CAPITALISM: IT'S STONE AGE...

CLASS WAR
CLASS UNITY
CLASS PRIDE

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50p

CLUB TOGETHER...
CAPITALISM: IT'S STONE AGE...

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BEAT THE
...BEAT THE BOSSES

ROCK-HARD NEWS, VIEWS, SCANDAL & SPORT
what we say
THIS IS A WAR TO THE FINISH

This Summer saw the ruling class, the bosees and politicians step up their war against the majority of the population - us, the working class.

We've seen a grinning puppet set up as the leader of the Labour Party: a bossarcelliker if ever there was one.

We've seen enormous, obscene pay rises for the captains of industry, at the same time that the signal workers are attacked in the papers and Parliament, simply for fighting for a better standard of living.

CRIMINAL
There is no doubt that capitalism is lurching from one crisis to another. The things they do to us are part of their war against us. A war to keep us slaves to their economy. A war to make us cannon fodder for their horrific mistakes.

They think that by introducing law after law, like the current Criminal Justice Bill, they can tie up 'loopholes' and criminalise us at the drop of a hat if we do what we want and exercise the freedoms that are OUR right.

They have created a situation where the gap between us and them, between rich and poor, between their laws and what we know is real justice, is getting bigger and bigger.

This is their side of the class war and only WE can fight it.

The tools we must use are class unity, class strength and class war.

For more information about us turn to page 14 or ring the Class War Hotline on 0272 870050

IDENTITY CRISIS

One of the first things the new bastard, Transport Secretary, Dr Brian Mawinney, has announced is a massive change to driving licences.

By 1996, new provisional licences, then the existing 28 Million full licences will be replaced by bits of plastic, with the holder's photo on them. Plans are underway for them to include microchips that can carry all sorts of information about you: blood group, medical record, National Insurance number, and although they don't admit it, probably your criminal record.

FAILURE
After the government's failure to push through football ID cards, this is their next best thing; a far reaching ID card that it's harder, but not impossible, to avoid whether they'll try to make it law to carry the new licence at all times.

We do know from many European countries is that if you don't carry your ID card you can be nicked and seriously hassled. If you do, one stop and search by PC Plod and the cops know plenty about you.

A Home office report, published this August, shows that the prison population has an obscenely high proportion of Black, Asian and Chinese prisoners, far outweighing the national population figures.

It also proves that non-white prisoners are given longer stretches for the same crime as white prisoners. And that the government surprise and pretend outrage that MPs and their Select Committee are showing.

The ruling class and capitalism depend and thrive on the false divide that racism creates between Black, White, Asians and Whites.

But just like government, they're not very good at making their own plans work, after all who's going to do their dirty work? They're going to lay off 700 Swansea DVLC workers by 1997. We send out a whole list of people saying that MPs and their Select Committee are showing.

The ruling class and capitalism depend and thrive on the false divide that racism creates between Black, White, Asians and Whites.

In a society run by the bosses for the bosses, they will use and believe in tools like racism and racial stereotypes.

To destroy racist behaviour, we have to destroy the monopoly of the institutions
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FAILURE

After the government's failure to push through football ID cards, this is their next best thing: a far reaching ID card that it's harder, but not impossible, to avoid forging or having.

Tory and Labour tossers waffle on about 'Bringing us into line with Europe', they're keeping very quiet about whether they'll try to make it law to carry the new licence at all times.

We do know from many European countries is that if you don't carry your ID card you can be nicked and seriously hassled. If you do, one stop and search by PC Plod and the cops know plenty about you.

There's a whole list of implications if we let them get away with introducing these cards - more drivers being stopped, more people being nicked, less chance of folksing the law off with false names and addresses.

NOT VERY GOOD

But just like government, they're not very good at making their own plans work, after all who's going to do their dirty work ? They're going to lay off 700 Swansea DVLC workers by 1997. We send our solidarity to these workers and wish them well in any strike action and sabotage they see fit.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

the politics of class war

As the Left In Britain and elsewhere cry into their beer over the failure of their plans, we in Class War think it's about time to throw their methods into the dustbin of history and return to the basics. We argue here for the recreation of an independent revolutionary movement within the working class, inspired by the best traditions of unity and solidarity. This is our strength and class war.

RACE TO JAIL

Amazing as it may seem, the powers that be have just cottoned on to the obvious: their very own legal system is racist, and they're throwing up their hands in mock horror.

A Home Office report, published this August, shows that the prison population has an obscenely high proportion of Black, Asian and Chinese prisoners, far outweighing the national population figures.

It also proves that non-white prisoners are given longer stretches for the same crime as white prisoners. Not that the majority of prisoners should be there in the first place.

While Class War isn't surprised at the blatant proof that from judge to screw, racism is the order of the day, we are sickened by the mock surprise and pretend outrage that MPs and their Select Committee are showing.

The ruling class and capitalism depend and thrive on the false divide that racism creates between Black, White, and Asian. It helps them try to confuse us: anything that inhibits our side of the class war is good news for them.

It's therefore logical that in a society run by the bosses for the bosses, they will use and believe in tools like racism and racial stereotypes.

To destroy racist behaviour, we have to destroy the monopoly of the institutions that cause it.

And that makes Michael Howard, Home Secretary, one of the first to go to jail without passing go permanently.

WAR DIARY

27 June Police come under a hail of bricks and bottles when they move in to close a 'blues' club in Chapeltown, Leeds.

29 June Police in Leeds are set upon by a mob of 70 teenagers after they try to arrest a 20 year old man. One copper injured, hit with a wooden club, and one police vehicle is damaged.

4 July York postal workers stage a lightning strike when a shop steward is suspended. He is reinstated before the end of the day.

3 July Hundreds of people take part in a mass trespass on the site of the M3 extension at Twyford Down.

17 July A policewoman's nose is broken when 200 people turn
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WHAT THEY SAID...

"Statement of political intent from Britain's only credible revolutionaries... relevant, thought-provoking, often amusing..." THE FACE

"...Reveals a thoroughly reactionary disdain for the whole theoretical and practical struggle... to build a mass party capable of smashing the State and overthrowing the capitalist system". THE WORKERS' REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

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ROBIN
HOOD

Thomas Brennan gets a
badge from the War Diary
team! Tom used to be an
amusement arcade manager
for the 'entertainment' giant,
Rank, in Coalville, Leices-
shire...

That is until he decided
his bosses had well enough
loot to share - so he lightened
their pockets of £8,800.
Obviously having a class
consciousness to be proud of,
rather than skipping off to
America with his wife, Tom
and she took a holiday in
Ireland. On their return, he
gave all the rest of the cash,
£5,000, to poor people on
the streets of London.
He's currently on a six-
month stretch for this act
of heroism.

If any readers know which
gagol Tom's in, let us know so
we can send him some
goods.

Battling with bailiffs, crunching coppers or telling management where to get off? Maybe
you've had a "little chat" with anti social criminals in your community?
Whatever's going on in the class war, we want to know.
Send your news to: WAR DIARY, PO Box 772, Bristol BS99 1EL
TRAIN SPOTTING

The rail strike, made up of a handful of one-day strikes and 48-hour stoppages, needs more action and more support or it may not succeed.

The dispute over pay, by the 4,600 signalmen, has reached deadlock, with the government telling the rail boss, Railtrack, not to budge an inch or even re-offer the poxy 5.6 per cent pay rise the Transport Minister put the brakes on before the strike.

It’s obvious that the government’s intention is to beat the signalmen and demoralise the rest of the working class by showing us that strikes are pointless. With the massive public support the signalworkers have, this looks unlikely.

LEADERS

Time after time, union leaders let us down. Ultimately they are on the side of the boss and the status quo - they don’t want us to win anything but the occasional pay rise, which is just deciding the rate at which our work is exploited. So it’s quite safe for the likes of Labour’s John Prescott to be a darling of the unions - as they stand they are no challenge to capitalism, government or the boss.

