

THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST

VOL 4 NO 3 SPRING 1987

Still Only

PAY WHAT YOU LIKE

GOTCHA!

FASCISTS BATTERED IN SHEFFIELD AND LEEDS

***** *PLUS* *****

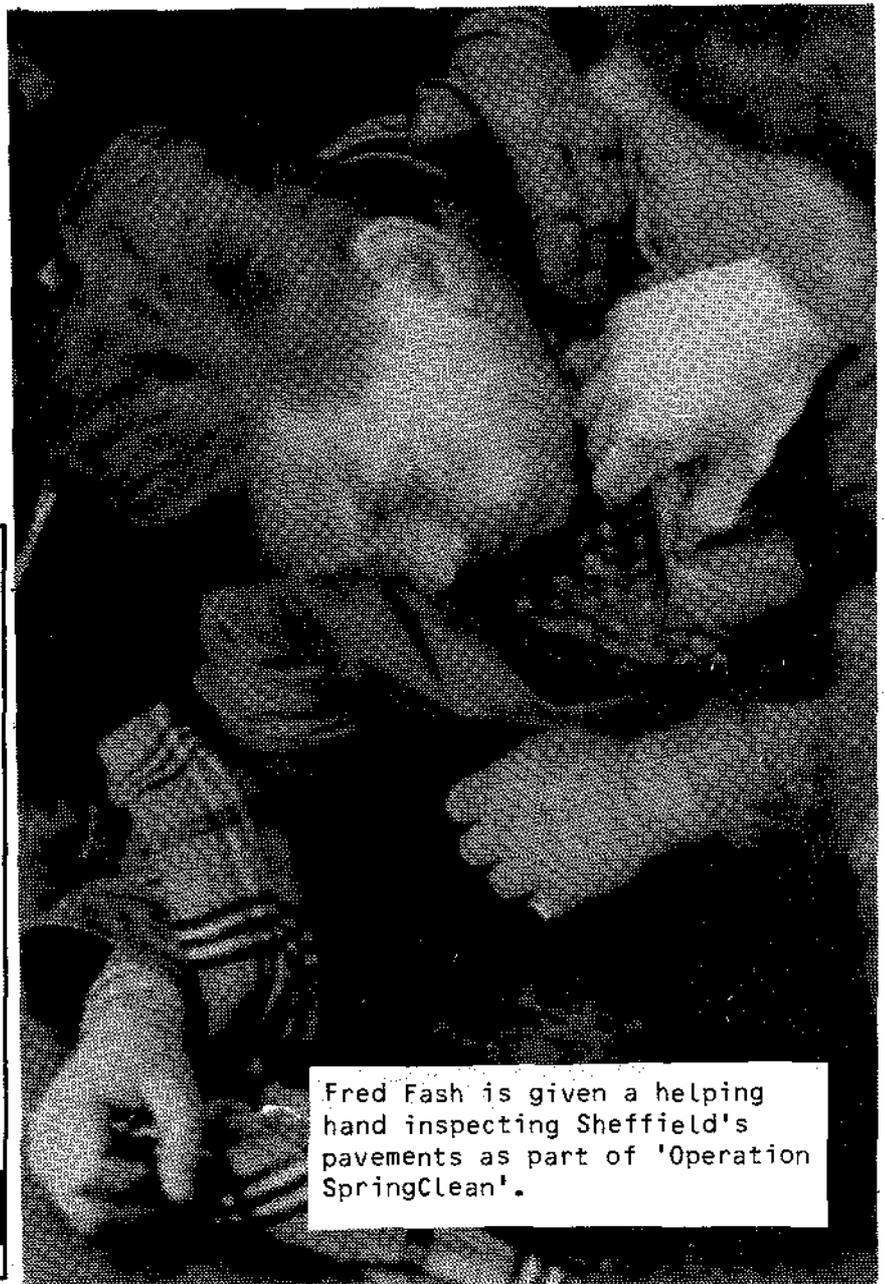
WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE:
THE MYTHS AND FACTS!!!!

LABORE'S RECORD:
THE APPALLING TRUTH
REVEALED!!!!!!!!!!!!

EXCLUSIVE!!!
JOE BLACK TALKS TO 'THE
SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST'!!!

HOME NEWS, COMMENT,
REVIEWS, LETTERS, AND
MUCH, MUCH MORE!!!!!!

NO £1,000,000 BINGO!!



Fred Fash is given a helping hand inspecting Sheffield's pavements as part of 'Operation SpringClean'.

THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST IS PRODUCED BY THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST COLLECTIVE (MEMBERS OF SHEFFIELD ANARCHISTS). WE HOPE TO SPREAD ANARCHIST IDEAS BY PRODUCING A LOCALLY RELEVANT ANARCHIST PAPER TO COUNTER STATE PROPAGANDA AND STIMULATE RESISTANCE.

WE WELCOME CONTRIBUTIONS (ARTICLES, POEMS, GRAPHICS, REVIEWS, CARTOONS, NEWS, INFORMATION, ETC.) FROM OUTSIDE THE COLLECTIVE WHICH COMPLY WITH THE AIMS OF THE PAPER.

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1 OF THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST WAS PUBLISHED IN 1891, AND IT WAS INTENDED THAT THE PAPER SHOULD APPEAR FORTNIGHTLY, BUT PRESSURE FROM THE POLICE, THE CHURCH AND AUTHORITY IN GENERAL FORCED A HALT IN PRODUCTION AFTER ONLY 10 ISSUES. IN 1975 THE PAPER WAS REVIVED AND CONTINUED TO APPEAR, SOMEWHAT SPORADICALLY, THROUGHOUT THE 70'S. SINCE MARCH 1983 IT HAS BEEN PRODUCED ON A QUARTERLY BASIS.

THE PAPER HAS NO FIXED PRICE, A CONTINUATION OF THE ORIGINAL POLICY OF THE FOUNDERS, SO THAT THE WANT OF A FEW PENCE SHALL NOT PREVENT THE SHARING OF IDEAS. WE PAY OURSELVES NO WAGES UNDER ANY GUISE, HAVE NO EXPENSE ACCOUNTS AND SUPPORT NO OTHER ENTERPRISE (NOR ARE WE SUPPORTED BY ANY OTHER ENTERPRISE). ALL MONEY RECEIVED FOR THE PAPER GOES TOWARDS ENSURING THAT WE CAN PRINT MORE COPIES OF THE NEXT ISSUE. AND THOSE WHO ARE ABLE TO GIVE GENEROUSLY ENSURE THAT COPIES CAN BE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT AFFORD TO GIVE ANYTHING.

ARTICLES, ETC PUBLISHED IN THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST ARE EXPRESSING THE VIEWPOINT OF THE INDIVIDUAL AUTHOR/PoET/ARTIST AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION OF THE PAPER. NOR INDEED THE VIEWS OF ALL ANARCHISTS IN SHEFFIELD. ONLY ARTICLES SPECIFICALLY SIGNED 'THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST COLLECTIVE' REPRESENT OUR SHARED VIEWS.

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THE INDEPENDENT BOOKSHOP, SURREY ST. SHEFFIELD.
AND QUITE A FEW PLACES BESIDES. IF YOU KNOW OF ANY SHOPS THAT MIGHT BE WILLING TO SELL THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE A BUNDLE TO SELL TO FRIENDS, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

EDITORIAL

DEAR READERS,

WELCOME TO VOLUME 4 NUMBER 3 OF THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST. DUE TO LACK OF SPACE, AND FINANCIAL NECESSITY, YOU'RE BEING DEPRIVED OF/SPARED THE INTRODUCTORY NOTES ON ANARCHISM THAT WE USUALLY HAVE ON THIS PAGE.

UNLIKE MANY PERIODICALS, WE ARE NOT IN THE HABIT OF CONTINUALLY HARPING ON ABOUT OUR FINANCES, BUT NOW, FOR THE FIRST TIME, WE FEEL THAT WE MUST MENTION THEM.

OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS AS PAPER AND PRINTING PRICES HAVE INCREASED, AND THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST HAS BECOME MORE TECHNICALLY SOPHISTICATED (IMAGINE WHAT IT USED TO BE LIKE), THE PRICE PER COPY HAS RISEN TO THE POINT WHERE EACH ONE COSTS US BETWEEN 25P TO 35P TO PRODUCE. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT NOT ALL OUR READERS ARE AWARE OF JUST HOW MUCH THEIR PAPER COSTS TO PRINT, BECAUSE WE HAVE MADE CONSIDERABLE LOSSES ON THE LAST FEW ISSUES (AN AVERAGE OF £40 PER ISSUE, ON THE LAST TWO). OBVIOUSLY, NOT BEING RICH PHILANTHROPISTS, A REGISTERED CHARITY OR A COUNCIL FRONT, WE CANNOT AFFORD TO GO ON LIKE THIS INDEFINATELY. WE HAVE BEEN HOLDING 'BENEFIT GIGS' EVERY 3 MONTHS FOR THE LAST YEAR NOW, BUT THESE BY NO MEANS COVER OUR LOSSES, AND WE DO NOT CONSIDER THEM A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO WHAT IS REGRETTABLY AN ONGOING PROBLEM.

THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST HAS HAD A 'PAY WHAT YOU LIKE' POLICY FOR 96 YEARS, AND WE WOULD HATE TO CHANGE IT, BUT UNLESS OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION IMPROVES, WE WILL BE HARD-PUSHED TO FIND AN ALTERNATIVE.

