



Rebel Rose



West Yorkshire Anarchist Communist Groups newsletter

Issue 3: December 2019. Free or a donation.

Contents:

Front Page (1) - Leeds Climate Strike report, Bradford library closures, Hebden Bridge a personal perspective.

Page 2 – Election Time Again!

Page 3 – Poetry and music/gig/book reviews.

Page 4 – Events, Contact us and who we are, and poem.

Leeds Climate Strike 29th November 2019: WYACG attended Leeds Climate Strike today, again organised by School kids. It was poorly attended with under 500 people turning up, mainly school kids, felt disappointing following the 15,000 that attended last time but just shows how voting and elections destroy resistance with most people putting their faith in politicians and the state. We managed to give out about 50 Jackdaws and we will continue to support these grassroots initiatives - Organise, Agitate – Educate!



Hebden Bridge a great drug town with a tourist problem - a personal perspective by Husker! Banks! However much we hate them we need them....

But where I live, Hebden Bridge has now no banks and two of the cash machines have gone! Why I ask myself well the conspiracy part of my weary brain has concluded we are heading towards a cashless society! Cards will be monitored and the system knows where you are what you are doing what you have and what you borrow!!!

Don't get me started on home systems i.e Alexa Amazon Echo, Google Assistant etc! How dumb are people, we used to despise grasses but now people willingly installing them in their houses and are grassing themselves up!!! **YOU ARE BEING MONITORED!!** No cash just cards, no cards no food but food banks, a society where the working poor have imprisoned themselves!!

Oh happy crassness and a shitty blue year!!!!

Bradford Library Closures and Cuts:

Bradford City Council is set to make further cuts to the budget of £1.05m earmarked for the financial year starting April 2020. This follows a decade of cuts to the Libraries and Museum's Budget. Staff have been striking against the cuts and to save their jobs, supported by a public campaign. Bradford Council have criticised the strike saying they wanted to work with the union on how to make savings (in other words more cuts)!

Strikes have taken place in throughout October including staff walking out at Keighley, at Shipley, Baildon, Wibsey and Ilkley libraries. Pickets and demonstration were also held at Cartwright Hall Art Gallery. Library workers are low paid and being on strike since June has pushed them to the edge.

On November the 5th a demonstration was held outside Wibsey Library in protest against planned cuts and further walk outs took place across Bradford and a further demo at Ilkley Library.

Details of exactly how the cuts will be made has yet to be revealed, but may include reduced opening hours and a greater dependence on volunteers. This is against a number of libraries already moving to volunteer run, and associated loss of jobs. Nationally since 2010 10000 public library jobs have been lost and more than 700 libraries closed. Library workers are low paid and being on strike since June has pushed them to the edge. Cuts to Library services are a direct attack on the working class, an important resource as well as a way to self-educate. This is seen as dangerous to the ruling elite who have little to no time for public libraries.

If you want to get involved respond to the consultation (but beware it's written in a very biased way to lead you to agree with the cuts), or contact the Unite Community organiser heather.blakey@unitetheunion.org

Meanwhile library workers in Bromley have been on strike since June resisting new contracts from Greenwich Leisure Ltd (GLL). They have a crowdfunder at

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/bromley-library-strike-fund>



Election Time Again



We understand the desperation, the need to do something, to act. This is why voting is so attractive, as it seems to offer the chance to change things for the better. It appears so simple put your cross in the correct box and everything gets better. We as anarchist communists don't believe that any candidate can actually reverse the situation in the UK as it is today, because there are global forces at work that hold as much sway as the local power of any government. No matter whom you vote for this doesn't change your economic relationship to the State, regardless of who gets in, our guess is you'll still be paying roughly the same amount of tax.

No matter who gets into power, this will not change the currently existing centres of private power that have a huge influence in the UK and beyond! Under the present System you will remain a Wage Slave, having to rent your body to some kind Master that will pay you a pittance of what you're worth! When talking about who really runs this country, we are not just looking at parliament or the prime minister we are looking at centres of private power and international finance. They do not like socialism and do not want a socialist government as it poses a threat to their wealth and power so they will do everything they can to undermine it at every step and to tar the public image of it. An example of this can be seen in what happened in the UK in the 1970s. In March 1974 the labour government gained power and in December of that year the stock market plummeted.

This was essentially because the super wealthy in this country basically went on strike. In the September of that year the Labour Government were then forced into calling in IMF to 'refloat' the country. The IMF only agreed to this if massive cuts to public spending were made and despite its promises the govt then had to put in place austerity measures as well. This caused anger and civil unrest, "The Winter of Discontent" and people became disillusioned with Labour and the left, as to them it meant they were poorer, and things had 'turned to shit'.

So, they turned to the other main party the conservatives to sort out the 'mess' the country had got into and Thatcher became Prime Minister in 1979. So, whoever wins this election, whether it's the Tories, Labour or a coalition government, we can expect one thing, that whichever faction of the ruling class controls government, we, the working class, will be under attack. In the context of the worsening economic crisis of capitalism, all parties will be impelled to launch yet more austerity packages, cuts and legislation against strike action.

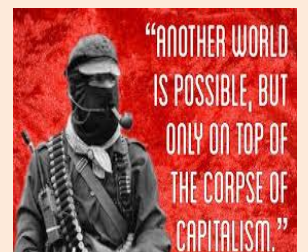
Whether we have the present electoral system or proportional representation, or however many people vote or don't vote in an election or referendum, as we have seen in Scotland, capitalism is at the driving wheel globally. As working-class people, we are exploited whether we can take part in 'free' elections or live under an authoritarian regime. Capitalists and property owners continue to control the wealth that we create, and they protect it through the police, legal system, and the military.