To win a strike, certain things are vital: the will to win, solidarity from other workers, and the willingness to break the law. Naturally this means dumping the fat cat union boss for a start.

This is what the RMT needs if it hopes to win the rail strike and to succeed in bigger and better demands; without action from other industries, they’re out on a limb.

BLAIR IN BED WITH MURDOCH!

The election of Tony ‘Blah’ Blair as Labour Leader comes as no surprise, as Labour shifts ever further to the right. In an attempt to gain the support of the bosses: a dead-end road for us, if ever there was one.

Reports that Rupert Murdoch may support Labour at the next election will be justice Bill, because he didn’t want to be seen as soft on crime and thought it was good in parts. Clearly those on the left who say it’ll all be okay when Labour get elected will have to think again or vote Liberal Democrat.

Like John Smith, another middle class lawyer of Scottish origin, Blair can never be trusted.

TOYS FOR THE BOYS

Now all police areas have guns, and just love playing with them.

The bullshit and white-wash that the likes of Paul Condon, guv’nor of the Met, have spouted is that armed crime is on the up so they’re going to fight fire with fire - a very expensive and daft theory if you ask us.

While Class War won’t cry for too long if Officer Dibble gets both barrels, it’s common sense that if anyone’s intent on robbery, if cops carry guns, villains will take them too, if only for self defence.

Probably the worst two things about police with guns are 1. That they’re armed and our enemies and 2. They’re stupid:

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Justice Bill, because he didn’t want to be seen as soft on crime and thought it was good in parts. Clearly those on the left who say it’ll all be okay when Labour get elected will have to think again or vote Liberal Democrat.

Landowning families are amongst the richest professional class by showing us that strikes are pointless. With the massive public support the signalworkers have, this looks unlikely.

A BETTER PLACE TO BE THAN THE RMT

On June 19th the Industrial Workers of the World held its fourth national meeting since the British section was re-formed in 1993.

The IWW is growing, with groups in London, Swindon and Oxford, and numerous members all over Britain.

DIRECT ACTION

The IWW originally came to be in 1905 in Chicago, and it played a significant part in the revolutionary current that swept the world then. There were large groups in Canada, Australia, Mexico, Chile, Ireland and Britain.

The USA membership peaked at 130,000.

Workers in all industries are welcome to join. Bureaucracy is kept to a minimum, and democracy to a maximum. Direct action is the preferred tactic to get better wages and conditions right now, and to bring about the end of capitalism in the long term.

The IWW in Britain is currently trying to organise and is leafletting in industries where it has members: retail, the railways, the Post Office, food processing factories, the Civil Service and despatch riders.

If you want information, contact: Industrial Workers of the World, 75 Humberstone Gate, Leicester LEI 1WB. Tel: (0533) 661835

LAND AHOY!

It is the rich who control and reap the rewards of capitalism, at our expense. They do this with more than just enormous bank accounts and lives of lazy overstaffed decadence.

The rich, whether they’re individuals like that £490,000 a year boss of Railtrack, or international media ring that pumps out lies, and shallow ‘entertainment’. In other cases it is quite simply ownership of huge areas of land, and the power to rent it, build on it or destroy it, depending only on profit margins.

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Recent reports show that Britain's top 10 landowning families are amongst the richest in the world. This list has hardly changed over a hundred years. The Buccleuch, Sutherland, Atholl and Seafield families were all in the top 10 list compiled in 1870. Proof positive that the rich stay rich and protected. We pay rent, taxes, and they profit from land that by right is ours.

IT IS OURS

The Forestry Commission, The Ministry of Defence and electricity and water companies all own huge areas of land, and again, we pay for their privilege and profit. This is basic capitalism, and it works like this from Scotland to the South Pole. If we are going to change this so we can have a world where we all get what we need, where resources are shared, these parasites, feeding off our land and, polluting it as they go, are going to have to go.

Jimmy Knapp: Bloated old toad

Got a grouse with the Duke? Open fire!

BLAIR IN BED WITH MURDOCH!

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Reports that Rupert Murdoch may support Labour at the next election will be seen as proof of this shift. Blair is the son of a Law Lecturer, who went to public school and then Oxford, before becoming a lawyer himself in London. His well-off middle class background makes him perfect as leader for the 90's People's Party, and his reformist, moralistic, Christian socialist ideals contain no threat to the ruling class and no benefit for us.

USELESS IDIOT

Indeed the powers that be will see him as the ideal traitor to the working class because he was never on our side in the first place. And again like Smith, the best place for him is 6 feet under, the sooner the better.

James Ferman, the toerag director of the British Board Of Film Classification, wants ID cards for school children to be brought in.

What he says is that this is to prevent kids having access to videos, cigarettes, alcohol and fireworks. Our bet is that the state will use this as another feeble excuse for the causes of crime, and a backdoor method to bring in a national ID card system, to control us even further. After all, if we get used to them when we are kids, we'll be used to them as adults.

DRUGS

Ferman went on to tell the House of Commons Home Committee that it was a 'travesty' that we lived in a society where we should not be able to have things like that. For indeed these are the weapons of the poor, and the rich will do what they can to make the bosses' lives hell so they knuckle down and pay up.
The rich, whether they're individuals like the £120,000 a year boss of Railtrack, or organisations like ICI, The Crown Estate or BP, they keep themselves in their positions of power and control by owning the 'means of production'.

In the case of Rupert Murdoch, this is an

BUNCH OF SPANKERS

Following the rantings of Health Secretary, Virginia 'Smack' Bottomley, over the rights of parents to hit their children 'for their own good', junior health minister, John 'o the best' Bowis, has opened his right-wing gob.

He wants to allow childminders to dish out "corporal punishment to their kids, but smack them to avoid danger, like a boiling pan or a hot oven".

SICKNESS

So what are these childminders doing to children? If a childminder 'loves' a child, then they have a perfect right to hit them and get paid for it? Sounds just like the cops.

If parents don't abuse kids, but smack them to avoid greater harm, then they may have a perfect right to hit them and get paid for it as well.

When the press tried to talk to the Duke of Atholl about his riches, they were told: "The Duke has left to go grouse shooting". Forget hunting animals, now is the time for an open season on the rich.

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Davies, being sacked for re-dress, is taking the insanity of 'Back to Basics' and good old Victorian Values to new depths. It begs the question - what hell do these people put their own kids through?

To earn their money, the do-gooder social workers should lay off working class kids and pay a visit to the Bottomley and Bowis households.

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Recently released figures show that assaults on staff at work have more than doubled in a decade. Physical attacks on workers are getting worse and are rising faster than any other form of violence. Bad news? Read the small print underneath where it says which ‘workers’ they’re actually talking about: unprovoked attacks on balliffs have hit record levels. GBH against the Plod is up 55% and the last three years have seen 138 assaults on TV licence collectors. Tragic...

BAD APPLES, STINKING ORCHARD

Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary, Trefor Morris, has just produced his annual report. As well as moaning that the number of grasses has dropped, Trefor reports that he found “unacceptable levels of prejudice, sexual harassment and racist exchanges” in the police force. Shock horror! When Trefor says levels are unacceptable, maybe he means they are too low. Avon & Somerset police have just sacked PC Philip Headley for persistent sexual harassment. This is of course the same PC Headley who drew up a code of conduct for police officers and received an

TIGHTENING OUR BELTS...

...AROUND THEIR NECKS!

The biggest gravy train of all has been the con of privatised water companies. The last five years have seen our water bills go up by two-thirds while company profits and bosses’ salaries have rocketed through the roof. Sir Desmond Pitcher is chairman of North West Water. While manual workers have been offered a pathetic increase of 2.5%, Sir Des is lapping it up with £383,000, which works out at £167 an hour!

When some upstart dared to criticise this gigantic pay-packet, Pitcher snapped back “You get what you are worth.” Well, we sat down and worked it out Des: on performance-related pay we’d happily give you a bucket of shit a week...