YOU CAN HELP BY PAYING A BIT MORE FOR YOUR COPY IF YOU CAN AFFORD IT, TAKING OUT A SUBSCRIPTION, ORDERING A BUNDLE TO SELL TO FRIENDS AND/OR SENDING US THE NAMES OF BOOKSHOPS WHICH MIGHT BE WILLING TO STOCK OUR PUBLICATION.

REGULAR READERS WILL NOTE THAT 'STANDARD SUBSCRIPTION'S HAVE BEEN RAISED FROM £1.60 TO £2.00 THIS ISSUE. IT IS SOME TIME SINCE £1.60 COVERED THE COST PRICE OF 4 ISSUES OF THE PAPER PLUS ENVELOPES AND POSTAGE. THIS HAS NOW HAD TO BE RECTIFIED. THANKYOU TO THOSE READERS WHO HAVE TAKEN OUT SUBSCRIPTIONS DURING THE PAST 3 MONTHS.

WE APOLOGISE FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO GET OUT THE 'HOME NEWS UPDATE'S MENTIONED IN THE LAST ISSUE. AT THE TIME OF PRINTING THE LAST ISSUE WE HAD ACCESS TO FREE PHOTOCOPYING, BUT IT WAS CURTAILED JUST AFTER THAT ISSUE CAME OUT. WE WOULD STILL LIKE TO PRODUCE THESE SUPPLEMENTARY BULLETINS, AND WILL DO SO WHEN, HOPEFULLY, OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION IMPROVES.

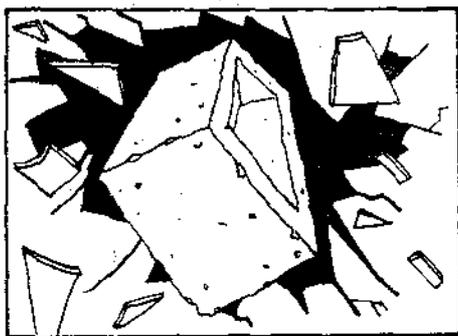
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SUPPORTING SUBSCRIPTION

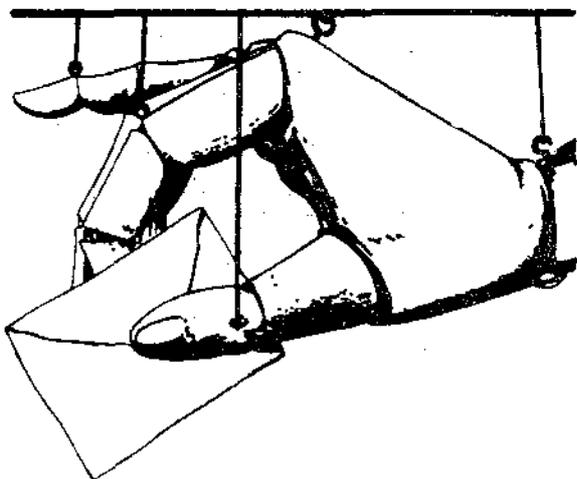
£5.00 for 4 issues of THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST + extra pamphlets, mags, leaflets, bulletins, booklists, free admission to all THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST and SHEFFIELD PRISONERS SUPPORT GROUP benefit gigs and other events of this type + anything else we can think of.

Please make cheques/P.O.s out to 'Sheffield Libertarian Society'.

"comment"

DON'T VOTE - ORGANISE

Whenever the General Election is, Anarchists, as always, will not be playing. We see elections for what they are: Con-tricks to fool us that we have some say in the 'democracy' in which we live. Some 'say': The chance every 4 or 5 years to put a cross on a piece of paper, to choose between one set of power hungry cretins and another bunch almost exactly alike, to decide which party we want to shit on us for the next 5 years: No matter who gets into No 10 it will make little difference for us at the bottom.



'revolutionaries', they really ought to know better, *but don't*. These are the people who voted for Michael Foot last time round, and then sat back smug-faced, with their "*Don't Blame Me I Didn't Vote Tory*" badges on.

Well we *do* blame you, you're as much to blame as the Tory voters for making the election-sham semi-plausible, you are co-conspirators in organising our misery. In the election-game you can't vote, and then just because the party you voted for didn't snatch power, sit back and moan about it, you have to abide by the rules of the game OR NOT TAKE PART IN IT. By voting you give up your right to think for yourself, to run your own life your way. By voting, you're handing all your rights to some politician, a person who you've probably never even met, and saying "Look after my interests for the next 5 years, *I trust you*." Trusting a politician is like putting your head in a crocodile's mouth, and voting for them is like sheep choosing which butcher's going to cut their throats. We find it hard to believe that although it's a universally accepted fact that all politicians are inherent liars, every 5 years there's still plenty of sheep who'll be duped by them. The fact that so many people know what shits politicians are, and still give them their vote, makes it worse than if they'd been fooled completely.

Anarchists believe that people should have real control over their lives, and that's something the state is never going to give us. Like the old adage says "If voting could change the system, it would be against the law." VOTING WON'T CHANGE A THING.

To the politicians, parasites who live off our backs, it's only a game; you've only to look at the way the party-leaders hob-nob with each other at the state opening of parliament (probably having a good laugh at the mugs who allow them to remain in positions of power over us), what a bunch of creeps. But for most of us it isn't a very amusing game, because whoever wins the General Election we're always the losers.

DON'T VOTE, IT ONLY ENCOURAGES THEM.

HOME NEWS

ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT TRIAL

February 5th, 1987 - the end of the trial of Animal Liberation Front activists in Sheffield. The 76 year-old Deputy High Court Judge, Sir Fredrick Lawton (a one-time member of Oswald Moseley's British Union of Fascists), sentenced ten ALF defendants to a total of 38 years in prison:

RONNIE LEE (10 years) conspiracies to commit arson, criminal damage and to incite criminal damage

VIVIAN SMITH (4 years) criminal damage

BRENDAN McNALLY (4 years) conspiracy to commit criminal damage

IAN OXLEY, KEV BALDWIN, GARY CARTWRIGHT (4 years each) conspiracies to commit criminal damage and arson

JULIE RODGERS (30 months) conspiracies to commit criminal damage and arson

ISOBEL FACER (9 months youth custody) conspiracies to commit arson and to steal hounds

JOHN HEWSON (1 year) conspiracy to steal hounds

RODGER YATES (4 years) conspiracies to cause and incite criminal damage. He was found guilty and sentenced in his absence after jumping bail

The case against the Sheffield defendants centred around two types of accusation. Firstly, that that the ALF activists had carried out or conspired to carry out systematic attacks on shops and premises which perpetrated animal abuse. Secondly, that those on trial had conspired to incite others to commit criminal damage. It is the second of these charges which is the most sinister. Whether or not the accused could be linked with any actual criminal damage has become implicitly irrelevant. It means that if any defendants can be proven to have written or spoken advocating direct action then they, according to law, are responsible for the direct action of others. It is enough for the prosecution to show that the defendant had spoken or written in support of direct action - had supported the use of criminal damage. Such was the case against Ronnie Lee and others in this trial, with the police having no evidence whatsoever that he was involved in any direct action.

There is no doubt that this has been a political show-trial; an attempt by the State to smash the ALF. The long prison sentences are designed to scare off potential future activists, while the sensational media coverage (would you expect anything else?) of the "Animal Lib Terror Group" aims to discredit the ALF in the eyes of the public. All this indicates that the State considers the ALF with its principle of non-hierarchical direct action, as a threat to its power.

However, despite the media image, the ALF still claims a great deal of sustained public support, and its members are refusing to be intimidated into silence, inaction and apathy. They are adamant that the best way to show support for those imprisoned is to let them know that the struggle for animal liberation is not crushed by one trial - they are determined to increase and extend their activities.

Letters of solidarity with the prisoners should be sent to them at the following addresses:

Ronnie Lee V02682
H.M. Prison,
Armley,
Leeds,
W.Yorks.
LS12 2TJ.

Brendan McNally T03014
H.M. Prison,
Acklington,
Morpeth,
Northumberland,
NE65 9XF.

Vivienne Smith P34563
Julie Rodgers P34407
H.M. Prison,
Styal,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire.

Kevin Baldwin T02959,
Gary Cartwright T02960,
Ian Oxley T02961,
H.M. Prison,
Lindholme,
Bawtry Road,
Hatfield Woodhouse,
Doncaster,
South Yorks,
DN7 6DP

Remember to bear in mind that all letters are read by prison officials - be careful what you say. Letters should be sent to individual prisoners where there is more than one prisoner listed for a nick. As prisoners are very limited as to the number of letters they can write, you may not receive a reply.

HOME NEWS

KEETONS DISPUTE

In January the pickets' caravan and shelter at the main gate of Keetons was completely destroyed by fire. Unknown arsonists set the fire but fortunately no one was occupying the caravan at the time. Despite this setback the picketing continues, and with some success - most of the usual hauliers have refused to cross the picket line. The Keetons Management continue to insult the strikers, both on the picket lines (where they hope to instigate trouble and so get some of the pickets nicked) and across the negotiating table: In February the management put forward a list of 14 points to be agreed before there is any return to work.

Some of the points are:

- There will be no washing-off during works time, this will take place after clocking off times.
- There will be infinite flexibility between all employees of the company (including management? - typissed), in respect of any form of work to be done.
- There will effectively be a No Strike Dispute Procedure.
- There will be no compensation for short time working.
- The Company will not pay for faulty/bad workmanship.
- There will be no industrial action whatsoever by people returning to the Company.

