at home, watch the match on Sky, and buy endless consumer crap from the Quality Home Shopping channel. Then you will have scored. Honest.

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?). Or if you can afford it... £15 for a year's subscription, or the SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. Ask for "originals" if you plan to copy and distribute. SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o On The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 E-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

This week's SchNEWS brought to you by FOUR FULLY FUNCTIONAL COMPUTERS! Huzzah!



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER OLD BILL...

# SchNEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?



▼ 107 - Valentine Issue! ▼

14th February 1997

Free/Donation

As new police powers see even Lords and Bishops complaining of a "police state", SchNews asks:

## What's all this then?

*"Imagine living in a country where the police can legally break into your home, rummage through your most personal belongings, and plant a bugging device ... to monitor every word you say."*

**The Big Issue**

The police's search for ever more control over everyone's lives has reached such proportions with the new Police Bill that even the House of Lords has been up in arms against some of its nastier sections. If you thought it was bad enough being videoed for going on a demo or getting your name on some file for trying to save the planet - you ain't seen nothing yet. The police now want powers that your average third world dictator of old would have given his right arm for. New technology and the police's never-ending quest for complete control of everything has resulted in Howard's latest horror - a Police Bill that will give them powers to legally break into your home and plant bugging devices and videos anywhere in your house so they can keep an eye and ear on everything you do.

This week the Police Bill got its second reading in parliament. Not since the Criminal Justice Act, 1994, has a piece of legislation inspired such fervent opposition - but unlike the huge street demonstrations and direct actions involved in the campaign against the CJA, this time it's lawyers, lords and the media that are up in arms. The proposed new police powers go so far that elder statesmen who still believe that the police should have at least some restraint on their powers are up against a Tory/Labour conspiracy to give the police powers going well beyond what police forces in Europe or the States would dream of asking for. Here's what's coming your way soon:

▼ Chief Constables will be able to issue warrants allowing police officers to "interfere with property" and plant bugs in your home.

▼ They will be able to issue a warrant when they think it will be likely to be of "substantial value in the prevention or detection of serious crime."

▼ Serious crime is handily defined as

offences including those involving "conduct by a large number of persons in pursuit of a common purpose" - that's YOU if you're trying to organise a march or demo or are thinking of getting involved in any activity they don't like, and in the case of your fun-loving totally disclaimer'd SchNEWS, it's US!

▼ There will be no exemptions to protect the long upheld right of lawyer-client confidentiality - making it easier for the cops to fit people up in court - or for journalists investigating, for instance, police corruption.

▼ A National Crime Squad will be set up covering Customs Officers and the National Criminal Intelligence Service whose functions are described as to "gather store and analyse information..."

▼ A Criminal Records Agency will carry out vetting checks on 8 million job applicants a year.

Anyone who might provide information "significant" to a criminal investigation could find their home or business under surveillance. The Bill is alarmingly unspecific, with legal advisers, investigative journalists, medical professionals and peaceful protesters amongst those who could be targeted.

The Bill is reputed to be aimed at rapists and drug dealers, but quite how the legislation will help catch the former is not made clear (always good for getting tabloid support for draconian laws though) and there are surely other ways of dealing with the latter without such jackboot powers. Peter Noorlander, spokesperson for lawyer's association Justice (without the ?) has said "Bugging would be justifiable to combat serious crime like terrorism but this Bill describes the term so broadly that it could affect almost anyone". Legal Action for Women argue that the "Bill continues the trend of

*invoking the pain of victims to drastically undermine everyone's civil rights."*

Michael Howard and his Labour lookalike Jack Straw are both agreed on the need for these new powers - whoever is running the country after the election wants all the powers they can to stop effective protests against their rule. Jack Straw has even justified Labour's support for the Bill by saying it will "put current police activity on a legal basis" - admitting, in other words, that the police have been breaking the law for years so we ought to change the law to make their criminal activities legal! Not exactly the attitude they take to the rest of us...

A lot of hot air has been spouted about whether a "commissioner" (a senior judge) should have to give the police the go ahead before they are allowed to raid our homes instead of just allowing the police to go ahead on their own. Given that these commissioners will be picked by the same people that are introducing this law, and that they're probably members of the same golfing clubs as the Chief Constables anyway, it's not exactly a big victory that they will in some circumstances have to be told about the police actions beforehand. Once a commissioner has decided it's OK for the cops to bug you there is no appeal and you won't know it's happening anyway.

In some ways it's a bit of a compliment to the direct action movement and others that the police want these powers to stop protest - and make no mistake that that's largely what it's all about. According to Lord Hutchinson, "The protesters involved in the miners' strike, the protesters against the poll tax and those at Greenham Common and Newbury would all be criminals [under this law]". Stopping any effective opposition to an increasingly repressive state machine is what this Bill's all about. Of course, they won't succeed.

### Crap Arrest of the week

*For living at home. Police approached two Christchurch men coming out of a pub, and asked them where they lived. When one replied "at home" he was arrested and held over night in the cells!*

### NEXT JUSTICE MEETING:

Tuesday 18th February, 7:30 p.m. - Solicitor Mike Schwarz on the implications of the Police Bill at the Albert Pub, Trafalgar Street, Brighton

Radio Aktive Bold: 106.6 MHz FM  
From 2 p.m. Valentine's Day, and all weekend

©NTI-COPYRIGHT - INFORMATION FOR ACTION!

## (Anti-) Party Time!

The Liverpool dockers, still on strike against their scumbag bosses and getting precious little support from the "official" Labour movement, have called for everyone involved in different actions across the country to get together in London on Saturday 12th April for a full-on demo in support of social justice. Plans are still being worked out, but since the day is likely to be a couple of weeks before the general election (or just after the new government gets in) it should be a good opportunity to show the politicians what we think of their rather amusing suggestion that we actually vote for them. The usual road-stopping-party-pooing dodgy geezers and social outcasts are expected to turn up for a very lively and fun-filled time - could be the social event of '97!

## It's good to walk...

The Mobile telephone is the most widespread tracking device ever to be introduced. Police can pinpoint the whereabouts of a mobile carrier to the accuracy of a few hundred feet (or better) anywhere in the world, whether or not you are using the phone for a call. And on many phones, conversations are easily picked up too, with a "scanner" anyone can buy. More sophisticated systems can pick up numbers dialled during your call, such as PIN numbers. Mobile phones are known to have mysteriously disconnected while organising free parties.

## Persecuted Masons cry foul!

SchNEWS extends a big dodgy handshake in support of the Association of Chief Police Officers and their claim that introducing a register of trouser-leg lifting cops would infringe on civil liberties. Martin Short, author of the acclaimed book *Inside the Brotherhood*, has claimed that 20% of police are Masons and that membership in certain sectors of the force is "substantially higher". Of course it's perfectly reasonable that the police should expect the highest levels of secrecy and integrity. It's also obvious that the Masons would find the compilation of such a register as being quite a pointless ritual, when others such as sacrificing goats and drinking their blood is far more fun.

## Alarming email of the week...

(This news just in...)  
Highway Agency officials have warned road protesters that if they dig any more tunnels to prolong evictions they will be faced with a weapon too horrible to contemplate - an inflatable Michael Howard. *'The further they go downwards, the higher we will go upwards'*, said one official, who declined to comment on a rumour that the Agency also had a 500 foot high Michael Portillo ready to be deployed if the situation became more serious. Labour front-bench spokesman Gordon Brown called the Government tactic *'too little, too late'*, adding that if his party were to be elected, their first act in power would be to commission an inflatable Cherie Blair the size of Africa. *Yuk.*

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice!). Or if you can afford it... £15 for a year's subscription, or the SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. Ask for "originals" if you plan to copy and distribute. SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o On The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 E-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

Smoochy-smoochy snog-snog. From anonymous scribes to secret loves everywhere. Happy Valentine's Day! xx

## Inside SchNEWS

John Perotti was originally sent to jail for petty crimes. Twenty years later he is still there. Why? Because he has been "fighting injustices within the system" for himself and other prisoners, incurring the wrath of the authorities including an extra 10-15 years for a stabbing that took place in the block he was in - despite the prisoner who did it confessing to the crime. Much of his time has been spent in Control Units which are specifically designed to control people through enforced isolation and behavioural control. *"Down to the Wire"*, an account of his time inside, is £3.50 from JPDP, c/o 29 Sterlochy St., Findochty, Buckie, Banffshire, AB56, Scotland. Or write to him at 167712, SOCF, PO Box 45699, Lucasville, Ohio 45699, USA.

\*\* There's a benefit gig for John on the 21st of this month at the Acton Arms, 296 Kingsland High Rd., Hackney featuring the Living Legends with Ian Bone, Astronauts and Cuckooland.

\*\* Today Jackie Abbott will deliver a Valentines card to the Home Office, with the words "Have a heart, Mr. Howard", asking for him to look at the situation of Ronnie Easterbrook who has been on hunger-strike at Belmarsh Prison since 1st January, and move him to a special unit for prisoners of retirement age. He is serving four discretionary life sentences following an armed robbery, which he has always maintained was "set up" by the police. He is 65 years old, has only one lung and suffers from claustrophobia and panic attacks. Since he was sentenced in 1987 he has moved between prisons 26 times around the top security dispersal system. Belmarsh Prison, Western Way, Thamesmead, London SE28.

\*\* *"Prisons within Prisons - long-term administrative segregation"*, an account of the brutalisation of the prison system, available for £1 from Larkin Publications, BCM Box 5909, London WC1N 3XX.

## SchNEWS in brief...

The Freedom Network is broke and need donations to help keep their action line open. If you're feeling flushed send donations to POBox 9384, London, SW9 7ZB. For an update of the latest (direct) action dates ring 0171 793 7343 \*\*\* We don't believe it! Yes for the second week running SchNEWS can report on... a successful strike! Yay! 100 engineer workers at Glaciers in Glasgow occupied their factory after the announcement of redundancies, pay cuts, and all the usual. 55 days later, the bosses backed down after negotiations and everything more-or-less back to normal... \*\*\* Aving it hospital workers in Hamburg have occupied their local hospital in the St. Pauli district on Feb 3rd, after it was threatened with closure by Hamburg Council. Weekly demonstrations of up to 1000 people were started at the end of last year in response to increasing cuts in health services as the council intends to sack 1800 hospital workers to save money. They are

planning to stay until the Council gives in, and would appreciate faxes of Solidarity: 0049 40 31102 327 \*\*\* The world's first nuclear hostage, Mordechai Vanunu, has been held in solitary confinement in Israel for around fifteen years. President Weizmann of Israel is coming to have tea with the Queen on Tues Feb 25th, at Horseguards Parade. Meet at noon, at Central Hall, Westminster. Go along and curdle the milk. 0171 378 9324. \*\*\* *"Frankenstein's Food: Is it Safe?"* Public meeting with speakers held by Brighton Green Party. Tues 25th Feb. 7:45 @ St. John's Church Hall, Palmeira Sq. Hove. Free/Donation.

## The + files

(Always look on the bright side of life...)

+ The Eco-village Network UK is being set up to provide a guide to involvement in sustainable settlement. A database 'matching service' for people and projects of eco-villages, urban regeneration, co-op housing etc. More info: CREATE, 'B' Bond Warehouse, Smeaton Rd., Bristol, BS1 6XN. Tel: 0117 925 0505, email: CREATE1@Cityscape.co.uk

## ...and finally...

Snoops, spies and other sneaks are coming at us from all angles. Last year, 10,000 vehicles were stopped by police on routine checks. Drivers and passengers however were then handed over to Benefits Agency inspectors who asked whether they were claiming benefits! *'Operation Tinstar'* is reputed to have saved £800,000 in one day in November. *(Yeah right, next they'll be saying Income Support is enough to live on.)* Meanwhile, back in the JobCentres, work in massage parlours, escort agencies and strip clubs have been banned after unemployed people expressed fears they could lose their Jobseekers' Allowance if they turned down such jobs. Some claimants were said to be relieved, but those of you less than impressed should vote in the Erotic Oscars of 1997 Awards. *The 10th Anniversary Sex Maniacs Ball is on Thursday 20th March - 0171 460 0044.*

Elsewhere in the world of (non)-work, an itinerant called the Darlington Job Centre offering people Workfare positions in a company called Prostor UK. The application mentioned *"Hours: flexible"*, but pay was not discussed. An hour later the centre phoned back and said that unfortunately they couldn't use it. The Oxford Groundswell Group have also placed an ad for job placements for Urban Insurrectionists! (01865 723750).

Meanwhile, in Bristol beggars are now on the move thanks to a new police initiative. Because they are being nicked for sitting and begging, they now walk the streets asking for cash. And in Hastings farsighted magistrates fined a man £120 for begging. Rumour has it the said "criminal" is now begging at night in order to pay for his daytime misdemeanours!

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS advises all readers not to mind being tapped, trapped or taped by the police for acting in a common purpose. Never have any purpose (though being common is optional). Always make your monitored phone calls interesting. (we don't want the cops being bored now do we?) and conduct any important campaign business from inside a Catholic confessional box. Then you will feel secure. Honest.

## disclaimer disclaimer

No, really. Just don't make a nuisance of yourself.

WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER TOOLED UP...

# SchNEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?



Issue one-oh-eight

Friday 21st February, 1997

Free/Donation



## SPANNER!

*"The state has no legitimate business invading the bedrooms of consenting adults and dictating how they should have sex."*

**Peter Tatchell, Outrage!**

Three gay sado-masochists jailed for inflicting pain on each other for sexual pleasure lost their fight against the Government on Wednesday at the European Court of Human Rights.

The ruling marks the final chapter in the notorious Operation Spanner case, which started a long running debate on whether the state should attempt to regulate what consenting adults do in private if no serious or lasting harm is caused.

In a landmark ruling, the Strasbourg judges said the Government had *"the right to interfere in the private lives of people to protect public health and morals"*

John Wadham from Liberty said *"The costs of this prosecution have been a massive waste of public money... It's to be hoped that a new government accepts the Law Commission's view that consent is not a crime, charges the law accordingly, and finds more useful things to do than worry about what goes on in the nation's bedrooms"*

Sixteen men were prosecuted after police accidentally found videotapes of their activities. Three were jailed for between 12 months and three years under the 1861 Offences Against The Persons Act, later reduced on appeal.

The sex acts mainly involved genital abuse with hot wax, sandpaper, fish hooks and needles, as well as ritualistic beatings with spiked belts, nettles and a cat-o'-nine tails.

More info: Outrage! (0171 439 2381).

\* A quarter of a million quid of Wandsworth Council Tax-payers' money was squandered last year in an attempt to prosecute Club Whiplash, citing the Disorderly Houses Act designed to protect the "lower sort of people" in 1751!

\* When police stomped upon last years 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Sex Maniacs Ball people involved had had enough and so the *Sexual Freedom Coalition* was born. The coalition produce *"Consenting Adults"* and are currently organising a *"Prostitution Pride"* march in central London sometime in July - followed by a hookers ball! Info: 0171 737 6289.

## Refugees Ruling

**The Lords do it again...**

Last Monday three Law Lords upheld a previous decision that despite the Asylum Bill, local authorities had a duty to provide assistance to *"those in need of care and attention which is not available to them."* The judges also noted that the plight of asylum seekers is *"horrendous"*. This was emphasised by a recent study from the Refugee Council, who followed the progress of 15 refugees, many of whom suffered deterioration in both their mental and physical states. One Algerian said: *"Since I came to your country, I have had a hard time, but returning to Algeria would be worse. God writes your destiny on your forehead and this is mine. They think what they are doing is right, but they have made refugees criminals."*

Meanwhile, 18 refugees being held in Rochester prison are nearing 50 days on hunger strike. Some are also refusing liquids, and the British Medical Association has written to the Home Secretary saying that *"there is a likelihood of serious and irreversible neurological and kidney damage"* occurring. Messages of support to Medway Community Support Centre, 16 New Road Avenue, Chatham, Kent, ME4 6BA. Regular protests are being held outside the prison every Saturday from 2pm onwards (junction 3, M2 in direction of Rochester).

Anyone keen to remind Michael Howard that his Romanian Jewish father would have fallen foul of the Asylum Act if it has been in place in the '30s should fax him on 0171 273 3965. Anne Widdecombe can also be faxed on 0171 273 3094.

## STRINGERS COMMON

SchNEWS' local anti-road protest camp, along the length of a road being widened in Guildford, Surrey. The beautiful common land being destroyed must, by law, be replaced, but the council plans to use existing green belt land which is, effectively, safe anyway!

Defences are growing along the length of the proposed improvements, with two growing camps and more people moving in to defend the strip between them. Help, in the form of bodies, materials, food, etc. is very much wanted.

This road is a local council, not a government, scheme, so we really stand a chance of stopping it. Come and make sure! Contact: 01483 32167, or call Justice? for travel info from Brighton.

## CRAP JOB OF THE WEEK MYSTERY TRAVELLER

Spotted in Brighton JobCentre. Private rail company Connex are looking for a *"mystery traveller"* for the Gatwick service to sit in plain clothes and spy on the refreshment sellers. The requirements? Be able to check for "suggestive comments"! The pay? £30 per week. Incidentally, now we print jobs, you can say SchNEWS is part of your JSA jobsearch!

## FOSSILISED!

**Milford Haven report-back**

*"Built in Spain, registered in Cyprus, commissioned by a Norwegian, managed from Glasgow, chartered by the French, crewed by Russians, flying a Liberian flag, carrying an American cargo and pouring oil onto the Welsh coast... Who takes the blame?"*

The Reclaim the Coast action at Milford Haven last weekend was pulled at the last moment when over 200 police were waiting at the port. Instead, the 100 or so activists went off to Brynhenllys open-cast mine where work was stopped. Six arrests were made, and one U.S. activist is being held on remand for a week. Meanwhile, back in Cardigan Bay, the oil industry celebrated the first anniversary of the Sea Empress disaster with another spillage, one of two which happened in Wales on Tuesday night. Away from the action, there were plenty of interesting behind-the-scenes shenanigans:

- A local research scientist taking water samples at the port was jumped upon by scores of police and armed Royal Marines!
- A ward in Haverfordwest hospital was left empty as it was anticipated that Earth First! would set fire to one of the refineries!
- Michael Heslop, the head of the Cardigan Bay Port Authority, has recently had his house ringed with razor wire and gets a police escort to and from work every day.
- Of the three refineries on the site, ELF recently had a security review and put up more than four miles of fencing in a week, and all those who work for Gulf were given two days off with full pay as this was deemed to be cheaper than the projected security costs.

*Ignite magazine - digging the dirt on the oil industry - is available from Justice?. Send an SAE for 43p to get a copy.*

Have I Got SchNEWS for you! £2.5/3 @ The Lift, Queen's Road, Brighton, 26th Feb, 8:30p.m.

**©NTI-COPYRIGHT - INFORMATION FOR ACTION!**

## The + files

Interested in woodland working but lack the necessary skills? Fret not, for Friends & Families of Travellers are launching a mobile training unit to enable people to manage land, produce forest products such as hurdles and charcoal, and understand the ecology of leafed things.

Initial sessions are planned for Somerset, Sussex and two other areas. More info from: Steve Staines, FFT, Top Floor, 33 High Street, Glastonbury, BA6 9HT. (Telephone 01458 832 371).

## Gorleben!

If you missed it, Gorleben nuclear waste plant in Germany has seen some of the biggest environmental direct action protests since the war. It's where nuclear waste is brought from France to be reprocessed, and there has been massive opposition against it. Last year up to 10,000 people were confronted by 19,000 riot Police who fought pitched battles as the convoy carrying the waste was taken across Germany, at a cost of £25 million. Another shipment is expected in the first week of March, and apparently the German authorities will give up if they cannot get it through without massive cost. Activists are calling for people from all over Europe to turn up and protest; it will be a major victory if this dangerous transport is halted. Ring them on 0049 5841 4684 or fax 0049 5841 3197 to leave your number. They are doing one ring-round when the shipment starts, and you will have 3 days to get there! Info from EPI Action Update: 0171 561 9146

## Crap arrests of the week

**For planting seeds!** Stephen Hancock and Claron O'Reilly were arrested under the Aviation Act, for planting seeds inside the British Aerospace base in Warton (those nice people who sell Hawk jets to Indonesia). Both received suspended sentences of 3 months for breaking their injunctions.

**For being nice!** Sylvia Stayton 63 year old granny from Cincinnati was found guilty of obstructing official business - for putting coins in expired parking meters. She said "Tim disappointed, I feel we're here to help one another."



## Conscious Cinema Collection

After many mishaps (and a lack of money!) the latest Conscious Cinema video is now available. Featuring everything from Squatting to Liverpool dockers to RTS to Plants for a Future to the latest roads footage (check out the burning diggers at Newbury!) it's essential viewing for anyone who wants to see what's happening! You can get it for £5.00 inc. p&p from: PO Box 2679, Brighton, E. Sussex, BN2 1UJ. Cheques payable to Conscious Cinema. More info: 01273 278018.

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?). Or if you can afford it... £15 for a year's subscription, or the SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. Ask for "originals" if you plan to copy and distribute. SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 E-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/

Sponsorship mania! We're planning an issue on business getting in on local community services. Know somebody who's commercialising due to poverty? Please get in touch! Brought to you by...

## SchNEWS in brief...

\*\*\* The No Open Cast national support campaign are asking early bird activists to meet (old fashioned acid house party style) at Blythe Roundabout services, junction 34, of the A1 & A614, at 4 a.m. Spades, miners helmets and other implements of use in protecting Mother Earth on Mothering Sunday might also - we've been told - come in handy. More info: 0171 603 1831. \*\*\* Liverpool dockers on strike now for 17 months have now got the backing of... the labour movement? Er, no. Comedians. The Dirty Three and a Half Dozen will launch at the London Palladium then aim to raise £30,000 a week. Nice one. There is also a Rock The Dock benefit to be held at the Liverpool Irish Centre, Mount Pleasant, on the 13th March. £2/3. \*\*\* In an effort to counter Barry Legg's Private Members Bill (which will give police the power to get councils to close down clubs if they suspect people are taking drugs there - see issue 104), the Gemini website are putting up a Rave Safe survey - with the intention of using it as a campaign tool. Find it at [http://www.gemini.org.uk/Legg's bill is expected to come into law next month](http://www.gemini.org.uk/Legg's%20bill%20is%20expected%20to%20come%20into%20law%20next%20month). \*\*\* With the Legg law looming, sniffer dogs are to be introduced at Room at the top, a Bathgate nightclub. This Scottish venue will surely be a hit, as alongside Springer Spaniel "Max" and his companion, other measures to be introduced include an airport style metal detector and CCTV. When asked to comment, manager Ian St. John said, "We didn't have a problem before, we don't have a problem now and we certainly don't want one in the future." Alright? \*\*\* Recent prison service figures show the average cost of keeping someone in the slammer is £1,776 a month. That's £21,312 a year. Yer average doley gets less than two and a half grand a year. Bargain. \*\*\* Are you a net-surfing vegan anorak? Then the new improved McSpotlight site is for you. As of last Sunday it quadrupled in size to include all 313 days of the official court transcripts in full. Find this historic record at: <http://www.mcspotlight.org/> \*\*\* As the jaws of the Job Seekers Allowance bite hard, check out Mary Scott Cato's "Seven Myths of Work", a comprehensive hike through well researched territory to justify what we know to be true - work is shit. Order your copy from your local independent book shop for a measly fiver, published by Green Audit (ISBN 1-897761-13-9). Students take note... \*\*\* On 6th March at Frome Magistrates Court, Somerset, at 9:45 a.m., 3 people are due to appear charged with offences connected with the Whatley Quarry Action of Dec '95. Two further people are still under investigation. Those charged are alleged to have taken up the railway tracks going into the quarry, and British Transport Police have defined this as "Conspiring to Cause Criminal Damage With intent to Endanger Life". Info: Mendip Hills Not Holes Campaign, PO Box 2113, Shepton Mallet, BA4 (see SchNEWS 103). \*\*\* Brace yourself for some shocking news: on Monday something of note took place at the House of Commons! INK, the Independent News Collective, of which SchNEWS is a member, was launched in the Hallowed Halls of the Mother of Parliaments. MP's Tony Benn & Cynog Dafis of Plaid Cymru were there at the launch, and good old

Tony took a copy of the SchNEWSround to go in the House of Commons library. INK promotes more than 20 titles, including Big Issue, The Ecologist, Squall and Undercurrents Video. More than 150 newsgagents have pledged to stock INK titles as well as the same old rubbish held on shelves such as The Budget-erig & Razzle. Info: INK, 87 Kirkstall Road, London SW2 4HE. Tel: 0181 671 7920.

## SLEAZE PLEASE!

Plenty of skulduggery to report this week, and those who hanker after our votes are prime candidates for investigations. It's funny how a lot of revelations only come out long after the actual dirty deed is done. For instance, take Tories Derek Laud and Neil Hamilton, who in the '80s worked as consultants for the South African government, tirelessly working to convince people that apartheid was great. Another misdemeanour of that decade came to light last week: the naughty boy involved is Tim Bell, who masterminded the Tory election campaign. In 1983, he was arrested and fined for masturbating off of his balcony whilst on cocaine! Finally this week, a quick mention of the £4 million spent every year spent on Grade 1 lodgings for High Court Judges. The cost of keeping a wiggod one away from London for a week presiding over a case? £10,897. More than enough to keep Tim Bell in Colombian Sneezing Powder and Kleenex.

## Inside SchNEWS

Nic Grey (TN3965), half of the partnership that produced Watermelon comix and most recently involved in the "Bob" Dobbs art exhibition is looking for people to cheer him up while he's inside. Write to him at HMP Camphill, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO305PB.

## ...and finally...

You may have read of King Arthur Pendragon's crap arrests for possession of a broadsword and for being run over by a car. Now everyone with access to the internet can marvel at the wonders of the Arthurian Warband Website: (<http://arthurpendragon.ukonline.co.uk/>) There are full-colour pictures of the King in his full splendour, as well as the answers to all those questions you've been itching to ask, such as whether he works Knights.

## ...and FINALLY...

Fiction and fact can sometimes be very strange bed-fellows. Back in SchNEWS 70 we jokingly said that the DoT had set up a FeetFirst Helpline for people who had forgotten how to walk. Last week came the announcement that John Bowis, the Minister for Transport in London, was to set up a Steering Committee on Walking. Best foot forward now John! Even stranger (but as welcoming) was the news that the RAC, defender of motorist's rights and scourge of those fighting for a sane transport policy, has at last embraced public transport. Strangest of all perhaps is the Connex South Central train timetable advice: "Before leaving the train, please ensure that the station platform is there." South West Trains sacking a third of their drivers was stupid, but putting the platforms out to pasture is even more out there.

## Disclaimer

The SchNEWS advises all readers not to... ouch!



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER BANGED UP...

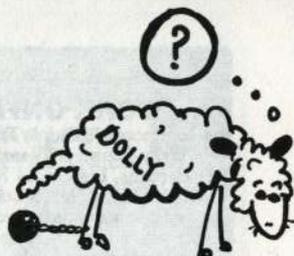
# Seh NEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?

Friday 28th February 1997

Isschue 109

Free/Donation



## SCREWED!

*"While we are here let's not forget the ones we left behind. I stayed up all night talking through the wall last night to a man who is innocent. But he is buried is alive. The list of names is endless. These people are still where we were this morning, they are still fighting for their innocence. They have got nothing."*

**James Robinson, one of the Bridgewater Three.**

As the release of the Bridgewater three after eighteen years wrongful imprisonment sent shock waves through the judicial system people are asking could it happen again? The authorities say it couldn't but as Paul Foot, author of the book *Who Killed Carl Bridgewater* said: "Why has it taken so long for this grotesque injustice to be righted? The answer is that the judicial and police authorities are extremely reluctant to admit it is possible that their procedures can go terribly wrong."

With 60,000 prisoners in the UK - and rising (that's one in every thousand) more miscarriages are likely to occur. Justice the legal human rights organisation estimate that some 200 innocent people are annually sentenced to lengthy terms of imprisonment.

In fact things could be getting worse. The recent Criminal Procedure and Investigation Act approved rules to limit defence access to material, unless the police or prosecution say that it is relevant. And yesterday (Thursday) Home Secretary Michael Howard published 33 recommendations in *Review of the Criminal Justice System*, further limiting the right for a trial by jury for certain offences. Already public order offences such as obstruction of the highway and the use of threatening or abusive behaviour do not carry the right to jury trial.

### ROUGH JUSTICE

*"Those of you who have never been in prison cannot know the unbearable pain of separation from the world and from those you love, the terrible, dehumanising monotony of prison route, and the feeling that every day spent inside is a day stolen from my life."*

**Raphael Rowe, one of the M25 Three.**

In 1988 Raphael Rowe, Michael Davis and Randolph Johnson found guilty of

the "M25 Murder". During the trial even the judge said "So much of the evidence is itself tainted for one reason or another, and there is considerable uncertainty and inconsistency in important areas". Such as the fact that police were looking for three men, two of whom were white, one with fair hair and blue eyes - while those convicted are all black! *M25 campaign, 28 Grimsell Park, Camberwell, London, SE5 OTB 0171 735 2985.*

KENNY CARTER was nearing the end of a short sentence for robbery when he was accused of murdering a cellmate - who tragically had hung himself in the night. Despite no forensic or fingerprint evidence or evidence of a forced hanging he was found guilty of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment. *HMP Belmarsh, Western Way, Thamesmead, London, SE28 OEB*

JOSEPHINE SMITH was convicted of murdering her husband in 1993. The court had heard evidence of how she had suffered many years of emotional, physical and sexual abuse. Her plea of manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility was rejected by the judge who recommend a 12 year sentence. She said "I killed him to get away safely, to get the chil-

Women are more likely to be convicted of 'crimes of poverty' unconnected with violent crime, and more likely than men to be imprisoned. Most women in prison are in for fine default for a non-prisonable offence. Women are 68% of people convicted of not having a TV licence, and 1/3 of women imprisoned for non-payment of fines in 1994 were convicted of prostitution offences. 70% of convictions for theft committed by women are for amounts less than £50.

Source: Women Against Rape.

*dren away safely with no fear of him coming after me."* Justice for Women, 55 Rathcool Gardens, London N8 9NE

Prison life is extremely boring, so letters are generally the highlight of the day. Don't know what to say? Talk about your life, things you are up to - just be careful not to say anything that will get anyone into trouble. Most prisons do not allow letters in without a return address. Some get stopped, read, "diverted"; and "lost" so it's often worth sending the first letter via recorded delivery as these have to be opened in the prisoners presence. Most prisoners are not the "mad beasts" portrayed by the tabloids, they are ordinary people and the only way they are going to know you support them is to tell them so GET WRITING.

KIT WILSON (involved in anti-road protests) is being held on remand at KG 3464, HMP Bullingdon, Patrickhaugh Rd., Arncot, Bicester, OX6 0PZ He's to appear in Reading court on 20th March charged with affray, a charge even disputed by two security guards from Fairmile. On the 17th he will appear at Weymouth Magistrates Court for obstruction charges. He'd appreciate messages of support and people to turn up at his court cases.

### CONTACTS

Conviction fight for framed prisoners, produce mag 75p + SAE to PO Box 522, Sheffield, S1 3FF \*\*\* The Law newspaper for lawyers, advice workers, campaigners etc. Send £1 for a sample copy to PO Box 3878, London, SW2 9ZE \*\*\* Anarchist Black Cross network of autonomous prisoner support groups, produce quarterly mag "Taking Liberties" 60p = SAE to 121 Railton Rd., London, SE24 OLR \*\*\* Peace Prisoner Support, c/o 16 Sholebroke Ave., Leeds, LS7 3HB 0113 2629365 \*\*\* Fight Racism! Fight Imperialism! publish a quarterly newspaper with good prisoner pages SAE to BCM Box 5909, London, WC1N 3XX

### The Bench Bunch

A 1984 survey of 150 Stockport Magistrates revealed an average age of 53 dealing with offenders over half of whom were under 21. The reason for the imbalance lies partly in the voluntary nature of the service, which can attract Ladies Bountiful with time on their hands and deter workers whose employers are reluctant to give them time off for magisterial duties. Selection procedures have also been to blame. The names of members of local advisory committees are kept secret in order to protect them from lobbying, which simply means they are lobbied by those "in the know". (There are several examples of undue influence by organisation like the Freemasons or Rotary). Too much attention has in the past been paid to recruitment from local political parties, business organisations and charities, and too little to the claims of welfare and minority groups. e.g. in 1988 there were just 455 (1.9%) Black Magistrates.

REMEMBER: WRITE TO A PRISONER NOT YOUR M.P.

## WORK UNFAIR

The Tomorrow's People Trust is not part of the tacky '70s sci-fi TV series about teenage telepaths, but Grand Metropolitan's vehicle for Workfare. Its London HQ was invaded by claimants this week; pissed off at its involvement in Project Work slave labour pilot schemes - the work for dole scheme coming your way soon.

30 people occupied the building with one cop trying for *crap arrest of the week*, when he threatened to nick the owner of the banners for criminal damage to the windows. (caused by the tape sticking them up!) After being ejected from the building, we leafleted GM staff and passers by. "Any firm, charity or council involved in Project Work can expect to be targeted by angry claimants. **WITH THIS OCCUPATION WE WARN ANY COMPANY THINKING OF GETTING INVOLVED IN PROJECT WORK: THINK AGAIN.**" More PW pilot schemes are starting at the end of March, including one here in Brighton.

Groundswell has called a National Day of Action against PW for the 2nd April.

\* Remember those JobSeekers Allowances directives telling people they could be ordered to smarten up/get their hair cut or face losing their benefit? One claimant decided to complain using the 'Telling us about it' forms available from all DSS buildings, after being told he was scruffy. The Customer Services Manager for Brighton benefits agency responded "I am sorry if you offended when a member of staff commented on your appearance. Obviously, appearance is each individual person's choice and I am sure the comments were only meant to be constructive." It's good to moan.

## THE + FILES

Trees For Life is a project founded in 1989 to help regenerate and expand the Caledonian Forest in the Highland of Scotland in full swing. They aim to restore the forest to an area of 1500 sq. kilometres in the north-central Highlands, the project intends to restore the eco-system in Scotland which was once home to wolves, brown bears and beavers. To make a donation to the project or to get involved in the volunteer work weeks contact, Trees For Life, The Park, Findhorn Bay, Forres IV36 0TZ, Scotland. Or tel: 01309 691292.

## EURO BUREAU

\*\*\* A 12 year campaign against the Euro-tourist highway that will carve through the Pyrenees destroying the last habitat of the European Brown Bear is soon to erupt into what promises to be a spectacular eviction of an impressive mountainside anti-road camp. Six empty cottages along the route are available and needing to be barricaded and help is needed to defend to original camp. The region is too beautiful to be destroyed without resistance, the eviction is expected on March 15th, for information tel: 0033593 47883, or the Justice? office and leave a message for Gwen. \*\*\* For some time in the small provincial

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?). Or, if you can afford it... £15 for a year's subscription, or the SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. Ask for "originals" if you plan to copy and distribute. SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o On The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 E-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

Anarchist Tea Phone! The Teapot - at the bottom of North Road - now have a phone: (01273) 828192. Now you ring up and order your burger, chips and beans in advance.

town of Radomsko in Poland, numerous groups of fascists, had been terrorising local young people. Violent attacks by these boneheads on those who were 'different' became an everyday occurrence. Things got so bad that some people decided to fight back - resulting in one death of a fascist. Seventeen anti-fascists were then arrested, 13 of which are still in prison. Their families are having difficulty financing an adequate legal defence, so if your feeling flushed send donations to the defence fund at: Michal Swiderski, PO Box 8, 21-400 Lukow, Poland.

## SchNEWS in brief

Best wishes to Steven Arderton, a resident of the Bingley Bypass camp in Yorkshire, who suffered serious burns after a fire in his tree house. He is expected to be in hospital for at least two weeks. Send messages of support to him at the Regional Burns Unit, Tim Duffield Hospital Trust, Abberford Rd, Monkfield, WF1 4DG. More info 0113 262 9365. \*\*\* An excellent new magazine, 'Direct Action', launched at the end of last year is available for £1:50 from Solidarity Federation, Direct Action, PO Box 1095 Sheffield S2 4YR. They are appealing for suggestions, comments and contributions for how the magazine can grow and develop \*\*\* GRANARCHY! A council who erected a fence around a block of flats without listening to tenants objections were finally brought to heel by two elderly women. They used an arm chair in a sit down protest preventing the erection of the final part of the fencing. Oxford council have now arranged a meeting to hear the views of the residents \*\*\* Women living in nationalist areas of the six counties of Northern Ireland will be holding a public meeting to express views from their community at The Springfield Pub on Wednesday 5th March at 8:00pm \*\*\* EARTH(worm) LIBERATION FRONT STRIKE! Worms were rescued in a raid on a Lancashire University lab and equipment was trashed earlier this month.\*\*\*

## DOLLY MIXTURE

A recent technological breakthrough has meant that scientists have managed to genetically clone a sheep. The genetic reconstruction of embryos, which are then surgically placed in surrogate mothers, means that sheep can be genetically cloned and duplicated. 'Dolly', derived simply from the adult ewe udder cell, has provoked questioning of the ethics of genetic engineering and cloning. And as Mark Little at the recent 'Have I Got SchNEWS for you?' show asked, 'Why do they want to clone sheep, they all look the bloody same anyway!'

\*The Genetic Engineering Network are currently organising a series of meetings to discuss how to take the campaign forward. c/o Test Tube Harvest Campaign 55 Queen Margarets Grove, London, N1 4PZ or tel / fax 0171 923 9511

## NUKE-CASTLE

Last Wednesday in Newcastle 60 people stopped a nuclear warhead convoy travelling to Faslane submarine base in Scotland. The protesters performed a surprise two pronged attack on the convoy mean-

ing, as one officer said, "You caught us with our trousers down". Quick setting concrete was tipped over the windscreen of the first truck, locked on on top and underneath of the convoy and one person claimed to have damaged the chassis of one of the trucks - holding up the convoy for well over 2 hours. More info Nukewatch on 01274 730795 who also offer NVDA training and info packs. To get involved in the resistance against the new nuclear nightmare contact YCND on 0171 607 3616.

## Diary Dates

\*\* First week in March (probably) Gorleben, nuclear waste blockade, last year this spectacular piece of direct action cost £25 million to police, if it costs them too much this year the transportation will be too costly to be economically viable. This is our big chance to stop the senseless transportation of radioactive waste around Europe!! Get there!! 01273 685913 \*\* March 6th a night of news, views and reviews from the DIY movement, in aid of Squall, featuring British and European videos at the Ritz cinema, Brixton Oval, Coldharbour Lane at 6:30 on March 6th (bookings 0171 737 2121). To be followed by a Squall benefit by Freetown RTS Ska band at The Canterbury Arms, next to Brixton Cop Shop from 11pm \*\* 9th National Demonstration against Live Exports. Meet 12 noon at AJ's diner, junction 9 off northbound M5 - signposted A46 / A435. \*\* 9th Anti-Open-cast mine action! Meet at Blythe Roundabout services (junction of the A1 & the A614, Junction 34) 4am, Sunday 9 March. Info: 0171 603 1831. Bring spades, miner's helmets etc... \*\* 14th-17th Faslane Peace Camp Women's Action, for info. tel: 01706 812663 \*\* 15th SchNEWSnight at the Sanctuary cafe, Hove at 8pm. \*\* 15th Animate, festival for the rights of animals 10am till 8pm, Westminster Central Halls, London. Info: 0114 253 0020 \*\* 22nd Campaign Against the Arms Trade Campaign Day at the Friends Meeting House, 9 The Hop Gardens, off St Martins lane, London. Tel:0171 281 0297 \*\* 26th A review of new proposals for reform on traveller laws is taking place at Cardiff Law School, hosted by the Traveller Law Research Unit, tel:01222 874000.

## and finally...

"When you're in love with a beautiful penguin, it's hard..." Icelandic zoo keeper Kennet Albourg took animal welfare to new extremes when he became smitten with a penguin called Brunella. Claiming he was trying to keep the bird warm, Albourg dressed it up in a black lace Wonderbra and suspenders, and was duly sacked. He now has a new job as a taxidermist's assistant: He says: 'For a while my life was perfect, but now she's gone - and I'm stuffing squirrels.'

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS warns all readers not to be a victim of a miscarriage of justice. Reduce the chances of being jailed for a crime you didn't commit by committing lots of crime. Always trust the outcome of court cases, and never campaign for the release of those believed to be innocent, such as the Jackson Five. Then you will feel free. Honest.

Fluff and his little sister Spik are enjoying the peace and tranquility of a walk in the English countryside...

THIS IS NICE, ISN'T IT SPIK? MILES FROM THE CITY, THE CRACKHEADS, THE PIMPS, SCHOOL - WANDERING FREE!

IT'S ALL RIGHT I SUPPOSE, BUT I'M STARVING.

THAT'S OKAY, LOOK - LOADS OF APPLE TREES!

LET'S GO FOR IT - THERE'S NO ONE AROUND ANYWAY.

Or so they thought - for our two friends were about to become that summer's first victims of...

## JUNIOR CRAP ARREST!

THIS TASTES HORRIBLE! I DON'T LIKE THIS PLACE. LET'S...

It was true. Our two young heroes were in no ordinary English country garden - it was an experimental plot owned by billionaire Sir Monty Delboy and defended by the country's top crack police unit - the Crap Arrest Squad!

EVENING ALL!

RIGHT YOU TWO - DON'T MOVE OR I'LL BE FORCED TO DEFEND MYSELF WITH LETHAL CS GAS. YOU'RE NICKED!

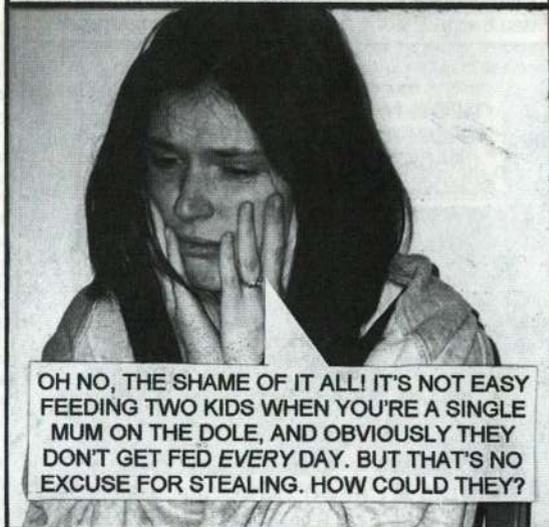
OH NO, MUM'S GOING TO KILL US!

WE JUST TOOK A COUPLE OF APPLES, YOU KNOW. IT'S NOT AS IF WE'VE SUPPLIED LOADS OF JETS TO A GENOCIDAL REGIME OR SOMETHING.

NO, BECAUSE THAT'S NOT ILLEGAL, STUPID!  
THAT'S WHY ARM DEALERS GET SQUASH AND  
CAKE AT NUMBER 10 - AND WE GET DRAGGED  
OFF TO THE COP SHOP TO FACE MUM.



At the Police Station Fluff and Spik's mum pours out  
her heart to WPC Kay Wye.

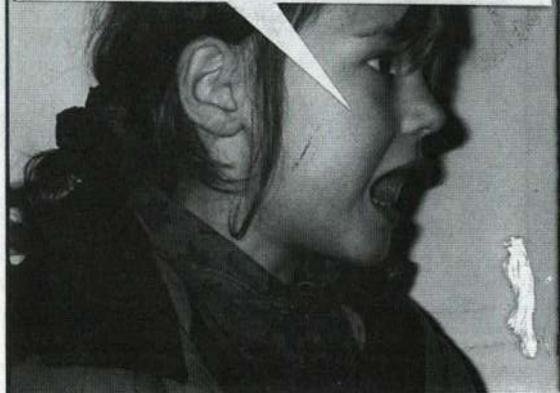


OH NO, THE SHAME OF IT ALL! IT'S NOT EASY  
FEEDING TWO KIDS WHEN YOU'RE A SINGLE  
MUM ON THE DOLE, AND OBVIOUSLY THEY  
DON'T GET FED EVERY DAY. BUT THAT'S NO  
EXCUSE FOR STEALING. HOW COULD THEY?

MAYBE BECAUSE YOU LET THEM GO WALKING  
IN THE COUNTRYSIDE IN THE FIRST PLACE,  
MA'AM? EVER THOUGHT OF THAT? YOU SINGLE  
MUMS, GETTING PREGNANT BY LOTS OF  
DIFFERENT MEN, TOO BUSY SNOGGING YOUR  
HUNDREDS OF BOYFRIENDS  
TO STOP YOUR KIDS  
RUNNING RIOT -  
YOU BITCH, HOW'D  
YOU GET SO MANY  
BLOKES!



LEAVE MY MUM ALONE! IT'S HARDLY  
HER FAULT THAT WE LIVE IN A SOCIETY  
WHERE A THIRD OF CHILDREN LIVE IN  
POVERTY WITH THEIR FAMILIES INCREASINGLY  
CRIMINALISED AS THEY ATTEMPT TO COPE  
WITH BENEFIT CUTS, DECREASING SOCIAL  
PROVISION AND AN APPALLING LACK OF  
CHILDCARE. NOT THAT THAT WOULD WORRY  
YOU, YOU UNIFORMED STATE LACKEY!

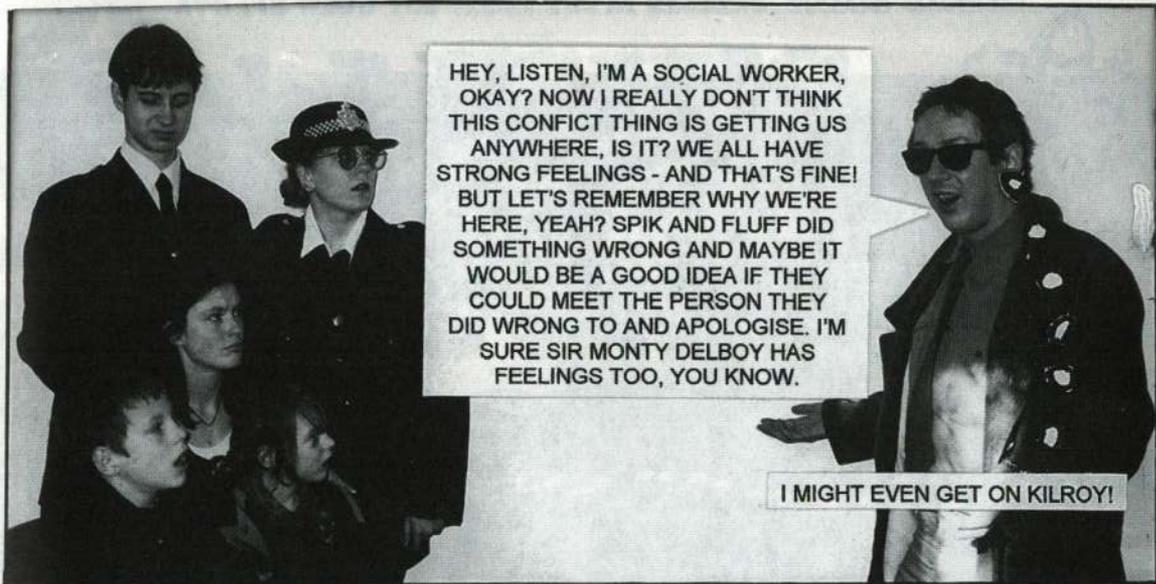


THAT'S QUITE ENOUGH OF THAT SORT OF  
TALK, YOUNG LADY. ANYMORE AND IT'S OFF  
TO COOKHAM WOOD KIDS' NICK... EH, SORRY,  
SECURE TRAINING CENTRE.. FOR YOU!