There will be no end to exploitation of the working class through Parliamentary Elections - the ruling class always wins. These elections only lead to a diluting of resistance (seen at recent protests) as people put their faith in leaders who won't or are unable to make meaningful changes.



**VOTING
ONLY
ALLOWS
US TO
CHOOSE
OUR
MASTERS**

**FREE PEOPLE
ORGANISE AND
GOVERN THEMSELVES**



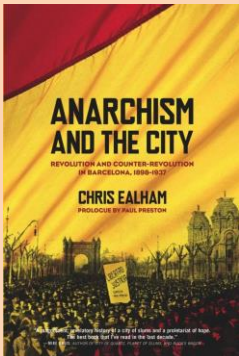
Anarchy and the City (Revolution and counter Revolution In Barcelona 1898-1937) By Chris Earlam isbn 978-14935012-9:

Amazing research and well written, this is some of the finest working class anarchist writing I have ever read!!! A cornucopia of information of how the working class anarchists built a movement that worked like clockwork and ran cities with nothing but mutual aid!!!

Those who needed foods were fed, those who needed housing were housed and those who needed medicine were treated!!!

A fantastic read and a mine of information of this period of time in Spain.... please track this book down you won't be disappointed!!!

Cheers comrades Husker Durruti



**Poetry Corner!
Consumerism**

I wish I didn't give a shit,
I wish that I had bigger tits,
I hope that life will give me more
One of these days I won't be poor.
Please god can I have a nice new car,
I want a big house and to be a star!!
Fame and fortune are what Im told,
Is what I need my soul I've sold.
Don't you see it's all a lie,
These things mean nothing, pie in the sky.
Love, compassion community and truth
More important and if you need proof.
Open your eyes look and you will see,
We are one. Humanity.



Money and land

This earth is mine!
Trespassers will be fined!
We were here first!
War at its worst!
Like water and sand Warring over land
Children are we?
To kill for territory?
Can we not think?
Reason have we?
It's really very easy
The earth should be free!

Poems by Comrade Grumpaloe

Book/Music Review:

Rats From A Sinking Ship - Heathens.

The new CD from RFASS is their best one yet, a mix of "rap" and "punk" it is a trip through the world today with tracks about the state of society, the news, the police and freedom.

Lusty's rapping is forceful and easy to understand the lyrics while Jamie's guitar riffs give it a "punk" feel.

The stand out tracks for me is the amazing "Looney Left" which is a fantastic sing along track featuring the brilliant Benjamin Zephaniah rapping alongside Lusty and contains my favourite lines "we're not the looney left we just want revolution", "I'm not the looney left because I move alternative and I do not like the smell of anyone who is conservative" and finally "I am not the looney left because I love sweet anarchy", what's not to love (apologies if I got any lyrics wrong).

Highly recommended, can be got direct from the band here www.rfass.co.uk
Come and see them in Bradford on April 11th at the 1 in12 Club.

West Yorkshire



Contact us:

West Yorkshire ACG can be contacted via Facebook - www.facebook.com/West-Yorkshire-Anarchist-Communist-Group

Or via email at westyorksacg@virginmedia.com

Upcoming events for 2020:

We are planning to hold regular discussion and reading group meetings in Leeds, Wakefield and Hebden Bridge, we will also be having a semi regular "stall" in Hebden Bridge with the odd one on Leeds.

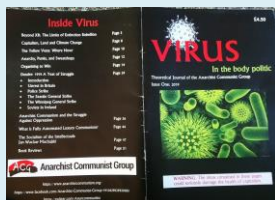
We are also planning to hold some public meetings in Leeds, Bradford, Wakefield and Hebden Bridge on anarchism, society and the state.

We are also helping to organise the Bradford Anarchist bookfair in September.

We have the following pamphlets for sale – contact us if interested:

- Towards a Revolution – Friends of Durruti
- Working Towards a People's Land Policy
- Whatever happened to the revolution
- Is Class Still Relevant
- Italian Factory Councils
- Malatesta anarchism and organisation
- Our NHS
- The Wilhelmshaven Revolt
- Land and Liberty
- Bakunin

We also have out theoretical journal Virus (over 50 pages of articles) available (£4.50 plus P&P).



Who we are.....

The Anarchist Communist Group (ACG) is a revolutionary anarchist communist organisation made up of local groups and individuals who seek a complete transformation of society, and the creation of anarchist communism. This will mean the working class overthrowing capitalism, abolishing the State, getting rid of exploitation, hierarchies and oppressions, and halting the destruction of the environment. To contribute to the building of a revolutionary anarchist movement we believe it is important to be organised. We are committed to building an effective national and international organisation that has a collective identity and works towards the common goal of anarchist communism, whilst at the same time working together with other working class organisations and in grass roots campaigns. We do not see ourselves as the leaders of a revolutionary movement but part of a wider movement for revolutionary change. In addition, we strive to base all our current actions on the principles that will be the basis of the future society: mutual aid, solidarity, collective responsibility, individual freedom and autonomy, free association and federalism.

Final Words!

Castles of lies crowned with deceit.

The beast roams protected by mother and the biggest gang in town.

Victims disappear, those who dare to question the crown.

Monarchy like mafia, rulers of the town.

Big business big profits as they tax those beneath.

Liars and usurpers.

Their own government thieves.

Welcome to dear old Blitey - this joke has gone too far!!!

By Husker Durruti.