All of the points were unanimously rejected by the strikers who are confident of victory in their struggle. Donation or messages of support should be sent to Keetons Strike Committee, AEU House, Furnival Gate, or see them down on the picket line.

SHIT OF THE MONTH

This issue our SHIT OF THE MONTH Award goes to scumbag landlord John Clarke, who was recently fined for illegally evicting 2 of his tenants.

Sharon Hutchins, a young, unemployed Sheffielder, who lived with her sister in one of Clarke's flats, returned home one day to find her belongings thrown out onto the street, and the locks changed. A note from Clarke said "All your jumble is here outside the flat. If there is anything missing do not blame me."

We are sure our readers would like to congratulate Mr Clarke of 38 Medlock Crescent, Handsworth (Tel- 691460) on winning this highly prestigious award.

"GUN FUN" COMES TO SOUTH YORKSHIRE

Following the example of his West Midlands Colleagues, who are well-known for their penchant for playing with firearms, a Sheffield copper fired a starting pistol at his chums at Hackenthorpe Police Station. During the miners strike, the Hackenthorpe sty was attacked several times, and no doubt still a little jumpy, the coppers all dived for cover. They were not amused, and P.C. Graham Wright, the copper involved, got a good ticking off.

Judging from the appalling reputation for accurate shooting that Sheffield police have earned in a local pistol shooting ladder, where they are a standing joke, none of the coppers would have been hit if the gun had been real. Their colleagues in the West Midlands force on the other hand, are able to hit a sleeping child from 2 feet!

HOME NEWS

DUFFY APPEALS TO TRADITIONAL LABORE BIGOTS

Pat Duffy, Sheffield's Labore M.P. for Attercliffe, is trying to court traditional white bigots, because he fears Labore will lose the next General Election. Because he has sussed that Labore have no relevance to working class people (Very perceptive Mr Duffy), he has tried to fall back on appealing to racists and homophobics. In a long statement issued in March, he said *"The time has come when people like me need to speak out for a return to traditional Labour values and policies which affect working people, and against irrelevancies such as homosexual politics and black sections."* *"We need to get back to fundamentals like the importance of marriage, the family, faithfulness and the proper upbringing of children."*

CHAINING THE UNEMPLOYED

'Hands Across Britain' a stunt by Labore leaders and lefty actors to get Britain's unemployed to form a human chain from Liverpool to London, has been panned by activists at 'Sheffield Centre Against Unemployment' who say that it is just a publicity stunt. The Centre's Management Committee however, which is controlled by Trade Unions and the City Council, have over-ruled the decision by the Centre's unemployed users to have nothing to do with the campaign. And so the users plan to picket the Centre on the great day of (in)action. The agent of Bill Treacher, who plays Eastenders' Arthur Fowler and is promoting 'Hands Across Britain' has been greatly upset by Sheffield's ungrateful unemployed. But in a moment of concern for us ignorant Northerners, she said *"I suggest the unemployed of Sheffield get off their backsides and get some jobs."*

Forthcoming Events

SATURDAY MAY 9TH - LEEDS GREEN FAYRE. University of Leeds Students Union. Lots of bands, workshops, stalls, etc. Including Sheffield Anarchists Bookstall.

THURSDAY MAY 28TH - 'THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST' READERS MEETING - Come and make contact and let us know what you think of the paper. 8.00pm, Upstairs Room, Brown Cow pub on The Wicker.

SATURDAY 6TH JUNE - SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST PICNIC. Meet at 'The Grouse Inn' on the B6054 near Froggatt Edge. Buses leave Pond Street Central Bus Station (240) at 12.27 or get the 272 to Fox House or train to Grindleford Station and walk there (about a mile) to get there early doors. Bring food and drink, some for yourself and some to share. Those who came last year will know that, rain or shine, this is THE event of the year. Comrades coming from out of town should contact us regarding accomodation.

JUNE/JULY - 'THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST' AND SHEFFIELD PRISONERS SUPPORT GROUP BENEFIT GIG - This will be advertised once it is arranged. 'Supporting Subscribers' will be notified.

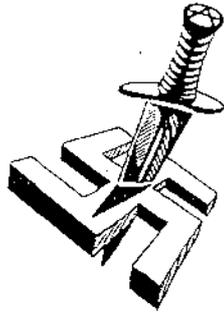
SATURDAY 11TH JULY - ANARCHIST 'DO'. Leeds Trades Club. General get-together, bands and other stuff. Contact us for more details.

JUNE/JULY - BROOMHALL SUMMER CARNIVAL. We will be doing a bookstall at the Carnival as usual. Look out for advertising posters. It's usually a good day with bands, beer, food, more stalls, etc.

THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST is street-sold on Fargate, Sheffield, most Saturdays from 12.00 to 2.00pm. Keen comrades are welcome to come along, have a chat and give us a hand.

HOME NEWS

Extra



BLOODY SATURDAY

In 1983 the R.C.P. ('Revolutionary Communist Party') organised an 'Irish Freedom' march in Sheffield, and the National Front planned a counter-demonstration. The R.C.P. conspired with the police to allow the fascist demonstration, which was held on a piece of wasteland near Hammerton Road Police Station, to go ahead unopposed. The S.W.P. ('Socialist Workers Party') completely ignored the fascists in favour of another bandwagon. And the Labour Party also conspired with the police to keep anti-fascists away from the fascist demo.* Such is the way that these groups oppose fascism.

Although the fascist demonstration was pretty pathetic, being both poorly attended and a couple of miles away from the 'Irish Freedom' march. It was still a major victory for fascist 'street-presence'.

Since that time, as we predicted, organised fascism has been growing in Sheffield, as have attacks on Asians, blacks, and the offices of trade-unions, 'anti-racist' and 'left-wing' organisations.

After the fiasco in 1983, we said:

"The fascist machine raised its ugly head in Sheffield practically unopposed, and because of that they will be back. LET IT BE TO THE EVER-LASTING SHAME OF THOSE WHO DID NOTHING, THAT FASCISTS WERE ALLOWED TO MARCH ON SHEFFIELD STREETS. THE BLOOD OF FUTURE FASCIST ACTIONS WILL BE ON YOUR HANDS. Next time we must stop them ourselves, and leave the Trots to hide behind their papers and their over-inflated egos."

When the fascists announced a national mobilisation to counter the 'Bloody Sunday'* anniversary march, taking place in Sheffield on Saturday January the 31st, we knew that we had to smash the fascists this time round.

*****Full report of how we did it starts on next page****

* The 'Home News' article which reported on this appeared in THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST Vol 3 No 4. This issue is now out of print, but photocopies of the article can be obtained for 10p + 20p post. (If you are already ordering literature from us, just add 10p.) Ordering details on Bookstall page.

* On the 30th of January 1972 British paratroopers shot dead 14 Irish civil rights demonstrators, and wounded a further 29.

FASCIST 'STREET-PRESENCE'

"STREET-PRESENCE IS THE FOOD AND DRINK OF FASCISM, IT IS THIS THAT ATTRACTS THEIR CANNON-FODDER AND MAKES THEM FEEL STRONG AND CONFIDENT. THAT IS WHY FASCISM MUST BE DEFEATED ON THE STREETS AS WELL AS IDEOLOGICALLY."

'THE STRUGGLE AGAINST FASCISM: THEN & NOW',
'THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST',
VOL 3 No 12

"MASS DEMONSTRATIONS MUST BURN INTO THE LITTLE MAN'S SOUL THE PROUD CONVICTION THAT, THOUGH A LITTLE WORM, HE IS NEVERTHELESS PART OF A GREAT DRAGON."
ADOLF HITLER

"I BELIEVE THAT OUR GREAT MARCHES, WITH DRUMS AND FLAGS AND BANNERS, HAVE A HYPNOTIC EFFECT ON THE PUBLIC AND AN IMMENSE EFFECT IN SOLIDIFYING THE ALLEGIANCE OF OUR FOLLOWERS, SO THAT THEIR ENTHUSIASM CAN BE SUSTAINED."

JOHN TYNDALL, 70'S N.F.
LEADER AND PRESENT B.N.P.
FUHRER

"THE ONLY WAY THAT WE COULD HAVE BEEN STOPPED WAS IF WE HAD BEEN ATTACKED AND SMASHED AT THE BEGINNING, BY OUR ENEMIES, WITH THE UTMOST FEROCITY."

ADOLF HITLER

After meeting on the morning of Saturday 31st January, we went to the Spittal Hill mobilising point for the march, in order to look out for fascist 'scouts', meet more comrades, and find out what the marchers were doing. Then, about half an hour before the march was due to start, we set off to go into position.