Enter social worker Juan Kideas, originator of the  
latest "Pioneering Youth Crime Initiative" - making  
young criminals apologise for their wrongdoing. Juan  
is keen to show his scheme off to Sir Monty Delboy -  
a top government adviser on "underclass management".

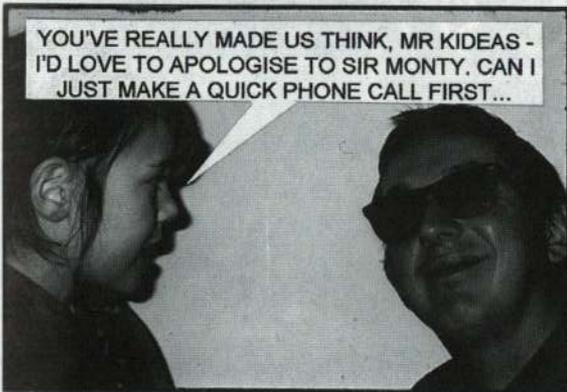


**HII! I'M HERE TO HELP.**

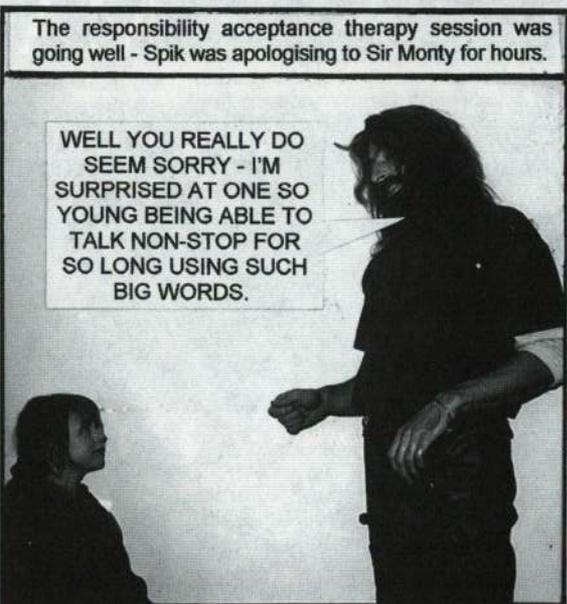


HEY, LISTEN, I'M A SOCIAL WORKER, OKAY? NOW I REALLY DON'T THINK THIS CONFLICT THING IS GETTING US ANYWHERE, IS IT? WE ALL HAVE STRONG FEELINGS - AND THAT'S FINE! BUT LET'S REMEMBER WHY WE'RE HERE, YEAH? SPIK AND FLUFF DID SOMETHING WRONG AND MAYBE IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA IF THEY COULD MEET THE PERSON THEY DID WRONG TO AND APOLOGISE. I'M SURE SIR MONTY DELBOY HAS FEELINGS TOO, YOU KNOW.

I MIGHT EVEN GET ON KILROY!

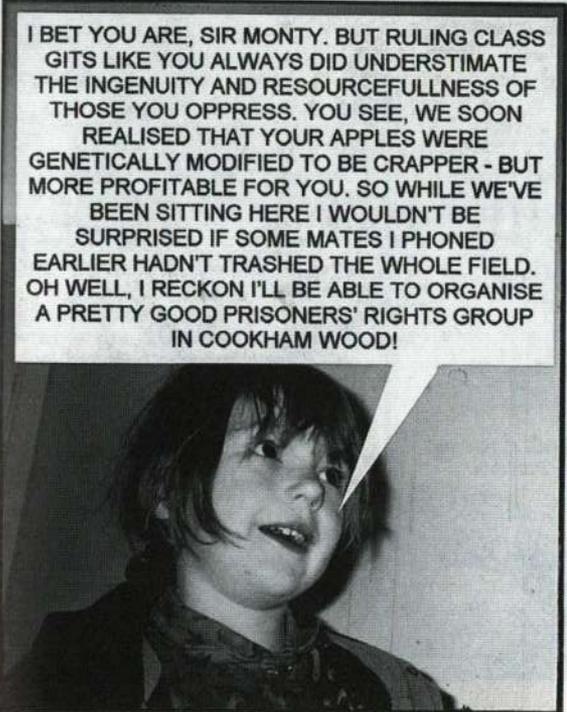


YOU'VE REALLY MADE US THINK, MR KIDEAS - I'D LOVE TO APOLOGISE TO SIR MONTY. CAN I JUST MAKE A QUICK PHONE CALL FIRST...



The responsibility acceptance therapy session was going well - Spik was apologising to Sir Monty for hours.

WELL YOU REALLY DO SEEM SORRY - I'M SURPRISED AT ONE SO YOUNG BEING ABLE TO TALK NON-STOP FOR SO LONG USING SUCH BIG WORDS.



I BET YOU ARE, SIR MONTY. BUT RULING CLASS GITTS LIKE YOU ALWAYS DID UNDERSTIMATE THE INGENUITY AND RESOURCEFULLNESS OF THOSE YOU OPPRESS. YOU SEE, WE SOON REALISED THAT YOUR APPLES WERE GENETICALLY MODIFIED TO BE CRAPPER - BUT MORE PROFITABLE FOR YOU. SO WHILE WE'VE BEEN SITTING HERE I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF SOME MATES I PHONED EARLIER HADN'T TRASHED THE WHOLE FIELD. OH WELL, I RECKON I'LL BE ABLE TO ORGANISE A PRETTY GOOD PRISONERS' RIGHTS GROUP IN COOKHAM WOOD!



**SORTED!**



# SchNEWS



Published in Brighton by Justice?

Issue 110

7th March 1997

Free/Donation

## ICH BIN FULL ON!

*"I've voted all my life. But never again. I'll never vote again. They're all criminals and crooks. They talk about Hitler and complain about the Nazis, but who sent all these forces here? They're as bad as the Nazis."*

A middle-aged German protestor.

Six containers of highly radioactive waste on their way to a storage depot to Gorleben. The biggest police mobilisation ever in peacetime Germany, involving 30,000 riot police at a cost of \$40 million.

The third shipment to Gorleben in three years this week met with massive opposition. Over 60% of the population wants the country's 19 nuclear stations (generating a third of it's electricity) closed down - and rather than sit on their bums complaining about it, thousands decided to get into some full on direct action. From farmers to families, schoolkids to shopkeepers, everyone it seemed wanted a piece of the action.

Defying a decree banning demonstrations, ordinary people have burrowed under the 12 mile road to Gorleben. Protesters have built tunnels at eleven points along the route, to weaken the road and cause it's collapse under heavy traffic. Others have laid explosives on railway tracks and handcuffed or cemented themselves to the line. Farmers in the region have welded tractors together, while the local fire brigade has been refusing to provide water for the police water cannon. Schoolkids staging sit-ins stuck two fingers up to the district authorities who wanted the schools to accommodate the huge police contingent, while shops and businesses in nearby Dannenberg closed down for the day in protest.

Meanwhile workers at the Gorleben temporary storage site and at a nearby saltmine - which is being examined for its suitability as a permanent waste

deport - are being shunned by the local population.

Many expressed anger at what they saw, as riot police - operating at a snail's pace - bludgeoned their way through the mass resistance with water cannons and truncheons. One newspaper commented, "Tens of thousands of police may be able to protect the transport, but they cannot persuade the people and they can't cover up the inadequacy of German energy policy."

The shipment finally reached it's destination on Wednesday afternoon, not much later than the authorities had originally anticipated.

*"We may not have halted the shipment, but look how much money was spent on the police. The whole world now knows what is happening and will look more closely at what happens in their own countries."* Germany spends just £7million on alternative energy.

### Short article disclaimer

SchNEWS scribes were there to see what was going on...but haven't as yet faxed us with any information **THE SLACK BASTARDS!**

### Liverpool Dockers

The Liverpool Dockers invite trade unionists, the unemployed, pensioners, people with disabilities, the homeless, refugees and aylum seekers, environmentalists to a

### MARCH FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Saturday 12th April  
assemble 12 noon

All welcome to organising meetings every Thursday 8pm the Kings Head Pub, Swinton St., Kings Cross: 0181 442 0090

### PAPUA NEW GUINEA

*"10,000 people have been killed since 1968 and another 100,000 forced into concentration camps. With their freedom fighters gone, the last of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) could be killed next week."*

Last Wednesday a small but dedicated group of activists descended on the Papua New Guinea High Commission in London to protest against the continuing war of genocide being carried against the people of Bougainville. For the past 9 years with a population of only 160,000 and an army armed with antique and homemade guns made out of water, piping and planks, they have managed to keep closed one of the biggest copper mines in the world. The mine - owned by biggest and most destructive mining company in the world Rio Tinto Zinc (RTZ) - was destroying the land, environment, society and culture of the small island.

But these considerations were not high on the list of priorities for the Papua New Guinea government who lay claim to the island (despite being 320 miles away) and whose mine was accounting for around 45% of PNG's total export earnings. They and RTZ have demanded action - and this has been backed by £150 million worth of aid from the Australian government. With British-based mercenary company Sandline International hired by RTZ to murder the few remaining BRA, time is running out for the islanders. For more info call PaRTiZans (0171 700 6189).

Also readers, before voting for the Lib Dems (0171 222 7999), (or indeed anyone else,) bear in mind that their Campaigns Manager is the External Affairs director for RTZ (0171 930 2399).

### Crap Arrest of the week

For saying George! A Sussex man protesting outside the home of a Kent vet who signs live animal export certificates, was nicked for 'causing alarm, distress and harassment'. What did he do? He called a police officer by his first name, so was duly taken down the nick and given bail conditions not to go within a 20 mile radius of Dover.

## R.I.P. Judi Bari

Judith Beatrice Bari, American Earth Firster, died peacefully on March 2nd of the effects of breast cancer, aged 47. Throughout the course of her life she was involved in anti-Vietnam War protest, abortion rights for women, worker's rights and support for repressive regimes in Central America. But it was while working as a construction carpenter that she began to wonder about the beautiful tight-grained redwood boards she was hammering nails into. When she learned they came from 1000 - 2000 year old trees, she resolved to help preserve the remaining old-growth redwood forests.

Bari was involved in the fight for sustainable logging, and protesting against the devastation of the Pacific forests.

She began a lawsuit against the FBI, after a 1990 car bombing which nearly killed her. She was travelling with Darryl Cherney when a bomb blew up the car she was driving and nearly killed them both. The blast smashed her pelvis in 10 places, fractured her spine, left her with a paralysed foot and caused extensive tissue and nerve damage. The FBI insisted that she had blown herself up with a device of her making, and charged her with the explosion as she was recovering in hospital. The blast happened months after Bari and other Earth First! activists began receiving anonymous death threats - apparently from timber supporters. Counterfeit EF! press releases advocating violent tactics were created by a pro-timber activist group and circulated to workers and the press by Pacific Lumber Company, among others, according to evidence developed in Bari's ongoing lawsuit against the FBI. When she reported the threats, and took the written ones to the police, she was told "When you turn up dead, then we'll investigate."

Her attorney claimed, "The bombing was a clear, carefully designed, criminal attempt to stop and silence Judi Bari...to intimidate and weaken the movement she and Darryl Cherney were part of."

Cherney has vowed that the lawsuit will continue.

Betty Ball credited Bari with the feminization of Earth First!. "It had been incredibly male-dominated prior to Judi's entrance. There were women involved but none were as successful as Judi in putting the feminine spin into it, and getting rid of some of the macho chest-beating that had been prevalent in Earth First! Judi's influence allowed many more women to get involved, in more influential ways than had been possible previously. Judi also innately understood the importance of community-based organising, as opposed to the nomadic style that Earth First! had before that."

Bari asked that her friends get together for a party (the word she chose) expected to happen next weekend.

## SchNEWS in brief

Chilean police stopped 49 motorists in Santiago for using cellular phones while driving, only to find that a third were

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (eg 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Mark "Original" if you plan to copy. Free postage to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tell/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

mail-out plea: help! we need more people to stuff envelopes on a Friday. please ring office for the job of a lifetime

pretending to talk on fake phones! \*\*\* An elderly man injured when ice the size of a sack of potatoes fell from an aircraft cannot sue for compensation - because he failed to take the plane's registration number! \*\*\* Conscious Cinema have produced an A4 sheet containing "Useful media numbers for people on actions!" It gives TV and radio newsroom numbers across the country, and you can get a copy by sending an SAE to Justice? \*\*\* Here at SchNEWS we're always asking for donations, and quite rightly so we hear you cry. This week we are requesting heavyweight contributions to the following freeport address: The Rt. Honorable Brian Mawhinney, FREEPOST SW3225, London SW1P 3BR \*\*\* The first construction project to be completed under DBFO (the new public money for private profit road building scheme) is the A1 (M) expansion - Alconbury to Peterborough. One end of the route falls in John Major's constituency, the other in Brian Mawhinney's, so the opening ceremony should be interesting! \*\*\* Meanwhile in Anglesey it's Euroroute alert! People are being asked to camp from 17th March in a show of strength at the beginning of a public enquiry which will decide the fate of all the usual SSSIs, wetlands, woodlands and sacred sites - again with our new friend the DBFO. Tel: 01248 713604 \*\*\* Fancy some 'Night of the Living Tonques' ? Film, cinema & music at The Junction, Clifton Rd., Cambridge, CB1 4GX for £2.50. Box Office 01223 511 511 \*\*\* Scientists in Palmer Station, Antarctica, have found that some plants and molluscs are beginning to produce their very own sunscreens. The Antarctic Pearl Wort develops a pigment to protect itself against UV assault, while some molluscs in the region produce UV absorbing amino acids which act in the same way as a good dose of factor 25 \*\*\* It's not often that we give royalty the thumbs up here at SchNEWS, but this week we'd like to extend a hearty Nice One to King Husain of Jordan. The regal one has decreed one of his palaces to orphaned and homeless children, after losing sleep following a visit to the al Hussein Social Welfare Foundation. The actions of the philanthropic King has led to calls for similar gestures by other royal figures. Husain is known to be a close chum of our own dear Queenie...Perhaps Liz can do something decent for once and offer Buck House over for the same, instead of setting up a poncey website \*\*\*

## Cannabis capers

The co-founders of the Medical Marijuana Foundation (MMF), Robin and Adrienne Scott have been given jail sentences of four years and fifteen months respectively for the cultivation and supplying of cannabis.

The couple set up the MMF in 1995, to make marijuana available to those who would medically benefit from it. They decided to fund this project through illegal cannabis cultivation, but were thwarted in their attempts by a police raid last Christmas. Contact MMF at: The Old Farmhouse, Crylla, Common Moor, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 6ER 01579 346592

## Doctors say McDonalds lied in kids promotion

In the wake of this week's shock news that the government covered up the state of Britain's abattoirs, and the fact that they're riddled with e.coli, comes the latest from the twisted world of that mad old clown Ronald McDonald. McD's has produced a slick promotional campaign in the U.S. which says that kids can "climb higher and ride their bikes farther" if they eat foods from the "meat group".

However, the concept that meat improves endurance was abandoned more than 100 years ago. A spokesperson for the Physicians Committee on Responsible Medicine said that the statement was like: "...telling them they can get more homework done by watching TV."

Also in the states, McD's are launching a new scheme called Campaign 55, which is basically a major price war on their rivals Burger King & Wendy's. After the news broke, shares in many major fast-food chains were sent tumbling. Last year McD's saw its sales drop by 3.3%... Only another 96.7% to go...

## ...and finally...

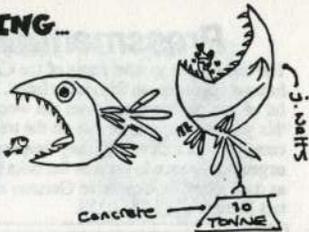
Jack Straw, the man with the mission of making Michael Howard look like a cuddly softy, has had some new ideas. This time he wants to be seen to be tougher than Michael Howard against the latest - as seen on EastEnders - scourge of society, 10-13 year olds. Jack's worried that 'at present we have a medieval law which assumes that youngsters 10-13 are "incapable of evil" unless the prosecution can prove the reverse'. Jack doesn't like medieval laws - right to silence, not allowing the state to break into your house, that sort of thing - because medieval laws are too enlightened and left-wing for New Labour. Instead he wants to build more children's prisons (streamline arrangements for secure accommodation) and put younger kids into them.

SchNews phoned New Labour to clarify these new proposals. If 10 year olds are assumed to know good from evil and can be tried in court by juries, then surely 10 year olds should be able to serve on juries? So do Labour plan to reduce the age you can serve on juries from 18 to 10 in line with the age juries can try people at? "We-have-no-such-proposals-at-present" repeats the press office Dalek. Silly old us for imagining New Labour might be consistent on this one - after all, the right to be tried by your peers is one of those boring old medieval rights that New Labour is so keen to update, modernise and get rid of. Expect much, much more from May 1st. Laptops! Laptops!

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS advises all readers not to argue with people with big trains full of Plutonium. Instead, just note down its number and class in your notebook and zip up your anorak. Above all, never say nein (nein nein) when faced with 30,000 German riot police. Then you will gain a sense of tumour. Honest.

WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER LEGALLY BINDING...



# SchNEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?

14th March 1978

Free/Donation

Isschue 111

## UP THE INJUNCTION!

Let's play a game. Imagine you are standing on a public footpath monitoring the activities of a waste company that's killing a protected species. The company isn't happy with your presence and get a court order banning you from 'spying' on them. You visit the proposed route of the Newbury Bypass and are arrested. *Go directly to jail.* You're a long term peace protester who decides to break an injunction telling you not to enter an RAF base. *Go directly to jail.*

In the never-ending quest to silence public protest, big business and government are using court injunctions to gag those who want to blow the whistle. Bans are a way for the rich and powerful to keep the polluters polluting, the loggers logging, and the toxic landfillers filling our world with hazardous waste.

In America, it's known as being SLAPPED - *Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation*. Professor Penelope Canan from the University of Colorado describes them as, "A new and very disturbing trend with grave consequences for politically active citizens and for our political system." The injunction is designed to silence people through legal intimidation, but hardly ever actually comes to court.

People have been SLAPPED for attending meetings, for signing petitions, reporting pollution violations, writing to newspaper editors, testifying at public hearings and even taking part in boycotts.

Irene Mansfield was SLAPPED for \$5,000,000 in 1986 for opposing a hazardous waste landfill in Texas and calling it a 'dump'. Mansfield's husband was also named in the suit, for failing to 'control his wife', even though he had not protested against the landfill. In 1990, the Pacific Lumber Company sued an American Earth Firster for \$25,000 for sitting in a Redwood tree.

Like all good American ideas, it's McSpreading... In Britain, court injunctions were supposed to protect people against harassment from named individuals (such as violent ex-partners) but, funnily enough, they are increasingly being used to try to deal with naughty protesters

who just won't go away.

First they came for the Travellers. In 1985, after years of free festivities at Stonehenge, the authorities had enough, and decided to stop them happening. One problem: the gatherings were not breaking any law. Wiltshire police and the local Council came up with a civil injunction to prevent travellers from going to Stonehenge and used it as justification for arresting everyone at the Battle of the Beanfield.

Then they came for the Road Protesters. At Twyford Down, the state began getting rather angry with hundreds of people constantly running round on site. So long as no-one caused any damage, then no laws were being broken. 76 people were put on a High Court injunction by the Dept of Transport (DoT), preventing them from entering the construction site or interfering with work. Disregard of these conditions meant the risk of a six month jail sentence for contempt of court. Under-terred, people continued to protest and at least 8 people were eventually sent down. The DoT then tried to sue the 76 for £3.2m in costs arising from the security and policing - so not only did you get dragged around and beaten up, you now had to pay for the privilege! Many people with homes or jobs were facing financial ruin, but luckily, the case was so badly organised, it eventually collapsed, with a few defendants having to pay a nominal £500 in costs.

Then the Criminal Justice Act came for us all.

This bigoted piece of legislation has made illegal just about any protest that is vaguely effective. But even the CJA cannot stop the demonstrations, so it's back to injunctions...

Klaus Armstrong-Braun, a Green Party Councillor on Flintshire-County Council, has been ordered by a court to stop 'spying' on a waste company. The company, AD Waste, is wholly owned by the council of which he is a member and is busy turning Brookhill Quarry - containing the largest colony of Great Crested Newts in Wales and used by local people for the past 40 years - into a toxic waste dump.

However, before they could dump the waste they had to drain the main

pool, a principle habitat of the newts. Members of the public witnessed amphibians being minced up in the pumping operation. Using a public footpath to monitor the operation, Klaus went to see for himself and concluded the companies activities were breaching European law, their licensing conditions and the negotiated management plan. So he complained to the police and county council.

This didn't go down too well with AD Waste who decided to get heavy, accusing Klaus of trespass, causing a nuisance and interrupting and disrupting their rather dubious operations. They slapped a court injunction on him claiming damages for "interruption of their operations." and ordering him not to "annoy, disturb, spy upon, harass or picket" the company.

If he loses the case, he also risks losing his home. If the company succeed a precedent will be set: threatening the rights of us all to monitor and check the activities of companies degrading our environment.

### SchFacts

\* Peace campaigners are increasingly coming up against court injunctions. British Aerospace have so far given 13 people lifetime injunctions not to interfere with their business in any way - even encouraging people to protest by handing out leaflets or speaking at a public meeting could land these 13 in jail. \*\* Lindis Percy, long time peace campaigner, has been given 9 months for breaking an injunction restricting her from entering RAF Lakenheath. Letters of support: D1 Medical Wing, HMP Holloway, Parkhurst Rd., London. \*\* *SchTOP Press!* On Wednesday, Tracey Hart from the Peace Prisoner Support Group had her home raided by CID and some of her belongings swiped - including her diary and mailing list. She's warning everyone to make sure they don't have anything lying around which could be "misinterpreted" like the odd pair of boltcutters... \*\* At Newbury, information gathered by Brays Detective Agency has been used by the DoT and Costain to get High Court injunctions served on 30 protesters, forbidding them from trespassing on the route of the bypass or 'interfering' in work. One man has already been inside for 3 months for breaking his injunction. \*\* Injunction advice from: EarthRights Environmental Law Centre, The Battlebridge Centre, 2-6 Battlebridge Rd., London, N1 2TL. Tel 0171 278 1005 \*\*

MARCH FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE 12th APRIL. JUSTICE? COACH GOING. TICKETS £5/3 FROM THE PEACE CENTRE.

## Pressmennan

The legal battle to save some of the Caledonian forest at Pressmennan Woods has failed. The handful of protesters evicted from the woods earlier this year are keeping an eye on the trees from a camp about a mile away. They desperately need urgent assistance to prevent the oaks ending up as dashboards in expensive German cars. Contact Heather 0134 385 0225.

Do you love SchNEWS?  
Got any spare time on your hands?

WE NEED YOU!!!

SchNEWS training day, Weds 26th March.

- 12:00-12:30 Introduction to SchNEWS  
12:30-2:00 Writing stories (with breaks!)  
2:30-3:30 Desk Top Publishing those very stories for inclusion in that week's actual SchNEWS!  
3:45-4:30 Database & mailout

We are like Count Dracula, we cannot survive without a supply of fresh blood. Ring the office to book yourself on the training experience of the millennium!

## RTS

Reclaim The Streets (RTS) is organising a rather fab sounding 'Two Day Festival of Resistance' in London on 12th- 13th April. On Saturday they will join forces with the Liverpool Dockers, Women of the Waterfront and the Hillingdon Hospital Workers for a 'march for social justice' meet 12 noon at Kenington Park. Sundays details are still not confirmed. 0171 281 4621.

## SchNEWS in brief

\*\*\* Check out the excellent **Corporate Watch** magazine. A must for activists who want to get to the bottom of corporate dirty dealings. No 3 out now; £1.50 from Box E, 111 Magdalen Rd, Oxford, OX4 1RQ. 01865 791391. Also at <http://www.oneworld.org/cw>. \*\*\* Wirral TUC are holding a **music festival** on Sun 25 May. They are looking for bands who would like to play there. Info: Nick Kearns 0151 512 1868 \*\*\* **Justice** (without the question mark!) are a legal group who support miscarriage of justice cases after appeals have failed, but where fresh evidence is possible. They have produced '*How To Appeal - a guide to the criminal appeal system*', £2.50, or free to prisoners (send 31p stamp). Contact: Justice, 59 Carter Lane, London EC4V 5AG \*\*\* The largest compost site in Britain opened recently in Bournemouth. The plant will be able to compost up to 40,000 tonnes of plant waste a year and plans are afoot for a kerbside collection of household compostable waste. \*\*\* The **Job Seekers Allowance Survival Guide**, newly revised and updated, is available from: Matt c/o St. Ormer, Fore Street, Marazion, Cornwall TR17 0AH (Send an SAE and 2 x 1st class stamps) \*\*\* In anticipation of the **Millennium Cycleways**, Fourth Door Research have devised the idea of **cycle stations** along the cycle routes. These would provide rest and refreshment facilities, washrooms, cycle hire and repair. Details from: Oliver Lowenstein, Fourth Door Research Unit, 1 Grange Road, Lewes. \*\*\* Introducing **Penzance Earth First!** group for all you Cornish pixies. Tel: 01736 711770. \*\*\* Martin Callaghan Martin was **crushed in a digger** by the driver at the M65 Campaign in 1994. Now suffering permanent physical injury, he is trying to sue the contractor,

but has been consistently been refused full legal aid. Can you help foot Martin's legal bill? He expects his expected contribution to be £300 - £500. Send your readings to: Chris Maile, 43 Swan Meadow Road, Poolstock, Wigan WN3 5BJ \*\*\* **Sat 15th - Schnewstight** 'political cabaret' at the Sanctuary, Hove £1 B4 9pm/£2 after \*\*\* **Sun 16th** Celebratory walk & picnic along part of the no longer to be built Worthing-by-pass. Meet 12 noon, Lancing Ring car park. \*\*\* **Wed 19** '*Educational and Health in Cuba*'. Talk by Prof. Theodore MacDonald. Brighthelm Centre, Queen's Road, 7:30pm. \*\*\* **Fri 21** - Spring Equinox Gathering at WoMenwith Hill Women's Peace Camp. Contact: 01943 468593 \*\*\* **Fri 21** - Greenheart Dance Party 01835 850364/ 01289 382565 \*\*\* **Fri 21** - Premiere showing of '*La Ballade des Sans-Papiers* (The Ballad of the Sans-Papiers)' at St. Mary's Church, Eversholt St., London NW1. Sans-Papiers are 300 African asylum seekers campaigning against deportation from France. \*\*\* **Wed 26** Talk on the Police Bill by Mike Schwarz of Bindman's solicitors, East Oxford Community Centre, Cowley Road, 8pm \*\*\* The residents of **Holtsfield** near Swansea, battling to stave off eviction from their land since the '30's, have a last chance of justice with a hearing at the House of Lords. Walking from Swansea to London, they will arrive to present their case for the **20th March**. 24hr info service from the 1st to 20th March 01792 232463 \*\*\* Congratulations to Cornish group Cot Region Residents Against Pollution for winning best acronym of the week...

## Glasgow protests

On Monday, over 50 people from the Scottish Socialist Alliance and Save Our Services campaign occupied Glasgow City Council chambers for nineteen hours. They tried to prevent the City Council from announcing £80 million worth of cuts, 1500 redundancies, closing down of 130 community projects - and a 22% rise in Council Tax! George McNeillage of the North Pollok Community Council said "We have as much right as the councillors to be in this building, they were voted in two years ago in a stand against cuts and redundancies. Now they have betrayed every citizen of Glasgow and should resist or resign". Embarrassed council leaders told police not to eject protesters because they feared smashing the oak doors to the chambers. However they did eventually meet and announce the cuts but Socialist Labour Councillor Tommy Sheridan told SchNEWS "The protests and actions will continue". For more info: 0141 287 3934.

## Crap job of the week

Thanks to our Bedfordshire correspondent for this little gem. The National Intelligence HQ at Chicksands is advertising for security guards at the bargain rate of £2.20 an hour. Applicants must pay £90 for their own uniform, but MoD officials confirmed "you would be allowed to keep it afterwards."

## SchURF the 'Net

As of this Friday the all new SchNEWS website is up and running, featuring back issues, diary dates and a comprehensive list of contacts. Best of all, the latest issue of the SchNEWS will appear on the site in its full glory each Friday morning (probably) and due to the miracle(?) of technology, people all around the world will be able to download the SchNEWS from the ether, print it and photocopy it for all their friends. (Available in HTML text and Acrobat formats.)

<http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

## The + files

(Positive sides that don't even have negative sides)

The Centre for Alternative Technology in Mid Wales have created a paradise from an old slate quarry. They have built everything from a water-powered cliff railway, energy conservation house, solar-water heating and organic gardens. CAT's seven acre visitor complex is not connected to the national grid, being powered mainly from a combination of wind, water and solar power. "*Highlighting ecological problems is all well and good, but will have little effect until people become inspired to take up the solutions.*" Visit them, or send for more info: CAT, Machynlleth, Powys, SY20 9AZ Tel: 01654 702400.

## Open Cast

Massive police presence at the home of Richard Budge, (owner of RJB mining) early last Sunday, prevented a posse of ecotypes, ex-miners and families telling the largest open cast mine operator in the country what they really thought of him. When asked why Michael Heseltine was guarded by only two policemen when he was paid similar visits, a copper replied "Well, no-one likes Heseltine". Miners Support Group: 0181 672 9698.

## SUPPORT GROUP

A protester support group has been set up in South Wales, to provide warm clothes, food etc. to anti-open cast mining activists. Contact Endangered Species on 01686 412563.

## ...and finally...

Officers in Sussex decided that Valentine's Day was the ideal time to raid the home of suspected drug dealers. Sgt. Theresa Atkins found herself dressed in a bunny costume pretending she was delivering a romantic message "Inky Pinky poo, it's down to the nick for you." This more loved-up, fluffy style police action apparently worked, as the flat door was opened by the horrified owner only to see a giant rabbit, shortly followed by a number of police officers. SchNEWS warns all readers to avoid anyone dressed as a mammoth bunny, just in case they are amorous police ladies. Keep it fluffy.

## ...and FINALLY...

This week the chairman of the Prison Governors' Association said: "No one in their right mind would seriously consider the introduction of prison ships and abandoned holiday camps as prison accommodation." Well one person would and no prizes for guessing. Still, once SchNEWS heard that the good prison ship Lollipop (OK, it's called Resolution) was costing the Prison Service ten times more than its scrap value (and creating two jobs at a cost of £4 million) we thought of a money making scheme. So, dear Fraulien Widdacombe, Justice? have a very old, knackered van that's worth about £100 scrap. Maybe you'd be interested? We're offering it to you at the knock down price of £1,000... a bargain, we're sure you'll agree...

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS advises all readers not to get SLAPPED with an injunction. Always give your real name to when 'They' pursue you with big papery things. Never wear a dress and wig call yourself Gloria, and you will surely get away with anything. Then you will feel (bail) conditioned. Honest.

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (eg 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Mark "Original" if you plan to copy. Free postage to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.  
tel/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: [schnews@brighton.co.uk](mailto:schnews@brighton.co.uk) e-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

Fancy a couple of hours work a week mailing out SchNEWSrounds? Please call the office and save two people from repetitive strain injury

WAKE UP! ITS YER OOPS, I FORGOT TO REGISTER..



# SchNEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?



Issue 112

21st March 1997

Free/Donation

## NEVER MIND THE BALLOTS, WHAT ABOUT THE PLANET!

*"If voting changed anything, they'd abolish it." Ancient Anarchist Proverb*

*"Democracy is two wolves and a sheep voting on lunch." Anon.*

*"The fact that an opinion has been widely held is no evidence whatever that it is not utterly absurd; indeed, in view of the silliness of the majority of mankind, a widespread belief is more likely to be foolish than sensible." Bertrand Russell*

With only (!) six weeks to go of non-stop soundbites and inane grins, SchNEWS decided to let activists from around the country have their say...

*"What general election? We're too busy trying to do something useful to faff around with such trivia. Tell that John Major to stick it where the sun don't shine." Manchester's Campaign Against Runway 2.*

*"Fifty-one of the largest hundred economic bodies worldwide are corporations. Nobody votes them into power, they have no popular mandate; yet they can and do wield enormous influence over everybody on the planet. If this farcical 'General Election' shows us anything, it highlights the shift in power away from government towards multinationals." Coporate Watch*

*"A Green vote in local elections is a positive vote, as Oxford and Brighton have shown, but until there is a system of Proportional Representation in this country, a vote for a Green candidate in a general election is always going to be a wasted one. At the very least, we should be spoiling our ballot papers and running off with the pencil." Ecotrip*

*"Over the past three years the Tories and Labour have been engaged in a bidding war to sell off our privacy. Beginning with the Criminal Justice Act, the Security Services Act and the Police Bill, both parties have sung a macabre*

melody that saw police, MI5 and assorted agencies gain more power than any previous previous generation thought possible.

Jack Straw watched on smiling as towns and cities across the country put their citizens under the gaze of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV). He supported the adoption of denouncement campaigns and powerful police surveillance computer checks. New Labour spokesman Frank Field is proposing mandatory DNA fingerprinting at birth. John Major agreed to a deal with the FBI for the mass tapping of British phone lines, the gutting of data protection law, and the elimination of people's right to encrypt their email and phone messages. Britain is fast becoming the developed world's leading surveillance society, but its key protections are approaching those found in the third world. Neither of the major parties are prepared to sing a different tune. They seem to have forgotten that democracy and privacy are inseparable." Simon Davies, *Privacy International*.

*"This is our opportunity to show the Tories the Red Card. We will challenge all the mainstream, pro-capitalist parties, championing demands like £6 an hour minimum wage, shorter working week, abolition of all anti-union laws. etc.". If elected, our MPs will live on a worker's wage, refusing to join the 237 millionaires already infesting parliament." Richie Venton, Scottish Socialist Alliance.*

### Crap Arrest of the week

For carrying a wooden plank. The man was arrested and charged under the Trade Unions and Labour Relations Act. Manchester cops, it seems, are trying to put a stop to the protests against the proposed second runway by nicking people for anything - then imposing bail conditions of a 4 mile exclusion zone around the proposed runway site. The camps are in court next week. 0161 834 8221

*"This election is just as irrelevant as the last one. 200,000 anti-election stickers have gone out as well as 100,000 'WANKERS' posters. 10,000 people waving them outside Downing Street on the March for Social Justice on April 12th should get the message home." Ian Bone. \*Send £1 for WANKERS election pack: PO Box 5, Greenleaf, Colston St, Bristol.*

*"They say "No Vote No Voice", but by boycotting the election your action speaks louder than words. By withdrawing your consent you have more right to criticise, not less. By doing something worthwhile on May Day, you can cast a vote against the piss-poor inhabitants of Westminster and their minions, and taking control of their own life." Anti-Election Alliance, BM 6577, London WC1N 3XX.*

*"All three political parties remain committed to perpetuating the injustices, poverty and environmental destruction which comes with growth economics. Party politics mirrors consumerism: it is empty of real content, is packaged in glittering soundbites and images and tries to persuade us that this is progress. Only the Green Party has a longer term, sustainable vision of how politics should be - based around cultural change - but are likely to be ineffective in our anachronistic electoral system. Ultimately real change must come from the grass roots, with new agendas, different political and economic structures and a broader ethical framework which will render the current political system irrelevant." Enough - the anti-consumerism campaign, organisers of No Shop Day.*

Ding ding! All aboard the Anti Election Express - Reclaim The Streets 'co-incident' with the March for Social Justice April 12th. Meet 12 noon Kennington Park, London. Coach from Brighton - tickets from Peace Centre, £5/£3

DON'T BE A COG IN THE MACHINE BE A SPANNER IN THE WORKS

## Bizarre Election Special

HOWARD MARKS, renowned cannabis smuggler, is to stand in the Norwich North constituency for the Campaign to Legalise Cannabis. He's also standing in Norwich South. Perhaps it's that short term memory thing...

SCREAMING LORD SUTCH manifesto pledges include abolishing January and February to make the winter shorter, dogs to be made to eat fluorescent food to avoid the danger of treading in dog's mess at night and banning work before lunchtime 'because it's far too difficult.'

RONNIE CARROLL who once sang "Ring-A-Ding-Girl" for Britain in the Eurovision Song Contest, has launched The Rainbow Connection Dream Ticket Leisure Party, promising to introduce electronic voting in every home - giving everyone £300 a week for doing so! Spokesman Rainbow George said: "Ronnie is not standing for parliament, he is standing against it. In this day and age why do we need people to represent us." Zippy and Bungle were unavailable for comment.

VOTE FOR THE GOAT A bearded beast stood for mayor in a Mexican town recently. The calibre of the other candidates was such that it found itself leading in the polls until it was poisoned!

KEVIN LIPIAT a 34 year old homeless builder and Newbury veteran, is standing as a candidate in St Ives, Cornwall. He took his local council to court winning a landmark victory giving homeless people the right to vote...but having done so, "I realised there wasn't any one I wanted to vote for."

## Shoplifting Vicar

In a purely impartial fashion, we at SchNEWS feel we must report on the views of a member of the C of E clergy, the Reverend John Papworth (also editor of Fourth World Review), who advocated shoplifting in large superstores on a moral stance. "Supermarkets are soulless, and their advertising is propaganda. Shoplifting is a badly needed reallocation of resources." We wonder if this would stand up in a court of law? Don't try this one at home, kids!

\*Sainsbury's are planning to build a new supermarket in the space next to Brighton Railway Station, on the site of one the country's biggest car boot sales. The area is also an important corridor for city wildlife. Railtrack have rejected a proposition to turn the area into a nature trail, citing the dangerous presence of electricity generators and access to the railway lines. Obviously, these wouldn't matter if a supermarket was built instead. Contact Brighton FoE: 01273 324455.

## Camp Fire

On 23 February, Stephen Anderton suffered serious burns in a fire in his tree house at the Bingley Protest camp. He will need plastic surgery on his face, nose, ears and hands. Send lots of nice things to: Stephen Anderton, Regional Burns Unit, Pinderfields Hospital Trust, Aberford Road, Wakefield WF1

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (eg 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Mark "Original" if you plan to copy. Free postage to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tel/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@justice.co.uk e-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/schnews/>

There will be a tree-planting memorial for Squatter Alex at the Justice? allotments this Saturday. Meet 12 noon at the New Kensington

## Smashing!

News from our animal rights correspondent: Supporters of the Chiddingfold Fox Hunt had their evening ruined last Friday as 150 protesters made their presence felt at their annual Hunt Ball. A large police presence did not deter activists outside the Arundel hotel from expressing their views. Several hunters, looking as terrified as the hunted fox itself, turned tail and fled from the barrage of abuse, flour, eggs and rocks that were raining down. News over the police radio announced that 13 vehicles (unlucky for some) were trashed that evening. Although there were no arrests on the night it's believed that 3 protesters have since been nicked for criminal damage and violent disorder. Apart from this, a smashing time was had by all. Hunt Sabs Association: 01273 622827

### WE NEED YOU!!!

SchNEWS training day, Weds 26th March.

12:00-12:30 Introduction to SchNEWS

12:30-2:00 Writing stories

2:30-3:30 Desk Top Publishing

3:45-4:30 Database & mailout

Ring office to let us know if your coming.

## SchNEWS In Brief

"Gratuitous sadism" were the words used by a judge who released peace campaigner **Lindis Percy** last week. Lindis who was given nine months for breaking a high court injunction (see SchNEWS 111) has been released early, due to ill health brought on by being strip-searched \*\*\* Anne Scargill (wife of Arthur) and Steve Parry have given **High Court injunctions** not to go within a mile of the home of Richard Budge. He's the owner of RJB Mining - responsible for open cast holes appearing at a piece of countryside near you. Details: 0181 672 9698 \*\*\* A woman who runs an animal sanctuary in Bristol is keeping a **pipistrelle bat** alive by keeping it inside her bra. Diana Desmond said the bat needed a "warm environment with natural movement" \*\*\* A patent has been granted to the US Biocyte Corporation...on the blood cells of the **umbilical cord**. What does this mean? Biocyte have complete control over the extraction and use of cells, and no consent is required by the mother. Biocyte are hoping to make massive profits on medical research on the property rights of people's cells. Details: No Patents On Life, Women's Environmental Network, 87 Worship Street, London EC2A 2BE 0171 247 3327 \*\*\* The **Autonomous Centre** in Edinburgh have moved into new premises. Details: 0131 557 6242 \*\*\* Solicitor Mike Schwarz and Liberty's Liz Parrot will be talking about the **Police Bill** on Thursday 27th March 7.30 pm at the Ecotrip Centre, 22 Porden Rd, Brixton, SW2 (behind the Fridge) followed by showing of Undercurrents + food 0181 671 5936 \*\*\* Following the success of the footie competition at last year's Hackney Anarchy Week, Between the Lines challenge political/environmental groups to a **Loony Left Football competition**. Saturday 26 April - Clissold Park, London. Kick off at 11am. Fantastic

Alcoholic Prizes, £14 per team. Details/registration BTL, Box 32, 136 Kingsland High Street, London W8 2NS \*\*\* Nice one to the **Royal Geographic Society** for refusing funding from the oil giant Shell, because of the way the company has treated the Ogoni people. \*\*\* Don't all rush at once but a customer of Brighton veg box scheme Organic Roundabout rang them to say "Those mushrooms you sold us gave us really strange dreams..." 01273 707001 \*\*\* Peace Campaigner David Dragonetti will attempt a sponsored walk along the 45 miles of the Speyside Way, in 24 hours, to raise money for **Faslane Peace Camp**. Pledges on 01436 820902 \*\*\* Haul Waste Ltd applied for a two and a half tonne dump near Uffculme, Devon. A similar planning application was halted in 1986, after SW Water objected to possible contamination of the water supply. Then they bought the landfill company. Haul Waste are wholly owned by SWW, and have no contamination worries this time ...although the dump will sit 200ft above a river \*\*\* 2-5 April **Disabled Action Network** Conference on Accessible Transport including action. 0181 889 1361 \*\*\* 5-6 April - **VOHAN (Vegan Organic Horticulture and Agriculture Network)** Regional Gathering. SAE to 35 Rayleigh Ave, Westcliffe on Sea, Essex SS0 7DS. Tel: 01702 303259 \*\*\* 7-8 April - Third International Sustainable Development Research Conference 01274 530408 \*\*\* 9-11 April - 3 Days of action against the Institute of Animal Technology's national annual meeting 01203 632873 \*\*\*

## Bucket of Sick of the Week

After hearing reports of his alleged new romance at Manchester Airport, Swampy has declared that his only true love is Mother Earth and no flesh and blood women will get in the way of his devotion to protecting the environment. "Dear to my heart though Merry is, I cannot allow broken hearts to interfere with tunnelling." Poor Merry replied "As Princess Leia held out for Han Solo, as Lois Lane held out for Superman, I am prepared to wait for my hero to join me when the battle is won." Ahhhhh ...and finally...

How thoughtful. Because of a new government ban on those villainous chlorofluorocarbons, the US Air Force is to refit all its nuclear missiles with new cooling systems which don't use CFC's so that on their way to deliver terminal global warming they won't further erode the ozone layer! The Environmental Protection Agency concedes that it may seem 'ironic' to make nuclear missiles more eco-friendly. But regulations is regulations.

### disclaimer

The SchNEWS advises all readers not to put crosses on pieces of paper and believe it will really make a difference. Never, ever do it again. Always use your cross wisely - enlist for woodwork classes right away, (crucify 'em, geddit?). Then you will not feel cross. Honest.

WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER BANK HOLIDAY...



# SchNEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?

ISchue 113

Thursday 27th March 1997

Free/Donation

## SLAVE TRADE *Legg Over*

*"Project work' is the thin end of a wedge which threatens to enslave claimants, and to intensify exploitation and job insecurity for those in work."* A Brighton claimant

Project Work was dealt a serious blow this week when the two organisations the Employment Service had hoped would be involved suddenly withdrew their bids. "Tomorrow's People" (part of Grand Met) and OTL have pulled out - and without them the whole scheme could collapse. Work-fare is aimed at anyone unemployed for two years or more. It means being forced into 8 weeks 'intensive job search' on signing day, being offered every job under the sun, with the threat of all benefits being cut off under the Job Seekers Allowance if you refuse any. This is followed by 13 weeks compulsory "work experience", for yer dole plus a tenner. Again, refusal could mean losing all your benefits.

Two pilot schemes have already been up and running in Medway and Hull since April '96. Due to their so called "success" it's now being extended to 25 areas (including Brighton) affecting 100,000 claimants.

"Success"? It has the worst record of any job creation scheme - while 25% of claimants signed off, only 8% got jobs, and only half of those were permanent. In Medway of 1000 forced onto the scheme, only 9 were actually found 13 week placements!

In Hull, jobs included working in a quarry breaking rocks, and in Kent one man died while working on scaffolding, polishing the front of a castle, due to poor health and safety regulations.

In New York, the authorities found that the only way to make a similar Workfare scheme cost-effective was to place dole slaves in jobs otherwise done by properly paid workers in the public sector. The result: within 2 years 10,000 workers in NYs sanitation depots had lost their jobs.

SchNEWS wouldn't suggest kicking people when they're down but the scheme is looking very wobbly and as one claimant activist told us "Placement agencies and 'voluntary groups' may want

*free workers - but they don't want pickets of their shops and disruption of their offices"*

### NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST WORK FARE

**WEDNESDAY 2nd APRIL**  
in Brighton - meet 12 noon,  
Churchill Square.

For news of actions in your area contact Groundswell who are co-ordinating national resistance to the benefits clamp-down. SAE to c/o East Oxford Community Centre, Princes St., Oxford, OX4 1HU. tel 01865 723750 - fax 01865 724317

\* Not to be outdone by Old Conservative, New Labour plan to get 250,000 under 25's **back to work** with the help of the proposed 'windfall tax' (getting cash back from privatised utilities). You will be given three options - and if you refuse will have your benefit withdrawn.

\* The Independent Benefits Advice Service give free **confidential advice to claimants**. Much of their work is carried out in the Kent area, but they will accept enquires from anywhere in the country, either by mail or phone. 34 Saxon Place, Horton, Kirby, Dartford, Kent, DA4 9JG 01322 865114.

\* Edinburgh claimants are busy implementing the promised policy of '**three Strikes and you're out**'. On March 13, a local dole office was stormed and activists took photos of the offending client advisor, one Alistair Mathieson - who has been warned twice by the group for harassment of claimants. The group have promised to display large posters of the bully around Edinburgh. Info c/o Peace & Justice Centre, St. Johns Church, Princes St., Edinburgh.

### Reclaim The Streets

"Co-inciding" with the **March for Social Justice**: April 12th, meet 12 noon at Kennington Park, London.

Justice? bus from Brighton - tickets from Peace Centre, £5/£3.

*"If we are not careful night-life will turn out to be no different from the bland consumerist playground of chainstores and fast-food outlets which punctuate the day-time economy"* Lovattr & O'Connor,

Institute for Popular Culture

Barry Legg's Public Entertainments Licensing (drugs misuse) Bill finally became law last Friday. It gives the police new powers to close a club immediately if they suspect drug use/dealing is going on in the venue or at "any place nearby which is controlled by the holder of the licence."