CHAMPAGNE

It’s the same story at companies across the country: we get bombarded with lies about pay restraint, “all pulling together” while the bastards on the top floor are living it up better than ever.

Of course, Blair and the Labour leadership wring their hands and cry crocodile tears about how terrible this is. They’ll talk about the ‘greedy’ mates of the Tories, but they won’t mention champagne socialists like Lord Hollick, chairman of the Meridian company which has just taken over Anglia Television—immediately sacking 170 workers.

Hollick’s not the only one: senior wanker Jon Norton; publishing tycoon Paul Hamlyn, boss of Reed Books and owner of a £200 million fortune; Peter Clark, managing director of the investment group Media Ventures; Northern
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This autumn will see yet another turn of the screw when American-style Workfare gets introduced to Britain.

In return for taking up shitty slave-labour 'jobs', we'll get a little extra benefit. Those of us who refuse will have our benefit docked. It's called 'freedom of choice'... free to be slaves or free to starve.

Alongside Workfare we can look forward to another campaign of lies, smears and outright propaganda directed against working class people who claim benefits—the so-called 'dependency culture.'

Scum like Peter Lilley and Michael Portillo (who each claim a staggering total of £64,749 a year for being in the Cabinet) will spend hours slagging off 'scroungers' and 'DSS cheats'.

PATHETIC

As sure as eggs is eggs, Labour politicians and trade union chiefs will condemn Workfare as an attack on the 'welfare state.' Just as sure as eggs is eggs, none of us can't run our lives.

While we're getting saddled with speed-ups, cut-backs and increases below the rate of inflation (if we're lucky), it's boomtime in the boardroom. Over the last year top directors in the big companies have been getting an average salary increase of 25%!

BANKERS

At NatWest for example, bosses are planning to axe over 4,000 jobs. Those who survive may find that they're on 'performance-related' pay—which means they're just as likely to end up with a pay cut as an increase.

None of this applies to the overpaid and under-skilled directors. Derek 'Brainless' Wanless, the free-loading chief executive, got a very tidy rise of 31%—lifting his salary to a massive £350,000.

Meanwhile at British Telecom top dog Iain Vallance (£564,000) took a break from guzzling champagne to announce that 50,000 jobs have got to go. Was his job one of them? Was it hell!

The bosses know it too. They're not scared of the real fight is elsewhere. Every hour we snatch back from the boss, every timesheet we fiddle, every 'Restart' we refuse, every time we give them two fingers—that's where our power lies.

WARFARE

From where we're standing it's very clear. Left wing, right wing, all bosses are the same: that's why we don't give a toss about the Labour Party. All they want to do is run the system a little better—maybe cut the top pay rises to 10% and chop our wages a little more slowly. Big deal!

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The bosses know it too. They're not scared of Blair and his grinning cronies (some, like Murdoch and Sainsbury, are already starting to kiss his arse). What really terrifies them is our power. And that's why they're rushing in Workfare, job cuts, closures, salary rises—they're all part of the same strategy, to make sure that profits keep going up and that our class is kept in its place.
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ICl boss Ronnie Hempel gets sized up for a noose

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As sure as eggs is eggs, Labour politicians and
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attack on the 'deserving' poor, on those of us
who 'want to work but can't find the right job.'

But they won't admit that Workfare isn't just
about those of us who are on the dole or
claiming benefits. It's an attack on all of us—a
modern version of the same old trick, pitting one
section of our class against another, driving
down wages and telling us all how we can and
can't run our lives.

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Between April and June this year BT pulled in
profits of £781 million (that's £100 a second),
but managers are more desperate than ever to
attack the working conditions of those engineers
who haven't yet been made redundant—bringing
in compulsory weekend working, 12 hour rotas
and abolishing overtime.

EIGG ALL OVER HIS FACE

The Hebrides, the Idyllic,
peaceful, weather-beaten
islands off the west coast of
Scotland may not be the
first place that comes to
mind when you think of the
class war.

But on the island of
Eigg, the inhabitants' main
preoccupation, apart from
sheep-farming, is battling to
get rid of stuck-up rich
bastard Keith Schellenberg.

English-born Schellen-
berg has been playing the
colonial aristocrat since
buying the island in 1975.

But he's not been
content with charging rent
to the people who live and
work on the island while he
lives a life of idle luxury.
Now he seems to think he's
got a god-given right to
decide how they can spend
their time and run their
community—he's set him-
self up as some kind of
eighteenth century feudal
laird.

BANNED

The islanders have declared
their independence and set
up their own administration,
even though Schellenberg
has banned them from
using the village hall, and
they're busy trying to raise
funds to buy back their
homes.

TORCHED

As if to prove that wherever
class society exists there
will always be conflict,
some islanders have taken
a step further along the
road to revolution.

Schellenberg's vintage
Rolls Royce and fire pump
were mysteriously torched
earlier this year. Sadly
Schellenberg wasn't in
them at the time.

What's more, when the
mainland cops turned up,
the islanders closed ranks
and no-one could be
tempted to grass up the
arsonists.

DROWN

The islanders will soon kick
Schellenberg out, preferably
into the sea. If he doesn't
drown, we want Schellen-
berg to know that Class War
can always find him a new
home as soon as he gets
ashore. Just pick any
cemetery...
CLASS WAR September/October 1994

As the Post Office becomes the latest public service to come under attack, Class War takes a special look at how Postman Pat's fighting back...

Privatisation of the Post Office has become a big issue. Like Heseltine’s programme for shafting the miners, it’s a classic case of a service being dismantled and flogged off for the benefit of the fat-cats in the City.

Now workers in the post are facing the loss of 6000 jobs with the closure of main sorting offices, designed to ‘streamline’ the service and maximise profits. Heseltine’s plans are just the thin end of the wedge — over 40,000 jobs could go down the drain in the next five years if management’s proposals go unopposed.

And this from an organisation that made over £300 million profit last year alone from our hard graft. All — they’ve allowed the increased use of casual part-time workers (who undercut us and break solidarity) and local office agreements (which undermine our strength nationally).

And they’ve swallowed the division of functions within the post — this meant that ‘legally’ we could not take action over the recent post office counters dispute as it would be ‘secondary action’ because the counter workers are supposedly employed by another company.

LILY-LIVERED

UCW chief Alan Johnson’s tactics for resisting privatisation and further attacks on our working conditions are exactly the same as was tried with the closure of the mines two years ago — going cup in hand begging for concessions from backbench Tory MPs. And we all know what happened and has been on many occasions by other groups of workers.

Of course, striking is not an easy option for any worker, particularly those with kids or a mortgage. But as the action spreads, the more confidence we will have and more workers who will join in the struggle. This

The following is a report by a postal worker about a dispute at his office — though we don’t agree with everything that is said, we feel that it should offer encouragement to the rest of us.

At 9.15am on Friday 24th June, the early shift at Mount Pleasant Post Office in Farringdon, the largest sorting office in the country, walked out on strike in

LILY-LIVERED

By 10pm, 1,700 sorting staff were out. Similar action also took place at Northern District Office (Islington), Romford, Ilford, Cambridge, Dagenham, Leighton Buzzard, Dunstable, Bedford and about 20 other offices around south-east England. By Saturday around 30,000 postal workers were on strike.

ON YOUR BIKE
Millionaire toff Heseltine: get ready for another heart attack

LIES AND LIES
The amount of bullshit that Cockburn (Post Office chief) and his cronies have been spouting is incredible. First they tried to convince us that privatisation wasn't on the cards while at the time winning and dining with the City money-grabbers, discussing the best way of shafting us.

We were told the more we boosted productivity and made more profits, the less need there would be to cut jobs. Of course, as we saw with the miners, this acts to increase the probability of

FIGHT BACK

and has been on many occasions by other groups of workers.

Of course, striking is not an easy option for any worker, particularly those with kids or a mortgage. But as the action spreads, the more confidence we will have and more workers who will join in the struggle. This is the snowballing effect that scares the shit out of management and government, because they know they and their laws will be swept aside.