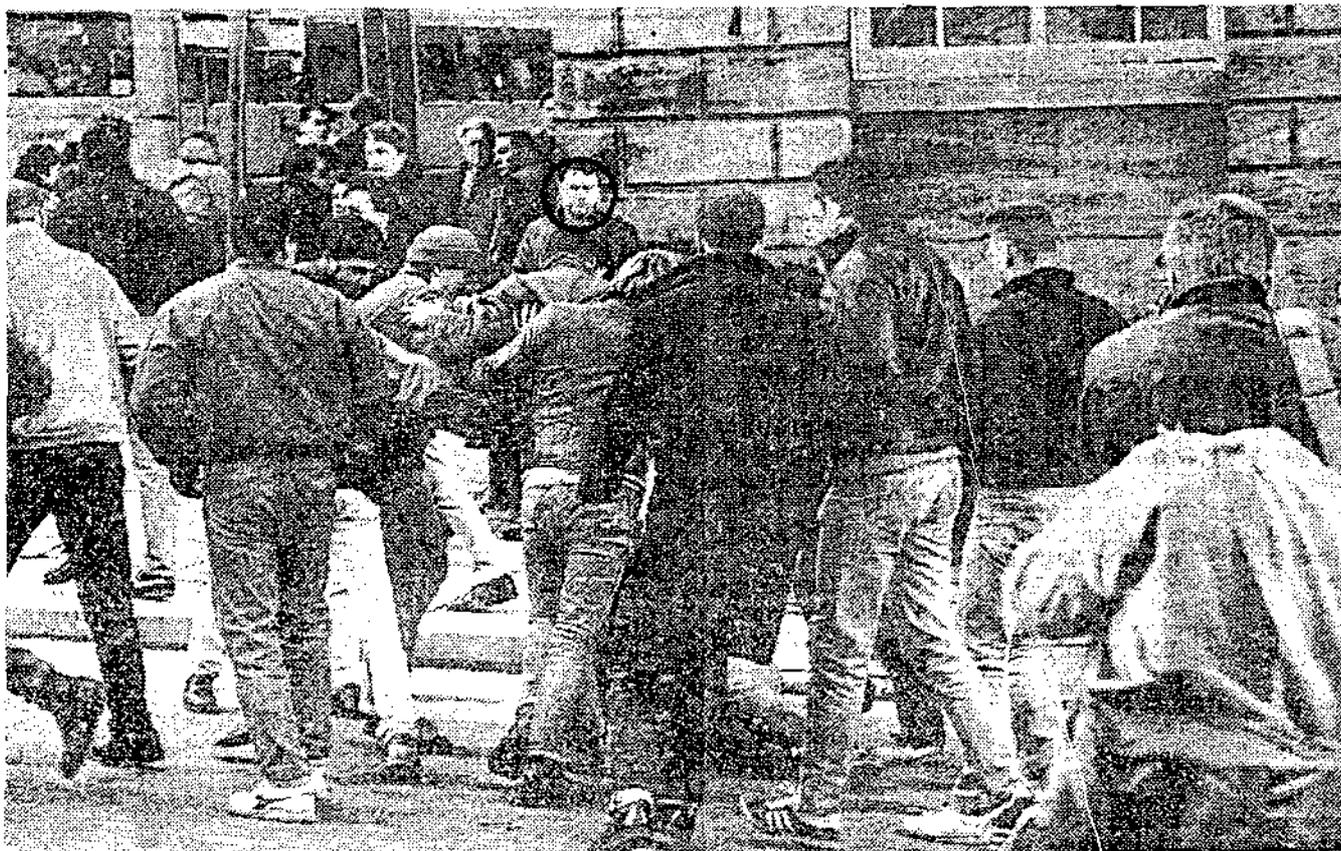
There were only one or two places where the fascists could effectively attack the march, the most likely place being outside Castle Market. By monitoring their movements we confirmed that this would be where they would make their move.

Sure enough, as the march started to approach the Market from Lady's Bridge, the fascists tried to move into position to try and outflank the march ready for their attack. But, as they came down the pavements they found us waiting for them. There were about 15 of us on either side of the road (with more up near the front of the march), and although we were heavily outnumbered we were more than a match for the cowardly fascist rabble. As soon as we started to lay into them, they started retreating, what a gutless bunch of creeps. Our surprise attack completely stopped the fascist pincer movement.

While this was going on the march was still slowly advancing, but then the main fascist attack came. About 100 fascists came onto the road further up from the Markets, then charged, throwing bricks and bottles (some filled with chemicals) and 'Thunder-Flashes' (used by the Army for playing at war) before them. But these wankers weren't prepared for sustained anti-fascist resistance. As before, the fascists got creamed. They must have been expecting an easy victory, but as soon as they started getting thumped, they just didn't want to know.

We were pleased to see that a large contingent at the front of the march ignored the bleating of the Labour Party stewards and the Trot paper-sellers and got stuck into the Fascists along side of us. Most of the slaughter was going on to the right of the march's intended route, and as our comrades rushed over to join in the sport, many of the fascists were trapped and not able to join their fleeing cronies. It took the police, who were nowhere to be seen when the fascists attacked, about 5 minutes to rescue the trapped Fascists, who by this time were mainly whimpering and horizontal.

Continued...



A DOWNED FASCIST ACTIVIST TAKES A TASTE OF THE TIMPSON, WHILE HIS COMRADE (CIRCLED) PRETENDS TO BE AN 'INNOCENT BYSTANDER'. AMUSINGLY THIS GUTLESS LUMP STYLES HIMSELF AS ONE OF N.F. CHAIRMAN IAN ANDERSON'S BODYGUARDS.

It was a great victory. But as far as we were concerned, the days activities weren't over yet. We didn't join the march, but instead patrolled the pavements just ahead of it, dishing out pastings to the now badly organised fascist rabble.

We were aided in our tactics by the fact that we are not, nor do we look like, a bunch of archetypal middle-class Lefties. Consequently, the police, the fascists, and even many of the marchers, thought that we were fascists. This meant that we suffered no arrests, and we were able to get close enough to the fascists to inflict maximum damage. There was one mistake, when during the punch-up outside the Market, an Irish Nationalist from the front of the march grabbed one of our scrapping comrades by the arm from behind, thinking him to be a fascist. The lad turned round and thumped him, and was just about to do so again when, fortunately, he saw a badge on the bloke's donkey jacket. This, however, was a minor incident, and generally our strategy worked very well. Outside Rackhams, one fascist activist tried to give a leaflet to one of our comrades - you should have seen the look of surprise on his face when he got punched in it. Another fascist walked right into the middle of a gang of us.

While the march was tied-up on Church Street, we were having great fun on Fargate one fascist thought he would be safe hiding in Bradleys record store, only to end up on the floor among a pile of album covers.

We've always said that fascists are cowards, but the 'Political Soldiers' really went over the top that day. Many of them were big lads, but as soon as they got thumped they started squealing for the police, or whining how they weren't really fascists - None of them even hit back, and they were quite content to watch their fallen comrades having the shit kicked out of them outside the Market. Some local Skinheads, who undoubtedly knew about the attack at the Market, popped their snouts out of the doorway of 'The Cannon' just in time to see their political mentors chewing the Tarmac, they quickly fled back inside (Yes, we saw you Adolf).

Our last confrontation of the day came after the march got to the City Hall, and we went to slake our thirsts after a good day's fascist bashing. The pub we chose was some way from the City Centre, and there was only about 8 of us. We were sat in the back room when a large gang of about 30 fascists came in, (they were mainly from London, but some had Irish accents). They included a few 'faces', and they were as surprised as we were by our mutual choice of boozier. One of them used the phone, and we decided that if there was going to be a set-to we'd have it now and preferably outside the pub. The first of our number opened the door of the back room and walked through the fascists, with the rest of our comrades following him. Included in the fascist gang were scum who'd received pastings earlier on, but they all kept out of the way while the first two Anarchists walked to the door, none of them even looked at them. But the third of our number in the line to the door, was smaller, and one of the master-race thought he'd have a go. We were heavily outnumbered and had our backs to the wall, it was no time for 'Queensbury Rules' - the fascist concerned will know what we mean - he was in a mess. Despite the fact that the Fasc had us outnumbered, and were in a good strategic position, with glasses in their hands, none of them even moved to help him out.

We were prepared for trouble in the evening, but such was the pasting the fascists received, that they couldn't get out of Sheffield fast enough.

The crushing of the fascist machine that day was a great victory, for us, and for anti-fascists everywhere. But, if the fascists think we're going to be content to rest on our laurels for a while, they're mistaken. The war won't be over until we've wiped them out once and for all. So fascists be warned, we know who you are, we know where your rat-holes are, and we've got you on the run - You better start thinking NOW about whether you can take the heat, because it's going to get very hot for you.



FOR A FULL IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF BRITISH FASCISM TODAY, PARTICULARLY RELATING TO SHEFFIELD, SEE 'THE STRUGGLE AGAINST FASCISM : THEN & NOW' IN THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST VOL 3 No 12 AVAILABLE PRICE 35P + 20P POSTAGE FROM P.O. Box 217, SHEFFIELD, S1 1FD. CHEQUES/P.O.S SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO 'SHEFFIELD LIBERTARIAN SOCIETY'

THE LABORE PARTY

The involvement of the Labore Party in the organising of this year's 'Bloody Sunday' march could have been a *total* disaster. Why they were allowed to be involved at all considering their previous record on pro-Irish marches in Sheffield is beyond us. Previously Sheffield City Council have banned one march and effectively sabotaged another by organising an 'anti-racist' march to start at the same time and place. Their behaviour is understandable when you consider Labore's appalling record on Ireland: Sending troops in, introducing internment, the P.T.A., etc. So we really can't understand why they were trusted this time round. As we'd have expected, they used the usual Labore Party tactics to try and neutralise any *radical* elements involved with the march. At the rally after the march, they attempted to control which speakers were allowed to speak, and which ones were silenced, this caused a punch-up.

Their involvement with the march's organisation had been comradely and softly-softly at first, but the other groups should have known that accepting offers of assistance from the Labore Party is like accepting wooden horses from Greeks. The Labore Party will put the kiss of death on anything it considers too radical and/or not completely under its control.