The consequences of this Act will be to drastically change the character of our clubland over the forthcoming months (that's unless you haven't noticed changes happening already) Or as one disgruntled party-goer commented "under the guise of 'evil drug barons' they are using the tactics of searching and watching our every move, to get us used to a police state". The Criminal Justice Act pushed the dance scene back into the clubs where events could be more controlled by big business. This Act is designed to sterilise the creativity of the event and its 'consumers' and close smaller clubs in favour of the larger commercially based venues. We can all look forward to increased security on the doors, CCTV cameras inside the venue, and anti-drug patrols in the club (including sniffer dogs at one Scottish club).

Opponents of the Bill have been concerned that it will encourage people to take too many drugs before entering the club, or that club competition may cause "snitching" to local authorities resulting in immediate closure of their rivals.

\* Thanks to Brighton police **The Sub cafe** along the seafront has had to install a CCTV camera *inside the venue!*

\* London police took party bashing to new heights the other weekend when they laid siege to a **squatted old M15 building** with 14 soundsystems ready to rock the night away. This follows on from a weekend when they stopped three parties including illegally cutting the electricity supply to one of the venues that was too well barricaded for them to enter.

\* **"Shake a Legg" Campaign** was set up in opposition to the bill. Now its an Act, what can we do? Any suggestions contact Derek on 01603 766854 or email: derek@paston.co.uk

THIS EASTER WEEKEND TUNE INTO RADIO AKTIVBOLD 106.6 FM INCLUDING SCHNEWS TUNES + PHONE-IN MONDAY AFTERNOON

## Housing Benefit Blues

Last Friday Social Security Secretary Peter Lilley sneaked through new housing benefit and funeral grants regulations.

Housing Benefit cuts take place from October 6th and will eventually affect 370,000 people. Any tenant under 60 who lives alone will be allowed benefit equivalent only to the local average rent for a room in a shared house with shared facilities. Lilley reckons it will encourage people on benefits to "shop around" to find suitable accommodation - reality is a little different. These changes have already happened for Under 25s, with the result that in Brighton under 1% of private landlords will now take under 25s on housing benefit; this is partly because "average rent" is set at £41.50! There just isn't enough affordable decent housing available and landlords across the country won't be interested in people on benefits.

Under funeral grant changes, poor families will be denied help with funeral costs from the social fund unless they can prove all immediate relatives are on benefit.

## Bougainville Update

Around 100 Papua New Guinea (PNG) politicians spent Tuesday night trapped in the parliament building by armed soldiers inside and demonstrators outside. The then PM, Sir Julius Chan, enraged both the army and demonstrators by spending £23 million hiring a mercenary group consisting of ex-special forces from Britain and S. Africa and other charming thugs to track down and murder the leaders of the Bougainville liberation movement.

Bougainville is a small island about 500 miles north-west of mainland PNG, and is unlucky enough to be the site of open-cast copper mining operations which account for one third of PNG's exports. There is of course no connection between this fact and the government's willingness to spend millions on hired killers to keep the island under their control. No, really, there isn't, honest. As a result of the army mutiny - 'why aren't we getting paid as much as the mercenaries?' and the other demonstrations, the hand-somely paid terrorists have made a hasty exit, with the exception of their leader and paymaster who is currently under arrest for illegally importing arms. As SchNEWS goes to press, the latest is that Chan, his deputy and the defence minister have finally caved in to the pressure and resigned. For more info call PaRTiZans (0171 700 6189).

## Carry on rubbing up Rank

People have set up camp in Kent to oppose the Rank Organisation's plans to build an up-market leisure facility in part of the ancient Lyminge forest. This includes 850 buildings, interconnecting roads, artificial waterways and a golf course which will affect 1,000 acres of wood and farmland. Part of the land is currently owned by the Forestry Commission who have already been threatening to evict the camp, which has considerable local support.

Bodies, food and general support as ever are needed, so if you're looking for a nice new place to live in the forest this summer... get involved by calling 01227 261057. You can also call Rank on 01730 262626. They're very sensitive about their public image so this protest could really bang their gong.

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (eg 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Mark "Original" if you plan to copy. Free postage to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tel/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/schnews/>

Conscious Cinema plea for help: the edit suite and now the LCD projector are seriously fucked... any expert help - or cash! - please call on 01273 278018!

## Royal Ass(ent)

At 11:39am last Friday, the last day of Parliament before the General Election, the Conservatives fulfilled their scorched earth policy with 27 Bills becoming law in just one minute. These include the Police we-have-the-right-to-bug-and-burgle-anyone-we-want-to-Act, The Public Entertainment-we-have-closed-your-club-because-we-think-someone's-taking-drugs Act, Social Security Administration (Fraud) Act, Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Act and Road Traffic Reduction Act. They also signed a deal to build the first secure children's prison and kicked in regulations cutting housing benefit and funeral grants for the poorest.

If you ever feel like getting all depressed on the net, you can check out every word they said with the democracy-enhancing Hansard web-site (the journal of parliament): <http://www.parliament.the-stationery-office.co.uk/pa/cm/cm/hansrd.htm>

\* The Tory Record - An Assessment of a neat little compilation booklet by 18 authors on how they've not been very nice people. Everything from agriculture issues to caring for the mentally ill. Yours for 4x2nd class stamps + SAE from Justice? usual address. \* Drafted and promoted by Friends of the Earth, the Green Party and Plaid Cymru and the LibDems, the Road Traffic Reduction Bill requires local authorities to compile reports on the levels of traffic in their respective areas, and desirable reduction targets which the Secretary of State for transport will consider when allocating funding to local authorities for traffic reduction schemes. Charles Secrett from Friends of the Earth said: "This is wonderful news and a momentous occasion in transport history: for the first time ever a law has been passed that will tackle growth rather than trying to accommodate it".

## Crap Arrest of the Week

For blowing a bull horn! A 53 year old Atlanta woman was sentenced to four months imprisonment for giving it a blast at an animal rights protest. She was later released just a few days later, with an apology from the sentencing judge.

## SchNEWS in brief

Waste of Space, a new community squat at 321 High St, Swansea, are looking for people to get involved. They've got mega space in a 1900's warehouse and are currently hosting a library - cafe - arts-crafts facility. Urgently needed. . . bands to play benefits and old furniture \*\*\* Permaculture Design Course for those of you in the Brighton area every Saturday from 19th April till 12th July £125 waged / £75 unwaged 01273 207173 \*\*\* After studying video evidence, the police are looking for 50 people involved in the Reunion Rampage rally at Newbury. The event turned from being a ribbons-on-fences to a diggers-don't-like-matches event in January. 01635 45544 \*\*\* Freedom Through Creativity is an art exhibition by inmates of Lewes and Maidstone Prisons which goes on display at Brighton's Corn Exchange 5th April 10 am. Entrance donations \*\*\* It's that time of year again - Reclaim The Streets, this time in Colchester Saturday 19th April Meet 12.30 pm outside Tesco's Greenstead Road \*\*\* Freedom through

Creativity have helped set up the exhibition of artworks from the inmates of Lewes and Maidstone prisons on 5th April, at the Corn Exchange in Brighton, starting at 10 AM. Entrance by donation on the door. The day's events will also include readings by inmates and ex-inmates \*\*\* According to our sister publication, the Police Review, more than 180 new schemes have won Government funding for CCTV projects. Michael Howard found another £15 million for the schemes, saying the awards would lead to more than 2,200 new cameras \*\*\* Save the Ruddy Duck! Peaceful (aren't they all?) demo and leafleting on Friday, March 28th, at Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, Mill Road, Arundel. Meet in the main car park at 11.30 AM \*\*\* coming soon from Third Battle of Newbury : The Complete Anti-Road Protester, price £4 - essential reading. 01635 45544. \*\*\* 50 people are on the Thames valley Police wanted list after being filmed at the Re-union Rally back in January. Billed as a tie-bits-of-ribbon-to-the-fence protest it turned into diggers-don't-like-matches affair and the police aren't very happy.

## Inside SchNEWS

Keith Wilson, otherwise known as Kit, was last week refused bail and will be inside on remand till his trial for affray in late April. All other charges have been dropped. Please send letters, stamps, books, baccy and other nice things to Keith Wilson, KG3464, HMP Bullingdon, P.O. Box 50, Bicester, Oxon OX6 0PR.

## Children's prisons

The contract for the first "Secure Training Center", - i.e. prison for kids - at Cookham Wood in Kent has been given to the Rebound/Tarmac consortium. Rebound is a wholly owned subsidiary of the security firm Group 4. Tarmac is the notorious road building company involved in many environmental trashings. These child loving ogres have grouped together with the best of intentions to pave the road to hell for our children.

## Deja-vu Dongas

The Dongas are at it again, this time at the threatened Wyndham Hill in Yeovil. The council is backing a development to fund yet another much needed road, claiming a mandate from the electorate through a "citizen's jury": a small group of carefully selected local people asked to opt for one of two choices, both of which included a road and a superstore. Freedom Trail 01935 863349.

## ...and finally...

Robbie Fowler scored a goal for Liverpool in the Cup Winners Cup last week and celebrated by pulling his shirt over his head to reveal a t-shirt with "Support the 500 Sacked Liverpool Dockers". Nice one Robbie. UEFA, however, were not amused, and fined him 2,000 Swiss Francs (about £750). On Monday night against Arsenal the referee awarded a penalty. Fowler pleaded with the ref that it wasn't a foul and flunked the penalty kick. The World football body FIFA are now patting him on the back for such sportsmanlike conduct, while UEFA are slapping his wrists for defying their ruling that "a football ground is not the right stage for political demonstrations." Unless it's the National Anthem, of course.

## disclaimer

Carry on running marathons, then you will be in the right place at the right time, as it were... Honest.



SPECIAL EDITION

# Evading Standards

LONDON, FRIDAY 25 APRIL, 1997

INCORPORATING THE UNCENSORED NEWS FREE

It's a lottery!

## Never Mind the Ballots:

vote

# SPICE!

See Page 9 for the Special SPICE National Leadership C



THE EVENING SUN IS SETTING TOMORROW IS YOURS

# GENERAL ELECTION CANCELLED

## Election collapses as new polls reveal massive public cynicism

by ANNA KEE, political correspondent



Dealers Panic as cancelled election sends markets into chaos

AT A PACKED press conference this evening, John Major announced that after overnight talks with the other main party leaders, the current election date had been abandoned.

The Tory leader said he was devastated, but the current levels of voter cynicism gave them "no other option". Asked if he would resign, a tearful John Major said he was in consultation with the other party leaders as to the "best way forward". Reading from a candidly honest statement representing all three leaders, he said "when voter interest dips below a certain level a belief in the democratic process leaves politicians with no other honourable course of action". In what appeared to be a frank admission of failure he went on to say that the issue of sleaze, government ties to corporate interest and

Labour's shift away from socialist values had left many convinced that the answers no longer lay with parliament. He then stunned onlookers by making an emotional apology on behalf of all three leaders.

The polls which led to the crisis, where first shown secretly to party leaders yesterday. Both polls show rising levels of cynicism and an increasing belief that non-parliamentary action was justified.

First hints that things were at crisis point came when John Major was seen entering Buckingham Palace by a back door. Although never done before, constitutional experts have suggested the formal asking of the Queen's permission for the cancellation may be an attempt to stop the Monarchy stepping in to fill the void.

Insiders close to Messrs. Major, Blair and

Ashdown, said a coalition government of national unity was being considered as a way of regaining voter trust, but others suggested that all three had admitted things were moving beyond their control.

Journalists described the scenes at campaign HQ's as chaotic with MP's of all parties greeting the news with shock. Displeasure was heightened as £30 billion was wiped off Stock Market share prices as investors lost confidence in UK markets.

With politicians in disarray, the public are taking things into their own hands. It has been reported that thousands of jubilant staff have abandoned their workplaces or simply taken control themselves. An eye witness described the city as "deserted" with chief executives utterly powerless to stop the exodus. An analyst from JP Morgan said he

thought it "unlikely that senior city managers would be willing to take on the more routine tasks" - he added - "in these circumstances it seems that the markets are heading for a total collapse."

Now that London Underground is under staff control and all travel is free it seems that if nothing else at least the London's transport problems will have been solved.

It is also reported that John Birt has been ousted, and the BBC declared a workers co-operative. As thousands of celebrating people block major road links and plant trees in the tarmac, observers say it is increasingly unlikely politicians will be able to regain control.

Without Government see page 2

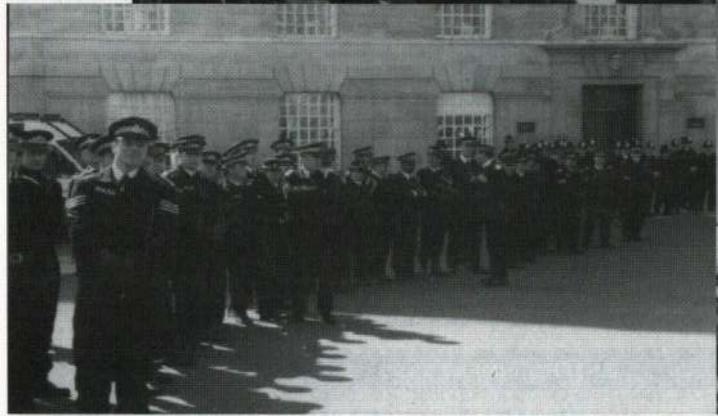


A  
P  
R  
  
'9  
7



R.ATHER  
T.ERIFIK  
S.NAPS

Camfin





**“DECKS ON THE DECK AS PIGS IMPOUND TABLE SHOCK!”**

Sheffield R.T.S - 17th May '97 - Tash

Lyminge Forest tree protesters take to the Rank plc. boardroom

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Use - Wednesday 13th August



Operation Flowerpot - It's the Last Resort!

OCCUPATION OF TOP RANK OFFICES

Today at 8.45am, around forty people started a non-violent occupation of the offices of the headquarters of the Rank Group plc at 6, Connaught Place, Marble March, London. Four of the group have blockaded themselves into the offices of Rank Chief executive Sir Denys Henderson and are refusing to leave until Rank drop their plans for construction of an "Oasis Holiday Village" in Lyminge Forest, Kent.

The plans for the "Oasis" holiday resort will mean the destruction of 460 acres of woodland. After all, they have to clear enough woodland for a 9-hole golf course, 400 forest lodges, 350 waterside villas, an indoor waterworld, a large shopping centre, shops and parking for over 3,500 cars and lorries. As the area is currently covered in woodland, it is estimated to require over 60,000 gallons of water per day and although it is unlikely to be available to locals will be 'McJobs', those who are likely to be available to locals

"The leisure industry is a culture, urbanising the countryside, being a complete rip-off, a complete rip-off back to nature' when they are driven by consumerism and profit." said Dr. ...

**ODEON**

Leisure World  
West Key Road  
Southampton  
SO15 1RE

**OPENING WEEK OFFER**  
Buy a ticket for any showing in our opening week and get another one absolutely free

**2 FOR THE PRICE OF 1**  
Offer valid between 22/8/97 - 29/8/97

Anna, another of the people taking part in today's protest, said she was taken to save Lyminge Forest and those that are killed and those that are killed to the offices of Rank to cancel their plans.



Protester Joanna Chitty: "We got a good reception"

# Green protesters occupy Rank HQ

by PATRICK SAWER

GREEN activists today occupied the Rank Organisation HQ in Marble Arch to protest over plans for a holiday village in 460 acres of woodland.

A small group barricaded themselves inside the office of chairman, Sir Denys Henderson, and used his shower.

Up to 40 demonstrators from a variety of environmental groups, including Earth First, vowed to continue their protest - which included draping a banner from the roof - until Rank scraps the Oasis Holiday Village scheme on Forestry Commission land in Lyminge Forest, Kent.

Police removed the activists over several hours and two men were arrested, one after allegedly filming Rank documents. The other was said to have a forged Press pass. Green groups claim the development,

including a golf course, forest lodges, shops and parking, threatens an area of outstanding natural beauty which is a wildlife haven. Protester Joanna Chitty said: "I went into the building to tell Rank staff what we are about. We got a good reception."

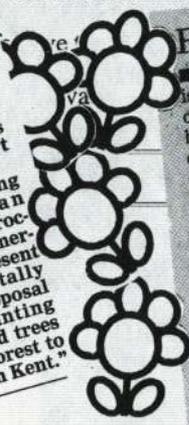
A Rank spokesman said: "No final decision has been made on the West Wood site, so the timing of this protest is at best questionable."

"We received planning permission after an exhaustive planning process. The site is a commercial forest and at present it's an environmentally dead area. Our proposal would involve planting dozens of shrubs and trees and returning the forest to the state of others in Kent."



Escorted away: Police clearing out the green activists today in a direct action movement.

Operation Flowerpot



## Flowerpot men

Bingo to Butlins group Rank isn't usually up there with Shell on the environmental blacklist - but that didn't stop a squad of eco-warriors from storming the company's swish West End head office yesterday. A well organised bunch, the 20 or so intruders locked themselves in chairman Sir Denys Henderson's office before sending out faxes to promote Operation Flowerpot.

Rank's plans to build a holiday village on 300 pristine acres of Kent has Swampy clones up in arms. But the stunt passed off more peacefully than the average one-day cricket match. Says Rank: "They were polite and I think we're fortunate to be dealing with a relatively peaceful group of people." Weedy bunch.

WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER BANG A GONG...



Published in Brighton by Justice?

ISchue 114

Friday 4th April 1997

Free/Donation

# RANK STINK!

Over a thousand acres of officially 'protected' forest and farmland in East Kent are under threat from a huge development proposal by the Rank Organisation. The 'Oasis Holiday Village' - the size of a small town - will have 350 waterside villas, 400 forest lodges, 78 studio apartments, a large village centre with shops, country club, 'sub tropical waterworld', 9 hole golf course, a rubber lined artificial lake, parking for 3,400 cars and, of course, lots more roads. All this in part of the ancient Lyminge Forest in the North Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Some people, however, aren't exactly over the moon about this and have set up camp. "The Rank Organisation is one of the largest holiday and leisure companies in Europe, and part of its corporate development plan includes breaking into the UK's 'Artificial Village in a Forest' self-catering holiday market, currently dominated by Centre Parcs. The newly appointed Chairman, ex-ICI boss Sir Denys Henderson (also currently a director of both Barclays' Bank and Rio Tinto Zinc) is determined to out-do Centre Parcs with bigger and better "oasis Villages" in more of the most beautiful and sensitive parts of the English countryside. We have been warned."

Unlike Centre Parcs\*, who prefer to build their resorts on bare land - on which they spend around £1 million per site planting trees - Rank has opted to take advantage of the government's ongoing national asset-strip, which obliges the Forestry Commission to sell land whenever possible. Public land is being sold to a private developer for around 4 million.

If the West Wood development goes ahead, it will also worsen East Kent's

already severe water shortage: the artificial lake will require an initial input of 17.5 million gallons, with an estimated daily consumption of 320,000 gallons for the 'village' as a whole.

Despite all this, Shepway District Council invited Rank to develop West Wood after 'balancing the needs of the countryside with the needs of jobs being created.'

Rank seem very sensitive to bad publicity. When SchNEWS rang for a wee chat, we got a curt "no comment" to our very polite questioning. Maybe you can do better? Call Julie Gould, Oasis Villages Ltd's Communications Officer 01293 658658. Be persistent.

## Crap Arrest of the week

For not using a toilet. A Manchester Airport activist was charged with criminal damage for emptying the contents of his large intestine onto a piece of security fence. He was apprehended two days after the act after being caught on video surveillance. At least he didn't use the Section 6 to wipe with!

Meanwhile, the Forestry Commission (who still own the land protesters are camped on) told SchNEWS, "We are not planning to evict at present, we are just monitoring the situation." Maybe something to do with the £20,000 it'll cost to take campers to the High Court?

So, if housing benefit cuts are making life unbearable and you fancy some of that countryside fresh air stuff, why not join the camp in West Wood? Contact Flat Oak on 01227 261057

Rank subsidiaries: Odeon cinemas, Mecca and Top Rank Bingo, Rank Amusements, Associated Leisure, Hard Rock Cafes, Butlin's, Shearings and Warner Holidays. Anyone fancy hitting these venues with leaflets? \*SchNEWS is not sticking up for CentreParcs!

## CS GAS Vs PEPPER SPRAY

Herts Police Force are working on a synthetic version of pepper spray, the incapacitant used in the US. Chief Constable Peter Sharpe, worried about the effects of CS on their officers, said the research was important because "we can do better than what we've got at the moment". There have been at least 61 deaths by pepper spray in the US since 1990. Risks include gene mutation, cancer, toxicity of the major body organs and possible human fatalities.

"There has always been an element of cross-contamination from CS. We have always preferred pepper spray, but for some reason the Home Secretary just blanked out the idea of pepper spray trials." P'haps he hasn't heard that it can be fatal...

\* In the annual round of issuing the Old Bill with more gizmos and gadgets, Kent officers must be chuffed with their latest acquisition...whistles. Sgt. Mark Pearson explained, "It's assertive policing. We won't accept someone being abusive in the street or hanging around drinking alcohol. So we whistle at them..." (OK, we made that last bit up!)

## DIRTY DRAX

Feeling secure in the knowledge that there's only about half an hours worth of natural oil reserves left, it's good to note that Drax Power Station (between York and Leeds) is starting trials of a new fuel. Petcoke is produced from the residue left over when all the useful chemicals have been extracted from oil. It is high in several heavy metals, many of which are cancer-inducing. Lovely. Info BREACH 01405 769375

## SCHNEWS BENEFIT AT THE CUBA

Wednesday 9th April  
Superfast Oz, Supersexy Helen (Innerfield), Supershine Max Phasm + Darius £2 10 - 2 am supercheaptequila

## NEVER MIND THE BALLOTS - RECLAIM THE STREETS

TWO DAY FESTIVAL OF RESISTANCE - SUPPORT THE LIVERPOOL DOCKERS

Ding ding! All aboard the Anti Election Express - Reclaim The Streets 'co-inciding' with March for Social Justice April 12th. Meet 12 noon Kennington Park, London. Coach from Brighton - tickets from Peace Centre, £5/£3

## Mumbo-Jumbo

"The amount of tax-free fuel a typical uncatalysed Boeing 747 Jumbo carries could drive a catalysed family car round the world 60 times." *The Guardian*

Air transport is the most unsustainable form of travel, wreaking immense damage on the ozone layer. A recent study in *Town & Country Planning* magazine estimated that a single transatlantic return flight emits almost half the yearly CO2 emissions of the average person as from all other sources, such as lighting, heating, etc. The amount of carbon dioxide used is the same used by the average African in a lifetime.

Yet, in the ceaseless quest for higher profits at any cost, Manchester Airport have decided to build a second runway - causing more traffic through the town and more pollution over the heads of local residents, and destroying a thousand acres of greenbelt.

The DoT forecast that up to 163% more passengers will be using airports by the year 2010. And that's a Conservative, sorry, conservative estimate.

In this funny handshake world of ours, SchNEWS has discovered that there are very close links between Manchester Airport Plc. and the Labour controlled council. The Chair of the Airport's Board, Graham Stringer, was - until recently - head of the City Council.

"...In the past, he has denounced environmental protesters in the city on many occasions. To say that he is a power cracker, ecocidal bastard is an understatement," said one Manchester Earth First! activist.

The first camp to be set up was Flywood, quickly followed by six others, including Wild Garlic, Zion Tree and Cliff Richard (where Swampy lives - who this week April Fooled the press by announcing that he was standing for Parliament as a 'Never Mind the Ballots' candidate!)

Supporters of the airport say that it will create lots of jobs. In 1991, Manchester Airport claimed that the new development would create 50,000 new jobs. By 1995 this figure was reduced to 18,700, and by the time the Public Enquiry was held this was down to 8-9,000. In February, Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce estimated it to be merely 5,000. Many of these are going to be low paid, short term 'McJobs' anyway. How much money per job is that, I hear you cry? Manchester City Council estimate that it will cost £76,464 to sustain a job at the airport each year, compared to £26,913 for one in education.

The Airport is also supposed to create jobs for local people. However, the local Wythenshawe estate has a 30% unemployment rate, but less than 10% of the airport's employees come from there.

But it's not just Manchester that is a cause for concern. The DoT have forecast a 300% increase in air traffic in the South East, a situation even worse than that faced in Manchester. Gatwick is being hyped as the new premier base for British Airways, which will mean despoliation of huge tracts of Surrey and Sussex. There is little doubt that the Manxian protests will not be the last around this issue.

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (eg 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Mark "Original" if you plan to copy. Free postage to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tell/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/schnews/>

Deregulation of air transport industry is in the offing, which could well mean even more flights to more places by more earth destroying consumers for less money. The aviation industry is *plainly* disgraceful. These *air-soles* need teaching a lesson, just as the dastardly roadbuilders have been. Muttley, do something!

Manchester Campaign Against Runway 2 One World Centre, 6 Mount St, Manchester, M2 5NS. e-mail: campaign@mfoe.u-net.com.

Save Our Skies, PO Box 248, TW1 3DG. Flywood Camp mobile: 0958 451525. Food, equipment and support needed, of course.

Addresses of the Dark Side: Graham 'Fat Bastard' Stringer, 65 Polefield Road, Harperhey, N. Manchester, M9 6FN.

Peter Dawson, Second Runway Department, Manchester Airport, Manchester M90 1QX. Tell the airport authorities what you think, their environment dept. phone... 0161 489 3638

Christopher Jackson, AMEC, Sandway House, Hatfield, Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 2YB. (AMEC are the main contractors for the scheme, and curiously seem to get a lot of the major projects in the city.)

## The + FILES

Fancy a break but wanna do something useful? Then why not take a trip to the Sunseed Trust. Based in beautiful surroundings in southern Spain, the village is an experiment in sustainable lifestyles - everything from ultra-low cost solar cookers, organic gardening, dry land reclamation, compost toilets, hydroponics - and good company. It's about £60 a week and you'll be expected to work four hours a day in the week, but it includes food + board. Highly recommended. More info 97B Divinity Rd., Oxford, OX4 1LN Tel 01865 721530

## SchNEWS in brief...

Slightly belated congrats to our fave party crew, Exodus, who won their High Court Appeal last week. They have been given leave to stay at Long Meadow Farm...for the time being. Word has it that this is the 53rd court case won by Exodus! Is this true? Blimey, all those nice compensation costs should be really adding up now \*\*\* Worst wishes sent out to Allan Stewart, the *alcoholic imbecile* Tory MP for Eastwood, Glasgow, who was sectioned last week. Bible bible. According to latest reports, his mind now resembles the mess that is the deceased Pollok Free State. Allan mate, may you dribble on your bib for many years to come!!! \*\*\* Check out the latest issue of Greenline, solely written by *wimmin* contributors to celebrate International Wimmin's Day. Available from: Catalyst Collective, PO Box 5, Lostwithiel, Cornwall PL22 0YT for £1.50 \*\*\* Congrats to *Conscious Cinema* bod Dylan who has won first prize at the Tyko Film Festival (chosen from 1,900 entries!) for his film 'Celtic Enemy' about the protests against open cast mining in Wales. Catch the film on Undercurrents 5 01865 203662 \*\*\* Nice One! to the London Borough of Hammersmith, who

have distributed free 'green cones' to households in the north of the area, for the composting of food waste \*\*\* Haringey Solidarity Group have lots of helpful leaflets with tips on how to fill in your Jobseekers Allowance Forms. A5 SAE to: Haringey Solidarity Group, PO Box 2474, London, N8 \*\*\* We are reliably informed that each job seeker is permitted two periods of *self-declared sickness* (i.e. without a doctors note) of up to 14 days a year. Of course, SchNEWS brings you this snippet for information purposes only, and advises you never to abuse the system... \*\*\*

\*\*\* Shout going out "Has anyone got a contact for Steve Johnson, who took a photo of Cath Ford at the No M11 Campaign? I really want to use the photo for the cover of the book." Contact Liz at Liberty: 0171 357 8689

10th April - Pain + Haywire @ Albert Pub, Trafalgar St, Brighton £3/£2.50 proceeds to anti-bloodsports groups \*\*\* 12th - Justice for Women benefit gig @ Cumberland Arms, Byker, Newcastle with Maggot Colony, Milky Wimpshake, Cycle & Grudge \*\*\* 17th - 'When should the photographer take political action?' Debate at 7pm, St. James' Church, Picadilly, London. 19-20 April - Big Gene Gathering, on a 40 acre organic farm in Hertfordshire. Camping £1.50/3 nights. Info & Booking 0171 865 8117 \*\*\* 19-26th - Lab Animal Week. NAVS: 0181 846 9777. Visit Consort Beagles on the 19th, meet noon at Cosort, off the A49 (Ross to Hereford Rd.) at Harewood Park, Harewood End, Ross on Wye, Herefordshire \*\*\* 24th - World Day for Laboratory Animal Day of Action. Meet noon at Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London. Details: 0171 278 3068 \*\*\* 21-26th - Global Days of Action Against Genetically Engineered Food. Details: Pure Food Campaign 01218 226 4164 \*\*\* 21st Land Is Ours benefit with the Baghaddies @ the Tap + Spile, Grainger St, Newcastle \*\*\* 25-28th - Chernobyl Day Actions. Faslane Peace Camps: 01436 820901 \*\*\* 25th - Clubversive Party at The Bedsit, 1 Park Drive, Glasgow. All proceeds to NVDA \*\*\* 30th - Bae AGM protest. Contact CAAT 0171 281 0291

## Reclaim The Streets In Da Area:

19th April - Colchester. Meet 12.30 pm @Tesco's, Greenstead Rd.  
3rd May - Hull. Meet Pearson Park  
31st May - York. Meet noon @ Clifford's Tower - this is gonna be acoustic.  
17th June - National Car Free Day!  
21st June - Bristol RTS... Watch this space.

## ...and finally...

SchNEWS has so far found one reason to vote Labour in the forthcoming General Election - mutant magician Paul Daniels has threatened to leave the country if Blair becomes PM.

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS advises all readers not to live on protest camps during the summer months. Never watch the sun go down over ancient woodland, and never convulse with laughter around the camp fire. Always bear in mind that summers spent in an Oasis holiday Village are far superior. Then you will be (bucket and) spayed. Honest.



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER COINCIDENTAL...



Issue 115

Published in Brighton by Justice?

Friday 11th April 1997

Free/Donation

# Welcome to... 'DEMOCRACY'

"Taken together, the new provisions of the Police Act, the Knives Act, and the Social Security Administration (Fraud) Act are least as nasty as anything in the Criminal Justice Act. The bugging and burgling provisions are now well-known - but that's just the start. Employers will be able to insist that job applicants provide information about unspent convictions, and, more worryingly, non-conviction information such as cautions, bind-overs, or even any old unsubstantiated gossip from local police files. Stop and search powers will be increased, so that when the police have reason to believe that some people in their area may be carrying knives, they can stop and search anyone. The DSS will be able to swap information with other government departments, not just in specific cases where they suspect fraud, but in order to 'check the accuracy of records' in general." Liberty

Welcome to democracy... on the last day of parliament 27 bills became law - in just one minute. Here's a taster of what's too come...

## THE POLICE ACT

\* Bugging and burgling of anyone suspected of a serious offence. This is defined as "a large number of persons in pursuit of a common purpose." According to Lord Hutchinson that will mean "the protesters involved in the miner's strike, Greenham Common, Newbury and the Poll Tax would all be criminals under this act!"

\* Sponsorship of the National Crime Unit and National Crime Squad. And who can sponsor them? Anyone!!! "Acceptance of gifts and loans, in connection with the discharge of any of its functions, accept gifts of money, and gifts or loans of other property, on such terms as appear to the Authority to be appropriate."

\* Certificates of Criminal Records. In 1990, the House of Commons home affairs committee heard evidence that the criminal records provided to the courts were inaccurate, incomplete, out of date and contained extraneous or prejudicial material. The solution? Any person going for a job will have to produce a "Certificate of Criminal Records" (costing £15) if asked by a prospective employer.

Most women in prison are in for fine default - 68% for not having a TV li-

cence! 34% of men under 35 have a criminal record.

## CRIMINAL PROCEDURES AND INVESTIGATIONS ACT

This Act lets cops determine what material will be disclosed to the defence, (you can just imagine them trashing their own case, can't you?) they could burgle a defence lawyer's office or home, snatch the papers, then refuse to disclose them! If this had been law years back the Bridgewater Three and Guildford Four would all still be inside.

## SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (FRAUD) ACT

This changes the rules relating to privacy and data protection. The changes will allow the government to trawl through the files held on each of us by every department to look for inconsistencies. A mismatch, an error, an offence, an unpaid bill will domino through the system. Tax, driving licence, social security, National Insurance. It's the civil servants' snoopers' charter.

"Data matching is the hi-tec equivalent of a general warrant on the entire population," says Simon Davies of Privacy International. "It is no different to the notion of police being empowered to enter your home in your absence, search through your papers and take what they wish. It vastly increases the power of the state."

This silent, invisible data watching is worrying because in 1994, there were 655 reported incidents of Whitehall employees using their passwords to access records to pass to outsiders.

## PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCES (DRUG MISUSE) ACT

Gives the police new powers to close a club immediately if they suspect drug use/dealing is going on in the venue or at "any place nearby which is controlled by the holder of the licence."

## CRIME (SENTENCES) ACT

Among other things means... Minimum 3 years for repeat burglars - Minimum 7 years for repeat drug dealers - Automatic life for repeat serious sex and violent offenders - Abolition of automatic 50% parole - Ban on under 18s

drinking in public - discretionary naming of juveniles. This takes no account of changing circumstances. For example, a woman could get a mandatory life sentence for responding to years of domestic violence if she had a previous conviction for violence, even if that happened years before, and a third conviction for burglary could carry a heavier sentence than a first for rape.

## KNIVES ACT

Allows a police superintendent or above who "reasonably believes" that there will be serious violence to give authority to stop and search. Following such a decision, the police don't need to have a reason to search an individual! Home Office statistics show that even where the police have to justify a search on the basis of reasonable suspicion, a disproportionate number of ethnic minorities find themselves targeted. Read Simon Davies' book "Big Brother - Britain's web of surveillance and the new technological order", £5.99, Pan.

## SchORTs (it's nearly summer!)

Alison Malford, former Assistant Chief Constable of Merseyside has taken her own force to the European Commission for bugging her while she was pursuing a claim for sexual discrimination against them. She believes that while under surveillance, all dialogue with the Equal Opportunities Commission, lawyers & friends was tapped and taped. If her complaint is upheld, bang goes (official) bugging in the UK! Judgement expected in a couple of months.

Charles Pollard, Chief Constable of Thames Valley and a former deputy assistant commissioner of the Met, said on Wednesday that Zero tolerance policing has and will continue to lead to riots.

## Auntie SchNEWS says...

Write this on the back of your solicitors card in case of arrest and quote to the police "By denying a suspect the right to silence the British Government and the police are breaching article 14 of the United Nations Convention of Human Rights which guarantees the presumption of innocence and the right not to bear testimony against oneself." That is all you have to say.

POLICE INVOLVED IN DEATH SEE BACK PAGE

IF YOU GET ARRESTED ON SATURDAY RING 0181 5337116

## Party Death

Sixty-one year old Ian Grant died last weekend after being attacked by eight policemen when a party in Putney was besieged by 50+ riot police. Mr Grant fell and broke his nose before finally dying of a haemorrhage.

On the Saturday police had told organisers that they could have the premises until Sunday night, one commenting "You lot have been lucky this time!" But by 4:30pm the next day with just 40 people left, riot police equipped in bullet proof vests with police dogs and electric nooses stormed the building. "It was totally over the top. The sound systems were closing and we were just sitting out in the sun, relaxing."

One girl was pushed over and one party-goer spread-eagled on the floor with police kneeling on his back. It was at this point that Ian Grant was grabbed. "It was when the police let me go that I first noticed the body. He was lying by the door with cuts on his face and bruises all over. Six policemen were trying to resuscitate him. I knew straight away he was dead" one eye-witness told SchNEWS.

Battersea Coroners office told SchNEWS that he "died quite naturally" and as there is "nothing sinister" about his death. But the police have already changed their story twice.

Scotland Yard told us 13 were arrested on drugs charges (though we has hear that it was only 7, the remaining 6 being charged with Public Order and Affray), 4 were bailed, and there was a death that was "unrelated to the party." The pathologist is claiming that the haemorrhage was caused by a weak artery of the heart. The police may be right - it wasn't so much the party that caused the death as the police intervention the next day.

SchNEWS offers all the friends and family of Ian Grant our deepest sympathy.

\* In order for an inquiry to occur more eye-witness accounts are needed. If you saw anything ring SchNEWS and we will pass on the info.

## Inside SchNEWS

SchNEWS has received a letter from Gary West, who is inside for 4 years for shoplifting. Offered a laughable JSA job his dole was stopped and Gary found himself sleeping rough and borrowing produce from shops (without asking), got caught and sent down. "I'm not proud of the fact I had to steal to get by but I feel I was left with no alternative." He'd love to hear from anyone, especially those involved in animal rights. Write to: TB0799, Gary West, B-Wing, Houseblock Three, HMP Elmley, Church Road, Eastchurch, Sheerness, Kent, M12 4AY.

## Chichester raids

Three addresses in Chichester were raided by Hampshire Police this week. They were after information about the recent Chiddingfold Hunt Ball, and the upcoming demo at Shoreham on May 16th. However, two of these addresses were out of date, and they ended up bursting in a family having tea, and a Student Union Office! At the third address, a known hunt sab was questioned and released without charge. Hampshire Police are famous for setting the Animal Rights National Index to gather info on protesters, and taking the "Gandalf 6" to Court on conspiracy charges. For more info contact Chichester Earth First! c/o BO SU College Lane, Northgate, Chichester, Sussex.

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (e.g. 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Ask for "Originals" if you can make copies. Post free to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tell/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz2.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

SchNEWS special "Social Justice / RTS" edition - 6000 distro in London, 12th April 1997

## Offham SSSI trashing

A Sussex farmer has this week begun to destroy an area designated of "special scientific interest" near the village of Offham, by Lewes. There are actions today (Friday) at the site, and may be more - contact Justice? or Brighton Friends of the Earth for more info.

The grid reference on an OS map is 389119, which is reached along the bridleway to "Mount Harry".

## Reasons to be cheerful

### Positive things appenin' near you

\* **Plants for a Future**, The Field, Penpol, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, PL22 ONG 26 acre site in Cornwall experimenting with unusual food crops. For a copy of their catalogue send a couple of stamps + SAE.

\* **Radical Routes**, 16 Sholebrook Avenue, Leeds, W. Yorks. A co-op of co-ops, assisting fledgling co-ops, offering advice and ethical investment.

\* **Trees For Life**, The Park, Findhorn Bay, Forres IV36 0TZ, Scotland. 01309 691292. Volunteers needed to help regenerating the Caledonian forest.

\* **UK LETS-Link**, Liz Shepherd, 61 Warminster Road, Wilts. Co-ordinating Local Exchange Trading Systems information. Barter for money free services.

\* **Beacree Organic Gardens**, 44 Gale Street, Dagenham, Essex RM9 4NH. 0181 592 8941. Sited on a bombed church, these community gardeners offer an 'investment harvesting' scheme - organic veg in exchange for either time and effort, or investing in money for seed.

\* **Sunseed Trust** 97B Divinity Rd., Oxford, OX4 1LN. 01865 721530 Working holidays in sunny Spain. Solar cookers, organic gardening, dry land reclamation, compost toilets, hydroponics.

\* **Centre for Alternative Technology** eco-village powered mainly from wind, water and solar power on an old slate quarry. Open to visitors, course's and publications available 01654 702400.

\* **Sheffield Peasants Co-op** Taking over derelict land and turning it into gardens.

\* **Credit unions** not for profit banks where people pool their own resources and give out small loans to people not considered credit worthy. In Liverpool they are available to half the population.

\* **Arts Factory** is a democratic, community owned business with environmental arts team, garden centre, wood, metalwork and pottery workshops. Currently converting a Grade II listed chapel into youth facilities of video workshops, design studio and cinema. Open to all sections of the community with hundreds involved every week. Unit 11, Highfield Industrial Estate, Ferndale, Rhondda, CF43 4SX 01443 757954.

## SchNEWSround

Still available at £4.99 (post free) is the collection of SchNEWS issues 51-100, with over 40 photos, our essential "activist's database" of contacts, and more!

## Yer "rough guide" to... protest camps

Fed up with city life? Housing benefit cuts getting you down? Why not get on down to summer protesting...

**Manchester Airport** - oppose the building of runway 2 - Coalition Against Runway 2 c/o Manchester FoE 0161 834 8221 - camp mobile 0958 451525 (Camps were served eviction notice on Thursday) \*\*\* **Lyminge Forest, Kent** - trying to stop the Rank Organization trashing ancient woodland for a huge leisure complex 01227 261057 (camp in court this coming Monday, people wanted to give support) \*\*\* **Stringers Common, Guildford** - road widening/common land disappearing under concrete 01483 32167 \*\*\* **Newbury** update on the campaign 01635 45544 \*\*\* **Teddy Bear Camp, Weymouth** - opposing another road scheme \*\*\* **Pressmennan Woods** - mature Scottish oaks being felled for BMW dashboards, because they're not allowed to chop down German trees 0134 385 0225 \*\*\* **Faslane Peace Camp** - getting up the noses of the Trident Armageddon industry 01436 820901 \*\*\* **Bingley**, Yorkshire camp set up to oppose another one of those dastardly bypasses 0113 2629365 \*\*\*

## SchNEWS in brief

\*\*\* Anyone fancy sortin' out the huge amount of archive info Freedom Network have on the Criminal Justice Act and related issues? If you'd like to make this more accessible to everybody ring 0171 9788214 \*\*\* **20th April** Bluebell Picnic met 2pm @ Great Mills Cat Park on A4 to protest against the first stage in A350 corridor 01249 713742 \*\*\* **25th April** Critical Mass National Day of Action \*\*\* **24-30 April**: International TV Turn Off Week. White Dot P.O. Box 2116, Hove BN3 3LR. e-mail: white dot@mistral.co.uk Website a <http://WWW3.mistral.co.uk/whitedot/> \*\*\* Thanks to the scumbag that nicked one of Fairmile's vans, complete with equipment at Manchester Airport a couple of weeks ago. Any donations (or transport of course!) gratefully received. Info 01686 412563 \*\*\* Remember: our new sexier-than-thou website is really 'aving it! Download, print, photocopy, agitate mate! The ACROBAT facility means SchNEWS comes down the wire just(ish) as it appears on paper. \*\*\* As mentioned on the front of this SchNEWS, if you get arrested at RTS in London this Saturday, get legal advice by calling 0181 533 7116.

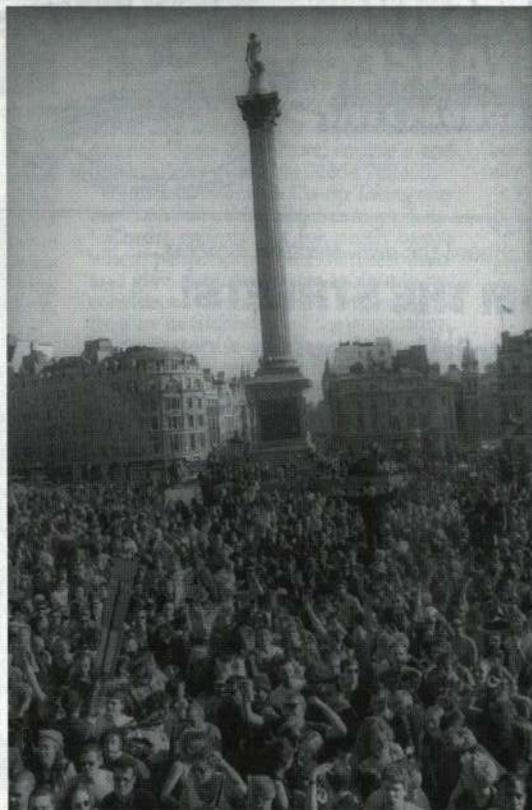
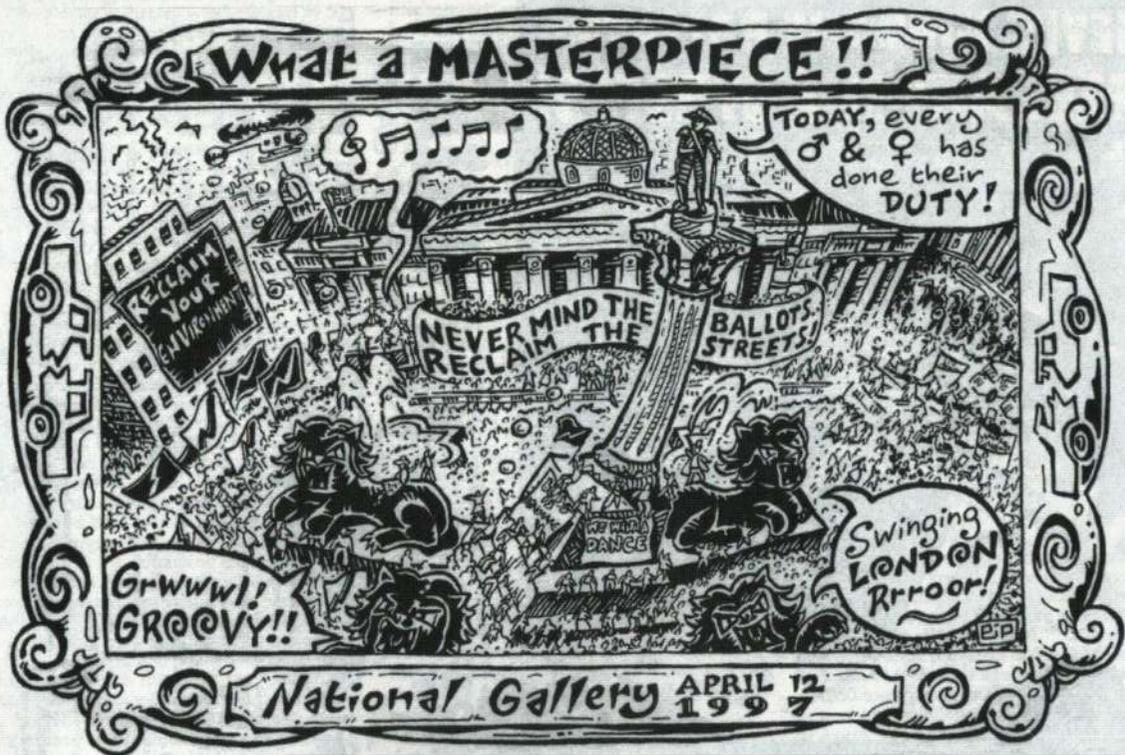
## ...and finally...

SchNEWS readers will be horrified by the following tragic tale from this weeks Police Review. A Kent cop, returning to the station after spraying toxic chemicals in the face of some unfortunate citizen, took his gloves off and went to the little plods' room to empty his bladder. Whereupon he sustained burns to his love truncheon as the CS residue on his hands began to react. His pride then suffered a further knock when he had to fill out a 'hurt on duty' form - including diagrams of how the damage was done...

## disclaimer

SchNEWS warns all readers not to blink else you will miss a thousand more repressive measures becoming law. Always take time out for yourself. Try to grow some food, plant some trees and go for long walks in the countryside. Then you will feel refreshed and ready once more to fight for a better world. Which will suit legal, honest.





“ ‘NUFF SAID?’ ”

WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER SWELLEAGANT...

# SchNEWS

Printed & Published in Brighton by Justice?