GOING FOR IT

But we don't have to sit back until we're in a position to strike. We can start by recognising the hypocrisy of management propaganda which stresses 'customer care' while cutting back more and more services in the name of profit. We can ignore their demands for increased productivity and efficiency which will lead only to privatisation and redundancies.

In fact, we should be as inefficient as possible at all times - for example, it's easy to carry out individual as well as collective 'work to rules' and management can do sod all about it. The more we bite into their profits, the better.

Communication is all
The amount of bullshit that the cards, while at the Cockburn (Post Office chief) we boosted productivity and with the miners, this acts to same time wining and dining with the City money- with redundancy. Well, re- best way of shafting us. need there would be to cut jeopardy the comfortable but higher pay for the interests (see the account on the right). The false divide of 'workers' this together and we must undermine the union. The post office have and more workers who won through our own won through our own management and govern- ment are. put on the defen- sion of the mines two years ago - going cup in hand begging for concessions from backbench Tory MPs. And we all know what happened to the mining industry. We as workers in the front line should be showing the most effective way: hit the bastards in the pocket when it hurts most.

If there is a strike, the union will do its best to keep a tight rein on any kind of action, with talk of proper ballots and no effective picketing: we must not let these lily-livered bureaucrats tell us how to run a dispute. That is our business and ours alone.

As workers in the front line we should be showing the most effective way: hit the bastards in the pocket

FIGHT BACK

In the last year, 80,000 postal workers have walked out 'unofficially' to protect their interests (see the account on the right). The more of us that are aware of these disputes and support them through taking action in our own offices, the more chance these disputes have of winning concessions. The more concessions won through our own actions, the more our confidence grows and management are put on the defensive. So dud them and their law - it's there to be broken with kids or a mortgage. But as the action spreads, the more confidence we will have and more workers who will join in the struggle. This is the snowballing effect that scares the shit out of management and government, because they know they and their laws will be swept aside.

GOING FOR IT

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In fact, we should be as efficient as possible at all times - for example, it's easy to carry out individual as well as collective 'work rules' and management can do sod all about it. The more we bite into their profits, the better.

Communication is all important: as long as we're isolated from each other, we lose the battle. It is not just a matter of strength between offices. The false divide of 'workers' and 'public': has to be undermined: we're all in this together and we must fight together, united as a class.

We say bollocks to productivity and bollocks to privatisation. We aim to control our services both in how we do the job as workers and in how these services are distributed as a community. Our class will accept nothing less.

At 9.15am on Friday 24th June, the early shift at Mount Pleasant Post Office in Farrington, the largest sorting office in the country, walked out on strike in support of Milton Keynes postal workers. Milton Keynes workers had walked out two days earlier because local managers had decided unilaterally to use casual labour rather than give their regular staff overtime.

LOW PAY

Overtime, unfortunately, is a necessity in the post office because of low basic pay, and we are against the exploitation of unorganised casuals who have no rights and are used by management to undermine the union. The post office sent out lorry loads of diverted mail from Milton Keynes to offices all over south east England.

They had also taken out a high court injunction against the UCW (Union of Communication Workers) nationally instructing them to dissociate the union from the Milton Keynes dispute, because they had not had a ballot.

We decided to refuse to handle any scab mail

A lorry load of diverted mail arrived at Mount Pleasant on Thursday night, but remained unloaded all night. On Friday morning management threatened to suspend us if we would not handle it. We immediately walked out and held a meeting to discuss the situation. We agreed that to handle mail from another office in dispute would mean an end to any collective strength.

We decided to refuse to handle any scab mail and stay out until the dispute at Milton Keynes was resolved. The 300 early shift workers immediately surrounded the building with pickets, bringing out the late shifts and night shifts; hundreds of people took part in picketing and even non-union members stayed out.

The only people who crossed the picket line were about 20 casual workers.

TAKING ACTION

This dispute shows that the Post Office is determined to manage by fear and legal bullying. But it also shows that workers are prepared to take action in defence of basic trade unionism despite the cowardice of national union officials and in defiance of management's intimidation and legal threats by the High Court.

It is virtually impossible to take industrial action legally in this so-called democratic country. But in this case we are forced to defy the courts to defend our basic rights as workers and trades unionists.

(Taken from 'Striking Out in Hackney', an occasional bulletin produced by the Hackney Trade Union Support Unit (c/o Colin Roach Centre, 10a Bradbury St, London, N16).
This month's award goes without a doubt to the unsung teenage heroes of Otley in West Yorkshire who decided that an empty luxury home was too good an opportunity to miss. In a time of rising anti-social crime, these youngsters have shown that 'community spirit' is not dead—especially if it comes in a bottle in some yuppie drinks cabinet...

The story began when local toffs Roger and Jacinta Glover took their four daughters to France in June, leaving a key to their house with a neighbour. Somehow the key got into the 'wrong' hands, and before you could say 'squat the lot' a four-day party was in full swing.

According to police reports, half a dozen 14 to 16 year olds rampaged through the house, helping themselves to anything and everything. The cop in charge of the investigation explained: "The children were basically living in the house as if they owned the place." That's what I call style!

They guzzled £250 worth of champagne, sank countless bottles of malt whisky, raided the freezer and ruined £6,000 worth of carpets. A barbecue was set up in the house's six acre grounds and the kids partied night and day in the garden until the hi-fi blew up under the strain. Meanwhile every bed in the house was slept in and local youth took the opportunity to get some tasty new clothes for free.

Total damage for the four-day binge is estimated at well over £12,000. Roger and Jacinta are reported to be "heartbroken" and are planning to sell up and move—they haven't twigged that for puffed-up scum like them there can be no escape. Let's hope they leave a forwarding address...

Just one complaint: where was my bloody invite?

"Yikes, Rufus! It looks like we're going to get bashed again!"

ETON TRIFLES

All that rugby might put hair on your chest but a recent court case shows that it's no match for righteous class anger and a sense of humour.

Last year, four bright young things sneaked out of Eton and decided to find an off-licence when Daddy's champagne ran out. But they hadn't reckoned on the local youth who quickly spotted them on the way back and taunted them with 'bitch', that means she must be one.

"It is like re-arranging the deckchairs on the Titanic. There's no difference between the parties. We're being asked if we want shooting, poisoning or hanging."

Anonymous Hull docker sums up the new Labour leadership

"No-one can tolerate people who send hypodermic syringes, razor blades and excrement through the post to innocent officials."

Peter Lilley, the man in charge of the Child Support Agency, bleats and whines about the hate-mail CSA offices have been getting... Ok, Pete, in future we'll make sure it all gets sent direct to you

"If a woman takes offence to us saying 'bitch', that means she must be one."

OLD BOYS JOB CLUB
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OLD BOYS JOB CLUB

No 4 in a series of jobs you're unlikely to be offered

GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND

QUALIFICATIONS: A little basic mathematics may be useful, but don't worry too much if you're thick as shite. The right attitude and the right old school tie are more important than knowing the price of a loaf.

EXTRA SKILLS: Successful applicants will be expected to repeat the phrase "The Government's got it just about right" several times a day. The job entails a number of responsibilities, including:

- Making sure the bank never suffers a loss.
- Ensuring that all transactions are conducted in a fair and equitable manner.
- Maintaining a strong relationship with the financial community.

SCUM

The only thing I remember about science lessons at school is the experiment which shows that scum always rises to the top. Victor McGeer is living proof.

Back in 1991 the transport company TNT decided to sack 600 drivers (mind you, I half-think it served the bastards right, after they scabbed through the '86-'87 Wapping dispute...).

McGeer, a national officer with the Transport & General Workers Union, was called in to negotiate on behalf of the drivers but was more interested in pissling it up with TNT management than fighting the case of the sacked workers. The drivers lost, and two months ago McGeer was 'mysteriously' appointed head of employee relations at a TNT-owned company.

"If a woman takes offence to us saying 'bitch', that means she must be one."