By the time of the march, the Labore Party had manouvered themselves into a position of complete control. They wouldn't even let the Trot groups have their own stewards - and we all know how much they love their stewards. They refused to even discuss the possibility of the march being attacked, other than distributing a leaflet with the following advice:

IF THE MARCH IS ATTACKED / A DEMONSTRATOR IS ARRESTED

1. There should be no speeding up or breaking of ranks
DON'T LET THE MARCH BE DIVIDED.
2. It is up to the stewards to get the situation under control - **make sure the stewards know what has happened.**
3. **DON'T STOP OR SIT DOWN.**
4. The stewards will stop the march **FROM THE FRONT** and - if need be - the march will sit down **FROM THE FRONT, BACKWARDS. DON'T STOP OR SIT DOWN UNTIL THE CONTINGENT IN FRONT OF YOU HAS STOPPED OR SAT DOWN.**
5. The march should start up again on the word of the stewards from the contingent affected - once they have the situation under control.

The same leaflet gave a list of officially approved slogans (which marchers were told to stick to) which made "4 legs good, 2 legs better" sound like a coherent political statement. "1,2,3,4 Open up Magahaberry door! 5,6,7,8 Open up the H-Block gate!" sounded like a pack of pissed-up Alsatian dogs with hair-lips trying to read the football results, but at least it rhymed, unlike the others.

When the first coach-load of marchers arrived at the assembly point, a traditional place for a fascist attack, there wasn't even anyone there to meet them.

The Labore Party did all they possibly could to sabotage the day's events. We'd expect the Trots, who form the Labore Party's political satellites, to be conned by these shits, but how the hell Anarchists working in the A.F.A. ('Anti-Fascist Action') can be stupid enough to trust them is beyond us.

DISSAPOINTMENTS

Dissappointing, but predictable, was the fact that the involvement of working class Sheffielders in the day's events was almost non-existent. Despite its importance to the working class, the issue of Ireland is usually presented as a highly complicated subject, only understandable in a party-political light. It is presented for middle class 'political' trendies by middle class political trendies. So, although many people in Sheffield have a good understanding of the situation in Ireland, the march of a bunch of these "middle-class political trendies" through "our City" on a crowded Saturday is seen, at best, as an inconvenience, at worst, there was open hostility. In many ways the 'Bloody Sunday' march was like an N.F. march through a black area, and so the hostility of many 'non-partisan' people towards it was, to some extent, understandable. A large section of Irish Nationalists at the front of the march behaved as if they had come to 'conquer' the City, angrily stamping around repeatedly chanting "I.R.A! I.R.A!", they appeared like a bunch of football hooligans who were just causing trouble. This is clearly not the way to educate the English working class about Ireland.

As far as resistance to the presence of fascists around the march goes, it is obvious that the likelihood of a fascist presence was not communicated to the people of Sheffield. It's not that there is no opposition to fascism - if a fascist march was staged through Sheffield there is no doubt that there would be large public opposition, but in this case the people of Sheffield were reduced to mere-spectators in a tragi-comedy that appeared to have no relevance at all to them.

Demonstrations of this kind are simply used by the 'left' as market-places to sell papers to each other, and so it was another disappointment to us to see that some Anarcha-Syndicalists (D.A.M.) thought that their place was walking up and down trying to sell copies of their paper 'Direct Action' to other marchers, rather than being involved in the real direct action taking place that day.

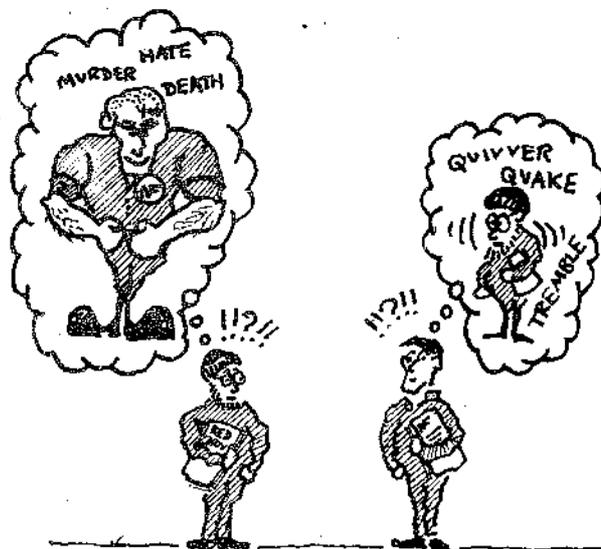
MYTHS

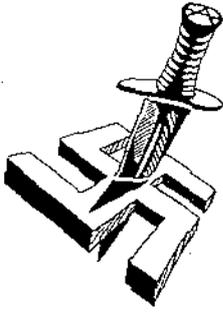
We find it sick that in battling against organised fascism, we not only have to take on fascist propaganda, but also the same propaganda re-sold to us by the bleeding-heart liberals of the 'left'. We are talking about the 'master-race'/'political-soldier' syndrome and its left-wing mirror-image, the 'martyr'/'victim' syndrome. The fascist press is full of crap about the fascist 'street-fighting man', the 'political soldier' sweeping aside lesser 'racial-enemies' and the 'weak-kneed wimps' of the left - This is nothing more than a wanking fantasy, and as we have seen the reality is rather different. However, the left-wing press has its own masochistic wet-dream, it is full of the same kind of crap, portraying the Fasc as 'psychopaths', 'street-thugs' and 'heavies' and anti-fascists as their victims. This is nothing more than fuel for the fascist furnace, and we will have nothing to do with it.

The fact is we are not a bunch of macho 'ard-cases, we don't have to be to take on the fascists, and those who think otherwise are mistaken. The group of us who took on the fascists who came over for the 'Bloody Sunday' demo was not particularly large, and it was composed of women and men. But we have a strength out of all proportion to our numbers or individual size, because we know that we'll back each other up. We can all play our part in combatting fascism, and macho bores can fuck off, so can those who try to parody us,

either as thickies just after a punch-up or alternatively, as weak-kneed lefties.

Organising effectively, together, we can beat the fascists hands down.





LEEDS

For years Leeds has been the stronghold of fascism in the North. The open fascist presence in Leeds city centre has acted as their greatest tool of propaganda and recruitment and has also served to frighten off much significant anti-fascist resistance. Anti-fascist activity has occurred in the past but where this has been on a large scale it has usually been co-opted by the A.F.A. (a Labour Party-led liberal "anti-racist" front composed of various Trot groups as well as some non-aligned groups and individuals, such as the Asian Youth Movement) who have turned things to their own political advantage. The A.F.A. is notorious amongst genuine anti-fascists; for example at an anti-NF demonstration in Liverpool, July 1986, they effectively withheld information on the NF's whereabouts until the fascists had had time to scuttle off. In the meanwhile the A.F.A. flogged its literature, gave its speeches and kept the cops informed. A similar withholding of information and shepherding of anti-fascists occurred at the opening of the Nelson Mandela Gardens in Leeds city centre, July 1986. The BNP (British National Party) and the NF were effectively let off the hook by the A.F.A.'s dissipating the anti-fascist anger. In this case the only real action against the fascists occurred "in private".

In February of this year the A.F.A. organised a week of anti-fascist action in Leeds. The action consisted of several discussions and debates, a gig and a peaceful disruption of the fascist city centre paper sales. This 'disruption' involved dishing out leaflets further up the road from the fascists who continued their paper sale! (Reminiscent of Leeds Class War who used to share the same pitch as the fascists!) In fact this action, as well as not being very disruptive, wasn't peaceful either. Three people were set upon by fascists much to the disgust of the A.F.A. stewards - not disgust that three of their comrades were being beaten up, they were more upset at the idea that their organisations "good" name might become associated with violence. The gutless A.F.A. even went as far as to chastise the people who dived in to rescue their beleaguered comrades! Fortunately there were no serious injuries to any of these genuine anti-fascists. Unfortunately no-one got around to thumping an A.F.A. steward in the mush.

Non-plussed with the A.F.A. brand of (in)action local anarchists decided that it was high time that the fascists met with some real resistance. A group of over thirty anarchists met on Saturday, March 21st, walked down to the fascist paper sellers pitch and gave them a good hiding. As during the Bloody Sunday rally in Sheffield the fascist "super-race" put up no resistance whatsoever (though a few heroic women were brave enough to chant "red scum! red scum!" as their boyfriends were kicked to the floor). Indeed half of the fascists managed to scarp off up the road before they could be beaten to the floor. The few who remained (not by choice) were given a pasting. Three were hospitalised and all of their leaflets and papers 'sequestered'. None of the anti-fascists were injured by fascists, though one lad slipped over and broke an arm while walking away (Get well soon from THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST).

The action was marred by the arrest of four anti-fascists who acted remarkably stupidly: they were arrested TEN MINUTES after the attack! When everyone else had dispersed more or less immediately. Its a tough way to learn a simple lesson - don't hang around afterwards. If the coppers hadn't of collared them the fascists undoubtedly would have.

The event made headline news in the Yorkshire Evening Post (at least it seems to be this action):

Continued...

"BOVVER SQUAD ON THE RAMPAGE. VIOLENCE FLARED IN A LEEDS SHOPPING CENTRE TODAY WHEN A "SQUAD" OF BOVVER-BOOTED HOOLIGANS MOUNTED AN ATTACK ON A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE SELLING LEFT-WING NEWSPAPERS."