Friday 18th April 1997

Free/Donation



Issue 116

## They wanna fight, we wanna party!

*"It was a marvellous day. The march, the rally and the action were all organised jointly between the Liverpool dockers' shop stewards committee, Reclaim the Streets and other environmentalist groups. The links made between the 500 sacked Liverpool dockers, RTS and other groups are so important and they need to be built on.*

*"If anyone hijacked the march it was the police - people were having a great party and were showing that there are a lot of groups, a lot of people, who are fed up with injustice and are doing something about it. The only way forward is to get together more and more because we're all fighting against the same system. Speaking for the dockers, we can't wait to organise our next joint action."*

**Billy Jenkins, Liverpool dockers' shop stewards committee.**

Last Saturday saw over 10 million people come together in central London to support a "March for Social Justice" and street party in Trafalgar Square. Thousands danced by the National Gallery and a massive banner proclaiming "Reclaim Your Environment" was dropped from Canada House just across the square. A "Victory to the Liverpool Dockers" banner was hung around Nelson's Column and council workers refused to take it down until Sunday! The red, green and black flags of RTS mixed with banners from strikers, refugee groups, Kurds, unions. There were other banners proclaiming "Trees not MPs" and "They wanna fight, we wanna dance". Children, facepaint, dancers and drummers were everywhere with the carnival atmosphere lasting all the way to Downing Street, where a red flare was lit, and off into Trafalgar Square.

The rally and party brought together groups and individuals who have been fighting, in their own ways, against injustice and for a life better than that on offer from vote-seeking politicians. In preparation for the march, a "People's Charter for Social Justice" promoting basic rights, a decent life and a future worth living for everyone, had been drawn up. In the middle of this "election" it was a breath of fresh air.

The police, of course, were not about to let a party-and-protest for social justice go ahead without attacking it. One thousand riot cops were on hand to in-

### Big Bad BUT...

SchNEWS feels it has to speak its mind after the disgraceful scenes on the March for Social Justice last Saturday, when a minority of extremist trouble makers provoked ugly confrontations, first outside Downing Street, and then in Trafalgar Square. This spoiled an otherwise brilliant day, and it is clear that these trouble-makers did not care at all for the march, or the issues involved and wanted to claim it for their own extremist agenda. We can now reveal that they had been planning the trouble for weeks beforehand, and would stop at nothing to make sure that violence erupted, it seems the only reason they turned up was to start a riot. They had come equipped with a whole variety of weapons, including sticks, shields, and mobile phones to communicate with each other, some even having their own vehicles in which to spread confusion and fear. SchNEWS strongly condemns these individuals, and is conducting its own inquiry to root them out, and if necessary, will name names. We can reveal that we know the identity of two ringleaders responsible, who have a long history of being behind such trouble. "Sticky" Mickey Howard, and his sidekick Jack "The Last" Straw are well known trouble makers who command an army of thugs, popularly known as the TSG (or "Totally Stupid Goons"), who always turn up at demos like these intent on spoiling everybody else's fun. If you see any of these miscreants in the future, (they are characterised by their blue uniforms and lack of any human emotion or intelligence) ring the SchNEWS "grass-a-job" hotline, and we shall inform the proper authorities!

timidate, assault and arrest people. One pushed back a protester with the words, "Move back, you're making my officers vulnerable." Vulnerable? One protester responded, "You're standing there in helmets, visors, flak jackets, shin pads. You've got shields, metal truncheons at the ready, how the hell can I, standing here with nothing, make you feel vulnerable?" There was no response.

Vote for whoever you want. The actions of the police on Saturday showed that whichever politicians are running the country, the police will still be around to defend the rich from those of us fighting for a world worth living in where people are more important than property. "A third of children in Britain are growing up in poverty - a third of all MPs are millionaires" - that's the stark reality of the system the authorities defend.

But, of course, they didn't get it all their own way. The police tried to block off Trafalgar Square but a truck with a sound

system managed to dodge its way through one of their lines with the support of hundreds of protesters who surrounded it with bodies, making it impossible for the police to stop it getting into the square. The sound kicked in, people danced on the roof, and the police looked thoroughly pissed off at their failure to stop people having a good time.

The day before the action, three people were arrested handing out *Evading Standards*, a newspaper promoting the action - and 25,000 copies of the paper were confiscated. Free speech? Twenty-nine arrests were made on the day and the police even charged the driver of the sound system lorry with *attempted murder* and the two other people in the lorry with *conspiracy to murder!* These media-grabbing (and serving) charges soon got dropped, but the Met had made their point: don't think that because you're just involved in organising a peaceful party you're beyond the stitch-ups they specialise in.

But they're up against an increasingly united opposition that will not let the police violence and attempts at divide-and-rule to succeed. As a statement from the dockers and RTS put it after the party, "The Liverpool dockers express their support for these groups, including Reclaim the Streets, who continue the almost impossible struggle for justice in Britain today... The sacked Liverpool dockers have always welcomed Reclaim the Streets - ensuring a mutual respect that after Saturday's march has been strengthened."

Given the way different groups are increasingly seeing their common interest in supporting each other it's likely there will be more actions and parties bringing people together in the near future. Have fun!

### Tight little butt...

\* SchNEWS' post-election rally of resistance: May 10th/11th in Brighton. Everyone together to plot where we go after Tony Bleurgh gets his hands on power. Dockers, direct activists, & campaigners old and new will be there - don't be left out. Ring us. 01273 685913.

\* Support the dockers - send them cash! Liverpool Dockers @ Merseyside Port Shop Stewards, 19 Scorton Street, Liverpool L6 4AS (Cheques payable to Merseyside Dockers Shop Stewards). If you want a copy of the SchNEWS dockers' quid chain letter send a stamp to SchNEWS and we'll send you a copy to get started.

post-election gathering of resistance!  
evening argus building, Brighton, 10th/11th May

©NTI-COPYRIGHT - INFORMATION FOR ACTION

## Nuclear Trains

Trains carrying radioactive waste from power stations in South East England and Europe are regularly passing through London. The waste is carried to Sellafield where it's reprocessed to produce uranium and plutonium. The uranium is used in fuel rods for nuclear reactors which then produce... you guessed it... more radioactive waste. As a fuel, plutonium can only be used in so-called fast breeder reactors, which are a bit dodgy even by nuclear reactor standards and are generally being phased out. Most plutonium therefore ends up as the main ingredient in weapons of mass destruction.

Nuclear waste is transported in large white-painted "flasks", each of which is carried on a flat-bed railway wagon. This is, of course, completely safe, just like beef and CS gas. Especially as the privatised railways are spending sooo much money on track safety. Hmm.... Anyway, the trains are quite short, and don't carry any other freight, so they shouldn't be too hard to spot. SchNEWS recommends you wear lead-lined anoraks at all times.

The trains carrying waste from Dungeness power station, and all the European imports via Dover, cross London by various routes. As a rule they pass through Brixton, Willesden Junction and Wembley Central. Trains from the Sizewell and Bradwell reactors generally go through Stratford, Hackney Central, Highbury and Islington, Camden Road, Gospel Oak, West Hampstead and Willesden Junction. Readers in the West Midlands will be pleased to hear that the Sellafield Express passes near their homes too: through King's Norton, skirting Birmingham city centre and Sutton Coldfield before passing through Walsall station.

Freedom Network (0171 9788214) would like to hear from anyone interested in actions in the London area. Details of the trains' routes are available from London CND (0171 6072302). Green Events 0171 2672552. Birmingham CND 0121 643 4617. Coming up from CND in May, the *Trafficking Trident Tour* - details to follow.

## SchNEWS in briefs

\*\*\* The overworked crew at the Anti-Nuclear Network Newsletter have ceased publication. The group's still active and can be contacted @ Anti-Nuclear Network, PO Box 2474, London N8 \*\*\* A New Dictionary of National Biography is currently being compiled. Anyone can nominate a significant person who should be there - the completed version should be available in 2004! They are especially looking for entries for the section "Popular Culture". The Editors, The New DNB, Oxford University Press, Walton Street, Oxford. Maybe we should all enter ourselves... \*\*\* Natwest and The Times are co-sponsoring a business ethics competition. Applicants are invited to imagine that they are the MD of a road building company. "Environmental protesters are protesting - there are clear signs that your AGM will be disrupted... What will your solution be?" And there's a £3,000 prize! \*\*\* Monday's court hearing for the eviction of Lyminge Forest has only been upheld for Westwood. This means that the eviction notice for the other camps in the forest were refused. Help and support are needed. Details: 01233 720127 \*\*\* Thanks to our grinning correspondent in the pub for this amusing little tale: PC Dimmer (surely this is a made up name!) arrested 3 people while out on a shopping trip with his wife and children. He recognised a disqualified driver and hauled him and his light-fingered accomplices in. A

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send stamps (e.g. 20 for the next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice!). Or, if you can afford it... £15 for a year's subscription, or the SchNEWS supporter's rate, £1 a week. Ask for "originals" if you plan to copy and distribute. SchNEWS is post-free to prisoners.

SchNEWS, c/o The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 E-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

This issue brought to you by the number "3" and the letters "a" and "m", and several pints of blood, sweat, and tears.

police spokesperson said, "You are never really off duty." His wife remarked resignedly, "It's true. He even takes his telescopic truncheon to bed with him..." \*\*\* The union Unison have withdrawn their support from their members on strike for 14 month strike at Hillingdon hospital. They need your support. Contact Malkiat Bilku 0956 153511. \*\*\* We love receiving freebies here at the office (hint!), so we were chuffed to receive a spanky new book from Russell House "Youth Action and the Environment", by Alan Dearling & Howie Armstrong. Far from being a boring textbook, it is lavishly illustrated, courtesy of our mate Kate Evans (and others) and a practical guide to enviro projects for younger people. Details: 01297 443948 \*\*\* While we're on plugging, *Basic Law for Road Protesters*, an outline of legal problems you could encounter, is available in print form (£10) or FREE on disk/ e-mail/ internet from Peter Gray 01795 890162

\*\*\* Forest Action Network invaded the International Timber Yard in Manchester last week and reclaimed 15 planks of prized Western Red Cedar and Douglas Fir, imported from Canada, and destined to make garden furniture and quilted toilet paper. Four native Nuxalk people witnessed the liberation of the wood as it was trotted down to the local nick. A bemused Chief Inspector duly gave the activists a receipt for the returned property, and promised to get expert legal advice before deciding what to do with the wood. After being told that sovereignty over the land (from which the timber was taken) still lies with the Traditional Chiefs, the Inspector refused to speak with the native people, two of whom are Traditional Chiefs. Since the incident, the police have indeed contacted the Canadian Embassy. FAN: 0171 602 5889 \*\*\* Animal rights prisoner Keith Mann has had a wee jaunt around the country this week, after Michael Howrd accused him of being one of the people that instigated a disturbance at Full Sutton jail. Shipped from half-empty Sutton to Belmarsh he only stayed there for what seemed like minutes, before he was shuffled on to Long Lartin in Worcester. In all the bedlam, he does not have his own clothes and his belongings are scattered around the country. Moan at: Governor, HMP Full Sutton, Nr. Stamford Bridge, York YO4 1PS or write to Keith Mann \*\*\* FOR YOUR DIARY: 19th - *SchNewsNight* @ The Sanctuary, Brunswick Street East, Hove. £1 before 8.30/ £2 after \*\*\* 20th - Come to a picnic in sunny Offham and help rebuild an SSSI. A dodgy old farmer is currently ploughing up an SSSI in order to plant the cash crop flax, just in order to attract Common Agricultural Policy subsidies of £189 per acre. The farmer could settle for the £110 John Gummer offers to farmers content on leaving the land. This loophole ensures only rich farmers can afford conservation. Meet at noon, Cooksbridge Road, Offham, North of Lewes. Details: 01273 324455/ 0966 298327 \*\*\* 24th TV turn-off week Contact The White Dot: PO Box 2116, Hove, East Sussex BN3 3LR or e-mail: [white.dot@mistral.co.uk](mailto:white.dot@mistral.co.uk) \*\*\* 25th April - *The Land Use Debate*, the FoE talking about the South Downs and The Land Is Ours on land rights. Meet 7:30 at Friends Meeting House, Brighton \*\*\* 26th - *Stop the Copex Fair* planning meeting. 2pm @ CAAT, 11, Goodwin Street, London 0171 281 0297 \*\*\* 30th - *British Aerospace AGM* Protest 9.30am. 0171 281 0297 \*\*\* 3rd - *National Anarchist Bookfair*, Bradford. 1 in 12 Library, Albion Street, Bradford \*\*\* 3-5th - *MayDay Weekend Anarchist*

*Camp*. Info: EMAB, 88 Abbey Street, Derby \*\*\* 3-5th *May The Forth Be With Us* Beltane Celebration. Party, Workshops, Chill & Action. 0161 834 8221 \*\*\* 4th - *Green Festival*, Leazes Park, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. Music, solar cinema & music. Info: 0191 272 4964 \*\*\* 9-11th - Aldermaston Women's Campaign Beltane Celebration camp. Details: 01222 396563 \*\*\* 10th - *Reconnecting Society* Conference, exploring the post-election landscape. £10/ £5. University of London Union: 0171 278 4443 for details \*\*\* 16th - *National Day of Action* at Shoreham Port. Meet 10am at Hove Lagoon. Details: Box A, Public House Bookshop, Brighton BN1 2HQ \*\*\* 17th *Sheffield Reclaim the Streets* 12noon Devonshire Green 0114 2662302 \*\*\* 27th - *Brighton to Stonehenge* Walk. Meet noon at Old Steine, Brighton, then picnic at Hollingbury Hill before the long stroll. Details: Jez 01273 385959 \*\*\* 31st - *York Reclaim the Streets*, Clifford's Tower - contact York EFL c/o York Leaf, Peace Centre, Clifford St., York 01904 410185. \*\*\* McD's & Coke are sponsoring *National Spring Clean Week* - Freepost, Manchester M1 9AZ... use at will... \*\*\* Genetically Engineered food corporations to call: AgrEvo 01533 841581 - field testing; Monsanto 01494 474918 - responsible for the infamous GE soya. See SchNEWS 96 for Genetics information or call 0171 865 8100 for Greenpeace info pack.

## Illegal Evictions

Now, while Britain technically has no Government, and the media seem content to pay for chickens to chase the politicians, a gentle sense of vigilantism seems to have hit the security agencies and the old bill.

**Toytown**, Cornwall's first road protest site has been illegally evicted. The camp, on the route of St. Austell council's planned North-East Distributory road, had only been established for four days. Details: 0378 994707.

\*\*\* Meanwhile, up at **Pressmennan Woods**, protesters have been illegally evicted from land that they own! Under Scottish land rules, any unregistered land can be bought for £1. The protesters bought the land after they were evicted from the woods earlier this year.

**They desperately need urgent assistance** to reclaim the woods to prevent the majestic oaks ending up as dashboards in expensive German cars. Contact the campaign at Faslane 0143 682 0901 - party planned for this Saturday.

## ...and finally...

Peter Cuming, building an eco-friendly solar house in London, was miffed when he had his application turned down to plant a grass roof. Camden Council said the insulating roof was not permissible... because when he came to mow the lawn, he would be looking directly into the windows of his neighbours. Peter proposed that the introduction of rabbits grazing on the roof would solve the problem. The Dept of Environment overturned the council ban and Peter gets his rabbits. After this story was picked up by the international press, Peter received a letter from a man in Chile... warning him of the danger of eagles snatching the rabbits from his roof!

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS advises all readers not to try to produce newsletters about controversial issues. In particular, never do so whilst some of the interested parties are in court, in their pyjamas or whatever else they were picked up in. Do not drink. And then you will not feel the need to bomb courts. Honest.

SchNEWS, c/o The Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

Tel/Fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 E-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk E-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

This issue brought to you by the number "3" and the letters "a" and "m", and several pints of blood, sweat, and tears.

# SMASHING CARS!

Wow! Nice motor!

Peter Poole 1997

Wow! My new motor! Brilliant, Super, Smashing! Take her for a spin down the country lanes, wey-hey! Watch out, Mr. and Mrs. Badger!

"AND I WILL SAY TO MYSELF... I HAVE A GOOD CAR FOR A YEAR OR SO; TAKE THINE EASE...DRINK, DRIVE AND BE MERRY."

Whaaa?? I've lost control. That's a funny road sign...

SKIP!

"BUT FATE SAYETH UNTO HIM... YOU FOOL, TONIGHT YOUR SOUL TAKES A MAJOR DIVERSION."

SMASH!

"IT IS APPPOINTED THAT MEN, ONCE CRASHED, WILL BE TRANSPORTED ONTO JUDGEMENT."

"FOR ALL CARS ARE AS AN UNCLEAN THING, AND OUR HIGHWAYS AS FILTHY RAGS; AND OUR INIQUITOUS AUTOMOBILES, LIKE THE WIND, HAVE TAKEN US AWAY."

Come, my child. Climb the stairs to the great manufacturer in the sky!

Too far. Where's the life?

HUSH... or you will summon the evil Cabalistic Cab!

What the Devil's that?

Here, Guv... you don't wama listen to him. Poncey bloke in a frock! Hop in, come on, where to Guv?

Er... the afterlife?

Oh, yeah... I'm going down that way.

"AS IT IS WRITTEN, THIS IS NO RIGHTEOUS CABBY. NO WAY!"

WAIT! You must be judged. BEHOLD...

"AND I SAW THE DRIVERS, YOUNG AND OLD, STAND BEFORE THE ALMIGHTY EXAMINER: AND THEIR LICENSES WERE OPENED, AND THOSE DRIVERS WERE JUDGED BY THOSE THINGS WRITTEN WITHIN, ACCORDING TO THEIR ROADS."

# REVIEW HIS RECORD!

Yes, O Mighty Examiner

I'm not lazy, mate. Driven loads!

# YOU AND YOUR CAR!

Wow! My own road movie. Jeremy Clarkson ~ GUTTED.

YOU ~ ARROGANT AUTOMOTIVATOR ~ ARE ACCUSED OF DRIVING THE WHOLE WORLD CRAZY WITH AUTO ~ ♡

Wow a beaut!

Look at me! Pretty good, eh? That's 'cos I'm a Cool, Confident Car-Chap with a Capital 'C'

THE PICTURE BLURS... BEHOLD YOURSELF AS AN INFANT. EVEN THEN, YOU DISPLAYED THE FIRST SIGNS ON THE ROAD TO AUTO ~ ♡

Hey! Play with this great little train, Son!

Nah! Cars, Cars, Cars!

phoo phoo!

WIND IT UP FOR FUN!

"FOR THERE IS NO TOY HIDDEN WHICH SHALL NOT BE MANIFESTED"

AS A YOUTH, YOU COVETED THE MOTOR VEHICLE.

SHOWROOM ♀

BRILLIANT SUPER WASHING CARS!

Look at that, Judy! Whooqr. Love to get behind the wheel, eh?

I like my bike!

"BUT I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT EVERY IDLE TRANSPORT THAT MEN SHALL RIDE, THEY SHALL GIVE ACCOUNT THEREOF IN THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT."

Bye... Sob!

Egansee credit, Sir.

fondle

I'll own this smooth beauty one of these days!

grope...

"BUT I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT WHOSOEVER LOOKETH ON A CAR TO LUST AFTER IT HATH COMMITED CARNAGE WITH IT ALREADY IN HIS HEART."

Gotta drive!! Build that bypass!! Go for it, lads!!

new BRITAIN new ROADS

Save the tree!

SOPPY BITCH! RAPE er!

4i!

"EVERY IDLE WORD THAT MEN SHALL SPEAK, THEY SHALL GIVE ACCOUNT IN THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT."



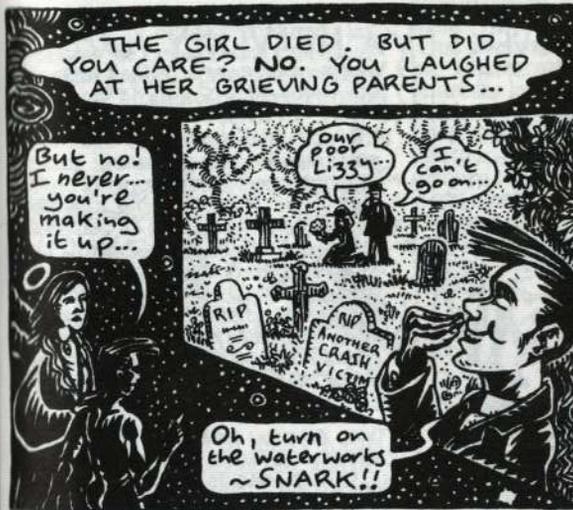
YOU GREW OLDER, BUT NEVER WISER. YOU DROVE EVERYWHERE REGARDLESS OF SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS...

"FOR THERE IS NO GROUND COVERED THAT SHALL NOT BE REVEALED, AND CROSSED, THAT SHALL NOT BE KNOWN."



BUT WORSE... YOU ALLOWED THE DEVIL'S REFRESHMENT TO HAMPER YOUR HIGH-SPEED JUDGEMENT...

"AND THE CAR SAITH: I AM THE WAY, THE LIE AND THE DEATH. NO MAN COMETH BEFORE ME."



THE GIRL DIED, BUT DID YOU CARE? NO. YOU LAUGHED AT HER GRIEVING PARENTS...

Typical damn greeny Killjoy! How can he understand the thrill of throbbing steel... the screech of rubber on tarmac!?

...WHICH IS WHERE WE CAME IN.

"BE NOT DECEIVED: THE WORLD IS NOT MOCKED. FOR WHATSOEVER A MAN DRIVETH, HE SHALL ALSO CRASH."



YOU IGNORED THE MEEK AND MILD WHO TRIED TO HELP YOU...

Sign for less traffic. Save the world!!! Leave the car at home, sir. Promote walking, cycling, public transport.

Bunk! I want to drive! In fact, I'm buying a new motor right now!

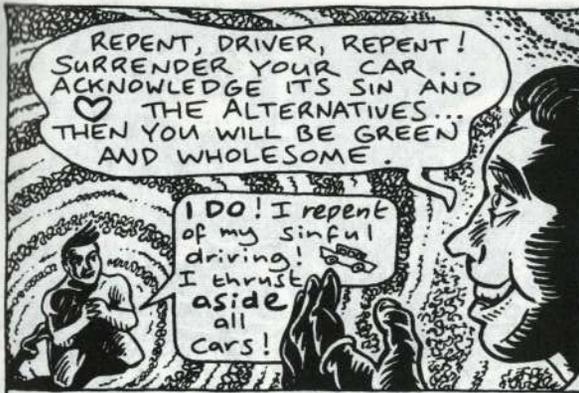
I MUST HAVE BEEN MAD!!



Come on! Counter's cicking!

AND... the destination of that Satanic transport? You will PLUNGE into the LAKE OF PETROLEUM FIRE! What a revelation!!

No! No! I must be SAVED!!



"COME NOW, AND LET US REASON TOGETHER. THOUGH YOUR CAR BE A SIN AS SCARLET, THE ALTERNATIVE BE AS GREEN AS GRASS."

"FOR TO WALK IS TO LIVE, TO DRIVE IS TO DIE. VERILY, VERILY I SAY UNTO THEE, EXCEPT A MAN STOP DRIVING, HE CANNOT SEE THE CAR-FREE KINGDOM."



COME.  
We shall  
walk, thou  
good and  
faithful  
servant.  
Enter into  
the JOY of  
a greener  
world...



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER MUCKSPREADING



# SchNEWS

Printed & Published in Brighton by Justice?



Issue 117

Friday 24 April 1997

Free/Donation

## Farmer Harmer -Bad Karma

*"We won! And it was due to the willingness of locals to get off their bums and take part in direct action."*

Lewes resident.

The battle of Offham continued last week, as the Department of the Environment slapped a protection order on the land ploughed up by Farmer Harmer.

The saga began when the farmer started ploughing up an area of the South Downs that is a Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) rich in orchids and 33 species of butterfly, and rare flowers such as bastard toadflax. However, thanks to that great bit of Euro legislation, the Common Agricultural Policy Harmer would get £189 per acre from subsidies if he grew flax - a crop that no-one wanted, but only £110 per acre if he left it alone. So for £9000, he decided to trash the area.

However a group of angry locals weren't too happy about this, and decided to jump in front of his tractor, and stop him ploughing. They then camped on the land to prevent him doing any more, and started returning the bits that had been ploughed!

Thanks to the General Election local and national politicians then began turning up en masse to say how dreadful it all was, and get their faces on telly looking concerned. Even Tony Blair got his tuppence worth on the issue, as it became a good way to grab votes, talking about saving our countryside. However, despite the concern, none of the main political parties have shown much interest in protecting the South Downs before, and there has been little support for giving the area National Park status. In fact the South Downs is the only area in Britain that has been considered worthy of National Park status that has not yet been designated.

This all highlights how useless environmental protection laws in Britain

are. Sites of Special Scientific Interest are supposed to be safe by law, but many get trashed every year, to build such lovely natural things as roads, supermarkets, and leisure developments.

Last weekend there was a mass picnic where over 100 people helped return the land. So far nearly half has been re-laid but the rest needs to be done soon, as the grass is dying. So another retrufing picnic is being planned for this Sunday (27th), starting at noon. Bring gloves, spades, and watering cans. If you know any good rain dances, please do them, as it desperately needs water for the roots to re-establish.

## IN YER FACE!

Last weekend 500 animal rights activists besieged Consort Beagles in Herefordshire. Such events are common place around Britain, but this was a demo with a difference. Police indiscriminately used CS spray at an action for what is believed to be the first time on the British mainland.

Coinciding with World Day for Laboratory Animals, protestors attempted to rescue the dogs where they are being used for vivisection. One eye-witness reported: "People were pretty upset at seeing the beagles and started ripping the fences apart. Riot police turned up as people got through the perimeter fence and into the building. The police got really violent and they started hitting people with their new batons which they flick out. There was quite a few arrests, and as they were taking them off in the vans we were standing in the road stopping them coming out."

Sixteen-year-old asthmatic Oliver Hill was sprayed in the throat. He told SchNEWS: "They came towards us and

stood about ten feet away. Then they charged and hit us in the chest with the shields and sprayed CS over the top. I ran away and didn't feel the effects for about ten seconds then I collapsed in the field. I could hardly breathe, my eyes and nose were streaming. It was like I was having a fit. Someone called an ambulance, and was given oxygen, but they hadn't a clue what to do - they were asking the police how to treat it. They had obviously had no training. I recovered after about an hour.

"As the vans came through I noticed a haze in the air. I thought it was the dust from the wheels but I could smell something like nail varnish remover. Suddenly my nose and mouth was burning, like having chillies up my nose" said Sue Dickens. "Someone shouted 'CS!' and I turned away. There were people of all ages including a couple of kids. Elderly people staggering around, people lying on the ground. I personally saw five people on the ground. One was having an asthma attack."

West Mercia police told SchNEWS: "Only one officer had cause to use the CS spray but it was seen to be inappropriate in having the effect of dispersing the crowd, so batons were used."

Lecturer Pat Hanshaw, 51, was another affected by the spray: "I definitely know it was more than one, but I couldn't tell you how many. It was a stand-off at the time. I saw one of them moving his arm slowly from side to side. I wondered what he was doing. Then I heard the hissing and saw the vapour."

"Between me, you and the gatepost I think there is going to be an escalation at Consort Beagles like there was at Shoreham", said one West Mercia Police spokesman. You can call Hereford & Worcester police station on 01432 276422 and have a gas.

There'll be another demo at Consort on the 18th May at Midday. Go to the village of Harewood End, on the A49 between Hereford & Ross-On-Wye.

## We told you so

CS Gas (O-chlorobenzylidene malonitrile) was banned this year at the Chemical Weapons Convention signed in Paris by 131 nations yet fast-forward a year and Essex police could be using it against residents demonstrating at Brightlingsea or at any other major public order flashpoint.

SchNEWS issue 19 April 1995

# Sprayed!

Channel 4 Programme Dispatches carried out a monitoring project on CS victims. Only 12% of those questioned said they received a warning before being sprayed. Two thirds said they were sprayed from a distance of less than three feet. One in four said they were not seen by a police doctor; a third were left unchecked and unattended in police cells.

Liberty knows of two incidents in which CS spray has been used and where someone has subsequently died. Two weeks ago Peter Sanpedro, 25, was killed when he walked into the path of a truck hours after being CS'd by police in Kent. Ibrahim Sey, 29, died in March 1996 after being sprayed whilst handcuffed in a police station.

## 50 Sacked for Taking Tea Break

50 workers have been sacked by Cleveland Bridge for taking a 10 minute teabreak. Workers have been doing 10 - 11 hour shifts to make up for delays on the contact at Avonmouth, and trouble had been brewing for 15 months over the right to stop for a mid morning cuppa. "The action by the steel erectors was in breach of their contract and in breach of the Engineering Construction Industry. It meant they effectively dismissed themselves." SchNEWS reckons that she's got the 'ump because they didn't make her a cup!

## Mutant Cabbage Alert

This week saw actions against genetically engineered food, organised by the Pure Food Campaign.

\* 50 activists occupied part of Monsanto's UK HQ in High Wycombe on Monday hanging banners from the roof and occupying the board room, demanding a meeting "to discuss the implications of genetic engineering".

\* In Melbourne, Australia campaigners set up the Monsanto's Mutant Cafe 'The Last Supper' - in Monsanto's Oz HQ! Mutated delicacies included Roundup Gene Beans and Porky Human Chops.

\* EU approval for genetically engineered maize got the thumbs up despite the fact that only one of the 15 EU states (France) wanted it, and even they were wavering!

Women's Environmental Network: 0171 247 3327

Green Peace Info Pack: 0171 865 8234

## Oily Gits!

"Global warming, abuse of workers' rights, dispossession of native people's lands, more cars and roads, global trade expansion..."

The oil industry has a lot to answer for. It is at the very centre of industrial capitalism, and permeates through its every part. But resistance is growing. Campaign groups around the world, ranging from the grass-roots to the biggest NGOs, are gearing up to take on the oil industry.

But there remains a lack of cohesive understanding on how to tackle the monster. So on 10th and 11th May there will be a gathering - *Crude Operators*, at the Hammersmith & Fulham Unemployed Workers' Centre, 190 Shepherd's Bush Road, London. For details contact Corporate Watch on 01865 791391.

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (e.g. 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Ask for "Originals" if you can make copies. Post free to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tell/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

Help needed with conference -if you can loan carpets.chairs.sofas etc please ring office

## Inside SchNEWS

"The Home Secretary has caused me psychological torture ... I can no longer take this torture of injustice and delay. If I die on my hunger strike for justice I blame Michael Howard and the Home Office."

Raphael Rowe one of the so-called M25 Three has been on hunger strike since 31st March in protest about the Home Office's misleading behaviour, suggesting that his case would be referred to the Court of Appeal some time ago. During the trial even the judge said "so much of the evidence is itself tainted for one reason or another, and there is considerable uncertainty and inconsistency in important areas". Such as the fact that police were looking for three men, two of whom were white, one with fair hair and blue eyes - while those who were convicted are all black. Letters of support to Raphael Rowe MP 3660, Swaleside Prison, Brabalan Rd, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 4DZ.

M25 Three Campaign, 28 Grimsel Path, London SE5 0TB Tel 0171 735 2985

\*The Criminal Cases Review Commission are the new government bods who have taken over the investigations of miscarriages of justice. They are already complaining about the massive amount they are having to deal with!

\* Write letters to peace protester Tracy Hart, who was sent down to Holloway this week for 42 days for breaking her injunction at Menwith Hill SpyBase. Tracy Hart TG 3793, HMP Holloway, London N7

## Keep your eyes peeled

Were you at the March for Social Justice on April 11? Did you witness any arrests? People are facing trumped up charges of riot, affray and violent disorder. Contact: Legal Defence And Monitoring Group on 0171 837 6687 / Lydia Dagostino at Bindmans Solicitors 0171 833 4433.

If you wanna take a look at The Evading Standards that got confiscated its on the web at <http://www.Mcspotlight.org/beyond/evading/index.html>

\*More party hassle. A couple of weeks ago we reported a raid by cops on a party in Putney on April 5th which resulted in the death of partygoer Ian Grant. Not content with this, another man, JJ, was singled out, pulled to the floor and seven old bill piled in on top of him before he was carted off to the cells. Once inside, he was trounced...and then charged for violent disorder. This could mean a sentence of up to five years. He desperately needs witnesses. Tel/ fax JJ on 0181 244 8975, or call us at the office.

\*With the prison population Britain's (Booming) biggest growth industry, it's essential that those of you who get on the direct action tip or even just attend free parties get into a routine. If you see anyone being nicked - write it down and pass it on - it could save someone going down.

Get clued up - get yerself a copy of 'No Comment' available for a SAE from London Anarchist Black Cross, 121 Railton Rd., London, SE24 0LR

STUFF THE JOB SEEKERS  
ALLOWANCE BENEFIT GIG  
Planet Dub @ the Cuba 30TH  
April 10 - 4 am £2.50

## SchNEWS in brief

Do the Spice Girls really really get on your tits? Fancy taking a spot of non-violent direct action? Try the Slap A Spice Girl game internet site <http://194.112.40.4/Urban75/spice.html> \*\*\* Undercurrents - the alternative news video - needs your video footage. Rush any actions of a social and enviro nature to them ASAP to Undercurrents, 16b Cherwell St., Oxford, OX4 1BG. Tel 01865 203663. \*\*\* MAY DATES 1st Reclaim MayDay! The anarcho-syndicalist view 8pm Room E, Portsmouth Central Library, Guildhall Square \*\*\* May 1st Reclaim the Flat Oak - no more roads. Meet 6pm Tesco's carpark A299 Whitstable 01227 771363 \*\*\* Sat 3 Hull Reclaim The Streets! Meet 1pm @ Pearson Park \*\*\* Mon 5th Land Is Ours Anniversary action to commemorate the Wandsworth eco-village. Meet 10am South Park, Fulham SW6. Bring seed bombs, food, drums...01865 722016 \*\*\* Wed 14 - 'Defending the Right to Peaceful Protest', 7-9pm The Battlebridge Centre, 2-6 Battlebridge Road. representatives from Bindmans solicitors, Earthrights, Legal Defence and Monitoring Group, Liberty, FoE, Greenpeace \*\*\* Fri 16th "No more single issues, this time we take on the entirety of modern civilisation and stop those importers from hell" Anniversary Day of Action - the second battle of Shoreham Harbour - Meet 10 am Hove Lagoon (Adur pub, 2 miles west of Brighton along seafront) Hampshire CID are already taking a keen interest - more homes in Chichester were raided this week, and a woman is now on remand \*\*\*

## ...and finally...

One week to go and SchNEWS brings you the election news that really matters. The Sexual Freedom Coalition offer a General Election Party (1st May, 8pm-2am, H20 Club, 130 Balls Pond Rd, Islington. £7 on door B4 1E, £10 after) for those more interested in dirt boxes than ballot boxes. Bring your party whips. Meanwhile Paddy Patsdown was in Newbury this week, on board the Lib Dem Battle Bus with David Rendle (the LibDem MP who just loves the Bypass) doing unspeakable acts (i.e. promoting the election). They were met by the Third Battle of Newbury Battle Bus, with their pantomime cow in tow, trying to present the pair with BBC Wildlife Grey Ribbon Award (for ecocidal politicians) which was won by Rendle earlier this year. The Tot Hill Circus was also in attendance, but the downs were surplus to requirements...Elsewhere, gay activists Outrage! dipped their spoons in bubbling election soup by highlighting a new case of Tory sleaze: a huge banner strung up (!) in London read "Portillo screws queer soldiers."

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS warns all readers to be wary of what is sprayed on them. Never confuse CS gas with Chanel No 5. Always turn down free deodorant samples from salesmen in blue uniforms, or risk being rendered tearful with gratitude. Then you will be happy, if smelly. Honest.

# WAKE UP, WAKE UP, ITS YER MCJOB PAGE ...

CHRISTMAS SORTER £2.56prh  
RETAIL STAFF 7 DAY WEEK SE£2.60prh\*\*CATERING ASST£3prh  
WAREHOUSE PERSON £80prw\*\*JUNIOR STYLIST £90prw\*\*PORTER£3prh  
WRITING STAFF £80prw\*\*SHELF FILLERSE£2.20prh  
TELESALE£3prh\*\*ALARM ENGINEER £70prw  
TEXTILE PIECEWORKERS 30p per hour

## CASUALISATION.. the facts

- Only 35% of all employees are in full-time tenured work
- 3.9 million earn less than £4 prW
- 1.5 million earn less than £3.25 prW
- 800,000 women earn less than £2.50
- The average wage of those moving from unemployment to a job is £100 prW
- Ten million are without employment rights because they have been in their job for less than a year



SchNEWS vocab watch:

whistleblower; [wi 'sɪbloer] n.

An employee who, out of a sense of public responsibility, exposes an employer who mistreats staff, ignores Health & Safety etc. Used as a derogatory term by employers for "troublemaking" staff

# WORK !!



## MCFACTS

The Union Bank Of Switzerland

uses a Big Mac Index of purchasing power:

- \* An African will have to labour for 11 hours to buy one burger in Nigeria
- \* It takes only 14 minutes to earn enough to buy one in Chicago

\*McDonalds will be the main employer of 18 to 20 year olds by the year 2000



YOUR  
BR AIN  
IT  
DESERVES  
BETTER  
VOTE BOB

new Le  
new Br

TOM

PC

# VOTING IS BOLLOCKS

The joke continues, the electoral farce rolls on as everyone dies of terminal boredom. The election is on 1st May - international workers' day, mavday, a day to celebrate working class power. There is a march to celebrate this day from Highbury Fields to Clissold Park and we'll be on that march: there will be a loud fuck the election block, saying it as it should be said - that all politicians are good-for-nothing worthless slime who should be shot/hung/drowned (delete as according to personal taste). So come along, join us raising two fingers to democracy.

Meet 11:30am Hogshead and Hedgehog Pub (besides Highbury and Islington tube).

Assemble at Highbury Fields from 12 onwards.

**FUCK THE ELECTION**

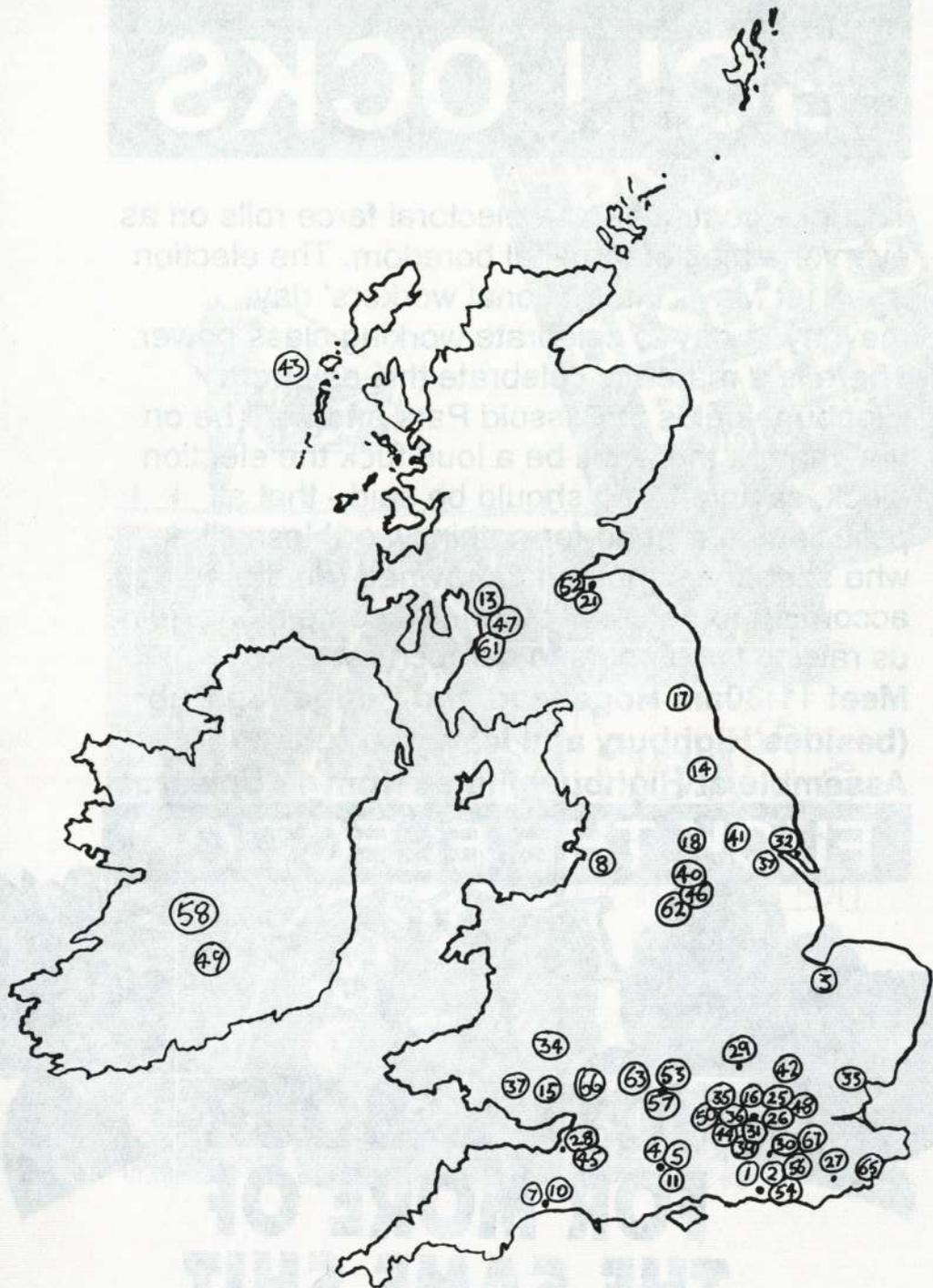
*Don't do  
it!*

**VOTE LABOUR  
FOR MORE OF  
THE SAME SHIT**

**FUCK THE ELECTION**

**VOTING CHANGES NOTHING**

VOTING IS  
A JOCKS



THE SAME SHIT  
FUCK THE ELECTION

# WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IF YOU'VE BEEN ASLEEP ALL YEAR, THIS IS WHAT WENT DOWN

THIS DIARY IS NOT A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF EVERY EVENT THATS TAKEN PLACE THIS YEAR. TO DO THAT WOULD TAKE A WHOLE BOOK IN ITSELF. SO MANY APOLOGUES TO THE PEOPLE AND CAMPAIGNS WE COULD NOT INCLUDE

## DEC 96

- 1 07th THE OLD COURTHOUSE IN BRIGHTON IS RE-SQUATTED FOR A DIRECT ACTION CONFERENCE. POLICE ENTER ILLEGALLY AND LAY SIEGE FOR SEVEN HOURS TO THREE ACTIVISTS WHO TAKE REFUGE ON WINDOW LEDGE
- 2 18th FUNERAL OF ALEX BALCHIN 'SQUATTER EXTRAORDINAIRE', WHO FELL FROM THE ROOF OF THE OLD G.L.C. BUILDING

## JAN 97

- 3 6th ASYLUM SEEKERS IN ROCHESTER BEGIN HUNGER STRIKE ALSO ANIMAL RIGHTS ACTIVIST BARRY HORNE WHO IS NOW SERVING 18 YEARS
- 4 8th READING ROADBLOCKERS VISIT THEN SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT, GEORGE YOUNG, AND BUILD A ROAD THROUGH HIS GARDEN IN PROTEST AT NEWBURY
- 5 9-11th NEWBURY RAMPAGE RE-UNION A WEEK LONG ACTION DURING WHICH LIGHT BREEZES BLOW DOWN SECURITY FENCES AND DIGGERS SPONTANEOUSLY COMBUST
- 6 10th THE GARDEN GNOME LIBERATION FRONT RELEASE GNOMES BACK INTO THE WILD
- 7 12th TROUBEM AT FARMILE EVICTED / ALSO THE THIRD ANNUAL DIRECT ACTION CONFERENCE IN BRIGHTON
- 8 20th THE FIFTEEN MONTH OLD LIVERPOOL DOCKERS STRIKE IS SUPPORTED IN A ONE DAY STRIKE BY DOCKERS AROUND THE WORLD LIVERPOOL DOCKERS THEMSELVES OCCUPY A CRANE FOR 27 HOURS / PERMISSION FOR MANCHESTER RUNWAY GIVEN, CAMPING SHOPS NATIONALLY REPORT MASSIVE SALES OF TRENCHING TOOLS
- 9 24th SEVENTY TEXTILE WORKER OCCUPY FACTORY FOR WEEKS
- 10 31st LAST PROTESTER VOLUNTARILY LEAVES TUNNEL AT FARMILE AFTER 7 DAYS UNDERGROUND MAKING IT THE LONGEST EVICTION ATTEMPT SO FAR

## FEBRUARY

- 11 1st FIRST NEWBURY PROTESTER JAILED
- 12 8th NATIONWIDE ANTI-HUNT DEMOS
- 13 14th AFTER 255 DAYS STRIKERS IN GLASGOW WIN NEGOTIATIONS
- 14 15th FIFTH MONTH OF STRIKE ACTION AT MAGNET KITCHENS IN DARLINGTON
- 15 18th EARTH FIRST STOP WORK AT BRYNHENNELYS OPENCAST MINE LOCAL HOSPITAL SET ASIDE A WARD AFTER POLICE BELIEVE A REFERNRY MAY BE TORCHED
- 16 21st MASS OCCUPATION OF GRAND MEET, THE ENGINEERS OF WORKFORCE / TWO OLD LADIES STAGE AN OUTDOOR ARM-CHAIR PROTEST IN OXFORD AND FORCE OXFORD COUNCIL TO DISMANTLE A SECURITY FENCE
- 17 26th 60 PEOPLE STOP A NUKE WARHEAD CONVOY IN NEWCASTLE POLICE QUOTE YOU CAUGHT US WITH OUR PANTS DOWN

## MARCH

- 18 5th THE A[RE] FIRST PRIVATELY FUNDED ROAD COMPLETED
- 19
- 20 7th JUSTICE? PRINT PLEA FOR MORE MAIL-OUT CREW (AGAIN)
- 21 13th CLAIMANTS IN EDINBURGH OCCUPY DOLE OFFICE IN WORKFARE PROTEST
- 22 15th PEACE CAMP ANGER LINDIS FERCY RELEASED BY JUDGE WHO DESCRIBES STRIP SEARCH AS 'GRATUITOUS SADISM'
- 23 18th REV. J PAINWORTH ADVOCATES SHOP LIFTING
- 24 21st GOVERNMENT PASSES BILL ALLOWING POLICE TO CLOSE ANY CLUB WHERE THEY JUST SUSPECT DRUG TAKING
- 25 22nd W SOUND SYSTEMS PARTY IN THE DAWNS BUILDING, LONDON
- 26 26th THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY REFUSE TO TAKE SHELL FUNDING / SWAMPY DENIES HAVING A GIRLFRIEND
- 27 27th CAMPS SET UP AT LYMINGE FOREST TO STOP RANKS CENTER P ARCS STYLE DESTRUCTION OF ANCIENT WOODLAND
- 28 27th BRISTOL THE LAND IS OURS RECLAIM 'DISPUTED OWNERSHIP' LAND AND CREATE THE EASTER GARDENS COMMUNITY SPACE