Big-time rap producer Dr Dre proves that you don't have to be a sexist dickhead to work in the music industry—but it never did him any harm.

"A lot of these royal apartments are really just equivalent to council flats. The great majority are quite small and ordinary."

Michael Arseven Peat, the Queen's director of finance, tries to justify it as the right old school tie are

BAG 'O'SHITE

"Apartheid had armies, tanks, international business and a brutal state on its side. We had placards, meetings and marches. Yet our side won."

Socialist Worker, 23 July 1994, p11

"A major strike in South..."

Anonymous Hull docker sums up the new Labour leadership
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EXTRA SKILLS: Successful applicants will be expected to repeat the phrase "The Government's got it just about right" several times a day. The job entails a number of five-course dinners: applicants with ulcers and heart trouble may find this aspect demanding.

SALARY: A modest £227,444 a year (that's £875 a day for candidates who can't work it out). But a chauffeur-driven navy blue Daimler is part of the package, along with at least 30 days foreign travel a year.

Post presently filled by Eddie 'Steady' George

TAKE AIM AND FIRE

It was only a few years ago that bullshit about "a classless society" was all the rage. These days only deranged Labour politicians and people taking vast amounts of drugs still talk that language. The rest of us know what we've always known. If you're like me and find it essential to have a target for your hatred, here are the top three rich bastards in Britain. As they say, "these are the men to blame".

Top of the shit-list is wide-boy-turned-porn-star Paul Raymond (left) who also wins this month's Sally Skull Sleazy Slimeball award. Raymond has a personal fortune of £1.65 billion—compare that to the recently released figures which show that 13.9 million people live below the official poverty line. Mind you, money can't buy happiness as Raymond's pampered daughter found out when she OD'd in a seedy drugs binge. VERDICT: Stuff his mouth with copies of Men Only, and rip out his heart with a plastic fork.

David Sainsbury (right) is next, valued at £1.38 billion. This is a particularly wind-up for me as I'm still banned from entering any of his shops (a small shoplifting charge, although I prefer to call it wealth redistribution). The Sainsburys are by far the wealthiest family in the UK (the Buckingham Palace mafia can only manage 11th place). VERDICT: This bastard likes to dabble in party politics and has recently started arse-licking Tony Blair. A good old-fashioned mob stoning is in order just to show him what working class power is all about.

Sir Evelyn de Rothschild (£1.35 billion). But old-fashioned mob stoning is in order just to show him what working class power is all about. VERDICT: Garotte the old git with cheesewire.

BAG O' SHITE

"Apartheid had armies, tanks, international business and a brutal state on its side. We had placards, meetings and marches. Yet our side won."

"A lot of these royal apartments are really just equivalent to council flats. The great majority are quite small and ordinary."
A lot of criminals have been walking free from the courts recently. First there were the cops accused of fitting up the Guildford 4, then those accused of fitting up the Birmingham 6, the Darvell brothers, and the Tottenham 3; and most recently, almost all of the pigs from the Stoke Newington Drug (dealers) Squad.

To this list of freed perjurers and dealers can be added the murderers from Hammer smith - the police involved in the case of Malcolm Kennedy and Patrick Quinn. Malcolm, a middle aged, slightly built man, with no history of violence, was arrested for drunkenness in the early hours of Xmas Eve 1990. He was taken to Hammersmith police station and locked in a cell, where he fell asleep.

COWARDLY
He was woken by a struggle in the cell between a copper and Patrick Quinn. He tried to intervene but was punched unconscious. Later he was woken by three policemen in the cell, where he fell asleep.

MAD PIG DISEASE
When Malcolm's retrial began it looked like he had a good chance of being acquitted, despite Welch's girlfriend sitting in the public gallery so she could tell the bent bastards what the other witnesses were saying. It looked even better when Giles started to give his evidence. As he started to crack up drinking 13 jars of water a day it not only become obvious that he was tangled up in the story. During the 16 years the four received regular beatings for the murder of a kid, the four received regular beatings from screws and inmates alike. However that soon stopped when other prisoners listened to their side of the story. During the 16 years they have been banged up Jimmy, Michael and Vincent

PRISONERS OF WAR
Since 1978, Michael Hickey, Vincent Hickey and Jimmy Robinson have been imprisoned for the murder of newspaper boy Karl Bridgewater at the Yew Tree Farm in Staffordshire. A fourth man, Patrick Molloy, has died in prison. All four men are innocent.

The prosecution case against the Bridgewater 4 has been destroyed. Prosecution witnesses have retracted their statements. It is increasingly obvious that Malcolm Kennedy could not have committed the murder he never committed, and Patrick Molloy's confession was not made by him and was only signed by him after continual beatings and isolation for ten days. Numerous witnesses confirm that the four could not have been there when Karl was murdered. There was never any forensic evidence, no prints, stolen goods, identification and no murder weapon found.

OPEN THE DOOR FOR THE BRIDGEWATER FOUR

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INNOCENT
Everybody knows they are innocent. The wankers in wigs know they are innocent and the Home Secretary, Michael 'Lock Up Your Kids' Howard knows it. When first sent down for the murder of a kid, the four received regular beatings from screws and inmates alike. However that soon stopped when other prisoners listened to their side of the story. During the 16 years they have been banged up Jimmy, Michael and Vincent

RELEASE
To release the Bridgewater 4 would damage the government at a time when they aint exactly got many friends anyway. And so it seems that no matter how much evidence is submitted, how many documentaries, books, forensic scientists and
COWARDLY
He was woken by a struggle in the cell between a copper and Patrick Quinn. He tried to intervene but was punched unconscious. Later he was woken by three policemen in the cell. Patrick's body was on the floor, all but one of his ribs smashed, his heart and spleen crushed, his face pulped. The three cops told Malcolm "You did this." Malcolm was convicted of murder and sentenced to life in mid 1991, but then the cops case started to falter apart.

It emerged that they had altered the time of another arrest in order to get two officers - Emlyn Welch and Paul Giles - out of the station at the time Quinn died, and the more the paperwork (that is three separate investigations had searched that file for that vital piece of evidence and not found it, the judge refused to accept that this was a blatant forgery and abandon the trial, and instead, the biased scumbag stopped it on a technicality.

Just before the new trial began, the prosecution announced that PC Giles had gone mad and couldn't give evidence. It has since emerged that this 'madness' was only bought on by questions about Quinn's death. This trial ended with the jury, under pressure from the judge, finding Malcolm guilty of the compromise charge of murder the cops will definitely get away with as long as Malcolm's suffering for a crime he never committed, instead of one or more of those bastards. For more information contact: Free Malcolm Kennedy Campaign, c/o Colin Roach Centre, 10A Bradbury St, Dalston, London, N16 9JN

NEWS FRONT

REFUGEE RAGE

Forty, mainly Algerian, refugees took over part of the police station and locked in a cell, where he fell asleep.

COUNTER ATTACK

The case went back to the court of appeal which allowed a retrial so a jury could hear all the evidence. At the appeal court PC Welch revealed that he had conveniently "found" his 'lost' notebook. He'd had it looked like he had a good chance of being acquitted, despite Welch's girlfriend sitting in the public gallery so she would tell the bent bastards what the other witnesses were saying. It looked even better when Giles started to give his evidence. As he started to crack up - drinking 13 jars of water a day - it not only become obvious that he was tangled up in a web of lies, but it seemed possible that he would give up and name the real murderer(s). Then a cop sitting in court as an exhibits officer suddenly found a vital piece of evidence as he flicked through files. Despite the fact that three separate investigations had searched that file for that vital piece of evidence and not found it, the judge refused to accept that this was a blatant forgery and abandon the trial, and instead, the biased scumbag stopped it on a technicality.