You need a pretty extreme Right-wing outlook to consider Leeds BNP to be "Left wing" paper sellers. Though the Yorkshire Evening Post, like Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Police are always loath to admit the number of fascists who walk the streets of Leeds. In connection with the recent installation of surveillance cameras at Elland Road (Leeds Utd. football ground) to monitor racists in the crowd, Coun. John Trickett (chairman of Leeds Council Finance Committee) claimed that there was a small group of perhaps two dozen racists who gave Leeds Utd. a bad reputation! Mind you councillors and journalists always have a hazy conception of the life they observe from a distance, though no doubt they underplay the amount of fascist activity in Leeds for their own ends. As for the police in Leeds they are well known for their habit of helping fascists out of the odd tight spot - only in the interests of public order, of course!

Undoubtedly some of the success of the action on March 21st in Leeds must be attributed to the fact that the Leeds fascists had become fat and lazy, never expecting that they would be physically attacked at the heart of their territory (the A.F.A. gasbags present no threat to them). They will have to be on the alert now, for the anti-fascists have gained great confidence from a fine victory.

ANARCHIST BOOKSTALL,

The following are just a few of the books from our large and extensive Anarchist bookstall. For a full list of books and magazines please send 10p (photocopying charge) and an S.A.E. to the address below. Or take out a 'Supporting Subscription' and you'll receive one with each issue of the paper.

'ABC OF ANARCHISM' by Alexander Berkman, 86 pages, £1.50 + 35p postage & packing.
- Classic and very readable introduction to Anarchist-Communism.

'ANARCHY' by Errico Malatesta, 54 pages, 75p + 30p postage & packing.
- A writer of passion and conviction, here Malatesta expounds his theories on Anarchism.

'THE FLOODGATES OF ANARCHY' by Stuart Christie and Albert Meltzer, 160 pages, £3.25 + 50p postage & packing.
- Lucid exposition of revolutionary Anarchist thought and its connection with the 20th Century.

'LIKE A SUMMER WITH A THOUSAND JULY'S', 57 pages, £1.00 + 45p postage and packing.
- Large format book on the '81 riots and contemporary Britain. Highly recommended.

BACK ISSUES OF 'THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST'

We still have a few copies of the following back issues, which we are selling off at cost price.

Vol 3 No 10 Autumn 1985 - Handsworth riot, Live Aid, Sheffield City Council:
Controlling Dissent, Stonehenge. 25p + 20p post.

Vol 3 No 11 Winter 1986 - Pornography, Xmas, Between The Devil And The T.U.C.:
Sheffield City Council and Work, Glasgow Rent Strike. 20p + 20p post.

Vol 3 No 12 Spring 1986 - May Day, The Struggle Against Fascism, Psychiatry,
Anarchist theory. 35p + 20p post.

Vol 3 No 13 Summer 1986 - Teenage girls magazines, Anarchist press
20p + 20p post.

Vol 4 No 2 Winter 1987 - Work, Technology, Prison Struggle. 25p + 20p post.

Please note that if several books/magazines are ordered at once, the total postage and packing may be less than that stated. If this is the case we will refund the difference, or send extra pamphlets/magazines, as you wish. Or, if you want, you can donate it. Cheques/P.O.s should be made out to 'Sheffield Libertarian Society'.

Labore's Record



Isn't it funny how every time the Labore Party are in opposition, they try to completely disassociate themselves from the previous Labore government, in an attempt to con us into giving them 'another chance'? But, when they get into power it's different, they behave in exactly the same way as the Tories; trampling the working-class underfoot to defend capitalism. Sheffieldsers should know better, but after 8 years of the parliamentary Labore Party in opposition, it could be easy to forget just what a set of bastards they are in power. So, here's a brief reminder.

Wages. Under the Social Contract imposed by the last Labore government, wages fell more sharply than at any time since the 19th Century. In 2 years, workers real wages were cut by 10%.

Unemployment more than doubled under the last Labore government.

Health and Education. Thatcher's public spending cuts are a continuation of the policy of the last Labore government which cut school and hospital building programmes almost to zero.

Housing. Under the last Labore government fewer council houses were built than in any year since 1945.

Nuclear Weapons were introduced by the 1945 Labore government, and every Labore government since has continued to build up Britain's nuclear arsenal. In 1964 Labore came to power committed to abolishing nuclear weapons in Britain, the cabinet took a secret decision to spend £1 Billion on modernising the Polaris missile. Britain's first nuclear submarine was named the 'Resolution'. The last Labore government increased commitment to NATO by raising defence spending by 3% per year, while it cut £4 Billion off other areas of public spending in 1976 alone.

Nuclear Power. Labore introduced Britain's nuclear power programme. Tony Benn, as Energy Minister, used troops to break a strike by nuclear power workers for better conditions at Windscale. Labore went on to make further strikes by nuclear power workers illegal.

The Miners. The 1964 Labore government shut one pit almost every week for 4 years. More than 150,000 jobs were lost.

The 1974 'Plan for Coal' introduced by the new Labore government called for productivity rises of 4% per year at the expense of jobs.

In 1977, Tony Benn, Minister of Energy, combined with the NCB and NUM leaders to force the productivity scheme on the miners who had previously voted to reject it. This led to big wage differences between areas, undermining the national unity of the miners.

The 1974-79 Labore government reduced coal output, shut 23 pits, and cut 11,000 jobs.

Striking Workers. *"I control public spending in this country, and so long as I control it you cannot win. In short, gentlemen, the situation is this: I must destroy you."* This wasn't said by Thatcher to the miners, but by the last Labore Prime-Minister, James Callaghan, in 1977, to a meeting of striking firemen. The Labore government went on to break the strike with the help of the army.

In 1979, the Labore government again used troops to break the tanker drivers strike in Northern Ireland.

Previous Labore governments had used troops to break strikes by dockers, lorry drivers, power workers, binmen, gas workers, nuclear power workers, and... boiler stokers at Buckingham Palace. The 1945 Labore government sent in troops against London dockers on strike for a pay rise only 5 days after being elected.

Ireland. Labore sent troops into Ireland, introduced internment (imprisonment without trial), no-jury courts and 'The Prevention of Terrorism Act'.

Anybody who thinks Kinnock will behave any better than Callaghan or Wilson should witness the way he condemned the striking miners or the way he scabbed on the striking printers.

Womens' Healthcare: the myths + facts.

It is the vital aim and responsibility in each individual's life to have control over their own physical well-being. However, for women in particular this responsibility is increasingly taken over by, so-called medical professionals and politicians. The patriarchal power structures within the medical profession are as evident today, as they have been historically. Just take for example, the attitudes towards childbirth: Even in Anglo-Saxon times (where the word "midwife" originates - meaning "with woman") women have been under attack for attending other women in childbirth. At times they have been classed as witches, and put to death: generally by men in powerful positions (eg. priests, medicine-men). More and more rapidly over the centuries childbirth has changed from a personal and socially meaningful event to a technologically-orientated, male domain where the nurses and midwives have become "hand maidens", to the "specialist" doctor. Indeed, the professionalisation of medicine had a specific effect on women - they were excluded. It can be seen that the rise of scientific medicine and the suppression of women within medicine are closely linked.

However, when looking at the structure of health care, we cannot see it only in the gender struggle terms. As anarchists' the dominating view for us is how health care is integrated within the Capitalist system; how it mirrors the class barriers, exploitation, corruption, and the Capitalist ideology and organisation with a subordinate role for women.

TODAY.

The establishment of the National Health Service (N.H.S.) in 1948, based on the belief that adequate health care be made available to every citizen "on the basis of need irrespective of means", has come to be seen as utter bullshit. Even a governmental 'Black Report' emphasised this in 1980, showing mortality rates (especially for infants) increasing, depending of course on class! Hence, the statement "Wealth Buys Health" rings true.

The inadequacies of the N.H.S. (ie. waiting lists, inefficient staffing, etc), are of course, self-evident to anyone who has used it. However, what I wish to dwell on in the rest of this article are major inadequacies which I and many other women have encountered within women's health care under the present system. These concern: MENSTRUATION, CONTRACEPTION AND CERVICAL CANCER.

MENSTRUATION.

This is the periodic loss of blood from the womb as its lining breaks down. Most women are going to experience menstruation 300 times in their lives, and for some women this means 7 days absolute seclusion as in Moslem, Hindu and Orthodox Jewish cultures. What is seemingly a natural process has become a technical one and has come to have an implicit control on women's lives.

Women have become a captive market for the two commercial monopolies that have emerged under Capitalism: "Southall's", and "Tampax". These sell 80% of the sanitary protection in this country. It has been estimated that every woman will spend at least £350 in a life-time on sanitary protection. So it can be seen that the profits are going to be very high indeed. In 1975 the Price Commission found that Southall's and Tampax made nearly £3,000,000 in profit! And, of course there is the Government imposed V.A.T. of 15% on sanitary protection. So, not only do most women have to suffer the dreaded "Curse" every month, but they also are thoroughly exploited for something that is beyond their control.

Continued...

POWER GROUP.

In 1975 the Free Sanitary Protection Campaign confronted the manufacturers directly, and women on the whole were really enthusiastic about it - after all its an issue that affects them all. However, sanitary protection as we've seen is BIG BUSINESS, both for private companies and in tax for the Government - so, with the lack of results, the campaign eventually petered out.

Some Alternatives to Commercial Sanitary Protection.

- A. Diaphragms - Have been used by some women to collect blood, it holds a lot more than towels or tampons and its re-usable.
- B. Menstual Extraction - This is with the Karman Cannula, it gets the period over in ten minutes rather than 5 days. Some women say it painful.
- C. Natural Sponges - They are softer and don't irritate the vagina. They can be used again and again, hence they are much cheaper. Sponges with small holes absorb more and a piece of strong string needs to be tied to one end. Wash with warm water and soap, squeeze out and use again. One sponge will last several periods, and doesn't require sterilizing as far as we're aware.
- D. Steal your sanitary protection.