## APRIL

- 29 18th EXODUS COLLECTIVE WIN HIGH COURT APPEAL TO STAY AT LONG MEADOW FARM, LUTON, THIS IS THE 53th POLICE LED HARASSMENT CASE AGAINST THEM / ALLEN STEWART THE TORY MP WHO ATTACKED FOLK ROAD PROTESTERS IS SECTIONED UNDER THE MENTAL HEALTH ACT
- 30 11th ACTIVISTS OCCUPY A S.S.S.I. SITE AFTER A FARMER TRIES TO FLOUGHIT UP, A WEEK LATER THE DOE PLACE A PRESBYTERIAN ORDER
- 31 12th R.T.S. RANGERS, MISBEHAVERS AND OTHER ASSORTED MOTLEY CREW TAKE OVER TRAFALGAR SQUARE, A POLICE OFFICER COMPLAINS 'MOVE BACK YOUR MAKING MY OFFICERS VULNERABLE SHAME'
- 1 17th 'HILL ON EARTH' OCCUPY URBAN DERELICT LAND
- 2 19th RECLAIM THE STREETS IN COLCHESTER
- 3 20th 500 PROTESTERS BESIEGE 'CONSORT' WHO BREED BEAGLES FOR VISSECTION IN HEREFORDSHIRE, POLICE USE C.S. GAS
- 4 24th 50 PROTESTERS OCCUPY THE OFFICERS OF GENETIC MODIFIERS 'MONSANTO' IN HIGH MYCOMBE
- 5 22th HOWARD MARKS HANDS OUT FREE 'MEDICINAL' MARJUANA OUTSIDE THE DEPT. OF HEALTH IN LONDON

## MAY

- 6 2nd THE RESIDENTS OF HOLDSFIELD IN S WALES WIN CASE AGAINST FEUDAL LANDLORD WHO WAS TRYING TO EVICT THEM FROM THE HOMES THEY OWN ON THE LAND HE OWNS
- 7 3rd RECLAIM THE STREETS IN HULL
- 8 16th PROTESTERS CAMPED AT STRINGERS COMMON, GUILDFORD CELEBRATE WHEN LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL ABANDON ROAD SCHEME DUE TO LACK OF MONEY
- 9 17th RECLAIM THE STREETS IN SHEFFIELD, POLICE COMPLAIN, 'NEXT TIME YOUR PEOPLE COME TO SHEFFIELD YOU WOULD BENEFIT FROM DISCUSSING WITH US BEFOREHAND, WE COULD HELP YOU CHOOSE A STREET THAT WOULD SUIT YOU BETTER'
- 10 31st RECLAIM THE STREETS IN YORK

## JUNE

- 11 8-9th SPONTANEOUS ACTION TAKES PLACE BY STRAWBERRY FAIR GOERS WHO HOLD A CRICKET MATCH IN A GENETICALLY ALTERED POTATO FIELD NEAR CAMBRIDGE
- 12 12th THE 68 INHABITANTS OF THE ISLE OF BOG IN SCOTLAND BUY THE ISLAND FROM THE OPPRESSIVE FEUDAL LANDLORD WHO DICTATED EVERYTHING FROM WHO COULD BUY THEIR HOMES TO WHAT FLOWERS THEY COULD PLANT
- 13 19th THE MUBREL TWO LOSE ON TECHNICALITIES BUT JUDGE AGREES THAT ONLY ONE OR TWO MINOR FACTS ON THE FLYER WERE UNTRUE
- 14 21st RECLAIM THE STREETS IN BRISTOL, DESERT STORM LOSE THEIR SOUND SYSTEM TO VIOLENT COPS
- 15 25-26th GROUND SWELL HOLD A DYE CONIFERENCE IN SHEFFIELD ON HOUSING, BRINGING TOGETHER GROUPS SUCH AS THE HOMELESS, SELF BUILDERS

## JULY

- 16 8-13th EARTH FIRST UK GATHERING AT THE TALAMH HOUSING CO-OP, LANARKSHIRE, SCOTLAND ATTENDED BY OVER 500 PEOPLE, POLICE DUGS AS DUSTMAN TRY TO GAIN ACCESS TO SITE
- 17 24th LAMBETH COUNCIL TRY TO EVICT THE 16 YEAR OLD INFO CENTRE SQUAT '21 IN BRUXTON. THE JUDGE HALTS THE CASE AFTER 5 MINS ASKING 'PRECISELY WHAT IS THE CASE YOUR BRINGING?' COUNCIL SHOULD HAVE STATED THE OCCUPATION WAS ILLEGAL, CASE ABANDONED BLESS 'EM

## AUGUST

- 18 4th FIRST EVER IRISH TREE TOP ROAD CAMP SET UP AT THE GLEN OF THE DOWNS, NORTH WICKLOW
- 19 7th CAMP ANGRERS OCCUPY THE OFFICES OF CHEVRON THE COMPANY WHO WANT TO FILL CARDIGAN BAY IN WALES WITH OIL RIGS, AFTER LOTS OF OFFICE DATA ADJUSTMENT CHEVRON ANNOUNCE THEY WILL BE DELAYING ANY DECISION UNTIL 98
- 20 8th ACTIVIST AROUND THE COUNTRY ORGANISE 'BOING' A NATIONAL CAR BOUNCE OF VEHICLES ILLEGALLY PARKED
- 21 11th SCOTLANDS FIRST RECLAIM THE STREETS IN EDINBURGH CO-INCIDES WITH THE FIRST DAY OF THE FESTIVAL DOOFS! FNAR, FNAR
- 22 20th DEMONSTRATION BY ASYLUM SEEKERS HELD PRISONER AT CAMPSFIELD DETENTION CENTRE AT OXFORD VIOLENT POLICE PORTRAY THE PROTEST AT CONDITIONS AS, "A RIOT"

## SEPTEMBER

- 23 5th LABOUR CONFERENCE BRIGHTON
- 24 ANTI-HUNT ACTIVISTS INFILTRATE A FRINGE MEETING HELD BY B.A.S.C. (THE SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION), CHAOS ENSUES AND THE WANNABE COWBOYS DISCOVER ALL THEIR WINE HAS DIS APPEARED BEFORE THE POLICE ARRIVE
- 25 1st ANTI ARMS TRADE CAMP ANGRERS CAAT DEMONSTRATE AT THE ARMS TRADE 'FAIR' FARNBOROUGH, RESULTING IN THE BIGGEST MASS ARREST SINCE THE POLL TAX RIOTS
- 26 14th 300 DEMONSTRATE AT SHAMROCK FARM BREEDERS OF CHIMPS FOR EXPERIMENTATION
- 27 20-21st MASS TRESPASS AND OCCUPATION AT WYCHWOOD FOREST OXFORD OVER A BARRED PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY, THE LANDOWNER IS VISITED FOR A CUP OF TEA BUT REFUSES TO SHARE HIS TEABAGS
- 28 22th THE GAELIC EARTH LIBERATION FRONT DESTROY THE FIRST GENETIC CROP TO BE GROWN IN IRELAND, ALSO 300 DEMONSTRATE AT HILLGROVE FARM CAT BREEDERS FOR EXPERIMENT

## OCTOBER

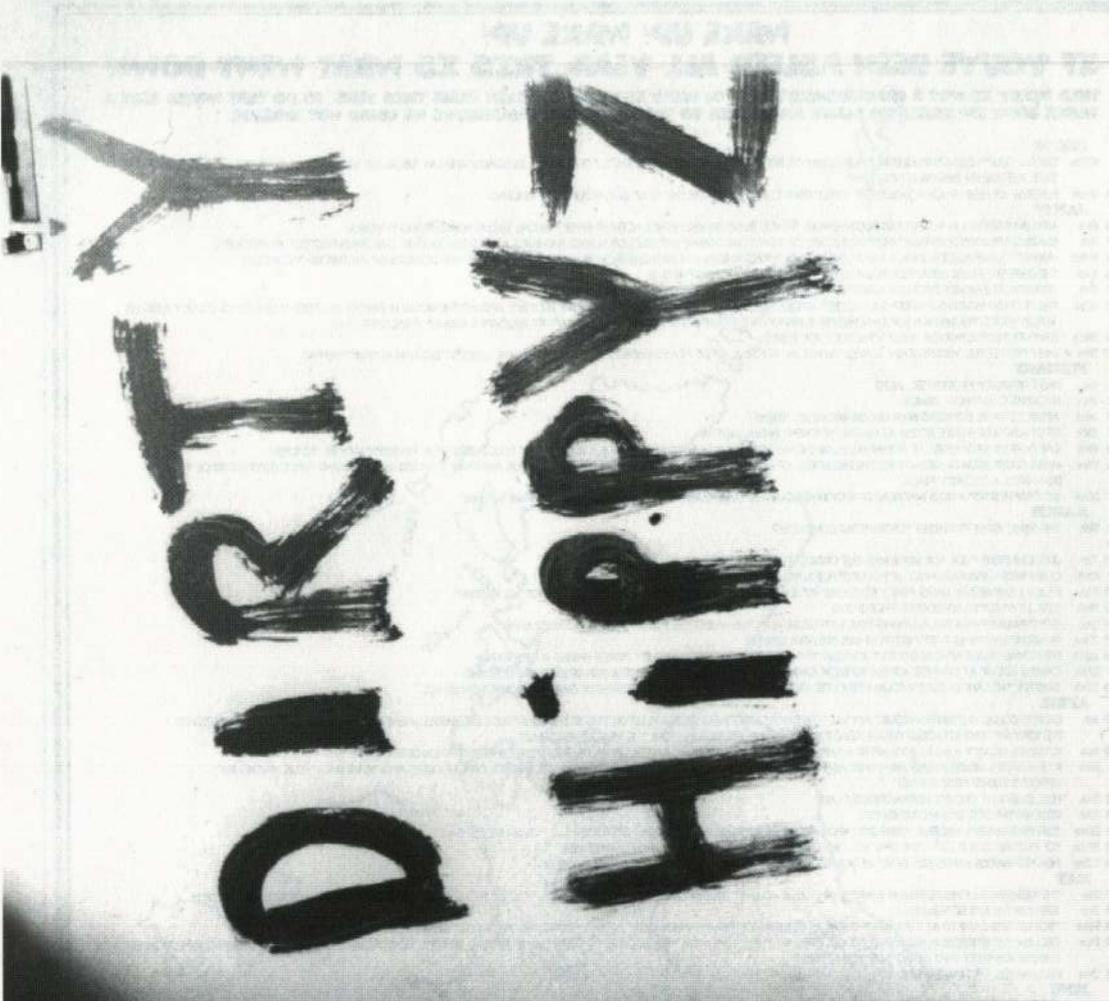
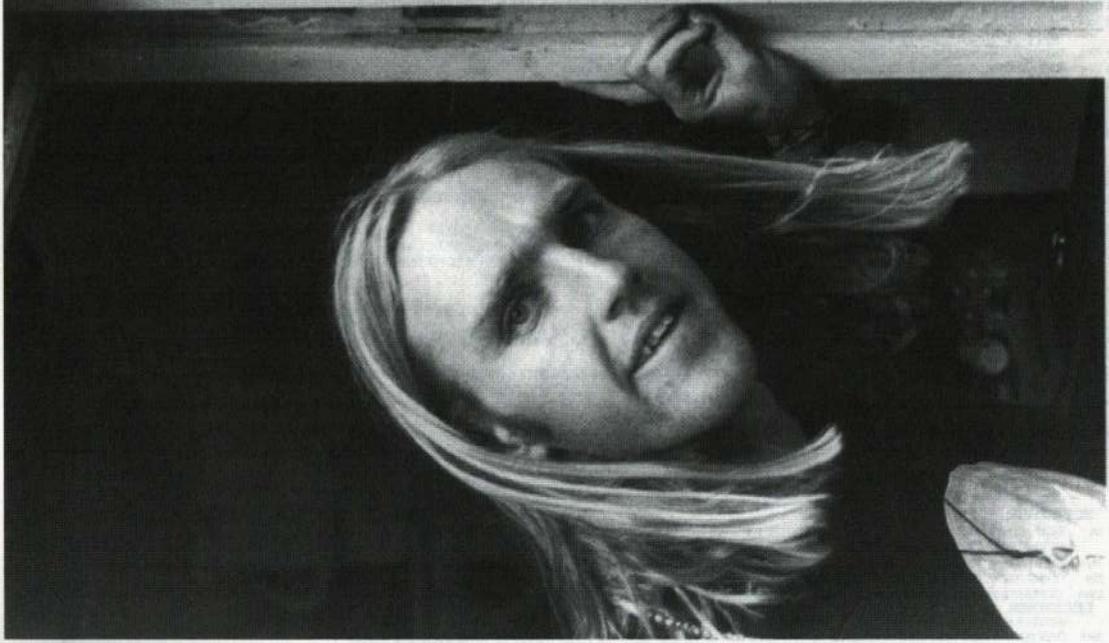
- 29 11th GLOBAL DAY OF McDONALDS ACTIONS
- 30 12th PROTESTERS CLIMB THE ROOF AND BANNER DROP DOE IN LONDON AND PERSUADE THEM TO ORDER A PUBLIC ENQUIRY INTO A QUARRY EXTENSION AT TEIGNGRACE IN DEVON
- 31 19th PROES PERFORM CREATIVE DIY AND A SPOT OF PAINTING AND DECORATING AT FASLANE NUCLEAR BASE
- 1 62 31st THE DOE HILL HOUSE OPENCAST QUARRY AT CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE IS CLOSED DOWN DUE TO EVERY ITEM OF EQUIPMENT MYSTERIOUSLY SELF DESTRUCTING IN THE SPACE OF HALF AN HOUR, WORKERS ON SITE LAUGH THEIR HEADS OFF AS EVEN THE LIGHTING RIGGS DECIDE TO JUMP OFF THE CLIFFS

## NOVEMBER

- 2 63 1st RECLAIM THE STREETS IN OXFORD IS TIMED TO HAPPEN AT THE SAME TIME AS RTS'S IN BERLIN AND SYDNEY AUSTRALIA, THE LATTER ATTRACTING 3,000 PEOPLE
- 3 PROTESTERS PAY ANOTHER VISIT TO CAT BUTCHERS HILLGROVE FARM AT WITNEY IN OXON
- 4 14th THE THREE EDITORS OF GREEN ANTHRAST ARE SENTENCED TO THREE YEARS EACH FOR 'CONSPIRACY TO INCITE CRIMINAL DAMAGE' THIS FOLLOWS A SIMPLE ARTICLE ON DIRECT ACTION
- 5 15th TRYING TO STR UP RACIAL HATRED AGAINST ROMANIAN GYPSIES IN DOVER, 70 NATIONAL FRONT ARE PUT TO FIGHT BY 400 ANTI-FASCISTS
- 6 29th CROSS DRESSED HUNT SABS BREAK OUT A HERTS/FORDSHIRE HUNT WITH THEIR COCKTAIL DRESSES AND 'LIPSTICK CHIC'

## DECEMBER

- 7 BRITISH FARMERS BLOCKADE PORTS FOR WEEKS IN LIVELHOOD PROTEST
- 8 16th OVER 500 AFFLUENT RESIDENTS OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES JOIN UP WITH ACTIVISTS AND FORCE THE COUNCIL TO ABANDON TREE FELLING



“DIRTY HIPPIE” GENERATION NEXT

Brett Godwin

## THE ANARCHIST TEAPOT



The **Anarchist Teapot** began a year ago in a radical little squat on Baker Street, Brighton - the Idea being that the act of making tea free for loadsa people will do something to break down social relations imposed by the capitalist system as we hope squatting buildings will do too; plus providing people with a good cuppa and a place to chill. Since then, moving from building to building (6 to date), a reading room/infoshop has been added and has expanded, events have been hosted and, best of all, more people have got involved. In the last year, the A-Teapot has experienced hauling all our possessions around in shopping trolleys, police harassment, pisshead and nutter harassment, plumbing problems (with vatfuls of shit) film showings, genuine members of the public none of us actually know wandering in spontaneously, too many dogs, not enough money, paranoia, feeding a direct action conference, sudden media attention we don't give a toss about, squatting an ex-mortuary, hordes of foreign language students, staging an Anarchist Week with an Anarchist Local history tour, Christmas dinner in July, a Critical Mass and a food fight on the beach, as well as a few breaks due to exhaustion and lack of numbers. Oh, and the death of Princess Diana~!!!

Thinking back one of our constant failings - and that of many other squatted centres, has been in our efforts to draw in larger numbers of 'normal' working class people. We don't want the buildings just to hang out with our friends and listen to punk music. *Squatchic* can be very alienating. Maybe part of the solution would be trying to look as elcoming and unthreatening as possible.

On our 1st birthday, we are in a HUGE building ex-Council offices - right in the heart of Brighton, opposite the Pavilion. We currently have an excess of autonomous space that could be used by sorts of groups...(except for drinking 'cos we've got a no alcohol policy) We're open 12-6 Mon-Sat, and in the evenings for events, such as a recent talk on the Zapatistas or film showings. If you're in the Brighton area, pop in sometime for a cuppa, a good read, perhaps an interesting chat and/or to get involved! If you're not local, why not go and set up a Teapot Yourself!?!?\*

### 5 EASY STEPS TO DO A TEAPOT....

*(even though you might want to do it completely different & much better)*

1. Get together with a few people.
2. Look for an empty, suitable building (Like with a shop-front) Get in and secure it and it's yours! (for a while)
3. Tat some tables, chairs, pots, cups, plates, a tea urn or a kettle, a CalorGas cooker etc; set up & make it look nice.
4. Advertise your place and hang a big sign or banner out at the front.
5. Make the rest up as you go along; Hey we did!

"After an initial period of depression, the anarchist was cheering up" - Dario Fo

## AGITATION PROPAGANDA and DIY THEATRE

### THESPIONAGE

THEATRE THROUGH A RABID EYE

THESPIONAGE was born out of the play TATTING DOWN. Written by Paul Light and directed by Celine Griscorn, it features a group of Brighton squatters under the constant threat of eviction and the CJA. It tries to humanise them by showing how squatters deal with every-day life in such extreme circumstances.

Staged in November '96 at Brighton's Nightingale Theatre, it was DIY Theatre from the start. The set used skipped materials and parts from tatted squats (including a window from Claremont Rd, M11) Rehearsals took place either in borrowed co-op space or in squats. The cast were a mixture of full time actors, activists and new arrivals to Brighton.

Everything needed was either blagged or borrowed. 'Tatting Down' ran for four nights, selling out on each occasion. Brighton Theatre Events (a production outfit that put on their own excellent plays) saw it and transferred it to the Pavilion Theatre for their 'Mayhem' season the following May. With a revamped set, it once again did very well.

This success led to the foundation of the collective. **Thespionage** emerged from the need to bring hard information into popular entertainment and highlight issues that the mainstream media tend to ignore or distort. With regular meetings and members' subs we had enough money to fund another production, the idea being that each play pays for the next. We aim to provide a fully functioning vehicle for activist propaganda through entertaining plays.

## GRIEF ENCOUNTER

The next play by THESPIONAGE is GRIEF ENCOUNTER, a tale of mistrust, benefit fraud and beer. Like Tatting Down, it revolves around a group of characters in extreme situations. It's a darker story than Tatting Down but still has the same spirit and another wicked copyright-waived soundtrack, with music from Citizen Fish, Violent Femmes, and the Specials amongst others.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON  
THESPIONAGE OR GRIEF ENCOUNTER

CALL: (01273) 388079 or (01273)

602186

# MAY '97

“EMERGENCY SERVICES IN  
OPEN AIR PORN SHOCKER!”



Ed Natural



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER SHORT AND CURLIES

# SchNEWS

Published in Brighton by Justice?

Friday 2 May 1997



Issue 118

Free/Donation

## PUBLIC ENEMY NO. ONE

*"Now is the time to act. The right of privacy of individuals needs to be guaranteed before all power passes to those who own the tools of surveillance."*

Editorial, New Scientist, April

An American company has developed spy cameras with the technology to strip people of their clothes, leading privacy campaigners to dub the invention *PubeMaster 2000*.

In April, the US Federal Aviation Authority provided \$26m to speed up research in the new surveillance technologies, principally for advance body search for airport surveillance. The system doesn't use X-ray; it recreates the human form from digitised analysis of thermal and density data.

One image has been released by the US government as part of a package designed to show it's cracking down on terrorist threats. It shows a naked man with clearly visible secreted objects such as "75gm of simulated cocaine taped to the abdomen" and "25mm thick plexiglass knife." *BodySearch TM* has been in the development stage for 4 years and is now being used in trials.

Simon Davies of Privacy International, argues that "as sure as night follows day" this technology will be adapted for much wider use. "BodySearch is the leading edge," he told SchNEWS, predicting, "it will be common technology, general purpose in the urban environment within ten years."

The cameras are already intruding into our private lives. Diana Sampson, who monitors CCTV for the London Borough of Sutton says, "I know for a fact that one leisure centre has cameras in its women's changing room, monitored by men and they can do anything with those tapes." CCTV is a honey pot for perverts. One camera operator in Mid Glamorgan has been convicted on more than 200 counts of using cameras to spy on women, and making obscene phone calls from the control room.

"Through urban design you strip away any hope that people may be able to escape the gaze of the cameras," says Davies, author of *Big Brother: Britain's Web of Surveillance*. "And through powerful tech-

nology you strip away their clothes. So in the end there's nothing left but threadbare civil liberties...and no clothes."

Even more alarming are the technologies already in place in Britain. These include computerised face recognition systems that can automatically compare faces captured on CCTV, infra-red radar systems able to detect activity behind walls and in darkness, and miniature devices designed for covert surveillance. 125,000 of these devices, as small as a matchbox, are sold each year from UK and can be picked up from as little as £60. The biggest market is keeping tabs on employees. The range of objects in which tiny cameras can be hidden means that they raise "absolutely no suspicion whatsoever".

The March edition of the industry magazine 'CCTV Today' reveals what we can expect next. Not only will we be seen, but heard. Audio in CCTV is an area of "exciting potential" says Julian Sharples, Managing Director of GEB Europe.

In their Codes of Practice, Sussex Police state that "no sound facility should be provided with any public CCTV system", but these are guidelines only. The camera industry itself is lawless.

As Simon Davies points out "Anyone can set up a CCTV system, you don't need a licence. There is no government oversight agency. The technology is outside data protection law - its free from any constraint."

The argument that "if you have nothing to hide, you have nothing to fear..." is a direct translation from the slogan of the Stasi, the old East German secret police! In many instances, CCTV system operators routinely exercise their prejudices to discriminate against race, age, class or sexual preference. One camera operator in Burnley told a Granada documentary, "People mainly with shirts and ties are OK. Most people you can tell just by looking at them". Another said: "I tell by the hair".

The vast majority of cameras at present are visible and it is fairly easy to know when we are being spied on, but as technology develops cameras are more likely to be used for covert

surveillance purposes.

"All the systems are now being marketed for their interconnectability.

Once you create a system that has a mass of potential links to other systems, not only does this increase the power of the system, but also its uses. This is very powerful military technology, becoming infinitely more powerful as each year passes. Systems are going to be linked to computers. These are the foundation stones of a surveillance society which will lock us in for all time."

Simon Davies will be speaking at the SchNEWS direct action conference III in the old Evening Argus building in North Rd, Brighton, Sat 10th at 2pm. The event runs Sat & Sun, from 12.00 to 5.30. Free. For more details of the conference ring 01273 685913.

### SHOREHAM FIT UP

"Conspiracy laws are massively more effective than the Criminal Justice Act, not least because they can do anyone including those who write about or are associated with a breach of the law".

Five animal rights activists involved in the Shoreham live export protests, were given sentences this week ranging from two to six years. All were charged with 'conspiracy to cause criminal damage' in a trial which lasted six months, cost £2m, and involved homes being raided with ridiculous search warrants, police informers, and solicitors having their phones tapped and offices burgled.

In effect the charges mean the defendants hadn't actually done anything - just talked about it. And in the Shoreham case even the judge in his summing up, invited the jury to acquit!

But who was so keen to nail those involved in the Campaign Against Live Freight (CALF)? This was no usual police investigation. A special unit led by a Superintendent Bentham set up Operation Kirby - not long after MI5 said they were turning their attention to protestors - and seemed very keen on nailing activists for any charges they could dream up.

One Shoreham veteran told SchNEWS "CALF helped organise a very successful campaign of direct action, and the powers that be invented trumped up charges to try to destroy the campaign."

**@NTI-COPYRIGHT - INFORMATION FOR ACTION**

## Brazilians Go Nuts for Squatting!

Around 12 million people in Brazil are landless...In 1995 over 150,000 people were illegally occupying unproductive farmland on 147 organised camps...In 1996 thousands of activists blockaded streets in Sao Paulo, the worlds 3rd largest city - within 2 hours the underground shut down in support!

If you had 150,000 people doing direct action 7 days a week, week in week out you'd expect to a) be ruffling political feathers and getting towards what you wanted, b) have huge public support and increasing numbers taking up direct action, and c) face serious pressure from the powers that be. In Brazil this is reality. Brazilian politicians are seen scuttling for cover, or posing for photos (depending on political persuasion) as thousands upon thousands of landless peasants from "Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra" (Movement for rural workers without land), or MST for short, converge on Brazilia to demand land reform NOW. It is South America's largest - and most important social movement - and they demand "unused" farmland be taken from large landowners and given as small parcels to the millions of landless poor to grow food and live on. Land reform is firmly on the political agenda. As for public support, 83% of Brazilians now agree there should be large-scale land reform, and direct action, usually by long term, large-scale occupations of unproductive farmland owned by business interests, is the tactic for the landless to realise their aims.

"Widespread illiteracy has curbed 'write-a-letter-to-your-MP' style arguments."

But as with every powerful movement, when the authorities go in it is nothing short of murderous. A fortnight ago was the first anniversary of a 'Reclaim the Streets' style blockade of a highway in the Amazonian state of Para (part of the month-long NVDA-fest - "Scream for Land") that ended in bloodshed. At the end of the day - familiar to UK activists - a police charge started, with 155 military cops charging from two directions firing on the crowd: in the resulting chaos supposed "leaders" (MST is reasonably non-hierarchical) were picked off and executed via a bullet in the back of the head. Nineteen activists were murdered. All 155 military police are still on active duty. No-one has been prosecuted. Hence the thousands marching on Brazilia in protest two weeks ago.

For more info contact:  
sl120@hermes.cam.ac.uk

## BRITI-SHARE-A-SPACE

Wednesday saw mass disruption of the British Aerospace AGM in London, where directors hid behind glass screens, pot plants and security guards - who forcibly removed 122 protesters (who had each purchased a nominal share in BAe to gain entry) amid chants highlighting the companies supply of Hawk attack aircraft to the Indonesian regime. Outside 200 other protesters staged a symbolic 'die-in', and more 'disarmed' a model Hawk jet, the whole lot resulting in what the Campaign Against Arms Trade reported as a '100% domination of the meeting.'

Yet another successful AGM disruption has not gone down too well amongst Britains' business leaders. The Institute Of Directors have called for the predictable 'tough new laws' to stop such embarrassing dissent at the one and only time of the year that big business are publicly accountable for their actions. They want to prevent shareholders who "have a minimum number of shares" or have only held them for a certain length of time from attending.

And the plot thickens: Corporate Watch have highlighted a proposed change to company law to remove the requirement for company directors to register their home addresses at Companies House. To keep such channels open Corporate Watch is compiling an address book of directors of unpopular companies, available to all who need it. Send any addresses you have to CW, Box E, 111 Magdalen Rd, Oxford OX41RQ, Tel/Fax 01865 791391 by May 10th

\*RTZ, the world's biggest mining corporation responsible for genocide and displacement of indigenous people worldwide, including the Pacific Island of Bougainville (where foreign mercenaries hired to crush rebels who had shut a copper mine on the island were recently expelled by the army), are holding their AGM on Wednesday 7th May at the QE2 centre in London. Meet outside the centre opposite Westminster Abbey (nearest tube St. James' Park) at 10:00 am. There may be transport available, ring 01273 685913 for details.

## VICTORY!

Newsflash! The residents of Holtfield on the Gower Peninsula in South Wales have won their case in the House of Lords to stop a landlord destroying their homes. The article of law at stake was that the owner had semi-feudal rights to do what s/he pleased with the land underneath the dwellings. Thankfully this anomaly is no more, and dodgy landlords can show their eviction notices where even Pubemaster 2000 cannot see them. Holtfield: 01792 233596.

## CAUGHT IN THE KNIFE ACT

Oxford Police used section 60 of the Knives Act this week on a demo against vivisection. The Act gives increased powers for the police to stop and search anyone in a particular area if they fear that violence might occur. Nice little catch all law that means they have even more right to stop and intimidate people for any reason they feel like.

## SchNEWS in brief

Two weeks ago, 65 workers at a Tottenham Bakery went on strike in protest at intolerable working conditions. The 65 - mainly Somalian refugees - have to work six 12 hour shifts a week with an hours unpaid lunch, at a measly rate of £3.37 an hour. The bakers mainly supply Tesco's and Safeways.

Donations are urgently needed: Paddy Hill, Bakers Food & Allied Workers Union, Sinclair House, Unit 9, 66 Willoughby Lane, Tottenham N17 0SQ Tel: 0181 801 0980 \*\*\* Welcome and well done to Vival (Vegetarians International Voice of Action) who recently moved to sunny Brighton. On April 18th a protest about religious slaughter was attended by over 500 people and received lots of media attention. Details: 01273 777688 \*\*\* May Bank Holiday weekend: Lots of stuff going on at the Campaign Against Runway 2 in Manchester. Details: 0161 834 8221 \*\*\* 18th - Benefit gig for Brighton Independent Supporters Association and Brighton Youth Team Development Fund. 8pm @ Hectors House, featuring Barnstormer, Sweet Nothing (starring Steve North) and Core \*\*\* Simon Valder, the seventeen year old had up for making death threats to Brighton F\*ck\*-face David Belotti has been sent down for 8 months to a Youth Correction Centre. And Bellotti walks free? That's rough justice...

\*\*\*Have I Got SchNEWS for You, Tues May 13th @ Bar Centro, (ex-Berlin Bar), 6 Ship St, Brighton E5/3. Starring Mark Chadwick (Levellers), Atilla the Stockbroker, Steve North, Margaret Pracy (Town Crier of Brighton), Sergeant Shitter of the Crap Arrest Squad & a special guest from Manchester Airport. Doors open 8pm, part of Brighton Fringe Festival. Tune into Radio Aktiv 106.6 FM - on the airwaves all May Bank holiday. Listen into SchNEWS 4 pm Monday 5th

## ...and finally...

What ever next? Last week your mutated SchNEWS heard of yet another genetic-engineering breakthrough: a potato which commits suicide if infected with 'late blight'. This little pest is evidently a major source of existential misery in the world of tubers claiming 20% of the annual UK crop. If this is the way forward, then we can look forward to carrots that scream abuse at marauding rabbits and lettuces that give slugs a good kicking. Happy eating.

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS warns all readers not to come under the gaze of Pubemaster 2000. Never smile for the cameras, and never do anything in urban areas, or the Masters of the Pube will get you by the short and curlies. Make sure you protect your privacy and your privates. Otherwise you will feel naked. Honest.

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (e.g. 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Ask for "Originals" if you can make copies. Post free to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tell/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/

# A FAIRY TALE FOR THE SURVEILLANCE AGE: THE SORCEROR IBM AND THE BIG BLACK BOX OF BIOMETRIC MAGIC

Once upon a time... High above the metropolis, in an electronic fortress in the sky, there lived an evil sorcerer by the name of IBM. From his cloud castle, IBM would mix and conjure virtual spells for the dark law lords that ruled across the land. So powerful was his wizardry, that his electronic might transcended every city, town and small hamlet. His magic digital spell was cast forever on the lives and homes of all good citizens of the global village.

Everyday, IBM would scan his silicon eye over the turrets towards the cityscape horizon. From his cloud vantage point he would admire the mighty towers of commerce, marvel at the great machines of industry, and wonder at the congested concrete highways that spiralled forever inside the metropolis.

However, on this particular day, a cold winter morning, his vision was broken. Peering further, deep into the black heart of the city, he caught a flash of human life. On the street corners he saw street traders selling painted lamps. Outside the factories he found workers waving bright placards and shouting. Peering further still into this grey underworld, he spotted welfare beggars queuing outside the city Dole House. In between the street shadows he identified vagrants building cardboard cities. Inside the crumbling estates, he saw kids play like wild animals.

IBM had heard many myths and tales of underground dwellers and urban rodents, but shrugged them off as the ravings of drunken witches. But here it was, and it disturbed him. This was anarchy - a dangerous cocktail of inner city chaos and deprivation. As a sorcerer for governments, IBM would have to find a solution to restore order the electric potions that could enchant and control global citizens by their physical identity.

Some biometric sorcerers could magic a persons identity from their eyeball. Others had hexes that could distinguish one citizen from the next by voice or smell, and then reveal all their innermost secrets. There were even wizards who were able to recognise a peasant from a prince at the touch of a palm.

With the solution sealed in his black magic box, IBM knew he could be bigger and more powerful than all the other wizards, witches and biometric spell spinners put together. He would weave his biometric over whole countries, not just the small towns and hamlets. So he embarked on a long journey to tell every ruler, government and powerful bureaucrat on the planet of his mysterious biometric box.

IBM's box was a masterpiece. It could measure and identify a citizen by the touch of a finger alone. This was nothing special, as other sorcerers had been using similar hex-tech for years. The real magic was the fact that these black boxes could outstrip any other biometric spell on the planet, with casting range enough to cover an entire country's population, from its metropolitan core, to its rural backwaters.

Inside the chaotic metropolis, every factory, housing estate, Dole Office and cardboard city, would have a magic biometric box fitted. Once the IBM spell was spent, these boxes would routinely heat seek for individual trouble makers by a touch of a finger. An instant solution for a small planet. Rebels, drop-outs, criminals and social misfits could all be located by the biometric hex, rounded up and thrown into prison. As IBM was quick to point out to the global leaders, ministers and military chiefs he visited; the black biometric box could be adapted to resolve almost any internal conflict. No strangers to black magic, the global emperors and military men smiled, and said "Yes".

Back in his electronic fortress, IBM cast his silicon eye deep into the heart of the metropolis, to observe the success of his black magic box. Down on the street, the traders selling painted lamps were being marched off by black clad guards. Outside the factories, the workers had dropped their bright placards and were being forced to submit their fingerprints to the box. The welfare beggars were busy being tech-hexed and interrogated inside the Dole House. In amongst the shadows, the cardboard cities were being crushed and their occupants piled into vans. Inside the crumbling estates, the kids had stopped playing, frozen in time, under the dark spell of IBM's black magic box.

Frozen in time that is, all except one kid, who continued to run over the derelict urban wasteland, dodging the prison vans and men in black lunging from all directions. Finally cornered by several huge guards at the end of a long dark street, the kid swung round, all wide-eyed and frantic, and sets his eyes on the black box mounted on the wall. *Magic biometric box - bollocks is it!* And the kid bends down and pulls the plug clean out of its socket.

Looking on with horror, the evil sorcerer IBM released an almighty electrically charged scream, and fell from the top of his cloud castle, into the dark metropolis below. With a planet crunching smash, the spell of the black magic biometric box was broken. Lost and confused without their box of tricks, the black guards leave the kid at the end of the alley, and limp off into the shadows. The natural state of chaos is restored to the metropolis, and beaming from ear to ear, the kid strolls back home for a well earned toke.

And the moral of this fairy tale is - *don't play with the electrics kids!*

# IBM ELECTRICS

BIG BROTHER  
PLANS FOR  
A SMALL  
PLANET



\*\*\* Page Two \*\*\*

# Evening Anus

FIGHT  
BANAL

THE MONOPOLY OF SUSSEX

EVERY DAY

DON'T BUY!

## BRIGHTON BRACES ITSELF FOR BIZARRE CONFERENCE

"If anything is clear from the endless soundbite drivel that came out of the mouths of the politicians' during the election campaign it's one thing - the election results change nothing. The poor will still get poorer, the rich richer, our rights will continue to be eroded and all the time the planet will continue to move steadily towards ecological disaster. As the politicians show more and more how they are just the same as each other and have nothing to offer, it's up to us - now more than ever - to take action to resist injustice, repression and the destruction of our planet for profit." J.Makepeace, Justice?

After nineteen years of Tory rule, what does Labour's landslide victory really mean? A change from one set of faces and manufactured personalities to another. A change from one group of self-interested bureaucrats to another. A change from one political party, who constantly put profit before the welfare of the planet, to another political party who think and act exactly the same.

This Conference has been called to act as a cat-

alyst; to encourage and empower more people to get involved in the growing direct action movement and to enable those already involved to share and learn from each other's experiences.

Last year saw links being forged between radical environmentalists and workers' movements when Reclaim the Streets joined the Liverpool dockers for the Reclaim the Future action last September. Last month, despite the best efforts of the authorities to create divisions, a March for Social Justice and in-er-face party in Trafalgar Square helped build on this unity, as seemingly diverse groups again channelled their energies into making a stand against injustice.

Now's the time to remember that we are all fighting for a better world. Thats right folks - it's time to take control of our own lives and come together in building a future where **people not profits** come first.

**Direct Action Conference Saturday 10th- Sunday 11th May**  
**Venue:Old Evening Argus Building, North Road,Brighton**  
**11am - 5.50 pm each day Tel Justice?/SchNEWS (01273) 685913**

**Sport-**  
**Seagulls Stay Up**  
**Tories Go**  
**Down**

**Crime-**  
**Lock up your**  
**daughters as**  
**Police warn of**  
**protestors on**  
**rampage**

**Magic! -**  
**Derek Spencer &**  
**Paul Daniels in**  
**disappearing act**

**Sleaze**  
**Bowden takes**  
**the money and**  
**runs**

**Weather-**  
**"Sun shines out**  
**of my arse"-**  
**says new PM**



*People take control of own lives shocker - see center pages*

## THE SECRET DIARY OF DUMPY -14 3/4 METRES BELOW GROUND

### **Monday:**

Got up early today, (3.30 p.m.) and got to see some daylight for an hour or so, can't see what all the fuss is about. It's not nearly as much fun- there's all these people running around campus looking serious, and going to lectures isn't nearly as much fun as staggering into trees, falling over and being sick at 4.30 in the morning- God these people are so square! I didn't see anyone pushing each other around in supermarket trolleys! I got to the bank just before it shut to get my new grant cheque. It was just enough for my bank manager to agree to unfreeze my account, and give me back my cheque-book, and guarantee card. I had to promise not to spend more than £50 per week for the rest of term and agree to get a part-time job- Gawd! I don't need some old Tory in a suit telling me how to spend my money, anyone would think I'm irresponsible with money! Anyway I decided to treat myself to a brand new climbing harness with all the bits at the local climbing shop (it's really trendy to wear bondage at the moment in the local clubs), and get totally bladdered with the guys down at the SU in the evening. There was this really good night on- they had some people from a camp against the M99 bypass and were showing a video of all these people being dragged out of trees by guys looking like Darth Vader to some well banging techno music- looks like a real buzz. Anyway met this well sexy girl from the protests who was called Moonbeam, or Starchild, or something, and she didn't have anyway where to stay. So being the old gent that I am, I said she could kip round my halls, and the rest, we shall say, is history!

### **Tuesday:**

Got woken up by Moonbeam, at the ungodly hour of 9 am, with her demanding that I hitch to this protest camp with her. Apparently I told her last night that I would come down to the camp with her, and help defend it from eviction. Why the hell did I agree to do that? I must have been more pissed than I realised! Anyway, I tried to get out of it by saying I'd be kicked off my course, but she wouldn't take no for an answer, and kept guilt tripping me that there'd be no degrees on a dead planet, and mother Earth needed me to defend her. So by 10 O'clock, I was standing at a road junction, in the pissing rain with a dog-eared sign that said "Road protest camp". It took us bloody ages to get picked up, cos Moonbeam refused to accept any lifts that were going on the motorway- something about how they were built on ley-lines and would give us bad Karma. After waiting 4 hours, we finally got picked up in this farmer's tractor, who couldn't go above 30, and Moonbeam had an argument with him about intensive farming. When she told him that the hutches for his free-range chickens were worse than the gas chambers, he threw us out in the middle of nowhere, where we got stuck for another few hours. It soon got dark, and even wetter, and I was just about to walk off and find the nearest town, so I could book a taxi home on mummy's credit card, when this guy picked us up. He was a bit weird, he had to start the car by fiddling with the wires, cos he didn't have a key, and kept moaning about how he'd been inside (inside what he didn't say, and I'd have rather been indoors on a day like this). Anyway we told him where we were going, and he seemed well into it, so he decided to drive us all the way there, and visit the camp. We didn't get there until about 3 in the morning, and we had to stagger across loads of muddy fields, a couple of streams, and even a sewage works. We bumped into this funny guy who was hiding in a trench in the ground, and when he saw us started screaming "Aruga! Babylon's here!" Moonbeam went over to say it was her, but by then loads of people were running around jumping up trees or down holes in the ground. Apparently they thought we were coming to evict them, and when they realised it was a false alarm, they all got really cross with us. Some guy called Beech (they all name themselves after their trees here) started to have a real go at me, cos he'd just drunk all his eviction stash whiskey -god they're paranoid here! Anyway after they settled down, we staggered into this weird shelter called a Kazakhstani yurt (it looked like a dirty old blanket draped over some twigs to me, but I didn't say anything), and went to sleep.



The universe ... constant change.

### Wednesday:

Urgh! Woke up this morning, and someone had been sick on me! To make things worse, this goat had crapped on my head! When I shouted at it, I was told not to hurt its feelings, or its guardian spirit would take revenge. I started looking around to see what I could do to help, and some scary looking guy with bits of wood and moss in his dreads, said I was ground support. I wasn't sure what this meant, but everyone in the trees kept shouting it out whenever they wanted something, so I spent a lot of my time running around doing errands, which was a bit knacker. I got a bit tired of this, and then remembered that I still hadn't taken off that harness I'd bought on campus, so I thought I'd have a go at some tree climbing- I can't believe that people climb for fun. I had to learn all these knots, and tie myself on to a rope- which hurt loads more than wearing it in my fave S'n'M club. Anyway they all had them on, so I kept quiet, and went up this pine tree to share a tree house with some geezer called Spruce. He seemed friendly enough, and kept sharing bottles of cider and whiskey with me I helped him build what he was calling a "lock-on" (maybe they are into bondage after all!), which was weird. He'd found an old unexploded bomb from the war, and was filling it with concrete, and said he would stick his head in it when the bailiffs came, and light a stick of dynamite in his mouth, until they went back down, and if they didn't then he was going to strip off and smear himself in grease, so they couldn't grab him- wot a nutter! It's all very organised up in the trees; they've got kitchens, healing benders, and even a mobile office with faxes and Internet access (don't tell anyone but I had a few goes on Tetris while I was up there). He let me share his tree-house that night, which was a bit scary, cos it was only held up by a few bits of this weird thing called poly-prop, but anyway I managed to drift off to sleep after a while, with the wind rocking me to sleep in the tree-house.

### Thursday:

Gawd what a nightmare! Spruce fell out of the tree we were in, cos he'd taken too much horse tranquilliser last night. It was all a bit hectic- we had to call an ambulance, but someone had given the landlord of the local pub the site mobile in exchange for a pint, so I had to run to the nearest phone-box, which was 5 miles away. Anyway, he was OK, they just had to amputate his dreads from his figure of 8. I decided after that, that I didn't really want to sit up 50 ft in the air, cos it would bring on my vertigo, so I went back down to do "ground support". It wasn't too bad this time. I always considered myself a good chef, so I helped cook the dinner that evening. It was quite nice (they called it punk slop), but everyone looked really tired after eating it- maybe they were worn out. I went back to that yurt thing to crash out afterwards, but I didn't sleep very well cos I for some reason I had a really bad stomach ache.

### Friday :

Urgh!, my guts are killing me! I think there was something dodgy in that punk slop. Maybe it was those funny white tablets that this guy with a mohican called Spas threw into the pot. Anyway I felt really ill all night, and kept having to go out of the yurt, and crap by the thorn-bush. I kept forgetting to dig my little pit for my poo, so Chalice-well shouted at me, until I wiped my bum on an organic bay-leaf, and disappeared into the yurt.

### Saturday:

Apparently I have been renamed "Dumpy" because of last night, and everyone is laughing at me. I felt a bit paranoid, so I went down into the tunnels, to help out there. There was this funny little guy called Ferret burrowing away with a fork, so I gave him a hand carrying away the earth. It was mental down there. He'd dug a shaft that went straight down for at least 30 feet, and he'd stuck loads of nails and broken glass in the side- he said it was there to hold up tunnelers, but it seemed to hold us up just as much. Anyway, we crawled down to this tiny little chamber, where there was a coffin, and a pneumatic drill. Ferret said that when the tunnelers came to evict, he would drill at the ceiling, until they went away. There's no way, I'm staying down here with this nutter! He pulled out a bottle of home-made brandy, so I decided to share it with him before going.



*The wilderness.*

Sunday :

Shit! I passed out down there, I drank so much. When I got up to go, someone started screaming down the CB, that the eviction had started. I thought ,fuck that it's time to go, but Ferret had already sealed us in the chamber with an iron door, and said I had to stay. Great, I'm stuck down a tunnel with a suicidal nutter- I hope he doesn't find this diary, or I'm in real trouble.

2 weeks later :

Sorry I haven't written for so long, but we ran out of torches after a day, and were left in total darkness. What a mental experience! Poor old Ferret never got to cause a cave-in, cos one happened on the third day, and he got squashed under a few tonnes of earth. I was only all right, cos I was asleep in the coffin at the time, and the air-pipe was still intact. I had to wait for them to come and dig me out, which took another week and a half , so I had to lie there, and nibble on the eviction stash. Just when I thought I was going mad from boredom, I felt this knock on the coffin, and a well dodgy looking geezer in a balaclava, dragged me out. It was a bit weird, cos he kept muttering about how " doing the Iranian embassy was never this much bloody hassle". Still when I got to the top, there was a huge crowd of people screaming and cheering. Apparently I'd broken the world record for the longest eviction, and was going into the Guinness Book of Records! Someone had told them who I was, and so TV crews were fighting to interview me, but before I could say anything, I was grabbed by the Police and arrested. It all turned out OK though, cos the Under-Sherif in charge of the eviction was at Oxford with my Dad, so he agreed to defend me in court. It was all a bit embarrassing, cos the Judge said I was a national hero, and threw the case out of court. I'm really busy now, cos I've been doing loads of chat shows, opening supermarkets, and modelling eco-grunge outfits. There's going to be a range of Dumpty clothes, Dumpty cuddly toys, and they might even serialise this diary! Some people have accused me of selling out and becoming another consumer commodity, but I reckon they're just jealous. Anyway must dash, I'm on the next train to Liverpool to do Richard and Judy in 2 hours- see ya later kids!

*Dumpty*  
Dumpty the 1st of Quag

Did you find that article, offensive, shallow, and trivialising a lot of brave people's actions? It was meant to be- not cos we like provoking people, but to show how we are still perceived by much of the press, and many others. The hype over Swampy illustrates this perfectly. Overnight he became a household name, and was being chased around the country for interviews, and ended up posing for the fashion pages of the Daily Express (although in fairness to him, his tongue was planted firmly in his cheek when he did it, and the money he got paid off his fine). Someone has even copyrighted his name to do kiddies stories about a human mole! Direct activists became seen as the loveable weirdoes who sat down tunnels to save the planet. Don't get us wrong, it's great that direct action protests are getting more coverage, but it's worrying that the message is being distorted beyond all recognition. Everyone remembers Swampy, but how many remember what a DBFO is? We're also supposed to be reaching out to more people from different classes and cultures, but we're not going to do that if we're still considered as this little elite band of eco-warriors who will pile in and save the day for others. We need to integrate with grass-roots communities, share skills, and empower people, so they feel that they can get involved themselves, if we are going to be truly DIY.