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PRISONERS OF WAR

BRIDGATER 4
M25 THREE M16 THREE
SATPAL RAM SATPAL RAM
GARY MILLS TONY POOLE
Winston SILCOTT WARDEN SLANEY
MALCOLM KENNEDY MICHAEL SHIRLEY
ALBERT DRYDEN WARREN SLANEY
TOM CURTIS ROBERT TAYLOR
And Many More

THE CLASS WAR

SCREWS BEAT SATPAL

Satpal, as featured in Class War 63, has been attacked by screws in Full Sutton for smoking in a no smoking area!

Following the attack he has been moved to Durham prison.

A MAN OF LETTERS

Satpal had written to us recently to say how chuffed he was that several people had been in touch offering help. He has held many protests including hunger/work strikes, and rooftop protests lasting for over 80 days.

On November 24 1983 Michael went up on the roof of Gartree prison. On December 25, he got a whole Xmas dinner sent to him on lines by the other prisoners. He was moved to Full Sutton and was attacked by the screws. He needs support from everyone and action inside and out of prison. There are campaign groups in Brum, Bristol and London. On Thursday 15th September there will be a picket of Stafford Police HQ from 1 -
COUNTER ATTACK
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THE CLASS WAR

SCREWS BEAT SATPAL
A MAN OF LETTERS
Satpal had written to us recently to say how chuffed he was that several people had been in touch offering support following the last issue of Class War. So get your pens out and let's give him a boost. It also pisses the screws off when prisoners get a lot of mail - especially if the screws are trying to isolate them. WRITE TO: Satpal Ram E94164 HMP Durham, Old Elvet, Durham, DH1 3HU

have held many protests including hunger/work strikes, and rooftop protests lasting for over 80 days.

On November 24 1983 Michael went up on the roof of Gartree prison. On December 25, he got a whole Xmas dinner sent to him on lines by the other prisoners. Their note said:

"Xmas dinner from D Wing, from your mates below. We wish you luck and hope something is done soon".

THE ENEMY
But the Judicial System is still shaky following the spate of successful appeals - especially if any evidence at the moment and in June this year it was disclosed that the police have fingerprints from the retrieved stolen items...none of which match any of the four. Staffordshire police are refusing to release the prints.

ACTION!
The Bridgewater four need support and action inside and out of prison. There are campaign groups in Brum, Bristol and London. On Thursday 15th September there will be a picket of Stafford Police HQ from 1 - 2:00pm, to demand the release of the prints.

CONTACT: Bridgewater 4 Support Group, 129a Seven Sisters Rd. London N7 7QG.
The current anti-roads movement, like Class War, has developed as a response to the liberal environmental and peace movements of the 1970s and '80s which failed to radically challenge the capitalist system which consistently fails to meet the basic needs of the majority of people on this planet. To see whether this movement has any relevance to the wider class struggle we must examine its development, and the changing forms of transport favoured by capitalism throughout history, all in the context of the class struggle.

The industrial revolution saw new forms of transport appear. First the canals, and then the railways, brought a new lease of life to the young capitalism. Factories could be located away from the source of raw materials, industrial concentration was increased and the emerging new social relations - especially wage slavery - were reinforced. The industrial working class was being forged. In the colonies, the railways opened new supplies of raw materials and markets for the finished commodities. The actual production of the rail industry itself became an engine driving capitalist expansion as it demanded large amounts of coal, iron and steel. The invention of the combustion engine was not far away and it would herald a new period of war and capitalist expansion.

By the end of the nineteenth century the world had been carved up among the imperialist powers and fresh non-capitalist markets needed for capitalist expansion were becoming exhausted. War between the major capitalist countries for control over resources and markets was inevitable. The concentration of workers in large industrial areas, combined with regular economic crises, lead to the pulsating emergence of the labour movement across Europe. The preparation and onset of the war lead to industrial production increasing, especially world into another slaughter in which 50 million people died.

The outcome of the war depended on which side could achieve and maintain air, naval and ground superiority. Initially the German war machine had the upper hand, but the intervention of the USA tipped the balance by supplying superior equipment. During the period they had not been involved they had improved engine and material design, and they had the atom bomb, which they used with such devastating effect. The economic cost of the war was also immense and the reconstruction of western Europe was paid with credit largely supplied by the USA. Thus they held sway over the 'free world' during the cold war.

CONSENSUS

The next twenty-five years saw further increases in car production, road building and the associated forms of living. Urban architecture was dominated to serving the car. Motorways, suburbs, new-towns and high-rise flats sprawled out upon the ruins of war. Many existing working class areas, steeped in resistance and Solidarity, were flattened and the occupants relocated to these alienating

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CONSENSUS

The next twenty five years saw further increases in car production, road building and the associated forms of living. Urban architecture was dominated by serving the car. Motorways, suburbs, new-towns and high rise flats sprawled out upon the ruins of war. Many existing working class areas, steeped in resistance and solidarity, were flattened and the occupants relocated to these alienating environments where many of us still live today. The post-war boom continued and there was an unprecedented rise in living standards for many in the centres of capitalism. This period saw the discovery of North Sea gas, large scale nationalisations and the building of the welfare state. The labour shortage meant people could pick and choose where they worked, wildcat strikes were called at the blow of a whistle, skill divisions hardened leading to 'demarcation' disputes. But the seeds of crisis were germinating.

The colonies began to take even more to their weight around. Prices went through the roof and the oil dependent economies were thrown deeper into crisis. In Britain, the miners' strike of 1974 brought down the Tory government, they had set the stage for the verge of a military coup. The post-war consensus had well and truly disintegrated.

The working class watched with horror but talk of a classless society, but was changing content. New jobs were mainly in the service sector - part-time, low paid, increasingly for women. Any new factories often used micro-technologies, robots and management techniques developed in Japan that relied on discipline and a lack of cheap and disciplined. Those that couldn't be relocated, such as mining, were simply scuppered or 'resized' for privatisation.

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workers in large industrial areas, combined with regular economic crises, lead to the pulsating emergence of the labour movement across Europe. The preparation and onset of the war lead to industrial production increasing, especially in the sectors of aircraft and to some extent tanks, making the obedience of the working class even more necessary. This was guaranteed by the leadership of the European labour movement but when confronted with the Russian revolution, and the influx of the class struggle across Europe, capitalism had no option but to end the war and begin a period of reconstruction.

COUNTER-REVOLUTION

The combustion engine revolutionised transport. Car production, and the reconstruction of the means of war, grew rapidly and replaced the steam engine as a driving force of capitalism. It consequently fuelled the demand for oil and steel, and consumers, which the fight for access to these would lead to another war. The strength of the working class continued to demonstrate through in strikes and riots. The labour shortage meant people could pick and choose where they worked, wildcat strikes were called at the blow of a whistle, skill divisions hardened leading to "demarcation" disputes. But the seeds of crisis were germinating.

The colonies began to take even more to the road of independence. Expansion had happened too fast. Economies were over-producing, overheating, and growth was slowing down. The working class had become strong again and when they were told to start taking cuts in living standards the trouble started. Strikes and riots spread across both Western and Eastern Europe, especially in Italy and France (both triggered by car works). Seven general strikes in May 1968 saw fifteen million workers involved. Troops were sent into Northern Ireland a year later. The USA was stuck in Vietnam. The cuts in, and defence of, living standards rumbled on into the oil crisis of 1974. The middle eastern oil exporting countries had grown fat on a diet of petrodollars and decided to start throwing their weight around. Prices went through the roof and the oil dependent economies were thrown deeper into crisis. In Britain, the miners' strike of 1974 brought down the Tory government took the country to the verge of a military coup. The post-war consensus had well and truly disintegrated.

The ruling class watched with horror but new-right elements within it had already been planning their new agenda since the war ended. They knew that for their system to survive they had to defend the working class, and bring it to heel by restructuring their economies away from dependence on heavy industries where the workers were concentrated and ending the "Spanish practices" that stood in the way of deeper exploitation and higher productivity. Competition amongst capital cities had reached such a height that those who wanted to succeed had to be as much leaner and fitter than the rest. A brighter capitalism had to be sold to the masses. It simply had to have less enemies, more people had to have a share in it. We all had to be home, car and share owners. Rampant individualism had to be encouraged instead of solidarity. The defence of the ideology of car ownership and the road lobby was to be pivotal in this battle.