CONTRACEPTION.

Brief History.

The Birth Control Movement dates from 1877, the Malthusian League being one of the major supporters of it. This League was influenced by the thinking of Thomas Malthus, who held that that the main cause of poverty was over-population among the poor. It had a middle and upper class appeal, emphasising birth control relieving the burden of the middle-class. There were also, those supporters whose aim it was to improve the "lot of women", giving women the choice to have children if and when they wanted them.

Emma Goldman, a feminist and anarchist in the late 18th century and early 19th century was devoted to the struggle for womens' emancipation and a change in the birth control laws. In 1916, she was arrested in America for her open air, street corner speeches on birth control claiming that "women should open their mouths and close their wombs."

Continued...



Continued...

The only answer that the medical profession has come up with were the withdrawal of a number of brands, in 1969 which contained high doses of oestrogen, which is seen to be linked with a high cancer risk. Indeed, today the new brands have a reduced dosage and sometimes no oestrogen content at all. However, a question that arises in most women's minds is: "Is this good enough, why are the forms of contraception so limited and research so lacking?". It seems that women bear the brunt of the risk-taking, and globally Third World women especially. The "Pill", itself was originally tested in Puerto Rico, not the U.S.A. as is often stated.

These findings however, only relate to a few known diseases and side-effects, the connection with cancer, liver damage and several others is still not properly understood.

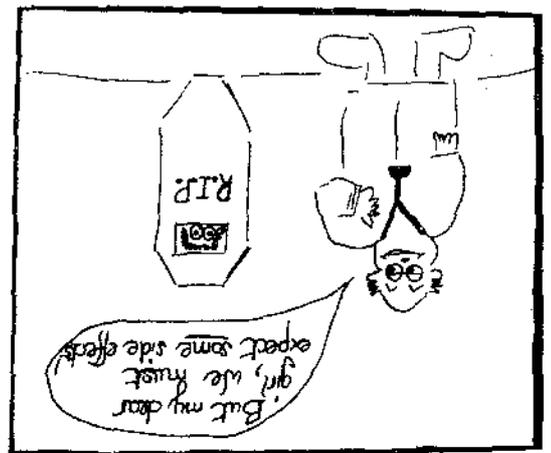
Sterility - In 1976 reports were published that long-term sterility might be caused by the "Pill".

Circulatory Diseases - Such as heart attacks and strokes. In 1977 studies indicating the risk of dying from these is 5 times greater for women taking the "Pill", than those not.

Thrombembolism - A blood clot inside a blood vessel, that may break off and travel around the body, eventually blocking a smaller blood vessel. It was 8 years after the "Pill" was launched that first, real evidence about this was published.

Side-effects.

The "Pill" was widely tested before it was launched, but most of the tests were to demonstrate that it worked as a contraceptive, not that it was absolutely safe!



Birth Control Today: Recent Developments.

Most people know of the available major forms of contraceptives today, indeed pessaries were all available as far back as the 1880's. It is however, the "Pill" that has transformed contraception since the 1960's. Today, about 50 million women throughout the world take the "Pill", 3 million of these are in Britain (this is 1 in every 3 women of childbearing age). The "Pill" has become virtually synonymous with birth control in the West, there are about 45 different brands, some only different in name. Questions of safety and unwanted side-effects arose quite early, however in the 1960's and even today the counter propaganda is that of a 'liberator of women's sexuality'. This of course is the medical sham, as one American feminist stated with the "Pill" women "pick their poison".

In the 1920's the campaign for birth control became linked with socialism, with the formation of Workers' Birth Control Group aimed chiefly at the Labour Party. Hence, the Labour Women's Conference in 1924 came out in favour of birth control clinics.

So in the 1950's and 1960's with the idea of a 'population explosion', being put forward by drug companies, the Government legislated and later sponsored birth control giving it that respectability and backing of science it required.

Depo-provera, an injection taken every 3 or 6 months, was tested in the Third World, when it failed to gain approval in the U.K. and U.S.A., even though there is evidence that it might cause cancer and sterility. This is where we see the forces of Capitalism at play, where human life becomes cheap in comparison to the gaining of profit. Drug multi-nationals use people in Third World Countries as guinea-pigs for the testing of drugs: Upjohn, the U.S. based multi-national being the one that produces Depo-provera. Even, in Britain today there is nothing stopping doctors from prescribing Depo-provera, because it is licenced for short-term use. Indeed, working class women in particular in the East End of London and in Glasgow have been prescribed it by doctors who had decided that they were "unreliable" with other contraceptive methods.

Surely it is no coincidence that these working class women, like the women in the Third World are in a vulnerable situation, where they are forced to play a passive and subordinate role as the "patient" when really they are the "guinea-pigs". Having personally seen the leaflet given to women prescribed Depo-provera, I consider it grossly inadequate: It mentions no serious side-effects, except weight gain and depression. In Sheffield Depo-provera is being prescribed at some birth control clinics and the Pregnancy Advisory Centre on West Street.

CERVICAL CANCER.

The number of women found to have cervical cancer are on the increase and the medical profession has not to date produced any conclusive evidence as to why: Genital herpes, warts and the "Pill" have been linked with the increase. Deaths from cervical cancer amount to approximately 2,200 a year. However, under the present system very little adequate facilities are provided to cope with the problem.

Forms of Prevention and Treatment.

Smear Test: This is where a "scrape" is taken from the lining of the cervix. It has been found in some cases to be inaccurate and inconsistent.

Colposcope: This is described as a microscope-cum-periscope and enables a biopsy (a sample of tissue) to be taken quickly and painlessly with anaesthetic. It is the only way to be absolutely sure, it has a much higher degree of accuracy and can detect the exact site of the cells. Of course the colposcope should be the basic equipment in every hospital, however less than 10% of hospitals have a single colposcope at this time of writing. They cost approximately £4,000.

Laser Cure: This is the major form of treatment of cervical cancer, it is where a beam of light is directed to the affected part of the cervix, evaporating the cells, a local anaesthetic ensures there is no pain and 4 weeks later the cervix is totally healed. It has a 96% success rate, however yet again there is an inadequate number of these. Their cost is approximately £20,000.

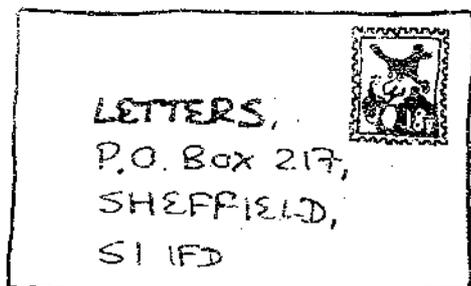
As well as the lack of efficient and effective treatment for cervical cancer there is also, a great lack of communication. Women are often isolated, in fear and confusion about what is happening to their bodies. It takes a great deal of willpower and confidence to ask sometimes the most simple questions, let alone the ones vital to our lives'.

Healthcare under Capitalism has been turned into a product, where in a consumer-orientated society we have come to expect healthcare to be neatly packaged, as a cure for all ills. This is maintained and encouraged by the medical establishment, reinforcing their 'specialist' status and power. Pills and other prescriptions, of course will not eliminate poverty, poor working conditions and pay, stressful home circumstances, etc. Healthcare as a product of Capitalism maintains the 'sickness syndrome', the real problems are never tackled, nor will they ever be under the present exploitative system.



In our strive
for anarchism we
free our bodies
and minds.

SUE



Sheffield Anarchists,

Got hold of a copy of THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST Vol 4 No 1, Autumn 1985. I've read it from cover to cover and like it a lot. You don't waffle like a lot of Anarchist publications. I'm pleased you broke with 'Class War'. As an ex-participant in 'Class War' they will not get very far due to being really vanguardist. This is my opinion.

London's Anarchists on a whole are so split, from Liberal Anarchists to direct action Anarchists. Too much time seems to be spent marching, meeting and talking. For example 'C.A.P.-O.A. ['Campaign Against the Public Order Act'] and 'C.A.P.R. ['Campaign Against Police Repression']', though not strictly Anarchist, are the only people who are fighting against the Public Order Act. What are London @s doing; sweet fuck all (except going on the illegal demo 4/4/87).

Anarchists are a wide bunch of humans, from wets to radicals. What I want to see is the liberal @s fuck off and let the other @s get on with creating Anarchism and Anarchy. You seem to be a bunch of radical Anarchists, which is good. @s in a lot of ways don't want confrontation it seems. Violence must be used to win. Pacifists, Armchair Anarchists, wets, liberals, etc can fuck off. This is a fucking war. And the only way we are going to win is to use all our resources. Blood must be spilt (preferably theirs). So many @s live in/on Cloud 9. We will get no fucking where unless there is action, action and more bloody action. Nothing will change till we force a change. Forward for the radical @s. Fuck off wets you're counter-productive and reactionary and will stop the revolution rather than help it. Wet @s are like cops - the enemy. O.K. people may say you

have the right to be wet, but not when you are part of the @ movement. Because wets stop the radicals from fighting with their waffle. Example- An @ group meeting, say 12 people, and 3 are wets. If the wets were not there, the 9 would agree and get on with the job in hand. But the 3 wets would put down e.g. violence, and try to twist radicals by saying e.g. you're over the top. The Anarchist movement ain't getting as far as they should coz of wet @s. Maybe non-action @s, e.g. armchair @s are MI5 spys to stop @s taking off. To me as a radical @, to see these wets at work manipulating action @s really pisses me off.