Swampy is dead! Long live TAFKAS! (The Activist Formerly Known As Swampy)

## SWAMPY the human mole

SWAMPY'S LATEST CAMPAIGN IS AGAINST THE BUILDING OF A SECOND RUNWAY AT MANCHESTER AIRPORT



HIS LATEST TUNNEL RESIDENCE HAS A U-BEND FILLED WITH WATER HENCE HIS BIZZARE DRESS-AWAY SUIT AND AIR-TANK.



PEOPLE THINK I AM MAD BUT 10 OR 20 YEARS FROM NOW, WHEN THE DAMAGE WILL BE IRREVERSABLE THE COUNTRY WILL REALIZE THAT I AM VERY SANE

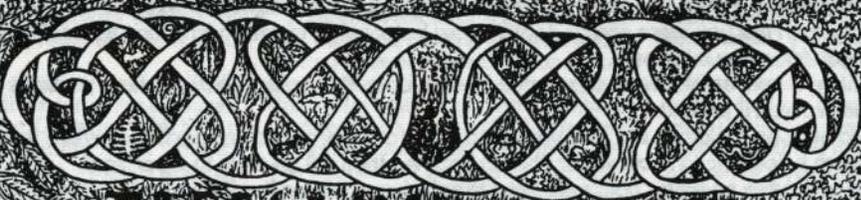
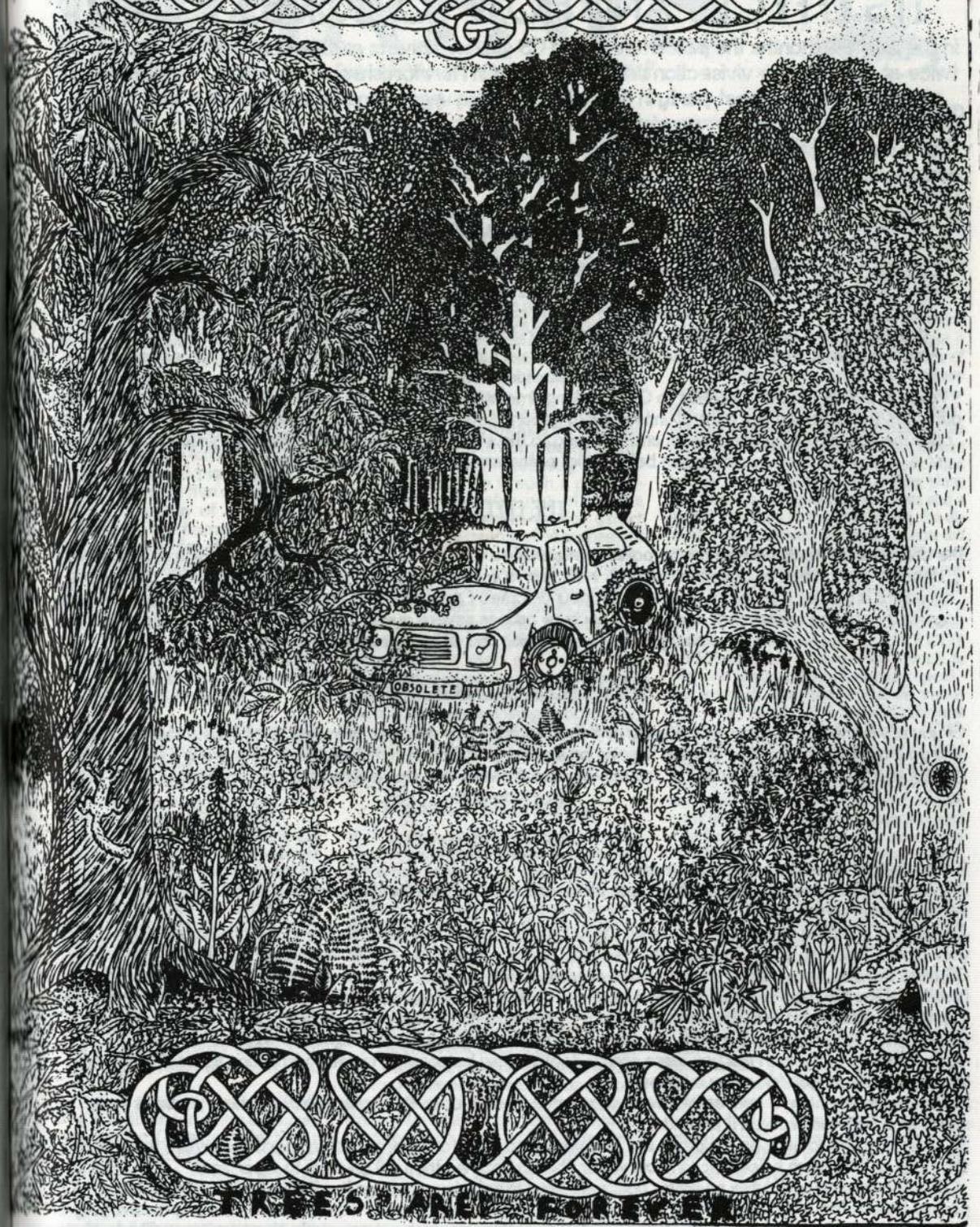


SUKOM MACKIE 1997

20 YEARS LATER ...

HEY SWAMPY! COME ON OUT- YOU WERE RIGHT ALL ALONG!





TREES ARE FOREVER

# .....: CS GAS :.....

## ITS EFFECTS AND HOW TO COMBAT THEM

In the last few months the police have used CS gas on activists and demonstrators several times: twice at Consort, the vivisection beagle breeders in Herefordshire, on travellers, football fans and more recently at a post-party in Kent. There's even unconfirmed rumours that it was used by eviction teams at Manchester airport.

There's already been a couple of police arsenals and we are likely to see an increase of its use at demonstrations. Everyone should be aware of this worrying trend and be prepared to deal with it.

### BRIEF HISTORY

CS is short for *O-chlorobenzylidene malonitrile*. The properties of this compound were first discovered by American chemists in 1928, and the potential chemical warfare uses suggested by a Dutch writer a little later in 1934. During World War Two scientists in various countries studied the compound but it wasn't seriously developed as a weapon until the mid 50's. The first widespread use was during the Vietnam War, both in America against pacifists and on civilians in Vietnam, it has remained a favourite of police forces and armies world wide ever since.

Police in the UK have had access to CS for a long time and used it often in Ireland. But now it's use has spread out from the specialist riot control units and into general issue to mainland police forces. It's carried in small grey cans the size of roll-on deodorants and attached to the standard copper's belt. (The large green canisters you can see on belts of riot police are not CS but extinguishers).

### THE EFFECTS

The canisters currently carried by the police contain three ingredients: the active chemical (CS), a liquid solvent to dissolve and carry it suspended within an inert gas to act as a propellant for the resulting spray. The active ingredient is part of a group of chemical compounds called *Lachrymators*. These chemicals are tear producing agents, hence the euphemism 'tear gas'. Exposure causes severe eye irritation of the upper respiratory tract, causing sneezing, coughing and difficulty in breathing.

### WHAT TO DO WHEN SPRAYED

If you are in the line of spray move away or if in a building move outside. Your eyesight will become very blurred and you may lose awareness of what is going on around you. Do not run blindly away as there is a real danger of running into the arms of the police or traffic. Try to act calmly and stay aware of your surroundings whilst moving to a safe area.

### PROTECTION

- 1) the obvious one is to wear a gas mask.
  - 2) Stand upwind of where the spraying took place and expose the affected part of your body to the wind. This will help disperse the gas.
  - 3) Flush the affected area with cold water. Do not rub or scratch as you will spread the chemical and get it into your pores. Although unverified it is reported that *Sodium Meta - bi - Sulphite* when dissolved in water will wash CS from the skin. Carry a rag soaked in the solution in side a plastic bag to prevent it from drying out and dab (don't rub) the CS from the skin. *Sodium Meta - bi - Sulphite* is used for home brewing under the trade name 'Campden Tablets' and available from anywhere that stocks home brew kits- do not breath in or put onto a mask. Swimming goggles are a very good eye protection being small and designed to exclude moisture.
- Depending on how much gas you were sprayed with it may be possible to return to action as small amounts should only effect you for a few minutes.
- 4) When possible have a cold or lukewarm shower (hot water open the pores). Showers flush particles away whereas a bath may spread it around.
  - 5) Later you should hang your clothes in a well ventilated area to disperse the last particles. When they've hung for a day or two wash twice, once in cold water, then in hot then they will be okay to wear again.

CS Gas is fat and oil soluble, so never coat your face in petroleum jelly or the like for protection, as some people tried in the Anti-Vietnam War protests of the 60's. Don't treat the affected area with any cream, jelly or ointment unless advised by your doctor: this will spread the chemical and aggravate the symptoms. The best treatment are air, cold water and time.....

-----



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER STRUNG OUT...



Printed & Published in Brighton by Justice?

Issue 119

Friday 16th May 1997

Free/Donation

# STRINGERS COMMON - CRIMINAL

Road protesters were celebrating victory this week, as a road widening scheme at Stringers Common near Guildford was abandoned.

Protesters who were down tunnels and up trees in anticipation for an early Monday morning eviction, instead heard news that because of cuts in national funding Surrey County Council were unable to find the £2.9m needed to carry out the scheme.

Activists from the five camps were jubilant. Vicky, one of the first to make Stringers her home said *This is a victory not only for the local people but for everyone that has dared to stand up to car culture. If the camps and tunnels had not been here this road would have gone ahead. The cost of evictions would have made it impossible and direct action has again proved to be a successful tactic in defending our environment.*

At a loose end after the Stringers victory? Fancy some action in the countryside? Here's a selection of camps...

**Bingley, W.Yorks:** Rye Loaf Camp set up to oppose a bypass, urgently needs more people. 0370 985122.

**Lyminge Forest, Kent:** The Rank Organisation plan to destroy a thousand acres of land including ancient forest for a massive leisure complex. 01227 261057.

**Wyndham Hill, Yeovil:** Camp set up to oppose a new road and retail development proposed on the site where activists successfully stopped a Sainsbury's 2 years ago. 01935 478806.

**Faslane Peace Camp** - established for 15 years on the banks of the Gareloch and Britain's oldest peace camp are holding a birthday party on 14-15th June. Party and protest against Trident 01436 820901.

**A16 Action Group:** opposing Peaks Parkway A16 diversion along a disused railway line in Grimsby which is a popular local wildlife walk. Contact Stop the Road On Peaks Parkway (STROPP): 01472 278845. See story in the next column.

Graham Stringer (new Labour MP for Blakley) however has other ideas. He writes *"The trespassers at Manchester Airport come from the same political tradition as Mussolini and Pol Pot in rejecting the ballot box in favour of direct action and violence."*

SchNEWS would like to point out Mr. Stringer's unbiased view has nothing to do with him being Chair of the Board for Manchester Airport and ask that if he is such a passionate democrat, why not place the Board of the Airport up for direct election by the people of Manchester?

And as good old Jo Makepeace from Justice? said at last weeks Direct Action Conference *"It's all about people getting off their arses and doing things for themselves now, not waiting for the politicians to act for us. A cross on a piece of paper every five years...that's generous."*

\*\*\* Eviction alert! Activists opposing Manchester's second runway are on red alert and are advising people to get there by the weekend for possible evictions 0161 834 8221.

## Peaks Parkway

We've not mentioned them before, but they've been giving it some in Grimsby for a few years now: the A16 Action Group are opposing a 5km diversion of the A16 along the "Peaks Parkway", the disused Grimsby-Louth railway line. This is a popular, well-used recreational area oozing with wildlife - a rare oasis of beauty in Grimsby - and it is doubly insensitive coming from a council supposedly so skint it has to charge the elderly for care services.

A recent week of peaceful direct action resulted in several arrests and kids injured by reckless machine operators. One 16 year old was given bail on condition she doesn't go within 100m of the site - which rules out both home and school! Anyway, after years in the protest backwaters they need your help - so get in contact with STROPP on 01472 278845 and get involved.

## AGM

*"One of the main points to come out of the conference is the need to attack the oil industry in several places at once, and in as many varied ways as possible. Their PR machine needs a good talking to; their investors must be persuaded to put their money somewhere more useful. New recruits must be told to get a proper job."*

### Corporate Watch

Yes, it's AGM time again! Last fortnight it was the turn of BAE, now it's the turn of grubby multinationals Shell and RTZ to have their dirty laundry held up for public scrutiny. First up were mining giants RTZ: ducking questions about pollution in Bolivia; the appalling situation in Bougainville; human rights abuses at the Grasberg Copper Mine in Irian Jaya; Indonesia; and mining plans that threaten Madagascan rainforests and a sacred mountain in the Philippines, the directors chose instead merely to inform the assembly that Grasberg produces £125m per year in taxes for the Indonesian government.

Last weekend saw Hammersmith Unemployed Workers' Centre host a gathering of the clans against the oil industry under the banner of CRUDE OPERATORS, a Corporate Watch & Platform joint venture, featuring speakers from all over the world on virtually every aspect of the worlds dirtiest industry, oil. Coporate Watch (CW) told SchNEWS, *"Following the by now familiar pattern of 'spend Saturday finding out about it, Saturday night eating and partying, Sunday working out what to DO about it, and the rest of the week actually doing it', Monday saw a particularly fragrant oil slick smeared all over the front of the DTI in Westminster, highlighting the strange resemblance between David Simon, chair of British Petroleum plc (boo) and David Simon, Minister for Competitiveness and Europe in Tony Blair's new cabinet. Lots of mess, lots of ranting, lots of fun. Lovely."*

*"Wednesday was the Shell AGM where a slick PR exercise dismissed any critics as 'ill-informed' or 'violent extremists'. This tactic meant that decent actions in the meeting would have played straight into their hands" point out CW, who add however that "9% of the Shell share capital is now on our side - only another 42% to go." And on Thursday (as we go to press) Shell is releasing its environment report to tell the world how nice they are. Let's hope none of those ill-informed violent extremists get in to put the record straight...*

SchNEWSnight Sanctuary cafe Hove  
This Sat. 8.00 - 11.00pm

ANTI-COPYRIGHT - INFORMATION FOR ACTION

## Inside SchNEWS

Satpal Ram is on hunger strike after a surprise move from Gartree Prison in Leicestershire, to Wandsworth in London. On 18 April, he was moved forcibly in a bodybelt and put in a bare strip cell. He's now refusing all food, demanding an end to his mistreatment. Satpal has been inside since 1986, sentenced to life for the self-defence killing of a racist who attacked him in a restaurant. In those 11 years, Ram has been beaten up, repeatedly moved, kept in isolation, subject to humiliating body searches and had drugs planted on him.

\* Write to: Satpal Ram E94 164, HMP Wandsworth, London SW18, and contact the Free Satpal Ram Campaign... 0121 331 1511.

Ray Gilbert and John Kamara were charged with robbery and the murder of John Suffield in March 1981. They were arrested and charged with no forensic evidence, alibis not investigated by the police, the dismissal of two juries, interference of defence witnesses, destruction of custody records and deals made between the police and remand prisoners for shorter sentences in return for testifying against Gilbert. Gilbert is currently not allowed to contact the press (!), and has been denied access to vital personal belongings and is on "basic regime".

\* Write to: Ray Gilbert H10111, HMP Long Lartin, Basic Wing, South Littleton, Evesham, Worcs. WR11 5TZ, and for more details, contact Newcastle ABC, c/o PO Box 1TA, Newcastle, NE99 1TA

Writing letters is one of the best ways you can support a prisoner. Prison distances you from the real world, and a friendly card or letter lets the person on the inside know that they have not been forgotten. Remember a few important things - letters are always read, so don't write anything that could jeopardise future actions, or anyone's freedom. Always include a return address, as some prisons don't accept a letter without a return address. If you can't think of anything to write, just send a nice postcard.

## Post-election party

SchNEWS was upset to hear of the indiscriminate use of CS Gas at a pixies post election party at the Flat Oak (next to Blue Route at Whitstable). The fun loving pixies managed to slip through the outer fence of the compound before a sacrificial fire mysteriously consumed a digger. Two green folk were arrested, and everyone (even the police) got a throat full of the Devil's perfume Flat Oak Society 01227 463368.

## SchNEWS brief'in

\*\*\* Love the new method of transport for the Police in Holland.....roller blades! We have it on good authority that our very own Sgt. Shitter (he of Conscious Cinema/ Have I Got SchNEWS For You fame) has been seen merrily cruising along the seafront...! \*\*\* That most brilliant of radical venues, the 121 Centre in Brixton, needs a new roof. The anarchist social centre has been squatted for fifteen years, and £1000 must be raised to keep the anarchists dry! Donations to: 121 Centre, 121 Raiton Road, Herne Hill, London SE24 (cheques payable to Anarchist Black Cross). If you have any roofing experience, get yer arse down there pronto! 0171 274 6655

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (e.g. 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Ask for "Originals" if you can make copies. Post free to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tell/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: <http://www.cuzzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

Sorry to people who couldn't hear at Have I got SchNEWS for you! Hopefully see you at SchNEWSnight on 17th! And for the lack of SchNEWS issue last week - too hectic with Conference.

\*\*\* Class War are producing a one-off issue, which has "taken several months to write...and may be the most important issue we have ever produced...and possibly the last?" Curious? Send a donation/ SAE for your copy to BM Box 5538, London WC1N 3XX \*\*\* Attila The Stockbroker,

Barnstormer and Core play a benefit for Simon Valder at the Richmond Sunday May 18th.£3/4. Simon's in youth custody for making a drunken death threat on the phone to ex-Albion scumbag David Belotti, \*\*\* Car manufacturer Daimler-Benz have been experimenting with a material made from fibrous cannabis hemp. The company have discontinued the use of fibreglass, and flax is already used in reinforced plastic, but cannabis hemp does the job better, is cheaper to process and can be grown without insecticides \*\*\* More than 3,000 Honduran Indians went on hunger strike last week in protest for land rights and an inquiry into the deaths of two of their indigenous leaders. The hunger strikers have set themselves up in plastic tents surrounding the Presidential Palace and will continue until better living conditions and 100,000 acres of land for subsistence agriculture are ensured \*\*\* With the epic McLibel trial drawing to an end in the next few weeks, there are still loads of McDonald's stores up for adoption. Contact McLibel Support Campaign 0171 713 1269 for details. Tune in to the epic reconstruction of events in Court 35 during the trial - Part 1, Sat 17th May 7:15pm / Part 2, Sun 18th May, 7:30pm. Also McLibel: Burger Culture on Trial! by John Vidal, published by McMillans at £15.99. Top tip: order it through your library for the good of all! \*\*\* A leaflet entitled 'John Lewis: Wildlife Killers', published by the National Anti-Hunt Campaign, has sparked a libel row with the department store giant. It is alleged that Lewis' top execs hold beans at Lechford Abbas Shooting Estate. Instead of denying the allegations, John Lewis has instead taken the cowardly step to sue National Anti-Hunt Campaign spokesperson Neil Hanson. 0114 240246. \*\*\* Next week, a march of Glasgow's unemployed sets off on it's way to a rally in Amsterdam on 14 June. Unemployed people from Britain, Ireland, Germany France, Spain, Morocco, Sarajevo, Italy and many other parts of Europe have already started on the European March for Jobs. Their aim is to stop ministers at the Amsterdam Summit of Intergovernmental Conference from talking about profit margins and inflation, and to remind them of the millions of jobless and down-trodden people through the EU. Wanna join 'em? Watch this space for details \*\*\* According to Harvard Medical School, Coca Cola is being used as a contraceptive douche. Tests showed that Original Coke had a 91% sperm kill rate, New Formula Coke had a 42% rate, while Diet Coke had a massive 100% success rate in blating the wee beasties! \*\*\* A Texas business man, Mr. Nightbyrd, has come up with a powdered urine which when rehydrated with water, will guarantee a drug free test result... \*\*\* Dates... 19th - Glaxo-Wellcome AGM. Meet 2pm @ Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster. Details: 01438 359424 \*\*\* 23rd - FREE DRUGS! Be at the Dept. of Health at 1pm to witness the launch of the Free Medical Marijuana Foundation. Howard Marks will be giving out free cannabis for medical use. Contact FMMF, PO Box 223, Glastonbury BA6 9YU. Marks received 1200 votes in

Norwich North & South on election day. \*\*\* 23 - 25th - Sellafield Women's Peace Camp. Details: 01482 463768 \* 26th - The Sheep Bite Back - National Demonstration against live exporters Stephen Woods and Gordon Gilder. Meet noon at Abbey Sports Stadium on A441 to Redditch \* 26th - The Between the Lines Collective challenge all you footie players to a day of mud and bedlam, starting at 1pm, Clissold Park. Info: BTL, Box 32, 136 Kingsland High Street, London E8 2NS \* 26th - Kingston green fair, stalls, music and entertainment at Canbury Gardens \* 26th - Maidstone Annual Green Fair 12-8pm at Mote Park 01622 673413 \* 30th - BAe AGM. Make your protest heard against the company's arms exports. CAAT: 0171 281 0297 \* 31st - York Reclaim The Streets. Meet at noon @ Clifford's Tower.

## Wot a comedown...

A party in North Wales was completely obliterated and a sound system confiscated last Bank Holiday Weekend. Police helicopters watched the T.W.A.T. Chaos, BWPT & other systems setting up at a disused quarry. Early evening the Chief Inspector said pack up and bugger off and there would be no trouble! However when the systems were leaving the police blocked off access roads and the riot squad turned up in van loads confiscating the T.W.A.T. system and arresting the driver. Meanwhile a 4 mile convoy of party cars were dispersed to the English Border, and two big Parties did kick off in the end. Wolfie of Twat told SchNEWS says "It shows just how many are up for it, and as Spiral Tribe said - they might stop a party but they can't stop the future."

## ...and finally...

We've all heard about brave fire-fighters being asked to rescue pussies stuck up trees (ouch, sorry!), but Saturday's call out surely took the biscuit. Randy Sandy, a blow-up doll had been stuck on one of Brighton's CCTV cameras by activists pointing out that camera technology is now so advanced it can strip people of their clothes! Brighton Police however were not amused and rung for the fire brigade to remove offending objects including a startled looking Sandy.

Nine other cameras were also targeted by activists - stirred into action by a talk on surveillance at Justice's? Direct Action Conference. Apart from Sandy, one camera had a bag put over it head, while one resident refused to come down for two hours from a pole, complaining that it looks straight into his bedroom window. Meanwhile a mobile spy camera was placed on a nearby block of flats watching the entrance of the Conference and later in the day two cops walked into a crowded pub and arrested someone they'd spotted on their 'rogues gallery'. Brighton CCTV control room is linked up to a face recognition programme which has a role call of people on the 'wanted list' enabling them to cross check files on known activists and pick up any they consider to be wanted.

As one London activist complained to SchNEWS "It's all very well going on actions knowing you have a chance of being nicked, but when your in the pub chatting someone up and your mate gets pulled then things are really getting out of hand."

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS wams all readers not to partake in direct action for fear of being confused with Mussolini or Pol Pot. Never resist unpopular developments or you may end up wiping out half of Cambodia or invading Abyssinia. Then you will avoid being strung up from a lamp post. Honest.



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER ESSENTIAL...



# SchNEWS

Printed & Published in Brighton by Justice?

Issue 120

Friday 23rd May 1997

Free/Donation

## WHAT A GAS!

*"One demonstrator was held in a headlock and sprayed inches from her eyes; she was then held by the arms and sprayed a further three times, then she was dragged on her back scraping a large area of skin off. She thought she was going to die."*

-Eyewitness.

*"This is what you get for coming here you bastards."* - West Mercia cop to protestor.

The second major demonstration against Consort, beagle breeders for vivisection, near Hereford last Sunday saw over 100 West Mercia police again indiscriminately using CS gas and tuggery against over 200 protestors, resulting in one having her arm broken, another her hand and 38 arrested on charges ranging from sections 2 to 5. An elderly Portsmouth protestor was truncheoned in the back of the head and knocked into a barbed wire fence and a 17 year old girl was savaged in the thigh by a police dog, which then injured another protestor before finally doing the decent thing and attacking its handler. Veteran activist Helen Nelson said the day began peacefully enough, despite police blocking the bridle path bordering the compound: *"Then riot police started coming down the hill, as others came running up from below, and they suddenly charged, pushing people all over the place, whacking them with truncheons and kicking out with their boots."* Helen, 71, then received the blow to her head- explained by the cops to the press as 'a brick thrown by other protestors'- which resulted in her being hospitalized along with the bitten girl. After being discharged, Helen was duly nicked and charged with affray!

Activists moved on to the nearby home of Gordon Gilder- an animal transportation scumbag- to be met by more police who opened up with CS gas, deciding a table-top pepper pot held by one demonstrator constituted a full-on assault with pepper sprays. Police guidelines state that CS is to be used 'only in life threatening situations' and then from a distance of no less than 2 m. 'Life-threatening' in this situation

included leaning on a gate- 5 people were sprayed point-blank in the face for this misdemeanour- and facing the wrong direction: *"One bloke was tapped on the shoulder and then gassed in the face when he turned round"* an ALF spokesman told Schnews. He added: *"Police were seen tipping the canisters upside down, trying to shake the last drops out, they'd used so much."*

Some activists didn't even get to make it to Gilder's: a vanload enjoying a cuppa at a roadside services were surprised by riot cops who pushed the protesting owner aside and marched in to nick them. All those arrested during the day were processed with catatonic slowness, some not being released until the following evening; most have been bailed until June and further arrests are feared. Some - hunt sabs and Shoreham activists- reported that police singled them out for arrest at the first opportunity and those with video cameras were surrounded by teams who tried to sieze the equipment, damaging it in the process. And Lewes Coaches, the company who has regularly transported Shoreham activists to Consort demos, have since been 'advised' by the force to cease this trade forthwith or have their vehicles continuously pulled by traffic division....

\* Helen Nelson wants witnesses to her assault: phone the Justice? office.

\* Sussex activists have announced a demo outside Consort director Peter Savage's house in Upper Beeding. Meet in the village 10am, June 1st.

\*NEXT NATIONAL CONSORT DEMO JULY 6TH: Consort Kennels, Harewood End (on the A49 between Ross and Hereford), 12pm. BE THERE!

### Crab Arrest Of The Week

For possession of myrrh! Head Mix Collective, on tour in Wales a few days ago, were pulled over by Aberystwyth's finest. Finding out they were a band and obviously up to no good they searched the van from top to bottom and found some..... medicinal myrrh. Unused to alternative remedies, they proceeded to arrest the owner and seize the van, refusing to release either until 3 hours after the gig was meant to begin. Good job Jesus wasn't born in Wales!

## SKYJACK

*"Without the existence of the tunnels and free camps, Bolin Valley would have been flattened long ago. Direct Action has yet again catapulted the issue of unsustainability into the mainstream agenda."* Manchester activist.

Tuesday 4 am, and the protests camps along the proposed second runway at Manchester Airport have unwanted guests. 100's of security, Sheriff's officers, police, scab climbers and pot-holders surround and invade the camps at Bolin Valley, Cheshire.

'Operation Fulcrum' is in full effect. People take to the tunnels and trees as camps such as Sir Cliff Richard OBE Vegan Revolutionary brace themselves for what could be the longest evictions in post-war Britain.

A full square mile has been cordoned off, adding to the 4 miles of razor fencing around the site. Under-Sheriff Randall Hibbert won't allow independent legal observers on site and his arrogance was highlighted by an assistant who said, *"On this site, Mr Hibbert is God"*.

Ex-hostage Terry Waite led locals in their opposition to the building of the runway. *"There are fundamental issues of principle at stake here. The legal process was loaded in favour of the developers from the start; this is indicative of Britain's ailing planning system."* he said.

As SchNEWS went to press, no camp had been cleared, although our last contact with the site told of a general sense of bedlam...

SchNEWS would hate to bore you with the reasons the proposed runway should not go ahead, but:

\* One transatlantic return flight uses up half a person's yearly CO2 emissions.

\* The DoT have forecast a 163% increase in air transport in the next 12 years.

\* UK internal flights are on average 5 times more polluting than the equivalent train journey.

**BADDIES:** Local MP & chair of Manchester airport; *Graham Stringer* (Direct line: 0161 489 3700 / Fax 0161 489 2300). Give him a ring or fax him some *black paper*! \*\*\* *Randall Hibbert*: Under Sheriff of Cheshire: 01244 321066. \*\*\* Tarmac *John Boardman* 0161 437 4280.

**GOODIES:** CAR 2, 6 Mount Street, Manchester, M2 6NS. Tel: 0161 834 8221 / Fax: 016 834 8187. Email: camapign@mfoe.u-net.com.

Tune in ALL weekend to 106.6 FM Radio Aktiv + SchNEWS on air Sun 25th 7-8pm

## PARTY AND PROTEST!

Remember, boys 'n' girls, your rights to party and festy on down are being eroded even as we speak. There's lots of spot on groups doing their damndest to put on some wicked events this summer, and it is your moral duty to support them and have a bloody good time! Here is the first bit of the definitive SchNews festy list for the summer!

### DO'S AND DON'TS

Despite the best efforts of the authorities, people are still putting on free parties up and down the country. Here's a do's and don'ts list in case you happen to stumble across one.

1. Be prepared to be self-sufficient. Facilities could be minimal.
2. Park sensibly, keep site roads clear.
3. Be friendly to local residents, rambblers etc. Smile - you're at a Free Party!
4. Bury your shit!
5. Don't trash the site - take a binbag
6. Fires - use dead not live wood (which doesn't burn anyway)
7. Make a donation - if someone passes a bucket round don't be a mean git. It costs money to put on free parties.
8. Know your rights - Get yourself a BUST CARD 10p from Release, Advice Line 0171 729 9904 Emergency Help Line 0171 603 8654
9. Enjoy yourself!!!!

**MAY 30-1 June** - Blow out '97, Northants: 01327 705265 \*\*\* **Sat 31** - York Reclaim The Streets, 12 noon, Clifford's Tower

**JUNE 8-11** - **ANNUAL** Stonehenge Walk, leaves from Peace Pagoda in Battersea Park, London, 12 noon: 0171 485 0694 \*\*\* **4-11** - **APPEAL** - Horse Fayre: 01325 362933 \*\*\* **6-8** - **Leominster Fringe Festival** @ crossroads of A44/49: 01568 610060 \*\*\* **Sat 7** - Strawberry Fayre, Midsummer Common, Cambridge. Free! / Rage against the Cage - National March Against Vivisection, Devonshire Green, Sheffield. 12 noon: 0114 2530020 / Canal Bridge Green Fair, London \*\*\* **15** - Coin Street - 0589 913 091 \*\*\* **12-15** - Africa Oye Festival Liverpool: 0151 708 6344 \*\*\* **Tue 17** - Car Free Day: 01932 828882 \*\*\* **12-17** - Put this in yer diary - it's gonna be massive! Protests, marches, an alternative summit and a HUGE Reclaim The Streets to say a big Fuck Off to the European Union heads of states meeting to sign Maastricht II in Amsterdam. For more info get next weeks SchNEWS... \*\*\* **14-15** Faslane Peace Camp - celebrate 15 years of resistance to Trident with a big party: 01436 820901 \*\*\* **20-22** - Greenheart Festival, Borders? Scotland: 01421 577486 / Greenfolk Network Midsummer Gathering nr. Kinghorn Loch, Dundee: 01592 890346 / Church in the Fields Solstice camp: 01908 665124 \*\*\* **21** - Solstice Gwylfan festival, Cardiff: 01222 563989 / Sexual Freedom Coalition Parade (dress well but not indecently) 3pm depart from soho sq PO box 4ZB London W1A 4ZB / Free Leamington Peace Festival: 01926 421830 / Mazy Day Street Carnival Penzance: 01736 365520 / Raving in the Park - carnival at Bedlam park, Imperial War Museum: 0171 525 2783 / Reclaim The Streets, Bristol: 0117 9393093 \*\*\* **28** - Heeley Festival, Sheffield: 0171 258 0244

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! just send 1st Class stamps (e.g. 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Ask for "Originals" if you can make copies. Post free to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tell/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

Next SchNEWS Training Day WEDS 4th JUNE 12-5.30pm Ring the office and book NOW! (limited places).

\* Festival Eye is out now. £2 + A4 SAE to BCM 2002, London WC1N 3XX. If you fancy earning yourself a bit of dosh, while you cruise round the festies of the UK you can get 100 copies of the mag at half price...

Get yer new Squall - hot off the press, massive and large! 60 pages of pukka articles about Manchester Airport, Police Surveillance, CCTV and more, all for a mere £1.80, from PO Box 8959, London N19 5HW

## OFF THE BUSES

A bugle call at 1pm heralded the start of Sheffield's first-ever RTS, and 800 activists and revellers moved from Devonshire Green to meet with the Desert Storm and Spool sound systems on Charter Road dual carriageway; the traffic got jammed and the party was on! Twenty cyclists engaged in a spot of spontaneous mid-afternoon action and blocked a roundabout for nearly an hour and at 5pm the whole bash shifted back to Devonshire Green and people danced on into the evening. The District Commander of South Yorkshire cops, Steven King, sent a letter to organisers beforehand pleading for co-operation and asking them to put aside "pre-conceived prejudices" about the boys in blue (their arrest of two on drug charges and one for falling through a car window must be totally out of character, then) and local rag 'The Sheffield Star' chose to concentrate on the plight of an elderly resident, unversed in RTS tactics, who was reduced to tears of confusion by the resultant bus diversions.

### "ROAD RAGING" PLUG

Out Now! The ESSENTIAL guide for any activists thinking of getting involved in the road protest movement has just been published. From sabotage to smarming your way into the DOT, climbing diggers to camp diseases - it's all in there, and more! Like an inner-city schoolchild, it's totally comprehensive and reassuringly thick...for only £3 plus £1.50 p&p from the Justice? address.

## SchNEWS In brief

\*\*\* 25th May - EuroCarnival at Mersey Park, Rock Ferry, Birkenhead (nearest station: Green Lane). In solidarity with the Euro March 97. Should be a great day with premier dubmeisters Back to Base, Life Bomb, 0898 & loads more. Wirral TUC for details: 0151 512 1868 \*\*\* Moves are afoot to set up a Wimmim's Direct Action Newsletter, contributors and illustrators are required. Contact Freedom Network: 0171 978 8214 \*\*\* The McLabel Campaign, in their relentless pursuit for truth, have published a leaflet aimed at children - entitled 'What's Wrong With Ronald McDonald'. Written in simple English and available from: London Greenpeace: 0171 713 1269 \*\*\* The Homeless Information Project have rewritten and updated their action packs, including some informative stuff about squatting and setting up self help groups. Details: 0171 277 7639 \*\*\* We're proud to announce the introduction of the all-new restructured Shark Protection League. Dedicated to freeing imprisoned marine life and direct action against those that slaughter

marine life. The SPL are seeking donations for their Boat Fund. send yer reedies to: SPL, BM LAPL, London WC1N 3XX \*\*\* 26th May - Melting Vinyl Small Record Label / Fanzine Festival, with bands, displays, comedians, DJs and 'the true spirit of the free press'. 1-10pm @ Bar Centro, Ship Street, Brighton. Details: 01273 673777 \*\*\* Friends of Twyford Down are putting together a book about the Twyford protest, and are seeking quotes, photos, stories, poems and songs. Contact Friends of Twyford Down, PO Box 162, Winchester, Hampshire SO22 5ZD \*\*\* 31st May - Liberty Law, Order and Human Rights Conference. Billed as the first post-election conference (we beg to differ!) their aim is to 'bring together police, politicians and campaigners' to talk about law and order... 10am - 5pm, London Voluntary Resource Centre, 356 Holloway Rd, London N7. Details: 0171 403 3888 \*\*\* Next Weds Tomorrow's World (28th/7.30 pm) will be on genetic engineering. After the show there'll be a live debate on the internet - email [tworld@BBC.co.uk](mailto:tworld@BBC.co.uk) if you wanna ask one of the worlds top geneticists some questions...

## Inside SchNEWS

\*\*\* You will remember us telling you of the ludicrous sentence passed on 17 year old Simon Valder, who was sent down for eight months for making death threats to Brighton FC sell-out merchant David Bellotti. Well, here's his prison address, so you can send the man lots of good cheer: Simon Valder AW4435, F Wing, HMP Lewes, BN7 1EA. Always write to a prisoner, not your MP, regardless of how 'New' he is...

## ADVERT SUBVERT

Illegally erected billboards in Birmingham were 'improved' last week by activists who did some late night DiY, making them so unsafe that the council had to remove them the next day! It usually takes the council two years to remove such illegal hoardings so nasty capitos have been getting free long-term brainwash space...till now!

## ...and finally...

SchNEWS was sooo concerned to find out that the curse of the huge moles hit the garden of another open-cast mining advocate last Saturday night. Readers will remember that the burrowing pests hit Michael Heseltine's Northampton garden last year, and we have learnt that they have hit again at the garden of Richard Budge - the arrogant bully boss of RJB mining. These little rodents are so clever that they can throw paint around in a random fashion, to spell out phrases such as 'No Opencast', 'Budge Is The Pits' and 'Who R U Going 2 Injunct 4 This Then?' Enquiries about opencast mining should be directed to Workshop Police Station or the Freemason's Hall directly opposite!

### disclaimer

The SchNEWS warns all readers to be careful with their condiments at luncheon. Never sprinkle your salt and vinegar in a provocative way, and be extra careful with the pepper or you may have to Consort with unexpected dinner guests with bad table manners and ill-trained pets. Then you will dine in peace, and be happy. Honest.



# SchNEWS

Printed &amp; Published in sunny Brighton by Justice?

STOP PRESS

Hot news from our Dole mole - Project Work suspended on Thursday afternoon - looks as though it's totally kicked the bucket. Shame!

Issue 121

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 1997

Free/Donation

## EUROVISION - Making your mind up!

As Eurocrats quaff Bucks Fizz, it's time to kick them in the Waterloos...

Next month, Europe's leaders will come together in Amsterdam for "Son of Maastricht", to agree on the 'convergence criteria' for a single European currency. The aim of the meeting is to make Europe the third global trade force to compete with the US-led American and the Japanese-led Pacific regions. But to hit the criteria targets each nation that signs up has to reduce its debts - and that means slashing welfare and stifling wages rises.

And *this* is the spark for the continuing strife raging all over the continent for the past couple of years: a general strike in Greece; protests throughout France, such as French lorrie drivers paralysing the country and winning all of their demands including retirement at 55; thousands of German miners occupying Bonn in protest at the threat to slash industry subsidies... the list goes on...

Of course the whole "Europe" issue is, for most Brits, one big yawn and seems quite irrelevant. But, as SchNEWS investigated, we discovered that if big businesses get their wicked way, we could see any gains over the past 50 years go down the plughole...

### A LITTLE HISTORY

Long before most of us had ever heard of Maastricht, Britain's multinationals were holding meetings in their boardrooms to talk about greater integration with Europe. Since then, the multinationals have fought a long campaign to get Britain into Europe, and when they see things are not going their way, they turn up the heat and put the pressure on.

When John Major made a concession to his Euro-sceptic backbenchers on a single currency, the Financial Times published a letter of protest from Britain's

top multinationals, including BAT, British Aerospace, BP, Glaxo Wellcome, Guinness, Shell and Unilever.

European companies want to change to a single currency to avoid the cost of currency-exchange. A united Europe, it is hoped, will do for European corporations what the North American Free Trade Agreement has done for US business. Pooling resources will help create a new "strong" currency that can compete with the dollar on the world markets, and at the same time being able to dominate and exploit poorer counties in eastern Europe and the third world.

However, all this can only be achieved by a massive attack on public spending...

The Maastricht Treaty requires governments wishing to join the new currency to reduce their deficit (the gap between income and expenditure) to three per cent of gross domestic product (GDP); and their debt (the amount they borrow to reduce the deficit) to 60 per cent of GDP.

The poorest 10% of the British population are now getting £13 a week less than 20 years ago whilst the top 1% get an extra £300 thanks to tax cuts. *The Economist*

According to the European Union 50 million people in Europe are already living in poverty.

To give you an idea of the scale of cutbacks required to meet these targets, Italy's deficit in 1995 was 7.4 of GDP and government debt was 125%. Belgium was close to target on its deficit - 3.2% - but could only manage this by running up a government debt of 134%. Last year the French government needed to cut £7.8 billion in just 18 months to meet the criteria.

To see what's in store for the rest of Europe, you only have to look at England. 18

years of Conservative rule has meant massive cuts in social provision, the breaking of any effective trade union movement and the introduction of a low-paid "flexible" workforce. But even that isn't enough. As the day for a single currency draws nearer, all over Europe governments are embarked on a new austerity drive. As Andy from Revolution told SchNEWS, "In a Britain already ravaged by years of cutbacks, a further £18-£25 billion could be cut from spending in pursuit of the Maastricht convergence criteria." Or as one sacked Liverpool docker said, "The Maastricht Treaty is a Thatcher treaty."

Already, workfare has been introduced in Holland and Belgium. Italy, Portugal and Spain have increased the retirement age or plan to do so. Family allowances in Belgium and Germany are now means-tested, as is the pension in Norway, Holland and Spain. In Denmark, income support is now taxed. The German government, under pressure from the costs of unification, is planning to cut unemployment benefit, sick pay, health-care, child benefits and holiday pay; to raise the age of retirement; to freeze public sector pay for two years; and to withdraw legal protection for workers in companies with 10 or less employees. And this is only just the beginning...

As one anti European activist told SchNEWS "Who will win this particular round in a struggle that is only just beginning remains unclear. Governments face major difficulties meeting the Maastricht criteria and popular protest is only making it harder, but if the voice of ordinary people is to be heard a way must be found of uniting and breaking the stranglehold of the official opposition, otherwise, we will all be made to pay the price of the system's endless search for profits."

Don't worry - SchNEWS isn't getting all xenophobic - we all like a bottle of French red-wine, Spanish strawberries and the odd German (soya) sausage. As Richard from Revolution put it, "We don't want a little England mentally just as much as we don't want a Europe controlled by the Bundesbank - but a Europe under the control of ordinary people." We'll drink a case of yer finest Bordeaux to that!

### MAKE SOME NOISE! "We are witnessing the rebirth of European internationalism" Tony Benn MP

● Euromarch! People on 30 different marches from 17 different countries are making their way towards Amsterdam, arriving for a massive rally in the city on 14th June. They are marching against mass unemployment, poverty and job insecurity in Europe. This is apparently the first time there's ever been an all European demo. More info: <http://www.gn.apc.org/labourmet> email 101326.41@compuserve.com

\* Moroccans on the Euromarch have been refused entry to Spain thanks to the Spanish anti-immigration laws.

● LegalizE StreetParty 15/16/17 June SchNEWS has heard that rather a large number of soundsystems are gonna party and protest against "European drugs policy and other shit they've planned for us..."

## Manchester update

\* More than £6 million has so far been spent on the evictions, which will probably take another 2 1/2 weeks.

\* Liz, was locked on by her hands and feet with a noose around her neck, was taken out from a tunnel on Wednesday from the "Sir Cliff Richard OBE Vegan Revolution Camp". There is also the tale of the geezer who nailed his ear to a tree. There are Tactical Assault Group Police on site who are snatching people at every opportunity, especially at night. Bailiffs pulled a woman out of a tree by her ankles on Wednesday.

\* Sharyn Lock, (BE4262) is currently on hunger strike in HMP Risley demanding that her prison diet is free from genetically modified food.

\* Bailiffs have built an illegal dam across the river Bollin in order to prevent further "SAS Style Armada invasions" by protestors like what happened on Monday.

\* The Zion Tree, Wild Garlic and Jimi Hendrix camps have now gone, but at least three remain, including the biggest - Flywood.

\* Tru(ue romance blossomed this week at Wild Garlic when Russ, a 26 year old self employed window fitter, proposed to Tangle, a student at John Moores University. The couple are also planning to call their first child Ashley after the Ash tree they were living in, and are pleading to the Under Sheriff to allow them to take a clipping before all the trees are destroyed.

\* Campaign Against Runway 2: 0161 834 8221. Mobile 0956 394121. Campaign Prisoner support: 0161 224 4846.

\*\*\* Expansion of Heathrow's Terminal 5 (T5), Stansted & Gatwick could all become major projects in the not so distant future. The Heathrow inquiry is in its third year and is not expected to finish until late 1998. If it goes ahead, T5 will be the largest green belt development in UK history, destroying 625 acres of protected London green belt - and the planned M25 link road another 50 acres. 4 rivers - the Colne, Crane, Duke of Northumberland and Longford - will be either culverted or filled with de-icing and aviation fuel run-off (just above a SSSI and the point where London extracts its drinking water). T5 will, in its own right, become the third biggest airport in Europe, behind Frankfurt and the rest of Heathrow (already on 3000 acres of greenbelt). The development will include a terminal building, offices, hotels, shopping malls and 21,000 car parking spaces. If you want to know more contact FoE on 0171 566 1678.

## SchNEWS In brief

\*\*\* Villagers in Bjørke, Norway chained a telephone booth to four boulders and guard it in shifts, after the state TeleNor company said it was unprofitable and would be removed. \*\*\* SoundKlash @ The Event, Brighton on Monday 2nd June. Live set from Advent & all your favourite local soundsystems for £3. Cash goes to K-Rig \*\*\* At Brixton Academy, June 7th, 9pm-6am. Release are celebrating 30 years of providing class A advice on drugs and the law. Performers include Beamish, Choci, Liberator and so much more!!!! £15/£12 on Info 0171 729 5255 \*\*\* A nice little victory: LETS (Local Exchange Trading Scheme) units have been accepted for the first time as earnings in a claim for Family Credit by Helen Frances of Frome LETS. She's happy to provide advice to anyone making a similar claim. 01373 451386 \*\*\* Not just a labour victory on

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (e.g. 20 for 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Please ask for "Originals" if you can make copies. Post free to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tel/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913

May 1st: Holtsfield Chalet Community, near Swansea, who were living under threat of eviction from property scumbag Tim Jones, won their case in the House of Lords. This is the most significant land rights decision for a decade as it questions the age old feudal law giving the land owner absolute right to the land beneath tenants' homes - which could have positive results for travellers, gypsies and others \*\*\* This week the first disciplinary charges are to be brought against a cop for over-zealous use of CS gas. Details are scanty, but it seems a Cambridgeshire rozzler is on a charge of "abusing his authority" in respect of an incident during 6-month trials in Peterborough in March '96 \*\*\* Pressmennan Woods: 25 miles from Edinburgh lies this 13,000 year old oak woodland - which considerate landowner John Kinnaird wants to substantially thin "for the enjoyment of future generations". What John forgets to admit is that this thinning, which would severely damage the woodland ecosystem, enables the felled trees to be flogged to BMW for car dashboards. A camp's already set up, so come and defend the wood. The owner is likely to back down if enough people oppose. Tel. 0131 228 2193 or 01368 850630 \*\*\* Between 17-19 Apr. 8 people were nicked at Pressmennan and charged under the 1865 Trespass (Scotland) Act - a law brought in to stop displaced crofters reoccupying their crofts after the Highland Clearances! The cops claimed to be acting on behalf of the landowner, though the Bugths camp (where the arrests took place) is widely believed to be common land, and there is no record of ownership in the last 300 years. The eight want people to write to the Prosecutor Fiscal (like the CPS): tel 0131 657 4392 \*\*\* Head State Support Group is being set up to provide legal and letter-writing help for folk who feel mentally unstable from too much direct action. If you want or can offer help, have been sectioned or know someone who has, contact: "Witches Green", 54 Mill Rd, North Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 0PZ. Email: jim@radicaluff.demon.uk \*\*\* Townstall Valley, Dartmouth, Devon: one of Britain's largest badger colonies and acres of woodland could be destroyed if road building plans go ahead. Camps being set up. Contact 01803 832410.