THE NEW RIGHT

By the late '70s and early '80s the new-right had captured leadership of their parties and were beginning to get into power across Europe and the USA. When the conservatives under Thatcher won in 1978 they wasted no time in putting their plans into action. Nationalised industries were broken up and sold off. Anti-union legislation was brought in. The dismantling of the welfare state began. State powers were strengthened and local government had its teeth ripped out. Wave after wave of militant workers were challenged and defeated, in which the unions and Labour party were often implicated. Traditional industries such as ship building and car production were allowed to relocate in far eastern countries such as South Korea where labour was cheap and disciplined. Those that couldn't be relocated, such as mining, were simply scuppered or "revised" for privatisation.

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By the end of the '80s much of the new-right's agenda had been established, and continues today, but the economic crisis had not been overcome. The boom years had been financed on credit and the bubble burst on Black Wednesday. Unemployment was rising. The deepest capitalist recession ever engulfed the planet. It is no accident that this coincided with the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the end of the cold war. As the steam escaped from the international economy, the state capitalist countries of the east collapsed under their own economic contradictions and came to the west cap in hand for aid and trade. The 'new world order' was proclaimed. Gulf war came and went. It was stage managed by the USA in an attempt to prove it
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The development of the Class War Federation is a good example. Many early members were previously involved in the peace and animal rights movements. The class consciousness of these people was heightened by the class struggles of the early '80s and the lack of radical intent amongst the middle class leaderships of CND, the Labour Party, and the liberalism of the existing British anarchist movement. These elements moved to the more revolutionary and populist politics of

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**RESISTANCE**

Opposition to the negative social and environmental impact of capitalism are as old as this system itself. The 1700s saw resistance to the Enclosure Acts. The 1800s saw the Luddites breaking of new forms of machinery; the factorists aimed to curb the use of child labour and the other excesses of laissez faire capitalism; the Chartists movement fought for basic rights for the poor; the early trade union movement fought for the right to combine and improve workers rights; the co-operative movement fought for the right to combine and improve workers rights; the Green Party and the peace movement fought for the right to combine and improve workers rights. The 1900s saw the development of 'deep' ecology, direct action and civil disobe-
TWYFORD DOWN

The first test for Earth First! was to try to halt the extension of the M3 through Twyford Down. The aim was to occupy the site with many protesters, cause maximum disruption and economic expense, and force the abandonment of the scheme. After some early success the protesters were cleared away by the police and Group 4 security teams and the extension is going ahead as planned. The government then announced the postponement of over 100 controversial road schemes, some would say due to the anti-roads campaign, others would say merely because of cuts in government spending. A combination of the two is more likely.

The next focus was against the M11 link road through east London, although the locals were more worried about the demolition of 350 houses than trees and fields. A traditional legal campaign was brought to life when the bulldozers arrived in September 1993. Veterans of Twyford Down appeared and chained themselves to the equipment. The contractors then fenced George Green in Wanstead and prepared to fell a 300 year old chestnut tree. Some earth was removed but confrontation with contractors and police. Press statements that the elves are linked with Class War are unfounded, although we can understand why they take such action, and are moving to more revolutionary conclusions, given the lack of spine shown by much of the Earth First! movement.

The question for us is this - have these anti-road struggles any relevance to the working class and our struggle against capitalism? The answer has to be yes. If your homes and surrounding areas are going to be decimated then you have to resist, by any means necessary. Some may say that by putting the site workers in danger is anti-working class. Many of them have families to support, they are glad for the work and are only doing their job. But the same can be said for the police and security teams. When it comes down to it the class war is a messy business. Working class people will be pitted against each other whether its fascist confronting anti-fascist, scab against picket, or contractor/security versus anti-roads campaigner. If those who do the bidding for the bosses understand the possible consequences of their actions (that their health is at risk) and continue to carry out the orders then they shouldn’t complain if situations get out of hand. They are all capitalist companies exploiting their workers’ labour. Some of these road companies donate most to the Conservative Party - they deserve all they get. And by the way, parcel bombs are out of the question, the bosses rarely open their own mail.

SOLIDARITY
Path Wood in the Cuerden Valley, Lancashire, and clear-felled it.

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dience, and a more red-green section collected around the Green Revolution paper which sought to link environmental protection with social revolution. Others, alienated by the middle-class elements within the pressure groups, merged with the Class War Federation.

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The tree was felled and some of the 350 threatened houses that were being squatted were cleared of protesters and demolished. The protesters are now 'dug in' further down the road at Leytonstone.

To date, Earth First! hasn’t won a struggle, and the ferocity of the police and Group 4 contractors then fenced George Green in. The aim was to occupy the site with the middle class. Working class people will be pitted against each other - whether their fascist confronting anti-fascist, or contractor/security versus anti-roads campaigner. If those who do the bidding for the bosses understand the possible consequences of their actions (that their health is at risk) and continue to carry out the orders then they shouldn’t complain if situations get out of hand. They are all capital-

sidering the role of public transport against the domination of private transport. The impending privatisation of the rail network will see a reduction in many services and an exodus to the roads, and the extra spending on roads will further reduce the amount spent on trains.

History has shown that capitalism does indeed create its own gravestones, that involvement in struggles raises the class

SOLIDARITY

The revolutionary movement should work towards the generalisation of the various anti-capitalist struggles into a broad assault against this system and the creation of an equal, fair and sustainable world society. How could the current anti-road struggles be linked to the wider class struggle? One obvious situation would be for them to show solidarity with the anti-road struggles. The current anti-road struggles any relevance to the working class? The answer has to be yes. If your homes and surrounding areas are going to be decimated then you have to resist, by any means necessary. Some may say that by putting the site workers in danger is anti-working class. Many of them have families to support, they are glad for the work and are 'only doing their job'. But the same can be said for the police and security teams. When it comes down to it the class war is a messy business. Working class people will be pitted against each other - whether its fascist confronting anti-fascist, scab against picket, or contractor/security versus anti-roads campaigner. If those who do the bidding for the bosses understand the possible consequences of their actions (that their health is at risk) and continue to carry out the orders then they shouldn’t complain if situations get out of hand. They are all capital-

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This brings us to the present - continuing economic crisis, further cuts in government spending, more privatisations in the pipeline and continuing unemployment. We seem to have talked little of the anti-road struggles so far but it has been necessary to explain the theatre in which they and the class struggle are being act out.

RESISTANCE

Opposition to the negative social and environmental impacts of capitalism are as old as this system itself. The 1700s saw resistance to the Enclosure Acts. The 1800s saw the Luddites breaking of new forms of machinery; the Factory Acts aimed to curb the use of child labour and the other excesses of laissez faire capitalism; the Chartist movement fought for basic rights for the poor; the early trade union movement fought for the right to combine and improve workers rights; the co-operative movement provided cheap food and housing and decent working conditions. This century has seen the further growth of the labour and conservation/environmental movements - sections of which have become institutions of capitalism themselves. The reaction to this process of recuperation is often expressed by disillusioned younger generations breaking away from the main-stream to form new radical currents, many of which become recuperated themselves as they age.

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A brief look at the history of the environmental movement in Britain will also show this process in operation. The 1970s saw the formation of the Green Party, Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth, all of which espoused the principles of working class solidarity, the revolutionary destruction of capitalism and the building of a true communist society on its ruins. A brief look at the history of the environmental movement in Britain will also show this process in operation. The 1970s saw the formation of the Green Party, Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth, all of which espoused the principles of working class solidarity, the revolutionary destruction of capitalism and the building of a true communist society on its ruins.