'Class War' condemned the 'Angry Brigade'. But terrorism (not the right word) works, as long as it's carried out without mistakes.

Anyway, as you can see I'm an angry @ and want to see more actions and less apathy. It is about time to get out on the streets and attack the scum in this system. Nothing will change till we smash the scum and run our own lives.

Forward extremist Anarchists.

We, the unqualified, have been doing so much, with so little, for so long, we now attempt the impossible, with nothing.

I wish you good luck in the future.

Yours for Anarchy + riots in 1987

MARK (Garfield Militia)

Dear Comrades,

I meant to send you a copy of this* a couple of months ago, and forgot. So here's a copy from the second print-run, which was just rolling off the presses, when Dean and Dubbins did the predictable. So it's sort of turned into a souvenir/commemorative cartoon...

Your Vol 4 No 2 issue is brilliant - nice to see good coherent slaggings (RCP & Conflict), and good writing about work etc. The only shit thing is Duncan's reply to the ♀'s letters about SCUM Manifesto. It's obviously balls to say that women can be sexist, and black people can be racist..... blah, blah, blah.

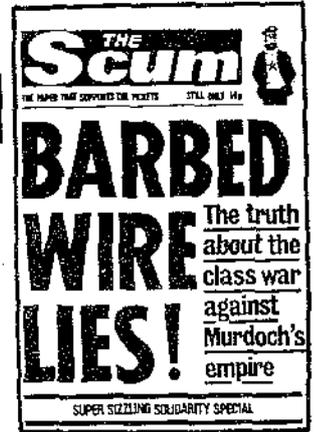
Take Care...

Love and Strength,

Ruffle xxx

* - 'BARBED WIRE LIES'. See REVIEWS.

REVIEWS



BARBED WIRE LIES by Catalyst

The story so far... Tintin, the young hero of comic books and T.V. cartoons, has spent a lifetime as a puppet of the State. Everyday life for him has consisted of catching assorted criminals and terrorists; acting pally with those archetypal civil-servants - the Thompson Twins; hob-nobbing with Professor Calculus and the scientific elite (who knows what mega-death weapon they are developing for the multinational arms companies); and no doubt he'd have voted Conservative if he was old enough. Then, one morning in 1986 Tintin wakes up and before you know it he's up and off to Wapping to support the print workers. A miraculous conversion to the class struggle if ever there was one! Now read on...

In 'BARBED WIRE LIES - The truth about the class war against Murdoch's empire' we follow Tintin to the Wapping picket lines and to a TNT (scab) depot where various acts of sabotage are committed (tut! tut!). Along the way he learns why he ought to support the print workers (even though they "earn 1000s putting out racist and sexist crap like The Sun"); whose side the union bureaucrats are really on (the chances of the unions really fighting Murdoch and his class are about as high as those of catching the queen farting in public); and the futility and stupidity of trusting to the Left (Labore party, Militant, assorted paper sellers, etc.) to sort things out.



Although the printers' fight has recently subsided that's not to say that this booklet is now out of date - the history and events of the dispute are well worth remembering and the messages contained in these cartoons are relevant to pretty well all contemporary industrial disputes.

As a means of propoganda it is excellent - well drawn, easy to follow and humorous. Other anarchists might take a lesson from this when producing their own material. (Its just a pity that Snowy the dog doesn't get more lines to say).

Copies of 'BARBED WIRE LIES' can be obtained directly from Sheffield Anarchists.
Price: 10p + 20p postage.

*****THE SCHOOL STOPPERS HANDBOOK*****

We are currently collecting material for a new edition of THE SCHOOL STOPPERS HANDBOOK. If you have any tips or suggestions for constructive sabotage, that you would like to pass on to other School Stoppers, please let us have them.

THE JOE BLACK COLUMN



Have you been down Fargate lately? Talk about 'The Marketplace of Ideology'! All those people who said they most hated double-glazing salesmen in a recent poll, should take a stroll (or try) down religion's Skid Row on a Saturday afternoon, and see if they can't think of anybody else they'd rather meet down a dark alley.

It's those poor bastards; THE SHEFFIELD ANARCHIST paper-sellers, that I feel sorry for. As if having to stand there all afternoon selling papers to you miserable sods wasn't enough, without having to put up with stereophonic ear-ache from 2 different groups of Born-Again Christians. (It's a shame they had to be born the fuckin' first time round if you ask me.)

Several years ago, when our comrades moved from the bottom of Fargate ('The Rump End'), where political literature was traditionally purveyed, to their present pitch (so that they wouldn't be associated with the Trots), it was like moving from the Town Hall Housing Department to a W.R.P. meeting: In terms of more space, not less ear-ache, that is. (Mind you, as I hear that the 'Workers Revolutionary Party' are presently holding their meetings in a phone-box at Hunters Bar, this analogy might not apply any more. Then again, it might.)* Now, it's like being present at the religious bizarre scene from 'Life of Brian' - *Bizarre* is the word.

All the religions are there: the Mormons, the Born-Again Christians, the Jehovah's Witnesses, 'Militant', even the odd (odd being the operative word) Hare Krishna. On top of this lot, there's a good few of the 57 varieties of Marxism touting for business, half-a-dozen charities, and in the middle of all this are our beleaguered comrades - They've gotta be fuckin' crackers, right? I know, I tell them all the time, but they're such a dedicated bunch, either that or they haven't got anything better to do with their Saturday afternoons.

Still, listening to those Christians can be like an X-rated version of Marge Proops gone beserk. Perhaps my comrades are closet agony aunts! Every week the God Squad are spilling out their guts. What a bunch; they make a drunken mob of Attila the Hun's henchmen trying to out boast each other sound like Flower People with gags in. They drone through their confessions hour after hour, week after week: How they've spent the last 30 years in the nick, how they used to be wife-batterers, murderers, child-abusers, Satanists, Mods, Rockers, Hells-Angels, smack-heads, *Communists!* And they stand there self-righteously shouting at all the 'sinners' unlucky enough to be passing by, to repent, to confess!...To what?? Not reading the bible, having sex 'out of wedlock', being gay?!! What a bunch of arseholes! The funniest thing about these weak-spirited, moronic bigots, these ex-glue-sniffers, ex-youth-cultists, ex-smack-heads is that they think they've *changed!!!*

* - You may wonder why I've bothered to mention this obscure sect of political dinosaurs. Well, they've been complaining that they never get slagged off in my column, along with the rest of the Trots. So, seeming as I'm such a kind-hearted soul, I thought I'd let them know that, unlike the rest of the working class, I am vaguely aware of their existence. To be honest, I thought they'd gone to South America with all the cash they ripped-off from the miners during The Strike. But, perhaps their discredited ex-leader, Gerry Healey, spent all that on massage parlour services before he was unfrocked, if massage parlours charge on a £ for 1b basis, he could well have spent it very quickly indeed.

Continued...

I WAS JUST ON MY WAY TO THE LAUNDETTTE WHEN THIS UNIFORMED MAN...

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO HAVE DONE NOW.

OH GOD! ANYTHING BUT THIS OLD RUBBISH.

WELL, TONIGHT LADIES & GENTS TAKE HATS OFF TO THE WOMEN FOLK.

AT IS YOU'D LEFT SCHOOL AND HAD A JOB AS AN OFFICE JUNIOR DO YOU REMEMBER THIS VOICE?

LAUNDRY

CLAP CLAP

NICE FIRM TITTIES EH? LET'S HAVE A BIT OF FUN.

YES, YOUR OLD BOSS, AND YOU HAVEN'T MET FOR 20 YEARS.

I'D PAY YOU MORE THAN £5 A WEEK NOW TO PUT MY HAND UP YOUR SKIRT. HEH?

WELL I'M MISSING THE FOOTBALL JUST TO COME IN HERE ONE.

THEN WHEN YOU WERE 20 YOU MET THE OWNER OF THIS VOICE.

I SOMETIMES WONDER IF EVEN MY THOUGHTS ARE MY OWN.

CLAP CLAP

OLD LOVELY

THEY MUST BE SENTED

HE DOES SO MUCH!

AND SHORTLY AFTERWARDS THESE VOICES ENTERED YOUR LIFE...

WHO'S THE 'OLD BOSS' CREEP?

THE KIDS!

WE WANT THE LAUNDRY!

IS MOTHERHOOD REALLY A WOMAN'S FULFILMENT?

GET OFF I WANT TO GET ON HER LAP!

AND I BELIEVE YOU'RE EXPECTING ANOTHER LITTLE ARRIVAL SOON.

CLAP

CLAP

WAAAA

DO YOU CAN'T BE STERILISED DON'T AGREE WITH IT...

YES - YOUR FAMILY DOCTOR

GLAD TO HEAR THERE'S ANOTHER ON THE WAY.

CLAP TRAP MORE LIKE

CLAP CLAP CLAP

AND IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS YOU'VE GROWN TO KNOW THIS VOICE...

OTHER ACCOMODATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WE WILL ASSIST YOU WITH £200 WHEN YOU LEAVE

YES, ITS THAT VOICE MANY OF YOU WILL KNOW TODAY - THE PROPERTY SPECULATOR

BUSINESS IS BUSINESS YOU KNOW LET'S NOT LET SENTIMENT GET IN THE WAY.

DON'T THINK I'M SHAKING YOUR HAND SMARTASS

CLAP CLAP

WAAAA

SO THIS IS YOUR LIFE...

NOT ANY MORE IS NOT

THEY SAY LIFE