## Vicar with attitude

Remember John Papworth, the London vicar who rapidly lost his job when he suggested that shoplifting in supermarkets was not a sin? Well, the church won't be any happier with his latest wheeze, for our man has bypassed god to draw up a "new" 10 commandments! Sticking to the general carin', sharin' themes as revealed to Moses first time around, John encompasses 20th century concerns with, amongst others, no. 4: "Thou shalt enjoy the gift of sex as thou wilt..." and no. 10: "Thou shalt not heed commercial notices nor become enslaved to cars, computers, TV and like technologies." Jesus, we feel, would have approved...

## South Downs Alert!

The South has lost up to 80% of its Downsland in the last 50 years, putting wildlife at risk and spoiling the beauty we all take for granted. And no single, co-ordinated organisation have any responsibility for looking after it. Friends of the Earth is calling on the National Trust to take over so at least "development" will be prevented. To support this desire there's to be a Fun Day, on the 1st June starting at 12 noon @ Stanmer Park with stalls, entertainment & walks on the downs. Take picnic, suitable clothes and happy vibes. Info: 0171 566 1698.

## The + files

Henry Doubleday Research Association: Preserving backgarden biodiversity! Non-conformity in the world of veg has been stamped on for years - unregistered varieties fall foul of legislation decreasing which types can be sold in the EU; the HDRA realises that security and safety from epidemics is possible only with biodiversity, as well as freedom of choice - and to this end have set up a seed bank to preserve, propagate and share a full range of 'outlawed' organic veg varieties. They also offer a full range of organic advice, courses and research into organic techniques. A must in such genetically-uncertain times!! Contact: HDRA, Ryton Organic Gardens, Coventry, CV8 3LG.

## Crap arrest of (last) week

For criminal damage to a shirt button. Around twenty activists took part in an anti-genetics action inside Marks and Spencers, Brighton. The store security guard leapt into action grabbing one protester. In the resulting melee someone else grabbed the guard, popping a few buttons in the process. 5 (five!) van loads of police then arrived a few minutes later to make the arrest...

## 83-yr-old attacks police!

83 year old Reg Weston, on his way home from an anti-Project Work demo in January at Gravesend Sally Army (where the unemployed must iron clothes for charity shops) saw a protester chatting with policemen, and told him he ought not to fraternise with the 'scum'. One of the 'scum' asked Reg to repeat what he had said. Reg did as he was asked. The policeman said if Reg repeated the words again, he would arrest him under the Public Order Act. Reg did...and was arrested. Another protester who criticised Reg's arrest is also charged with obstructing the police. Reg's three day trial is in Gravesend Magistrates Court, North Kent on June 6th, 9th and 10th.

\* Oxford Claimants publish an excellent range of leaflets on Project Work, JSA, Restart interviews, Incapacity Benefit and signing on and studying. Send an SAE to: Oxford Claimants, c/o OUWCU, East Oxford Community Centre, Princes St., Oxford, OX4 1HU.

## ...and finally...

Under New Labour everything has changed - no one gets hangovers any more, dropped toast lands butter side up, and condoms never split. However, some things have remained the same. The wallets of the few are growing fatter, and the fat cats are lapping up ever richer cream. Directors of Camelot, administrators of the National Mockery, have just given themselves a 90% pay increase. Peter Jarvis, the Chief Exec of Whitbread, who scrapes by on \$521 an hour, has been put forward as the person to look after the Low Pay Commission which will decide the minimum wage! What next - Genghis Khan as Minister of Human Rights! Tony Blair asking Margaret Thatcher for advice?

That's not all. The Head of BP has become Minister for European Competition, and Martin Taylor, man of notes at Barclays has become head of the task force on welfare reform. Nice to see someone appointed with empathy for the people affected by the changes, who knows what it's like to save coppers in a whiskey bottle. There's more - Lord Hollick, responsible for sacking hundreds of people from Anglia TV and the Express, is a special advisor to Dept of Industry. New Labour, New Forcops: Look like the delivery is going to be difficult. More drugs please nurse!

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS warns all readers not to be blinded by Maastricht's Eurovision. Always be Shaw that you're not a Puppet on a String. Never let them hit you in the Waterloos, or you may fall foul of the Brotherhood of Man. Then you will be EMUed. Honest.

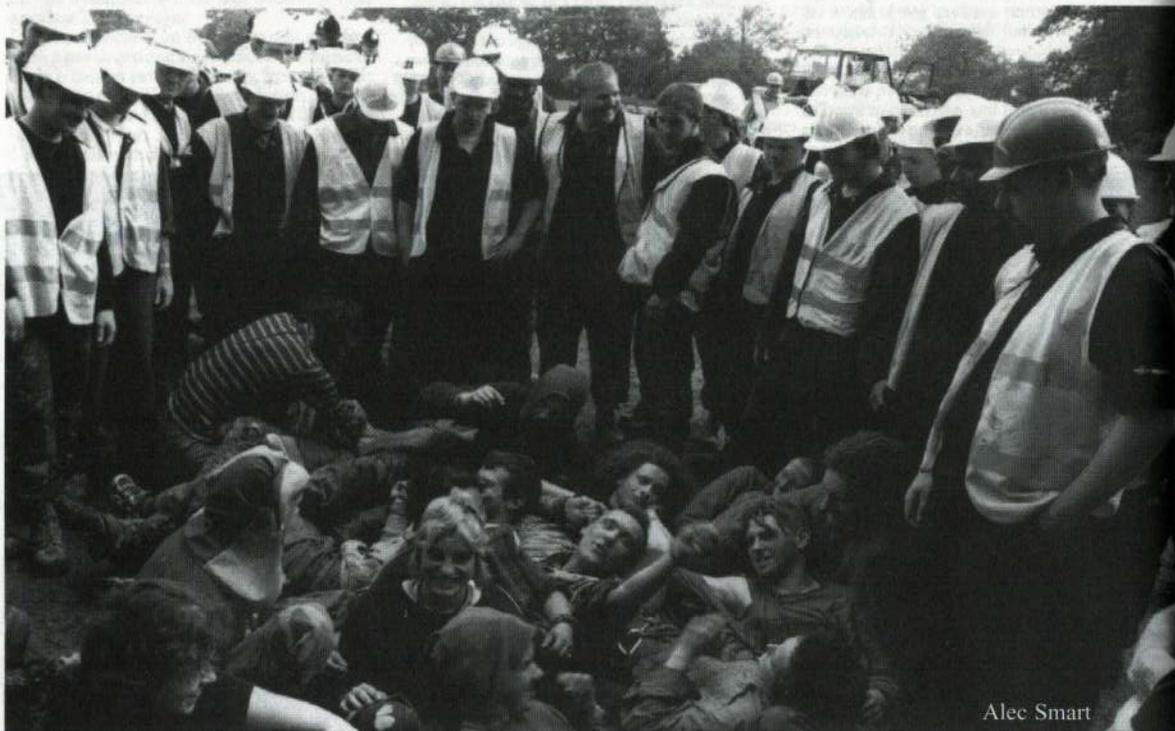
WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER DOWNY THE BAYON.

# JUNE '97



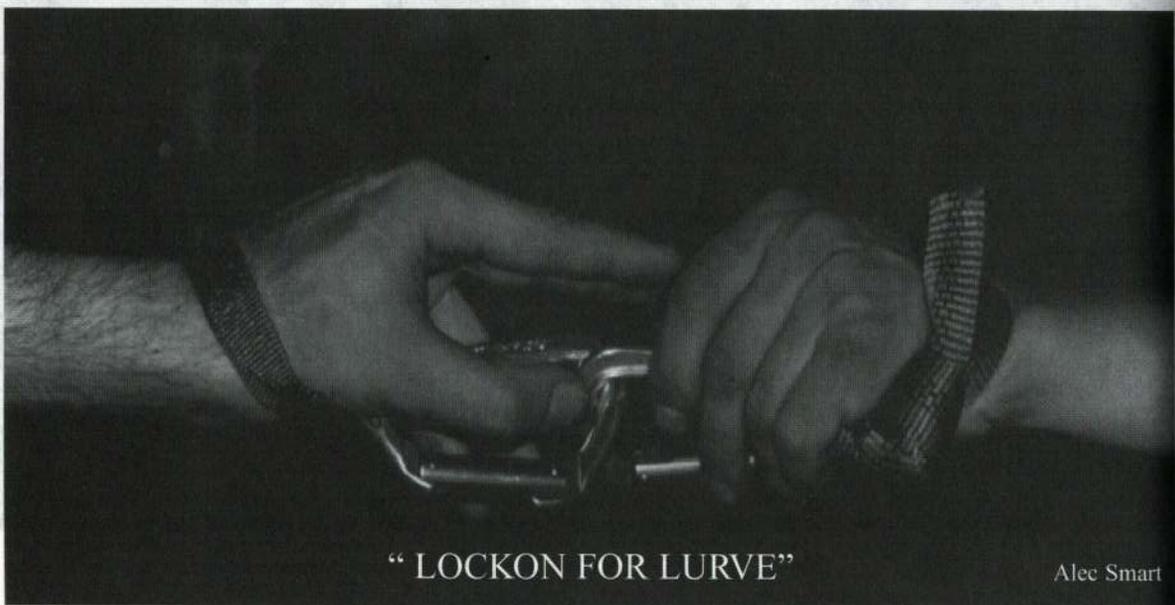
## “MANCHESTER AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL”

Nick Cobbing



Alec Smart

“THE NEW KETAMINE PILLS WORKED RATHER *TOO* WELL MIXED WITH ALCOHOL!”



“ LOCKON FOR LURVE”

Alec Smart

Subscribe!

My 30th birthday... I'm celebrating with...

The +five

WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER DOWN THE HATCH.



# SchNEWS

Manchester's  
Arsehole

Printed & Published in Brighton by Justice?

Issue 122

Friday 6th June 1997

Free/Donation

## DOWN T' CAKEHOLE

... and up the duff, Denise takes Swampy's record

At 8am this morning six Runway 2 tunnellers will have been underground for seven days and one hour - beating Swampy's Fairmile record and costing Manchester Airport £200 a minute. Destined for fame is mother-to-be Denise with Muppet Dave, Matt and Neville who have spent more than a week 'downstairs' in Cakehole at the Flywood Camp. Jeni and Blowpipe are holed up in Paul McCartney's Cavern.

### SWAMPYFICATION!

But the Swampification of protests is all lifestyles and no issues. So SchNEWS brings you the facts behind the Britain's first anti-airport direct action protest. One thousand acres of greenbelt at beautiful Bollin Valley in Cheshire - double the land destroyed by the Newbury bypass - will be Tarmac'ed. The development is pointless - Runway 2 would provide a third more flights, yet one third of all seats from Manchester are empty. It would be used at first for just five hours a week. Fifty miles away, Liverpool Airport is idle. The Airport claim 50,000 jobs will be created. Infact it will create negligible local employment for £200M of gross environmental destruction. In February Manchester Chamber of Commerce and Industry estimated it would be more like 5,000.

*"Three of my grandchildren have got asthma. I used to walk through here for years with the dogs. It's disgusting."*

**Joyce, local resident**

In January the first people took to the trees after 20 years of letter-writing opposition in nearby Mobblerly, Styal and the well-heeled Wilmslow. A 101-day enquiry was "loaded in favour of the developers from the start" according to former Beirut hostage and local Terry Waite. New Labour MP Graham Stringer was simultaneously leader of Manchester City Council and the chairman of Manchester Airport plc - the Council owns 55% of the Airport. Funny that. Yet Stringer has accused the protesters of "coming from the same political tradition as Mussolini and Pol Pot."

Terry Waite headed a team of independent legal observers but Stringer denied access to the eviction site. Police vans patrol the four-mile razor wire exclusion zone in a £6 million security operation. The press corps are penned in 100 metres out of sight of the action, only able to report that they could not see anything. Evidence gatherers film and photograph everyone.

Nameless ex-SAS balaclava'd 'Men In Black' are employed to dig the protesters out, but are working at a painfully slow rate of a tunnel door a day, which makes those in the know laugh at how long it will take.

Under Sheriff Randall 'The Vandal' Hibbert, backed by hundreds of security and bailiffs, hit the first of the seven tree camps at 3.45am on Tuesday May 20th. Protestors sat around the campfire at Zion Tree say they were subjected to an unprovoked truncheon attack by Greater Manchester Police. They deny involvement but are 'investigating'. It took 15 days before the last man was pulled from the branches at Sir Cliff Richard OBE Vegan Revolution, Jimi Hendrix, River Rats, Wild Garlic, and The-Camp-Of-Many-Names. 'Leery' Flywood, the first camp to be set up (known also as Babylon's Council Estate) featured Battlestar Galactica, a multi-levelled tree fortress holding 14 people. It took cherry pickers to get people out - and would have been unevictable had a tunnel been at the base.

### Democracy?

"Out of 160 public inquiries into roads, 159 got the go ahead. And the other one got through on appeal."  
Tony Juniper, Friends of the Earth.

One man, Carl, nailed his ear to a tree, and another was tied to a trunk in a wheelchair. Russ and Tangle, who fought it out 80 feet up, announced they were getting married as they were released from Wilmslow police station. There have been 160 arrests during the campaign. One protester, Sharyn, who

### Get down t' 'Minge!

We all know you wanna have a battle with the Sheriff of Nottingham, but despite our exhaustive enquiries Sherwood Forest is safe. SchNEWS says: Get down the 'Minge! Rank have been granted permission to build a new holiday park in Lyminge Forest, Kent. They bunged the Forestry Commission £4M - the price for 440 of yer finest ancient forest, West Wood, in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The Oasis Village will include a Wonderwall of 400 'forest lodges', 90 studio apartments, a large village centre with shops and parking for 3,400 cars and lorries!!! Five tree camps are up and the tunnelling's begun. Don't Look Back In Anger when the Oasis is built - get down there! Even the local rag, the "Hythe Herald" is saying "THIS IS THE NEXT BIG ONE!". Rank have already indicated that under pressure they'd consider pulling out. **Have a chat with Rank:** Julie Gould, Oasis Village Ltd's Communications Officer: 01293658658. **Directions:** From Canterbury take the Folkstone bus to Six Mile Garage and turn left for main West Wood car park for the camps. Tel: 01227 261057  
Camp mobile: 0410 536592

was jailed for refusing bail conditions, went on hunger strike demanding proof that the prison food was not genetically engineered. Local support is fantastic and half the security are on side.

Zero Tolerance, a London kamikaze soundsystem, was tied into the trees in the 'We are Over Here' camp providing a surreal aural backdrop with the likes of Girl from Ipanima, Vivaldi and banging techno ringing out depending on the mood, while Sea Sabs mounted attacks down the Bollin River (owned by the Rivers Authority not Manchester Airport). Now protesters say they will take their campaign direct to the Airport itself, while others head South to fight Rank's Centre Parcs development in Lyminge Forest, Kent.

\* AMEC, partner with TARMAC were invaded at their AGM on Wednesday by 25 protesters who stormed the stage and demanded - and got - a hour long meeting with Chief Exec Sir Alan Cocksure - whose own two daughters have been protesting against Runway 2. This Tuesday (June 10th) is Tarmac's AGM and knackered Airport protesters could do with some solidarity. Call car2 and leave your details if you want shares to go and tell them where to stick their greenwash. Campaign Against Runway 2 (car2) 0161 834 8221. \*\*\* Graham Stringer MP: 0161 489 3700 (direct line)

**"Are we going to tell lies against our enemies who lie? Don't the facts speak enough?"** *Chai Ling, Tianammen Sq. '89*

# PARTY & PROTEST!

Forget the TV Listings guides, get out of your armchairs and check out some real life in yer very own Enntertainments guide for **JOLLY JULY!**

**1st** - Reclaim It! Party - meet @ sacred stone circle. Pilton or Glastonbury assembly rooms 10am **4th** - Independence from America day at Menwith Hill Women's Peace Camp, against US Spy Base. **5th** - Falmouth Big Green Fair, Cornwall: 01326 375158 **5th** - Gay & Lesbian Pride Festival + march: 0171 792 1200 **4-6th** - Bracknell Festival, South Hill Park: 01344 484123 **6th** - William Morris Free Family Festival, Morden Park, Surrey: 0181 401 1895 **6th** - National Demo at Consort Kennels (breed beagles for vivisection) A49 Harewood Park, Harewood End nr Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire 12 noon Meet at main gates **8th** - Leicester Reclaim The Streets, Meet Victoria Park War Memorial 1 pm **6-14th** - Termin Nuclear Powerplant, direct action camp, Czech Republic 01524 849313 **9-15th** - Earth First! Summer Gathering, Scotland. Not a festival but workshops, training, debates in 'defence of mother earth': 0113 262 9365 **10th** - Winchester Hat Fair, Hampshire: 01962 863966 **11-12th** - Beggars Festival, Romsey, Hants: 01703 227979 **11-13th** - Larmer Tree Music Festival, Tootal Royal, Wiltshire: 01722 415223 **11-13th** - Severn Revels Festival, Forest of Dean: 01594 517104 **12th** - Ambient Green Picnic, Millmead Island Guildford FREE: 01483 203212 / TUC Respect Festival, London FREE: / 1st UK Dance Parade, Brighton FREE: 01273 604600 **12-13th** Ashton Court Festival, Bristol: TBC 0117 942 0140 **12-13th** - T in the Park, Perthshire, Scotland: 0141 339 8383 (Jump the fence!) **12-13th** - Castle Donnington Festival near Derby (take a ladder, and ear plugs!) **16-20th** Buddha Field Festival, Shepton Mallet: 01273 509660 **16-20th** - Music in the Sun Festival, Don Valley Bowl Sheffield: 0114 27545041 **17-20th** - Phoenix, Stratford-upon-Avon ("long queues, high prices; not a festival in the true sense not recommended") - Festival Eye **16-20th** - Buddha Field, Somerset: 0181 677 9564 **19th** or **26th** Rossay Moor Free Festival, near Forfar Scotland: 01436 820901 **19th** - World Earth Healing Day, Info: 0181 806 3828 **19-20th** - Lambeth County Show Brockwell Park Brixton 0171 926 7282 **20th** - Free Festival of Global Rights, Shoreditch, London. **23-27th** - Big Green Gathering: 01747 870667 **25th** - 25th Anniversary of the International Wages For Housework Campaign-celebrations throughout month: 0171 482 2496 **25-27th** - WOMAD Festival, Reading, Berkshire: 01225 743188 **26th** - Urban Free Festival, Peckham, London 12 noon - 10 pm FREE to be confirmed : 0171 277 9657 **27th** - Rainbow Festival, Hull: 01482 585582 **26** - **2 Aug** - Second Intercontinental meeting for Humanity - Barcelona, Spain. "An international network...comprising all those resist!". Info: London Committee c/o BM-CRL, London, WC1N 3XX.

## YER FESTIVAL EYE

\* Get yer full on Festival Eye £2 from BCM Box 2002, London WC1N 3XX - 'the complete and utter guide to festivals!'

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (e.g. 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Ask for "Originals" if you can make copies. Post free to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tellfax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913

e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/

SchNEWS was brought to you this week by a group of comprehensive kids with a sense of humour.

Other places for fun in the sun: **Bingley, W.Yorks:** Rye Loaf Camp set up to oppose a bypass, urgently needs more people 0370 985122. **Wyndham Hill, Yeovil:** Camp set up to oppose a new road and retail development proposed on the site where activists successfully stopped a Sainsburys 2 years ago. 01935 478806 **Faslane Peace Camp** - established for 15 years on the banks of the Gareloch and Britain's oldest peace camp are holding a birthday party on 14-15th June. Protest and protest against Trident 01436 820901

## THE DAM 11-17 JUNE

As all your favourite heads of State meet in Amsterdam this month, they will be greeted by activists from an array of political backgrounds, attempting to highlight European mass-unemployment, poverty and job insecurity and anything else that makes them/us rather angry... We've got a Euromarch Against Mass Unemployment; an Alternative Summit - to plan for a better world; a Stop The City - against everything that puts profit before people; Reclaim The Streets, - to party and protest; and a Gay & Lesbian demo. Details: Tegencontrole, Postbus 3762, NL1001 AN Amsterdam.

## SchNEWS IN BRIEF

**The Anarchist Teapot**, Brighton's only squatted info shop and cafe has moved to...an ex-funeral parlour! Come and enjoy free tea great grub and embalming fluid at St George's Mews (off Trafalgar Street)...the patrons are dying to meet you (groan!) \*\*\* **Schleswig-Holstein**, a German state, has legalised cannabis for recreational use. ID cards are to be issued to over 16's to reduce the contact they have with hard drug dealers. Card holders will be allowed to possess up to 5 grams at a time. If this proves to be a +ve move, it will be considered as a model for legalising tokidje throughout Germany - this follows the legalisation of cannabis for medical use \*\*\* **Townstal Valley**, nr Dartmouth, Devon, is under threat from road building plans. One of Britain's largest badger colonies and acres of woodland could be destroyed if South Hams District Council's plans go ahead. Camps are being set up. 0180 832410 \*\*\* **Friends Of MOVE** have moved. New address: PO Box 14129 LONDON W12 8GR, Tel: 0181 519 9228 / 0171 272 5368 \*\*\* Following our report that **John Lewis** were attempting to sue National Anti-Hunt Campaign spokesperson Neil Hanson for distribution of a supposedly libellous leaflet (SchNEWS 119), we have learnt that the multinational have backed down and dropped their libel action. Why? Well, despite a lengthy conflag with a John Lewis pressperson...we are still none the wiser! (Altho' they were very quick to point out that John Lewis in no way wish to interfere with people's legitimate right to protest in the 'proper way!') \*\*\* **If you live in Brighton** and want to support the 500 sacked Liverpool dockers - then come and demonstrate outside Drakes Recruitment Agency - the people who supply scab labour to the Liverpool docks - Friday June 13th @ 12 noon North Street (just down from the Clock Tower) \*\*\*

If you think cauliflower virus, a scorpion gene and part of a petuna aren't top on your list for a tasty stew (all of which can be found in the new "improved" soya bean from Monsanto) then come along to a meeting about **genetically engineered food** - 12 June 7.30 pm upstairs @ Queens Head Pub, Brighton Station \*\*\* **McLibel trial verdict DUE SOON!** Can you help with organising events on the following Sat? Call the Justice office 685913. \*\*\* **Justice? meeting - Tuesday 17th @ The Albert 7.30pm-proposed Sainsbury's development**

## HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!

Last week, those naughty protesters at the A30 campaign have been entering the site where the Fairmile 'University of Road Protest' site once stood. In just a week, an impressive tunnel snaked underground and an early morning offensive saw the erection of barricades, a tripod, banners, two lock-ons, and a fire. Pinkertons security guards, patrolling the site with due diligence, did not once spot the nocturnal pixie activities...and even walked twice past the fire without being alerted to any mischievous goings-on. The first the police heard of the event was when local Gemini Radio station called them to see if the story was true!

## SPIDERMAN

Police in New York are carrying out trials on the NetGun, which fires a spiderman-like sticky net to immobilise a suspect. The NetGun has been developed by the Foster-Miller Corporation of Massachusetts and is intended to deal with 'lightly armed' people. The basic model fires a 16 foot diameter net covered in 'wipe-clean glue' from a 38 mm grenade gun. There is also a smaller handheld version with a range of 20 feet, one that can be launched from the ground to entangle a car, and another which can deliver a 60 kilovolt shock when attached to a battery.

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

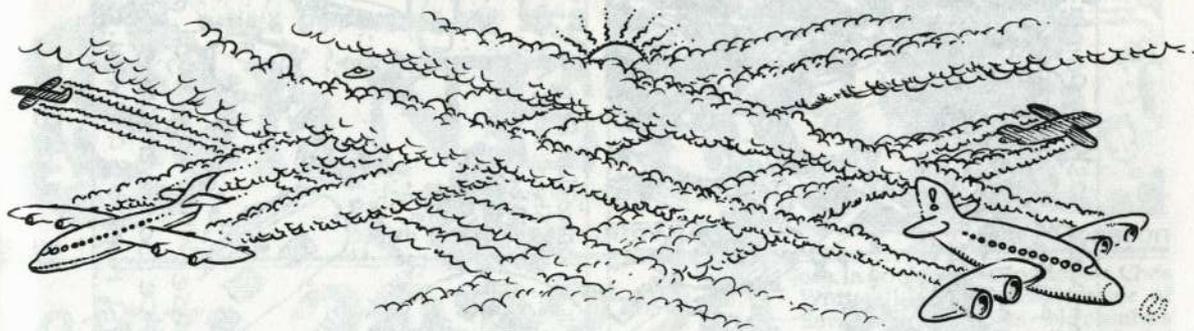
In an unprecedented move, ITV is broadcasting an informative and well made documentary. World in Action's two-part programme on the export of British military equipment to the Indonesian dictatorship continues on Monday at 8pm. Last week's programme, cunningly scheduled at the same time as Eastenders to ensure minimal viewing figures, actually told something approximating to the truth about East Timor. Watch part two, 'Profit before Principle', on Monday, or watch this space if you haven't got a telly. **Campaign Against the Arms Trade** (0171 281 0297)

...and finally...

The makers of Semtex are to market a new 'limited shelf life' version which loses its squidginess after a couple of years. Apparently the stuff our friends in Judean People's Front are using is ten to twenty years old! The manufacturers, Synthesia Semtin, want to prevent their customers from sitting on the stock for so long. Hope they're careful when they stamp the best before date on the box...

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS warns all readers never to stuff yer Cakehole with unwashed eco-warriors. Never call yourself Swampy, else you run the risk of being chased all over the country by young girls and annoying journalists. Bury your head in the sand and think of England. Then you will feel content. Honest.



## THE GARLIC FAMILY SONG =>

WE'RE STINKY & WE'RE SMELLY  
WE HAVEN'T GOT A TELLY  
WE NEED A PAIR OF WELLIES  
THE GARLIC FAMILY

CHORUS

KIM SHE IS OUR MUMMY  
SHE FILLS UP ALL OUR TUMMIES  
THE FOOD IS REALLY YUMMY  
THE GARLIC FAMILY

CHORUS

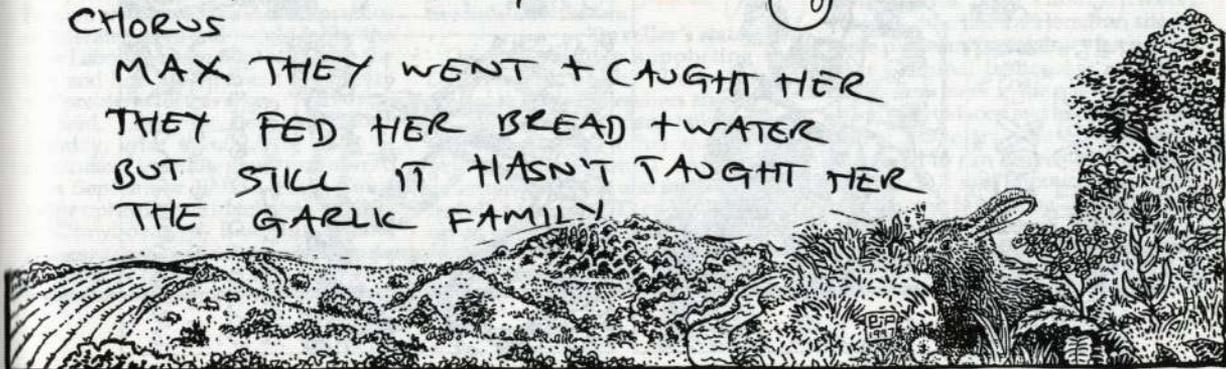
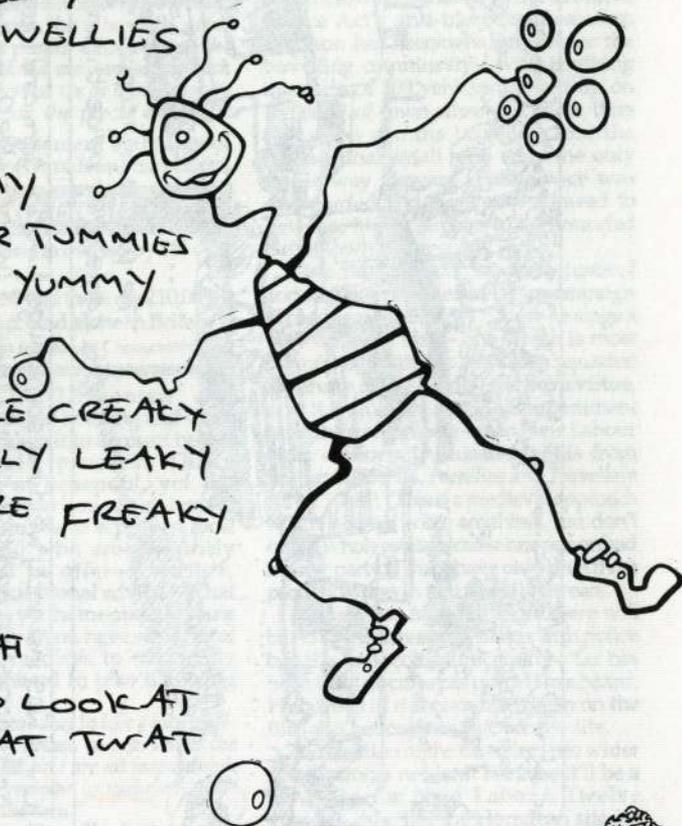
THE BENDERS THEY ARE CREAKY  
THEY ARE ALSO REALLY LEAKY  
THE TREE HOUSES ARE FREAKY  
THE GARLIC FAMILY

CHORUS

HELLO MR. WHITE HAT  
IT'S US YOU LIKE TO LOOK AT  
YOU REALLY ARE A FAT TWAT  
THE GARLIC FAMILY

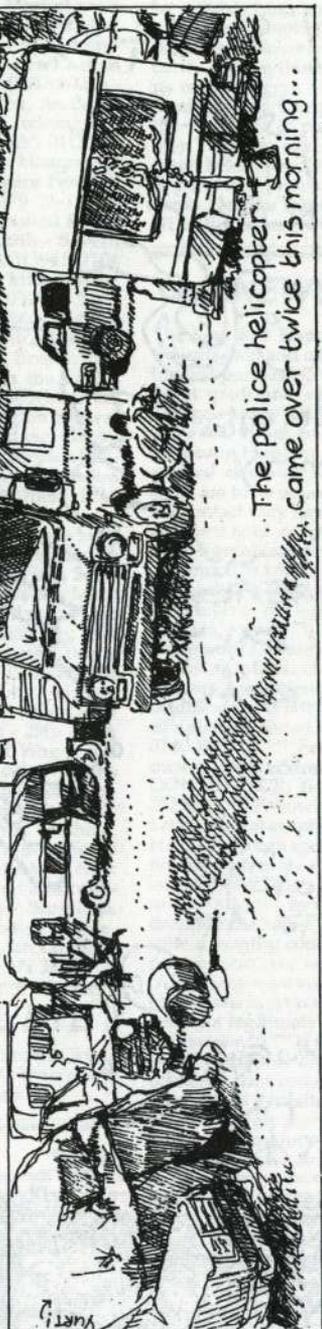
CHORUS

MAX THEY WENT + CAUGHT HER  
THEY FED HER BREAD + WATER  
BUT STILL IT HASN'T TAUGHT HER  
THE GARLIC FAMILY



BRAYPOOL  
BOLLOX

KEYVNS97



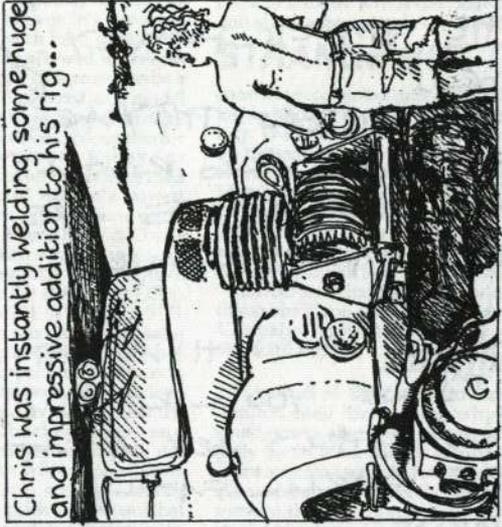
The police helicopter came over twice this morning...



Emma was washing paint off Naisy's tummy.



Wendy was doing yoga. A bit sheepishly in case the Brew Crew were watching...



Chris was instantly welding some huge and impressive addition to his rig...



...and Sam and Liam were asleep.



Caucasian female Short hair: Appears to be drawing something.

None of these things are illegal but the police took everyone's numbers anyway.

WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER OUT OF SITE.

# SchNEWS

Printed & Published in Brighton by Justice?

ooh Friday 13th June 1997

Issue 123



Free/Donation

# 01273 292229

This is Brighton & Hove Council's emergency shop-a-traveller hotline. We are supposed to ring it if we spot any nomadic undesirables on our patch, so that the Council can send in the Special Harassment and Intimidation Taskforce. Under no circumstances should SchNEWS readers ring this number and give the Council false or misleading information, as this would make the hotline completely unworkable.

*"You're talking about real people, our lives are just like yours, we just happen to live on wheels."*

**Linda, Patcham traveller**

Two hundred travellers are to be "driven out of town" in a knee-jerk 'get tough' move by Brighton & Hove Council designed to send a New Labour zero tolerance message across the country.

Until last May Bank holiday, Sussex had been the only county in the UK with a 'toleration' policy for travellers, providing water, sanitation and rubbish removal. But now an eviction order is to be heard in court this Monday, rubber-stamping the U-turn in a move denounced as "racist... with echoes of ethnic cleansing" by Green Cllr Pete West. If any other minority group were treated in this way it would be condemned as fascist, which in fact it is. The eviction is expected a week later (19th June).

Leader of the Council (and ex-squatter) Steve Bassam decided enough was enough after a two-day party in Horsdean site, near Patcham. Bassam announced the end of the practice of tolerated sites and would lobby the new Labour government to change the law and find a permanent solution to the 'problems' of travellers. "Frankly..." he said, "...Brighton needs a break." Frankly, after hundreds of years of persecution, travelling people need a break.

In September 1995, a High Court judge upheld a case involving travellers at Crowborough, East Sussex and

## PARTY COME DOWN

*The vast majority of people on the site had no prior knowledge of the party or involvement with it. The sound systems which came onto the site were not Travellers, nor were the people who attended the party. We did not want this invasion - 99% were strangers who treated the travellers and the site with utter disrespect...The people who wanted the party at the weekend are now safely back in their homes, whilst we as a community are left to pick up the pieces and their rubbish."*

**Statement by Braepool (Horsdean) travellers.**

## LAND GRAB

75% of the land is owned by 1% of the people The Land Is Ours

It is estimated that there are 210,000 acres of derelict land alone in Britain  
The Royal Society for Nature Conservation

called the CJA 'Draconian' and "unlawful". He said housing and child care had to be taken into account before evictions could proceed. Thirty children live at Braepool, yet the Council have simply issued a statement saying travellers "with a proven local connection and who are genuinely homeless will be offered welfare, housing and educational advice." What an option! Lose yer home and get some advice... but only if you have some 'local connection'. Needless to say, many people don't intend to take this lying down.

*"We have a great deal to lose - jobs, children's schooling, access to courses in the town and medical care are all jeopardised. We have every reason to maintain positive links with the area."*

### Traveller's statement

Despite publicly supporting the Department of the Environment guidance stating travellers should not be "forcibly evicted if any nuisance can be controlled by other means", in private the Council are clearly determined to evict and make Sussex a traveller-free zone. They have even set up an emergency line if anyone spots

one. In a circular to all councillors, Chris Whitwell - Assistant Director of Environmental Services - told members to keep their eyes peeled. "It may be that you will be notified by your constituents that travellers have moved into your Ward, in which case the appropriate action would be to ring the Council's emergency number." The police will do the rest.

Brighton's policy of tolerance for the past two years has meant that if travellers found an out-of-the-way site and caused minimal nuisance, they would be left alone. However, thanks to the Criminal Justice Act's anti-traveller measures, Brighton has become a magnet for the travelling community - with anything upwards of 100 vehicles parked up on the edge of town sites. Yet more than two years ago the travellers told the Council that small sites were the only viable way forward. That advice was disregarded and large sites allowed to develop. Now they are to be hounded out of town as a result.

Steve Bassam once wrote to Justice? and said there needed to be "a campaign of rage against the CJA". Now he sings a very different tune - one which is most discordant with his past as a squatter. Where he once saw diversity as a virtue, now it is an eye sore and an impediment to a future of squeaky-clean New Labour rigid conformity. Susan Hannis from Brighton Friends, Families and Travellers (BFFT) said: "This is a medieval approach which will not solve anything. You don't evict a whole estate because one person had a noisy party." There have only been three parties on sites in two and a half years.

Bassam has told travellers there will be no eviction without liaison with police but the only communication so far has been legal documents pinned to a board. Hundreds of riot cops have been on the hill, and helicopters fly over the site.

The eviction of the travellers has wider implications - not least because it'll be a test case for New Labour. Twelve vehicles, who left the Horsdean site for some peace and quiet, have been given their Criminal Justice Act marching orders three times in the past two weeks - each time videoed and documented by police. One traveller - Whitney - attempted to run his vehicle through a road block. It was impounded for three months, and he's being charged £100 a day for the police to look after it. Nice!

Justice? open meeting - Mon 16th @ The Albert, Trafalgar Street, 7.30pm -SAINSBURY'S DEVELOPMENT

## McLlBEL

The verdict is almost upon us!! The McLabel team are 90% certain that the verdict they have been waiting so long for will be given on Thursday 19th June; failing that, it will definitely be either Weds. 18th or Fri 20th- which means that the international Victory Day of Action IS CONFIRMED for Saturday 21st. This means that it's your last-minute chance to adopt-a-store for the day. Over 500 stores- more than two thirds of all UK McDonalds- have already been adopted. Let's make it a full house! McLabel: 0171 713 1269 (London) or 0115 958 5666 (nationwide).

## SCHNEWS IN BRIEF

\*\*\* According to an UN report, if the 7 richest people in the world put all their readies in a hat, the resultant dosh would be enough to eradicate world poverty...and buy us impoverished SchNEWS scribes a beer or two....\*\* A pilot scheme by the British Waterways Board plans to charge cyclists using the Avon and Kennet canal towpath £12 a year. A mass trespass is being organised for July 12th, contact Stop The Cycle Charge Campaign 0181 960 3785 \*\*\* SchNEWS have submitted a proposal to make a pilot for a 2 hour TV show for the Channel 4 slot on Saturdays at midnight. Would you like to see this happen? If so, then ring 0171 396 4444 and lobby on our behalf (nicely!). Mention 'SchNEWS TV' in relation to the Open Tender for the Talks Pilot. Cheers! \*\*\* BBC show, 'Private Investigations', is searching for issues and ideas for future programmes (but be quick!). You got the story? They make the programme: 0181 752 5005 \*\*\* The Brighton 'CCTV Three', arrested last month on actions against those catastrophic cameras, have had their charges dropped by Sussex Police. The three were said to be relieved. Randy Sandy, their inflatable fellow activist, was unavailable for comment \*\*\* **Holtsfield update** - despite the Holtsfield residents' success in overturning an eviction ruling by the incumbent landlord (see SchNEWS 118), he has served notice to quit on the weaker cases, and there are still 3 chalets under threat. Get on the phone tree: 01792 232643 \*\*\* **New organic vegetable supplier** opens in Brighton on Tues 17th June. "Worth Eating" will be selling reasonably priced chemical-free food from the old Harvest Forestry building on New England Rd. Tues-Sat 8am-6pm. Also check out Organic Roundabout for door to door delivery: 01273 707001 \*\*\* **Brighton Dance Parade** is all set for July 12th, but need stewards. Can you help? Call 01273 704600 or meet at the Richmond on Monday 16th \*\*\* **Hurray!** to author Richard Mabey (Food For Free) who has won best landowner of the year for his management of woodland which involves the community. **Boo!** to The Queen who was voted the country's worst landowner as she continues to claim immunity from the Wildlife and Countryside Act, and evicted the Scottish Wildlife Trust from a 2570 hectare nature reserve in 1992 \*\*\* Over 400 readers now get SchNEWS by email each week. Subscribe by emailing to: schnews@brighton.co.uk \*\*\* SchNEWSnight on 14th June at The Sanctuary, £1 B4 8:30pm/£2 if yer late! \*\*\* **Do us a favour!** If you wing off to a festy this year, grab a handful of SchNEWS' and let the world know we're here...and we're not going away. Call 685913

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (e.g. 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice? Ask for "Originals" if you can make copies). Post free to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tel/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/

HAPPY B-DAY DAVID BOWEN! Stole pair of curtains and sent to Strangeways. Got 10 more years after part in riot.

## BUILDER FROM LEWES

SchNEWS reader Al Baker, who squatted the Brent Spar (twice) and evaded crack French commandos in Mururoa against nuclear testing, has found a new home... a rock in the North Atlantic! Al, our favourite builder from Lewes, is holed up in a survival capsule with two others on Rockall, an isolated speck of land 300 miles off the west coast of Scotland. Why? Greenpeace, who are behind the action, said: "We have asked the UK Government to stop oil exploration in the Atlantic Frontier region and when they do they can have their rock back." Al, who we can exclusively reveal had Pollok (a fish) for his tea last night, says: "By seizing Rockall we claim her seas for the planet and all its peoples. No one has the right to unleash this oil into our threatened climate." It is said that more people have landed on the moon than on Rockall. So SchNEWS says: Al we need a tad more than a stamp donation to keep on helicoptering over your subscription. Please send more dosh. Over. Oh, and good luck!

## DRIPPING TREE CAUSES FIRE

Things are really kickin' off in Sidmouth, Devon, where an oak tree is depositing sap and leaves all over someone's garden. Disgraceful! So it's just as well that Sidmouth Town Council swung into action to cut off the offending limbs. However, ex-Raving Loony Green Giant Peoples Party councillor and tree surgeon Hawk, deciding the amputation would affect the natural balance of the tree, set up perhaps one of the smallest tree camps ever. He told SchNEWS, "How would you like it if someone cut your limbs off?" However, local residents weren't happy and took some of their own direct action by setting fire to the tree house and badly scorching the tree. Hawk was later arrested for allegedly threatening to cause damage to a nearby house.

Latest news is that our avenging arboreaculturalist went to court on Tuesday for criminal; the case is being sought against him whilst the unidentified arsonist remains unpursued. This has led the bough-beneficiary to accuse Devon and Cornwall Constabulary of "corruption and conspiracy". The tree refused to comment.

## UR DOWNDATE

8am Friday: Matt's been down the Cakehole tunnel at Manchester Airport for TWO WEEKS! Muppet Dave came out on Wednesday after a 12 days internment, following mother-to-be Denise who came out after ten days. Down is clearly the way up! Many airport protestors have now landed at Lyminge Forest, where seven camps - growing daily - have been set up to rankle Rank who wanna build a massive artificial holiday park to replace the lovely ancient old one. Stop the chop and get digging down the 'Minge! 01227 261057/ 01303 265737. Bring Tarps! NB. Mind out for the New Kenny Beer Garden (Site Bastards) Extended Licence Camp. "I've got a really clear head being here - except when I'm pissed!" said 'one regular'.

## MENDIPS/WHATLEY

Three people charged with conspiracy to cause criminal damage at Whatley Quarry have had their trial delayed until July 22nd. Richard Dixon (ex-Lib Dem councillor for E. Mendip) had all the paperwork to the quarry protests nicked in a house raid, delaying his quest to get a High Court injunction to stop the quarry extension. He lost, but an important legal precedent was set - 'cos he was accepted as a "suitable person" to challenge the quarry, an honour usually extended only to close neighbours to such sites. Whatley is just the tip of the Mendips iceberg as far as quarrying goes. If plans for the Bulls Green Link Road go through, it'll provide the perfect route for lorries carrying stone for road projects, allowing other quarries in the area to expand. As there's only a remote chance that financing will stumble, it looks like there's only one way to stop it. More details: The Somerset Activist, PO Box 426, Bath, Avon BA1 2ZD.

## DO THE MASHED POTATO...

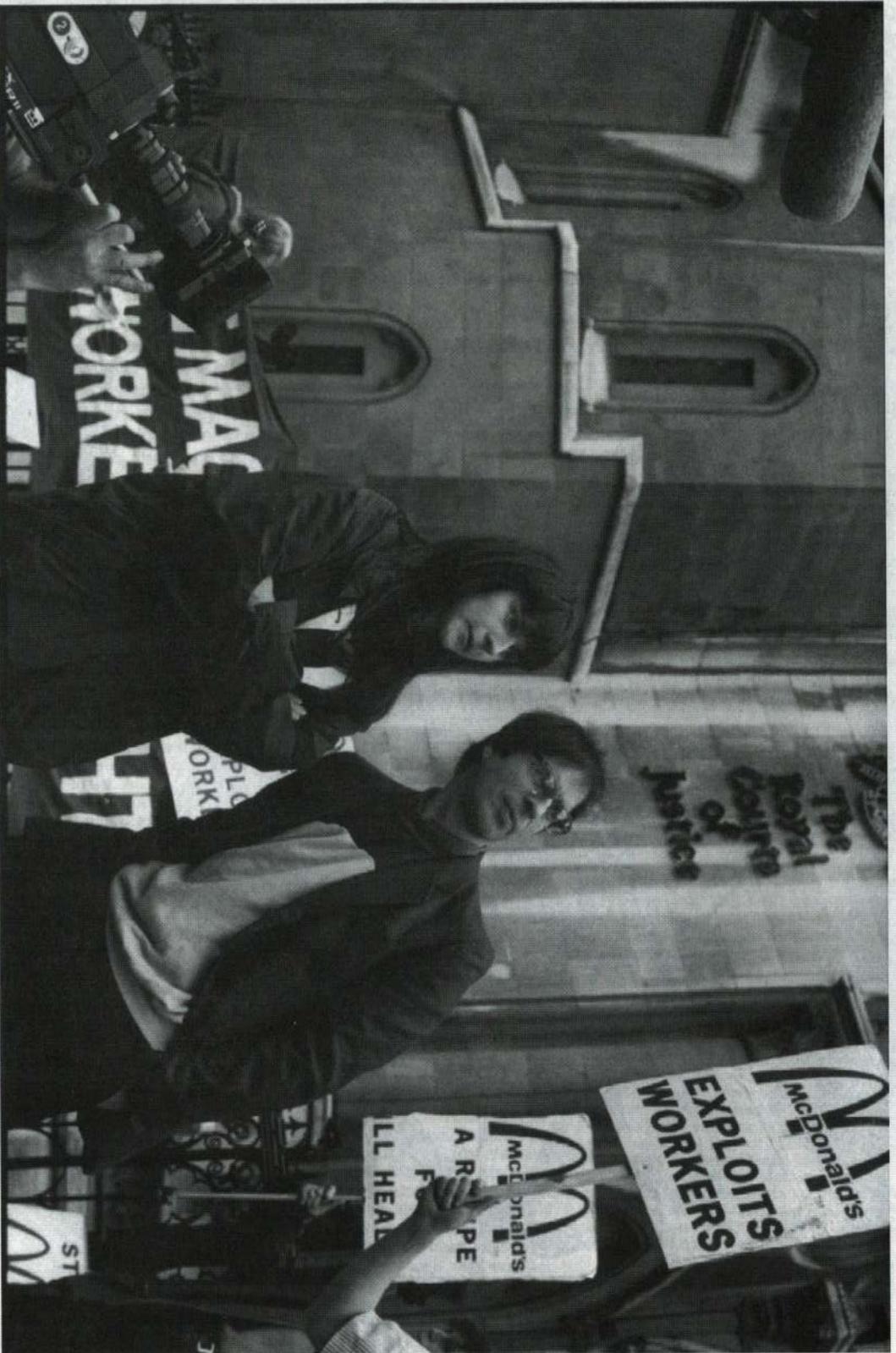
Last Sunday, a genetically engineered spuds site near Cambridge was successfully trashed by activists holding an impromptu cricket match! Work at the site, one of the many small test sites scattered around the country, has been set back by about a year.

## ...and finally...

HE'S BACK!: He may be de-selected but he sure ain't dead: yes, the Portillo rides again. Those watching items about the Tory leadership contest on ITN news last Tues were no doubt gratified to have such insipid fare spiced up by a troupe of comedy Spaniards, replete with sombreros and ponchos, who disrupted the live reports with upbeat fiesta music and a selection of placards reading "Portillo 4 El Presidente" and "Portillo, he kick your ass". Rumours had it that disaffected Young Conservatives were to blame, but it turns out that a comedy cable TV network were responsible, because they "liked the idea of being able to represent someone who is not even eligible to stand." Elsewhere, distraught fans of the ousted Führer of Enfield, have resorted to leaving messages in the pigeonhole of Stephen Twigg, the Labour MP who defeated him. "Do you realise what you've done to the Tory party and, ultimately, to British democracy?" they whine... And finally, best wishes to Michael Howard who's had a really top week. First of all he discovered was about as popular as er... Michael Howard in the Tory leadership election. Then, on Thurs the House of Lords found him guilty of giving too severe a sentence to the killers of James Bulger. SchNEWS wondered how many times he's been found guilty of things, but now it doesn't really matter. Nice one Mickey, you psychopathic has-been, perhaps we'll see you slopping out on the new prison ship now your mantle of power's gone. Generally, it's nice to see that all is well in that fringe pressure group talking shop that is the Conservative Party.

## disclaimer

The SchNEWS warns all readers not to... (oh dear, unfortunately the police have just moved the disclaimer posse on, and so are unable to deliver their weekly pearl of wisdom...) Honest.



“WOT THE FUCK DO WE DO WITH OUR LIVES NOW? .... FANCY A BURGER?...”





WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER LIBELOUS

# SchNEWS

Printed & Published in Brighton by Justice?



Issue 124

Friday 20 June 1997

Free/Donation

# OLD MCDONALD

- GUILTY!** *Of paying it's workers low wages and helping to depress workers wages in the catering trade in Britain.*
- GUILTY!** *Of cruelty to animals, in particular the restriction of movement of battery hens, broiler chickens and sows before their deaths; and incidence of chickens being fully conscious when they come to have their throats slit at slaughter.*
- GUILTY!** *Of producing foods that are high in fat and salt, and low in fibre, and promoting foods that, eaten in quantity, are likely to incur the very real risk of heart disease*
- GUILTY!** *Of targeting advertising specifically at children in an attempt to harness the 'pester power' factor in a bid to bring in more custom*

*"We'll only stop giving out leaflets when they agree to stop forcing their views down our throats with their advertising"*  
 Dave Morris

On Thursday 19th June at 10:30, Mr. Justice Bell began his personal summing up of the McLibel trial, almost three years since the whole saga began. He played to a packed courtroom of over 100 journalists, witnesses and legal experts, and took almost two hours to deliver his verdict, reading from a document over 1,000 pages long. More protesters and followers of the case lined the external corridor, waiting with bated breath for the final verdict.

Helen Steel and Dave Morris have spent 314 days (three times the length of the previous longest libel trial) fighting a libel case brought by McDonald's who accused the pair of seven charges of defamation, based on a 1987 leaflet 'What's Wrong With McDonald's'. The original leaflet was split into seven categories: McDollars, McGreedy, McCancer, McMurder, McRipoff, McTorture and McGarbage - and accused McDonald's of underpaying staff, cruelty to animals, exploiting developing countries, corrupting children, destroying rainforests and producing food of inadequate nutrition.

*"Libel cases are brought to censor and silence the 'truth'. The fact that we've gone through three years of the case, and come out the other end, maintaining distribution of the leaflet, launching the McSpotlight web site and seen the growth of the campaign means we have won! The real court is the court of public opinion, and we won't accept the stifling of our voices. The public are the jury in this case."* Dave Morris

A full two hours later, the court room cleared and Helen and Dave were greeted with cheers from the soggy masses assembled outside the Royal Courts of Justice.

Although the verdict represents a major victory for the McLibel 2, they didn't win on all counts and have been stung with a wackin' £60,000 worth of damages to pay to McDonald's.

SchNEWS asked Dave how the two intended to pay the costs. "Oh, we don't" he smiled. Helen responded "We're not going to pay the damages, McDonald's don't deserve a penny of it, and we haven't got any money anyway!"

The real victory lies in the fact that two low waged individuals refused to back down from the bully boy tactics of this \$30billion corporation, and continued the fight until the end, *without legal aid or the help of a jury*. They both went into the trial, totally ignorant in the whys and wherefores of the legal system, and came out the other side. *And they won two of the charges outright, and partly won two other charges*. Much of the judgements relied on legal interpretations of the leaflet. They only lost on legal technicalities and points of law, all the evidence brought into the court was found in favour of Helen and Dave.

McDonald's attempts to silence their critics has been a huge public relations disaster, and now there is more information available on McDonald's than ever before. Over two million leaflets have been distributed since it was first published in 1987, and the excellent McSpotlight website is home to 500 megabytes of information (That's 500 floppy disks!) and has been visited by 13 million readers since it went on line

The UK libel laws favour the rich, and this case was particularly oppressive and unfair to Steel and Morris. The two intend to take their case to the European Court of Human Rights, in order to overturn the decision and to attempt to get a ruling that multi-national corporations shouldn't have recourse to libel laws in cases such as this. Only the rich and powerful have access to the libel laws because of the excessive costs involved.

*"We must continue to defend the public's right to voice attack on multi-national corporations"*

Charles Secret, Friends of the Earth

A national day of action is planned to occur all around the country at different McDonalds restaurants this Saturday. Over 500 stores throughout the country look set to be picketed by protesters, between them distributing another 400,000 or so 'What's Wrong With McDonalds' Leaflets

Fun and games are anticipated in Brighton. Meet 11am onwards at the London Rd McDonalds.

\* Read John Vidal's book 'McLibel: Burger Culture on Trial' - order from your local library.

\* John and Maureen Hopkins are campaigning to reopen the inquiry into their sons electrocution while at work in a McDonald's store. Mark Hopkins died on October 12th, 1992, and every year this date is marked by an International Day of Solidarity with McDonald's workers. During the trial, the Hopkins' found out that McDonald's were at fault on 15 separate counts.

\* McLibel Support Campaign, 5 Caledonian Road, London N1 9DX 0171 713 1269. McSpotlight: <http://www.mcspotlight.org/>

**"There is no higher good than dealing fairly and decently with your fellow beings." Thoreau**

## EU RO TOP

"It seems that perhaps a quarter of Amsterdam has been sealed off for the duration behind metal-mesh screens, guarded by bored police...Beyond the screens, real life goes on. Local residents are just about allowed to filter through to their front doors, and the odd roller-bladder scoots by. They watch us, and we watch them, as if at some European safari park. This is the Peoples Europe 1997, the latest attempt to bring the EU closer to its citizens." Stephen Bates, *The Guardian*

Forget Tony Blair winning the bike race here's a few stories about Amsterdam the media haven't told you about...

### Saturday June 14th

\* About 50,000 people from all different European countries turn out for a March for Social Justice.

\* A couple of thousand Italians do a mass 'train-bunk' and head for Amsterdam. On arriving the Dutch police won't allow anyone to leave the station and arrest 200 people for allegedly damaging a couple of carriages. In protest people occupy one of the main road junctions outside the station. Police with batons drawn, attempt to clear the road and later in the evening the Italians are all deported. At one point their train is stopped in the middle of nowhere in Germany and all the windows blacked. The German and Dutch police authorities apparently wanted the Italian police to guarantee to arrest them all when they got back to their country - but the Italian authorities refused!

\* Sunday 12 pm Amsterdam railway station - time for a street party. Four sound systems head for Visserplein Square and began to party. However, the people with the systems strike a deal with the cops and shortly move to the warehouse where a free party organised by the Legalize campaign had been the night before...

\* Sex riot - a media stunt consisting of a few people dressing up in extremely outrageous gear with sex toys strapped to their heads and bodies respond to the Mayor of Amsterdam's comments that this is 'a great cultural city not simply about sex and drugs.'

\* 350 people leave a squatted punk bar to march towards the police station to demand release of people nicked on the previous nights. Police suddenly seal off the whole area and over a three hour period quick-cuff and arrest everyone under Article 140. This states that the police are allowed to arrest someone they believe to be a member of a criminal organisation if they suspect that organisation of planning criminal activity - giving them powers to hold those nicked for 3 days. Over a hundred refuse food and water at protest at being detained.

**Monday** About a thousand people demonstrate outside a refugee prison in the outskirts of Amsterdam. Tennis balls were thrown into the compound with messages of support taped to them.

\* 10,000 Kurdish people in central Amsterdam protest against Turkey joining the EC.

\* Evening time and quite a number of people go round various hotels in which European heads of states are staying. About a hundred people are nicked for going into a restricted area.

Tuesday Police ban a demonstration aimed at disrupting the final day of the summit where the EU leaders present their new 'Amsterdam Treaty'.

Wednesday international protest in solidarity with all those arrested. In London, activist broke into the Dutch embassy and got as far as the roof before being asked politely to leave by armed diplomatic police! The clever Met decide to hassle a load of Dutch tourists queuing up to get visas, thinking they are part of the demo

For a fuller account send SAE to Brighton Autonomists c/o Prior House, 6 Tilbury Place, Brighton or check out [http://jefferson.village.Virginia.EDU/~spoons/aut\\_html/aufledit.htm](http://jefferson.village.Virginia.EDU/~spoons/aut_html/aufledit.htm).

## Forever In Blue Genes

It gets more bizarre - Monsanto has discovered a gene that will turn cotton blue! Meanwhile the backlash against genetic engineering continues - in Germany four fields are being squatted to prevent the planting of genetically modified seeds - while another field of mutant spuds got trashed in Quedlinburg earlier this month.

For any would be mutant mashers the idea of squatting the fields is simple - get there before the seeds are planted and stay until it is too late in the year to sow the seed. This sort of activity is on the increase and some fields in Germany are now under permanent police protection!

New - Genetix Update newsletter SAE to PO Box 9656, London, N4 4NL Tel 0181 374 9516 or visit the Super Heroes Against Genetics website at [www.envirolink.org/orgs/shag/action.html](http://www.envirolink.org/orgs/shag/action.html)

## SchNEWS In brief

A small tree village has been set up to protect a badger set in the Gelli forest, Cramant Valley in North Wales. The forest consists of 50 year old cash crop coniferous trees with a splattering of broad leaf, and is currently being felled. 'Forest Enterprise' the company carrying out the clearance aren't popular - earlier this year they caused flooding by putting in an access road. Ring 01492 876483 if you wanna help \*\*\* The new Squall is brilliant, get it while it's hot! £1.80 from PO Box 8959 London N19 5HW or hassle your local independent book shop to stock it \*\*\* The alternative mag Frontline has folded. Can you help them get back on their feet? What they really, really want is a spankin' new editor. Call 0973 328648 \*\*\* A wee note from our Bracknell correspondent, who reliably informs us that an advert shown during a recent programme about global warming encouraged viewers, "Fed up with sitting in the smoke in traffic jams? Buy a Vauxhall Vectra with air conditioning"...despite air conditioning using 27% more energy in traffic. Mr Geezer from Bracknell tells us you can ring them on 0345 400800 "and tell them they are an arse!" \*\*\* The government organised 'Car Free Day' flopped badly as motorways and town centres were actually more congested with cars than usual - thanks in part to the 'work-to-rule' by train workers union ASLEF \*\*\* Senior executives of the privatised utilities who have benefited from 'fat cat' bonuses were last week warned by police to increase their personal security after a firebomber attacked the home of Sir Desmond Pither. The bomber rang the Manchester Evening News and warned "all of the fat cats are terrorist targets."

## Nice One Matt!

On Monday - after 17 days underground at the site of the proposed second runway at Manchester airport, Matt emerged from the cakehole tunnel - and claimed his stake in the Book of Records. However, the protests continue. On Wednesday, activists were at a posh annual dinner to ask Geoff Muirhead, the chief exec of Manchester Airport to ask why work has already started despite the fact that the European Commission still has not cleared the legality of funding of the second runway. The Coalition Against Runway 2 told SchNEWS "the camps may have been evicted but the campaign against the runway continues". Contact them on 0161 834 8221.

## Sherwood Forest

Activists who were all set to move into Sherwood and do battle with the Sheriff of Nottingham, after reports that a theme park was to be built, will be happy to know that the gossip may have been exaggerated. Developer Mike Mills has had permission refused for him to build a tacky stone castle and 111 chalets in some woodland that isn't part of Sherwood Forest. So afraid that he might overrun by enthusiastic protesters, he has offered to take people down to the site to prove his plans are alright - and that if he ever got permission he'd plant 8000 deciduous trees just to prove he's a nice guy!

## Veggie Burger

The Animals Contact Directory 1997/8 is out. An essential guide listing 6,000 entries covering every aspect of animal rights and welfare. Copies are £4 from Veggies Catering Campaign, 180 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3HW.

## ...and finally...

The tale of the travellers at Horsdean, Brighton gets stranger. First, SchNEWS sat in disbelief in court last week as the judge talked of the 'nightmare of the law' and the fact that he'd known travellers for years and years and "they are wonderful people." Telling us 'crafty co-operation is better than confrontation' he still gave travellers 4 weeks to get out of town but in the meantime to talk to the council! "But" spluttered the solicitor representing Brighton and Hove "our traveller liaison officers are scared of travellers."

Come again? What next SchNEWS asks - a nurse scared of blood, a vet frightened of animals? Perhaps the council should have employed the one traveller who went for the job of liaison officer. He was turned down - because he didn't live in a house! Then a fax arrives at our office where the leader of the Council and ex-squatter Bessam, who a week earlier had barked he would be "driving the travellers out of town. The policy of tolerating them has finished" - now talks about "looking for a spirit of co-operation from the travellers...The judge has dealt with the case in a humane and thoughtful manner." Just like you have Councillor Bessam.

The Horsdean crew now plan to go to judicial review...watch this space.

**disclaimer** SchNEWS warns all readers never to say nasty things about huge multinational companies who pretend to be our friends. Smile with Ronald as you fill your face with endless burger-bullshit. Then you will feel sick. Honest.

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (e.g. 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Ask for "Originals" if you can make copies. Post free to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tel/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: [schnews@brighton.co.uk](mailto:schnews@brighton.co.uk) e-SchNEWS: <http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/>

what's dreary, 36, ginger and balding and will annoy us with its whining till a Portaloos takes its place at the earliest chance possible?

**STOP**  
multinationals  
stealing and  
squandering the  
world's resources  
while millions starve

**STOP**  
**McHunger**

organise now for a better world  
PEOPLE AND NATURE - NOT PROFITS

**STOP**  
multinationals  
producing  
toxic waste  
and pollution

**STOP**  
**McGarbage**

organise now for a better world  
PEOPLE AND NATURE - NOT PROFITS

**STOP**  
multinationals  
exploiting workers  
- low pay, hard  
and degrading  
work, no unions

**STOP**  
**McSlavery**

organise now for a better world  
PEOPLE AND NATURE - NOT PROFITS

**STOP**  
multinationals  
spouting propaganda  
and suppressing  
criticism and  
opposition

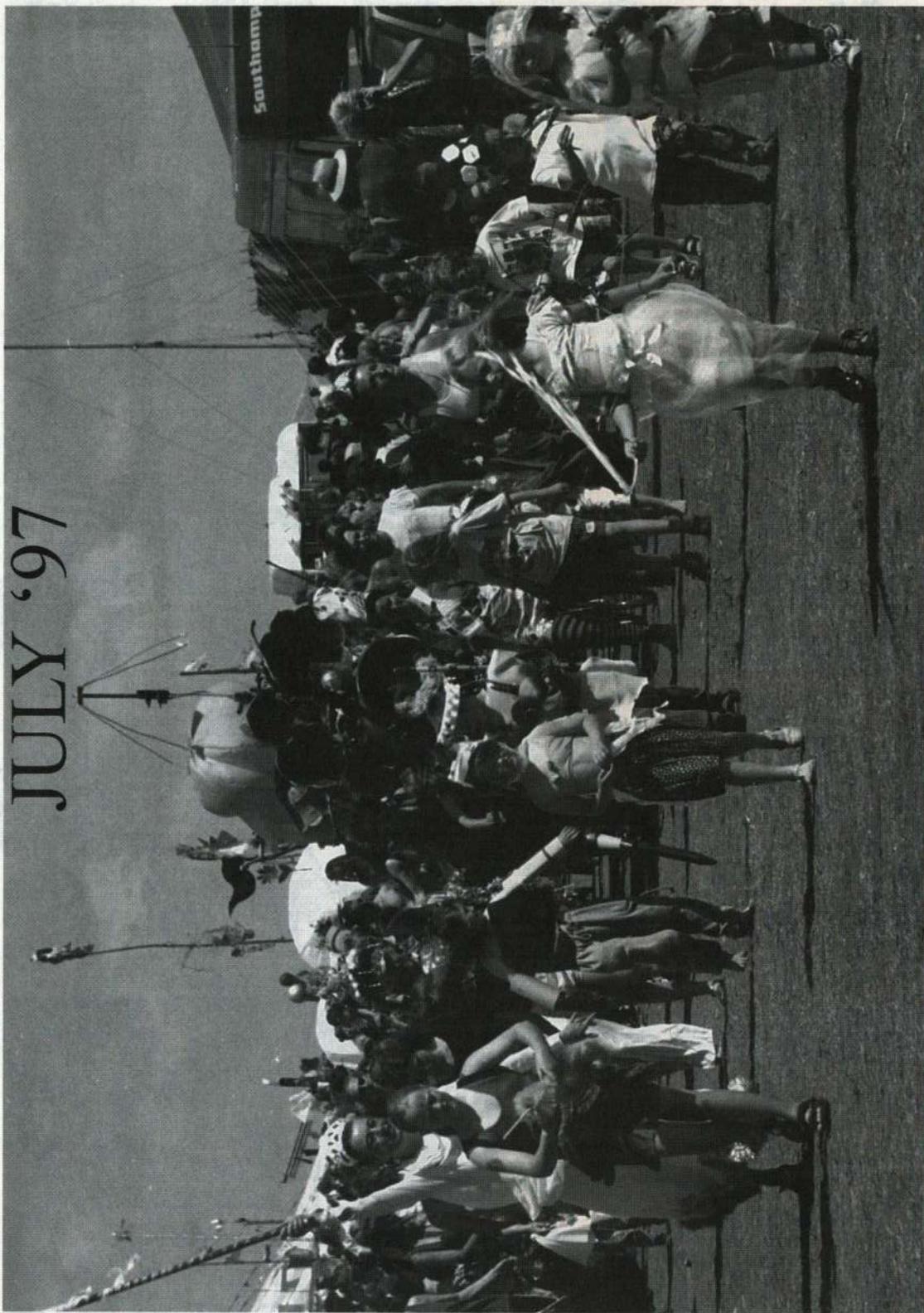
**STOP**  
**McLibel Writs**

organise now for a better world  
PEOPLE AND NATURE - NOT PROFITS

**DRIVE THRU  
MCDONALDS**  
Kevan 86



JULY '97



“SUMMER LOVIN’ @ THE BIG GREEN GATHERING”



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER MOLDY N' SCABBY

# SchNEWS

Printed & Published in Brighton by Justice?



Issue 125

Friday 4th July 1997

Free/Donation

## WE'RE NOT PARANOID, BUT...

### They're at it again.

*"a clique of the richest, economically and politically most powerful and influential men in the Western world, who meet secretly to plan events that later appear just to happen."*

The Times 1977

A month before the Earth Summit review in New York ended in a shambles, another rather more secret affair was taking place in America - at the Renaissance Pine Isle Resort in the Appalachian mountains.

However, you wouldn't have heard much about this meeting, where 120 of the world's most powerful men didn't meet in a four-day secret session to not discuss the future shape of the western world. Honest. They were merely there on a jolly holiday.

*"They are a world business block...these are the people deciding our future, but nobody elects them."*

Col. Barry Turner

Welcome to the Bilderberg Group. The group takes its name from the Hotel Bilderberg in Holland where it first met in 1954, but it's only in the last couple of years that its existence has become more widely known outside the inner circle. Last year's Bilderberg AGM took place at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Leadership Center in Montreal, and was hosted by Canadian press baron Conrad Black.

### SO WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

The attendance register of 120 included an impressive collection of high-powered men:

- Lord Carrington
- Henry Kissinger
- Malcolm Rifkind, U.K. Defence secretary
- James Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank
- David Rockefeller, Chairman of the Chase Manhattan Bank
- William J Perry, U.S. Secretary of Defence
- Andrew Knight, director of News Corporation
- Martin Taylor, Chief Executive, Barclays Bank
- Jean Chretien, Prime Minister of Canada
- Ulrich Cartellieri, director of Deutsche Bank
- Stanley Fischer, Managing Director of the IMF
- Morris Tabakslat, Chairman of Unilever
- Alexander Trotman, Chairman of the Ford Motor Company

The list also includes several royal heads of state.

So what do these men talk about? Jack Sheinkman, Chair of the US Amalgamated Bank and ex-Bilderberg member, said in June 96:

*"The idea of a single currency was discussed several years back before it became policy."*

Now they are the driving force behind the policies of globalisation, increasing the power of Multinational Corporations and banks over western politicians and bringing even more private gain for the worlds political and corporate elite.

One of the reasons that the media have been so slow to investigate and report on the Bilderbergers is that many of the global press bosses, including Peter Job, Chief Executive of Reuters, are part of the group. According to Spotlight, the Associated Press avoids mentioning Bilderberg because its biggest paying clients, the metropolitan newspapers, want silence on its existence. However, somehow in 1995 the Swiss AP Bureau did not get the message: *"World leaders...120 members of the political and business elite...massive police presence with army backup...four days of secret meetings."* When a columnist for the Evening Standard mentioned the group a few years back he lost his job a couple of weeks later.

Gorden Tether, the Editor of the Financial Times long-running Lombard column, was sacked by the editor (a Bilderberger) for refusing to erase references to the Bilderberg Group.

*"To this day no one knows if this is its real name, since it goes to any lengths to avoid publicity... the goal of creating world government still seems to be its main driving force... In 1989 it was alleged to have plotted the political assassination of Margaret Thatcher because of her refusal to yield British sovereignty to the European superstate."* The Guardian Oct 93

Wanna know more? Read 'Bilderberg Group, The Global Manipulators' by Robert Eringer (Pentacle Books, 1980)

\* According to a UN report if the seven richest people put all their readies in a hat, the resultant dosh would be enough to eradicate world poverty

\* 357 richest people in the world own same amount of wealth as the poorest half of the entire world population. David Harvey, Marxist Geography

**Conspiracy** - Act of conspiring (in good or bad sense); combination for unlawful purpose; plot.

We may not be able to do anything about the global manipulators and their secret meetings, but you *can* put your four penn' orth in at these conferences:

**\*\*\*Earth First! Gathering** The most important direct action conference this year will be in bonny Scotland, and consists of a weeks workshops and training, running from Wednesday 9th July to Tuesday 15th. Come equipped for a week's camping in Scotland, i.e. shelter, warm and waterproof clothing and cutlery and a plate. Vegan organic food will be available, approx £2.50 a day, please bring £10 to cover the cost of the site. No dogs, journalists, or cameras, please. More details: 0113 262 9365

**\*\*\*People's Summit on Food, Population and Finance** Last summer the Mexican rural revolutionary army, the Zapatistas held the first *Intercontinental Encounter for Humanity and Against Global Capitalism* in the mountains of Chiapas. This year the conference will take place from July 26th to August 3rd. There will be discussions in smaller groups about building a network of groups and on different topics (land, labour, environment, gender, culture, etc.). More information: <http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/3849/gatherdx.html> (English)

**\*\*\*Hillingdon hospital workers** Sunday 13th July "Where do we go from here?" Sacked Hillingdon Hospital workers and Liverpool Dockers will be meeting at Hillingdon Civic Centre (8 minutes from Uxbridge Tube) 11am - 2pm

**\*\*\*Ecotopia** The European Youth For(est) Action's (EYFA) summer environmental university, which in 1997, will take place in August at Gowanbank, near Edinburgh.

\* **Bikespotting** an ecological biketour of the lowlands of Scotland and the north of England from Sun 20 July to the 3rd Aug. Contact: Bikespotting, c/o G/L 33 Afton St, Shawlands, GLASGOW, G41 3BT 0141 636-6084

### CRAP ARREST OF THE WEEK

Pigs arrested a chicken, a cow, a bucket and a table outside Portsmouth McDonalds' last week. Two women holding up a 'McCrap' banner were also arrested under section 5 of the Public Order Act... for causing alarm and distress!

TALK - LEARN - THINK - ACT

## MURDERING BASTARDS plc

We're always mentioning the East Timor situation in SchNEWS, albeit briefly, but how many people know the full extent of British 'Ethical' Foreign Policy? Well, here goes: Indonesia, the world's third most populous state and the largest purchaser of British weapons outside Europe, has occupied East Timor since invading in 1975. A third of the population has been killed by the occupying forces, the worst genocide as a proportion of population since the Nazi holocaust.

Despite supporting UN resolutions condemning the occupation, the British government has continued to licence the export of military equipment to Indonesia, British Aerospace having the biggest share including the Hawk aircraft (subject to a successful action by Ploughshares women last year), and submachine guns and assault rifles via its subsidiary company, Heckler & Koch.

PSI come second after BAe, providing armoured vehicles including the Tactica water cannon which is used by Indonesian police to spray demonstrators with a chemical mixture that burns the skin and eyes and an indelible purple dye to make it easier to round 'em up later. PSI's scumbag MD Nicholas Oliver, who claims to have been out "on patrol" in East Timor himself, boasts of having done £400 million worth of business in Indonesia in the last four years, with another £700 million worth "in the pipeline". He also claims to have received verbal assurances from Tony Blair that the export licenses "would not present a problem" for carin', sharin' New Labour, which phony Tony says he can't remember giving. Godingham-based Nitor Group are on the gravy train too. They supply the ULTIMA multimedia firearms training system which features a program training marksmen to shoot unarmed protesters.

Despite twenty years of torture and genocide, and in the face of overwhelming British-supplied firepower, the people of East Timor are still fighting to free their country. In the words of an East Timorese activist: "No amount of weapons or force of repression will be ever enough to subjugate a people forever."

If anyone is interested in doing something to help the people of East Timor, perhaps by helping to organise an activists' day out to a mystery location in the South of England, please call the Justice? office on 01273 685913. Alternatively, call PSI (01722 414004) or Nitor (01483 426299), and tell them what you think. For more info on the arms trade generally, or on specific companies, call Campaign Against the Arms Trade (0171 2810297).

\*\*A new peace camp has been set up outside Alvis, the Coventry firm that sells Scorpion tanks to Indonesia. If you're going past the M6 why not drop in on the Peace Camp, Alvis factory, Northview, Walsgrave, Coventry or give 'em a call on 01926 338805

## SAVE FASLANE

Faslane Peace camp, established 15 years ago in protest against the Trident Nuclear Submarine Base in Helensburgh Scotland, is due to be evicted. The site, which has had 1090 arrests in those 15 years and has both national and international support, has had an eviction notice served for 28th July. The issue has arisen now because of a change in Scottish Local Authorities. Before April 1996, the camp had both a lease and planning permission from two different councils. Now the site comes under sole jurisdiction of Argyll and Bute Council - a strange political beast ruled by "independent" councillors (ehm...) who all vote together, as chums, in a solid block.

It is also interesting to note that behind the camp lies an expanse of MoD land for sale, up for grabs to any passing Multi-national. Wouldn't it be awful having a dirty protest site on their doorstep!!! Need lots of people, lots of support!!

Defend the Camp Gathering-16/17 July (just after Earth First Gathering)

Faslane Peace Camp, Shandon, Helensburgh, Scotland, G84 8NT  
For more info call 01436 820901

## SchNEWS In brief

Contrary to previous information, Project Work-the dole policy of coercing people into work by giving them nothing to live on if they refuse any old McJob-has not been abolished, merely given a poll tax style name change to **Welfare To Work**. But, in a rare burst of humanitarianism, New Labour have scrapped the forthcoming plans to extend the Housing Benefit restrictions to over 25's in October, and are apparently reviewing the mess already in place for the under-25's: in Brighton, 99% of landlords working with the Housing Trust won't deal with them. On the same tip, "New Labour - same old rip off?" Public meeting at the Prince Albert pub, Trafalgar street, Brighton. Wednesday July 9th @ 7pm \*\*\* Check out the brilliant **Do or Die 6** which has finally emerged, and is a bargain at £1.50. Write to Justice? for copies \*\*\* The **Ecologist's** public outreach, research, campaigns and solidarity unit is moving offices, telephone numbers and email addresses. From 1 July, please direct to: THE CORNER HOUSE, Station Road, Sturminster Newton, Dorset DT10 1BB, \*\*\* **Bingley Bypass** - A third camp has been set up in Crossflats, on the route of proposed bypass around Bingley, West Yorkshire. They have three weeks before a decision is to be made as to whether the road is to go ahead or not. Lots of support needed. For more info: 0370 985 122 \*\*\* **Lyminge Forest** - After a meeting this week, its announced that Wank Rank want the land by September, causing a panic for those in the Forestry Commission (having to sell 'cos they're skint) - Get down there NOW and cause even more of a panic. For more info, call Blue -0410 536592 \*\*\* On Saturday 2nd August there will be a **March Against Blood Sports**. Meet noon, Reformers Tree, Hyde Park, London for March to Trafalgar Square. Benefit Gigs in the evening - details to be announced on the day \*\*\* Bass Taverns have been given permission to convert an old shop into a pub in Brighton - so long as they give a little donation of £20000 to set up CCTV spy cameras on the street.

## MAD FOR IT

A bus driver taking 20 mental patients from the Zimbabwe capital city of Harare to Bulawayo Mental Hospital decided to stop for a few drinks at an illegal roadside liquor store. Upon his return he was shocked to discover that all the patients had escaped, and, desperate for a solution, he stopped at the next bus and offered free bus rides to several people. He then took them to the hospital, informing staff they were easily excitable! It took the medical personnel 3 days to uncover the foul play. The real patients are still at large.

## DESERT STORM FINALLY GET STUFFED

After 7 street parties, 3 trips to Bosnia and 5 years in Europe, Desert Storm finally got their truck and rig confiscated...in Bristol!! On the Sunday morning after the Bristol Summer Solstice Street Party cops pounced on the truck and arrested two people for 'conspiracy to cause a public nuisance'. One of the crew told SchNEWS "They got everything." Keep yer ear to the ground for details of benefit gigs and dig deep, the 'ardcore crew deserve your support.

Bristol Summer Solstice Reclaim The Streets are appealing for witnesses of the police led violence on the day: 0117 9393093

## ...and finally...

Did you ever get the feeling that conspiracists were just some of the wackier activists you know? Well, judging by this advice from the organisers of the Copex Arms Exhibition to potential exhibitors... maybe not.

'Protesters' are hardened political activists, well trained and funded and looking to cause as much confrontation with authority as possible on the one hand and inflict as much economic damage as possible on the other... Increasingly their funding and training is attracting support from Russian organised crime... The protesters we deal with generally target their appeals to middle class sources; often aged, widowed ladies, who are duped into thinking they are alleviating inhuman practices and the scourge of war. They are, in fact, funding left wing political extremists whose goal is to destabilise the country and discredit the rule of law... Remember, these are professional protesters; the protest industry are mainly anarchists, they just put on different hats to confront authority and the status quo... Any cause will do!"

Well now you know, eh? . If you are as impressed by COPEX's logic as we were, you might like to get in touch at the following locations.

Copex, 33A Church Road, Watford, Herts, WD 3PY. Tel 01923 819301. Fax 01923 818924. Email: copex@delphi.com. Web: http://www.demon.co.uk/copex.

\*A mass blockade of the Royal Navy & British Army Equipment Exhibition at Farnborough Airfield will take place on 9am, on Mon, Sept 1st.

## disclaimer

Never sblet your bedroom to a horde of shad-owy men with enormous wallets. You cannot, because they do not exist, never have existed and therefore cannot kill off Schnews for talking about th...aaarrghhh!!!!

## Subscribe!

Keep SchNEWS FREE! Just send 1st Class stamps (e.g. 20 for next 20 issues) or donations (payable to Justice?) Ask for "Originals" if you can make copies. Post free to all prisoners. SchNEWS, c/o on-the-fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2DX.

tel/fax (call before faxing): (01273) 685913 e-mail: schnews@brighton.co.uk e-SchNEWS: http://www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/

No SchNEWS next week, see you all at the EF! Gathering

URGENT APPEAL FOR MAIL OUT CREW! Brighton based tlickers, stickers and folders desperately needed.

Stonehenge

Free Festivals

EXO DUS

“IT’S A VAN INNIT!”

Matt Smith

## 300 GO MAD IN LANARKSHIRE- THE EARTH FIRST! GATHERING

July 1997 saw hundreds of 'avin it activists descend on a small farm 30 miles South of Glasgow for the annual Earth First! gathering. After the success of the previous year's gathering, hopes were high for a repeat performance, and yer friendly Schnews scribes decided this little get together was worth missing out doing a Schnews for one week, and so there was an exodus from Brighton to bonny Scotland. Some got the train, some braved the overnight coach, and others hitched. Some were going to fly, but decided against it, as it might not have been very tactful, considering there going to be a lot of people there who had seen their camps get trashed to build a 2nd runway at Manchester airport! Anyway, we all made it up to a farm in Lanarkshire, ready for a fun packed week of radical environmental goings-on.. Although the site was wedged between the M74 and an open-cast mine site, it was a pleasant little farm owned by the Talamh (pronounced Talav) housing co-op, who very kindly agreed to let EF! host it. So we prepared ourselves for 5 days of workshops and discussions, on what was going on in the world of radical environmentalism, and what we could do to help world-wide ecological mayhem.

For those brave early souls who weren't suffering from the previous night, there was Yoga and Tai Chi every morning at 7.30. Otherwise everyone tumbled out of their tents for breakfast at 8.30, with the first workshops starting at 10 sharp. There were workshops to cater for every taste; you could find out how to avoid living in squalor on protest camps, learn practical skills like self-defence, climbing, or building lock-ons, there were discussions on how to build links with workplace struggles, and how we could improve prisoner support. There were also activists from all over Europe, and further afield, giving updates on their international campaigns. Each day as well, there was a big discussion forum where the movement as a whole was discussed, focusing on what it had achieved, what we wanted from it, and possible future directions it could take. For some strange reason, by far the most popular workshop was the discussion about monogamy or non-monogamy- "what are the problems, and how do we solve them?" The Schnews collective was there in strength to offer its own perspective, and one plucky young activist was heard saying "the problem with being monogamous, is that everyone here is so damn sexy!"

Evening entertainment varied from videos of the Poll tax riot and native American resistance to live performances by Theo and Shannon and Camberwell Steve, and loads of budding poets. There was even a performance of our very own "Have I got Schnews for you", which provoked some lively debate the next day. Talamh booked out the local village hall and set up a make-shift bar with loads of yummy organic cider which we would sup on while dodging the midges. As usual, everyone from Schnews behaved in a sober and dignified way, and were perfect examples of how activists should be- definitely no drunken ramblings round the camp-fire! Food was supplied by Rampenplan, that lovely travelling Dutch kitchen, who tour Europe feeding hungry activists, and did such nice food the year before, we dragged them back for another one. As usual, it was almost all vegan and organic, and they proved again, that you can eat well on actions, and don't have to guzzle vegan slop to be right on and survive. Talamh liked them so much, that they donated all proceeds from the bar sales to them. Someone even wrote a poem about them.

There was talk of doing an action when the gathering had finished, but after 5 days of intense workshops and hell-raising, people decided to do a bit of local community outreach, and clean up the local village. This didn't stop Strathclyde Police doing a massive surveillance operation, and stopping and searching most vehicles that left the site. One van of activists was told by the copper who stopped them, that he didnt have a problem with the "Earth First summit", but they wanted to make sure that

there were no minority trouble-makers there to stir things up. Heaven forbid! We eventually all arrived home after much travelling, knackered, but glad we went, and ready and waiting for next year's fun and frolics



# EARTH FIRST! SUMMER GATHERING 1997

# Stonehenge

# Free Festivals

## And the *New Culture*

In recent months English Heritage's resolve to keep people out of Stonehenge at important times of the calendar has started to crack. At the Autumn Equinox people were 'allowed' free access at dawn and then given tea and biscuits before English Heritage opened up for their regular customers. At Samhain [Halloween] a pagan group was given permission to carry out a ritual after closing time, although they had to pay for the privilege. The group was given a "special" deal, i.e. charged £4.00 a head instead of the usual tenner for special access to Stonehenge.

English Heritage were not prepared to "allow" a midnight or dawn ceremony over Samhain, nor were tea and biscuits included this time. Nevertheless the signs are encouraging and they come at a time when talk of the Festival at the Stones for the Summer Solstice for the year 2000 is gathering momentum. Despite the 'CJA' the establishment of a free festival at Stonehenge, or anywhere else, remains a 'numbers game'. The authorities have regularly used the CJA "rule-book" over the last decade or more, even though they only got the 'legal' right to do so in November of 94. The CJA has not been enforced when the police have lacked the inclination, resources, or even on many occasions understanding of the CJA, to do so! The VE Day commemoration and occupation of Stonehenge on 5th May 95 took place with only two or three hundred people making it happen. What then with thousands! The last time numbers of people gathered near the Stones was in the run up to the Summer Solstice in 88. Pilton Festival was having a rest so there were more revellers around Wiltshire than usual, around 5,000 people camped near Cholderton in ST. Anns Farm four miles from Stonehenge. English Heritage in their wisdom had come up with an arbitrary offer of 500 entry tickets for the sunrise, rumour has it that some of these were offered to various "faces" on behalf of those who were camped at Cholderton, the offer was a decisive one if indeed genuine. If we apply the lessons learned from the failure of 88 and the success of 95, then the Stonehenge Free Festival 2000 is an obtainable goal! Walks to the Stones from London and other places usually commence on the 1st June and converge on the Festival site around the 14th. Each year since 84 mostly small numbers have gathered near Stonehenge and with few restrictions. According to the 'Mainstream' Media, a four mile 'Ring of Steel' exists around Stonehenge during the festive period. This is, and has always been nothing more than a psychic barrier, only as solid as the belief given to it by those it is designed to keep out. Each year it fails to keep out those who don't believe in it and it's legality has been successfully challenged in court by Arthur Pendragon aka King Arthur, since the CJA became law! In the absence of active co-operation from the Police, English Heritage, The National Trust, Local and District Councils, all of whom have played a game of pass the buck with festival campaigners, we might as well choose our own time and place. This may bring a change of heart from the various agencies, who have stood in the way of a sensible settlement of the festival and Stonehenge access issues, once they realise that events are overtaking them! If we start planning now for Stonehenge 2000 then the chance of these various agencies entering real negotiations with all the interested parties increases, as does the chance of other gatherings taking place! According to Ian Spence in the 'Sekhmet Hypothesis' there is a new youth culture about to become visible. It will be recognisable as a post punk, post rave cross over with the self assured confidence that it is right, intolerant only of restrictions that are placed in its way. Maybe it is just that DIY culture is catching on, and direct action is being seen as an effective of getting justice. If this new culture comes about, its apparent arrogance will thoroughly test the political will of those who govern. Self-righteous persistence on the part of the youth may well be an effective remedy to the policies of arcane and self serving rulers, who need to be shown pragmatic solutions to the problems of their own making!

The Storm Clouds are Gathering!

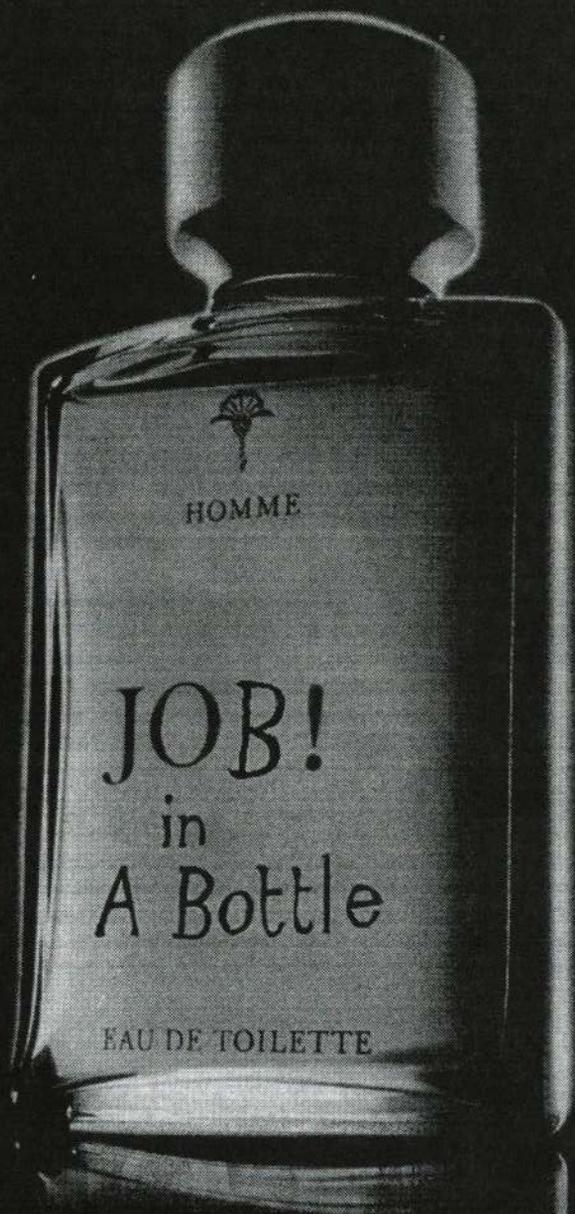
For quarterly newsletter about issues surrounding Stonehenge, send SAE's to: The Stonehenge Campaign, C/O 99 Toriano Ave, Kentish Town, NW3 2RX.

To receive Festival Eye magazine, containing news on the free and commercial festival scene send: £2.00 & 46p A4 sae or £5.00 & sae to receive mag & 3 updates

Festival Eye BCM 2002, London WC1 N3XX --<http://www.pirate-radio.co.uk/interface/>



STONEHENGE RESTORED.



HOMME

JOB!  
in  
A Bottle

EAU DE TOILETTE

JOB!

An Executive smell  
of the Department of  
Social Security





WAKE UP! WAKE UP! IT'S YER CHEWY.....

# SchNEWS

Printed & Published in Brighton by Justice?

ONCE OUR FREEDOMS ARE OUTLAWED - ONLY US OUTLAWS ARE FREE!



Issue 126

Friday 18th July 1997

Free/Donation

## DISCLAIMER:

**BY READING THIS COPY OF SCHNEWS YOU COULD FIND YOURSELF BEING ARRESTED FOR BREAKING AN INJUNCTION. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND ONCE YOU HAVE MEMORISED THIS WEEKS ISSUE... YOU EAT IT.....**

**"The Act is rightly broad in that it covers all forms of harassing behaviour, not just stalking."**

Police Review

**"The definition of harassment is far too vague and general...applying to protesters and certain investigative journalists"**

Liberty

Barely five weeks since it became law, the first major injunctions granted under the new Protection from Harassment Act - legislation intended to protect women from stalkers - have been issued against animal rights activists.

Two injunctions were granted by Mr Justice Moses in the High Court last Wednesday. One put a 24-hour exclusion zone around the headquarters of the British Field Sports Association during the Countryside Rally in Hyde Park on Thursday, to deter anti-hunt protesters. The second bars 3 named activists, Cynthia O'Neill, Natasha Dallemange and John Curtin, and "all individuals and organisations holding themselves out as animal rights activists" from interfering with an Oxfordshire cat-breeder, Christopher Brown, and his family.

The first test of the injunction came last Thursday (10th July) when 20 people demonstrated outside the British Field Sports Society HQ. BFSS solicitors obtained an injunction forbidding anyone from a list of named groups or "anyone who identifies themselves as an animal rights activist" from going within 250 yards of the building. Despite that, the police didn't seem too bothered about enforcing the injunction.

At least 2 incidents must occur in order for a person to be arrested and charged under the Act, but the breaking of these injunctions carries a sentence of up to 5 years.

Liz Parratt, Liberty's Campaign Co-ordinator said, "It's always depressing to see our worst warnings come true. Using the new Act in this way will detract from the aim of protecting genuine victims of harassment whilst adding to the arsenal of criminal sanctions already available against legitimate protest. One wonders how long it will be before the same provisions are used against investigative journalists."

As one activist told SchNEWS "This could be the thin end of the wedge. If they get away with using these laws against animal rights activists then it will give carte blanc to attack anybody involved in the direct action movement."

The Protection from Harassment Act was brought in after a flurry of media attention about stalking last year. Used properly it can offer protection for vulnerable people, but as it seems with so many of the new laws brought in it is being directed at activists.

Senior police officers are recommending that bail conditions should not be offered to anybody arrested under charges created by the Act. This could mean that any activists accused of harassing animal abusers or company directors, for example, could be instantly imprisoned and held on remand for several months without any substantial evidence being produced.

\* Gathering of animal rights activists 22 - 25 August @ Earthworm co-op in Shropshire 01902 711935

### CRAP JOB MATCH OF WEEK

A person signing on as an Ichthyologist (marine biologist specialising in fish) was offered a job as a fish monger! When he explained what Ichthyologist was, he was told "Oh well, at least you'll know which fish is which."

### SCHNEWS PRIZE DRAW

SchNEWS is offering one year's free subs to the first person who uses the new law to take out an injunction on everybody's favourite snoopers Brays Detective Agency for being such nosy-parkers.

### BYE BYE CONSORT

\* Good News! Consort - beagle breeders for vivisection - are closing down! After 10 months of campaigning Consort have finally given up after increasingly violent demonstrations. In April, local police used CS Gas indiscriminately against protesters for the first time in this country. 60 people have been arrested for affray during the campaign, including one man who was jailed for 4 months - for interfering with a witness - by attending a demo outside a Consort workers home while on bail for assault (see SchNEWS 117/120)

\* 2nd August - Day of Action Against Bloodsports. Meet @ noon Reformers Tree, Hyde Park for the march and rally. Details: 01442 240246.

### PROTESTERS OCCUPY A MILLION TOILETS

Activists in Devon have set up a tree protest camp in response to proposals for a Watts Blake Bearne (WBB) Group clay quarry extension - providing raw materials for millions of toilets, wash-basins and tiles. The project has not been subject to a thorough environmental impact assessment and the land is protected both by the EU Habitats Directive and the Wild Birds Directive. The company want to divert about 1km of the rivers Bovey and Teign in an area that houses otters, kingfishers, bats and rare fish. People needed in this beautiful part of the country - give 'em a bell on 0467 622825 for directions.

JUSTICE? MEETING MONDAY 21ST JULY @ ALBERT PUB, TRAFALGAR ST. 7.30