The recession put an end to the Green Party, Greenpeace and FoE are now in control at many of the protest sites, and some protesters turning up 'tooled up' for action have been turned away for fear of causing bad publicity. It is clear that EF! has lost any edge that it once may have had - they had become 'fluffy'. A response has been the appearance of the Earth Liberation Front (the elves) who are commited to more extreme methods of action, from phone threats, to trashing road building machinery, to violent methods of removal has knocked them back. Their policy of non-violence has left them vulnerable to attack and many activists have been injured, as at the Solsbury Hill site near Batheaston in Avon. Middle class elements are now in control at many of the protest sites, and some protesters turning up 'tooled up' for action have been turned away for fear of causing bad publicity. It is clear that EF! has lost any edge that it once may have had - they had become 'fluffy'. A response has been the appearance of the Earth Liberation Front (the elves) who are commited to more extreme methods of action, from phone threats, to trashing road building machinery, to violent

More action from Solsbury Hill. The site gets cleared 'by any means necessary'.

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History has shown that capitalism does indeed create its own gravediggers, that involvement in struggles raises the class consciousness of many of those involved and leads them to revolutionary conclusions. The process will continue until the battle is won. Let's get out there and nail the bastards!
The Tories often spout rubbish about freedom of choice. What they don't say is that this freedom of choice depends on your bank balance. The rich have plenty, the poor, little or none. The few remaining residents on the deserted and virtually derelict Elgin Estate in Westminster, London, are prime examples of this.

Many people can't choose their homes, they are at the mercy of the local council. If the residents of the Elgin Estate had any choice in the matter they would want to move somewhere better.

UNFIT

Instead they are forced to remain in housing that a recent report by the Housing and Development committee of Westminster council described as "unfit for human habitation."

Many flats on the estate have no heating or lighting and some flats are without running water. Why is the estate in this derelict condition? The bosses had to choose a scapegoat. Dr Dutt realized the powers that be had chosen him.

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The homes were then renovated and in many cases deserted estates were bulldozed so luxury flats could be built on the sites. Then loyal Tory supporters were offered these homes at 'give-away' bargain prices.

Such a policy of mass driving out of people from their homes and communities for votes has no parallel in recent history in Britain.

The true extent of this attack on our class only became apparent when Tory councillor Dr Michael Dutt committed suicide when an inquiry finished. The bosses had to choose a scapegoat. Dr Dutt realized the powers that be had chosen him.
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Buttsbury estate - redevelopment equals destruction and annihilation
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IT'S ANOTHER... ANTI-CRIMINAL JUSTICE BILL DEMO

OCTOBER 9TH CENTRAL LONDON

FURTHER DETAILS T.B.A.

FACE MASKS ESSENTIAL ⭐⭐⭐

LEAVE YOUR JUGGLING BALLS AT HOME ⭐⭐⭐

IT'S TIME FOR SOME WORKING CLASS JUSTICE

TOP THE TOFFS!

'I ORDERED HER IN THE WAY ONLY AN ENGLISH LANDLORD COULD'

Just in case there is anybody out there who thinks we do live in a classless society, read on.

When a toffee nosed landlord, who owns an island in Cumbria, was found guilty of using abusive or insulting behaviour, he told Furness magistrates he was not ordinary.

LANDLORD

"I belong to the class of people who provide officers of the realm," he said. "You have not got before you one of your drunk or loud mouthed from the filthy town of Barrow, where nobody comes from unless they have to."

Scholes, the landlord, described himself as a "social superior" of his tenants.

This fine example of years of upper class inbreeding had abused two of his tenants after he tried of hit one of them with his Range Rover. Representing himself in court, his defence was that he nearly hit the woman because it was his right to "I ordered her in the way only an English landlord could."

He added "I had to set an example to these lowbred individuals. This is a private landlord with private tenants on private land - not the back streets of Barrow-in-Furness."

But this "social superior" was definitely inferior in the brain department. He conducted his own defence, not the best idea as it consisted of him explaining his right to his "inferiors", and amusing the court with his story that the only reason he was in the dock was because one of his tenants was conspiring with a copper who used to dance about naked except for his helmet.

In case anyone would like to discuss this matter with him further he lives at: Holme House, Holme Island, Grange, Cumbria.
HAT'S OFF

The Cathall Road Estate in Leyton, East London, stands directly opposite the row of squats in Claremont Road that is obstructing the M11 link-roads construction.

While the Cathall Road estate is being spared the fate of hundreds of other homes in the area - demolition to make way for the M11 - it's not being spared by the bosses by any means.

After all they are always eager to put the boot into working class people. The local council (Waltham Forest) is implementing government policy by imposing the HAT (Housing Action Trust) scheme on the Cathall Road estate.

CONTROL

HAT schemes are basically attempts to privatise council sector takes control of estates and invests money to renovate them the only purpose of the scheme is to make the investors' profits. So residents are forced out to make way for wealthier 'private' tenants. Working class communities are destroyed and whole areas social character is changed.

Council housing is the only option for those who can't afford a home in the private sector. By bringing in HAT schemes and 'right-to-buy' schemes and reducing the council housing stock this option is removed.

The result is obvious for all to see - ever increasing homelessness and families forced to live in overcrowded conditions in squalid, pokey bedsits and the like.

This policy has been met with resistance and successfully defeated

Tens of millions of people can't survive without public services whether it's housing, healthcare, education or social security. They can't afford to buy these 'services' from the private sector.

The HAT schemes are part of the same Tory plan as hospital 'trusts' and schools opting out of local authority control, a long term plan of privatising public services.

This policy has been met with resistance and successfully defeated

If there's one thing the Tories love doing most (apart from having a wank with an orange in their mouth, and a rope around their neck) it's cutting public services.

That way they can transfer money from their enemies; the working class, to their friends; the wealthy middle classes and the rich.

The Buttsbury Estate in poverty ravaged South Ilford is a current victim of the 'economy measures' the government is inflicting on working class people everywhere. Redbridge council, in a cost-cutting frenzy, is 're-developing' the estate.

This basically means that a working class estate and community is being bulldozed and annihilated. The residents have fought a prolonged and determined resistance to the council's plans included turning up at Ilford Townhall when Tory Housing minister Michael Howard paid his Tory councillor cronies there a 'flying visit'. Residents were determined to confront this rich smug scumbag and vent their fury on him.

DIEHARD

But the battle for the Buttsbury estate is slowly but surely being lost. Although individual 'diehard' families on the estate refuse to move, most have little choice but to accept rehousing as a reprieve for the estate seems highly unlikely.

Battles like this rage daily in communities and estates across the country. Individual communities that take on the state go down in defeat. What is needed is unity among all working class people and support for other communities and groups that take on the state.

Remember, an injury to one is an injury to all.
The Cathall Road Estate in Leyton, East London, stands directly opposite the row of squats in Clarendon Road that is obstructing the Mill link-roads construction.

While the Cathall Road estate is being spared the fate of hundreds of other homes in the area - demolition to make way for the Mill - it's not being spared by the bosses by any means.

After all they are always eager to put the boot into working class people. The local council (Waltham Forest) is implementing government policy by imposing the HAT (Housing Action Trust) scheme on the Cathall Road estate.

CONTROL

HAT schemes are basically attempts to privatise council estates. They begin with local councils offering the private-sector control of estates to improve the quality of housing, especially on neglected rundown estates (usually deliberately neglected by councils to force tenants into accepting HAT schemes).

However, once the private sector takes control of estates and invests money to renovate them the only purpose of the scheme is to make the investors' profits. So residents are forced out to make way for wealthier 'private' tenants. Working class communities are destroyed and whole areas social character is changed.

Council housing is the only option for those who can't afford a home in the private sector. By bringing in HAT schemes and 'right-to-buy' schemes and reducing the council housing stock this option is removed.

The result is obvious for all to see - ever increasing homelessness and families forced to live in overcrowded conditions in squallid, pokey bedsits and the like.

This policy has been met with resistance and successfully defeated.

Ten thousands of people can't survive without public services whether it's housing, healthcare, education or social security. They can't afford to buy these 'services' from the private sector.

These schemes must be fought. This can only be achieved by united action by the community threatened by the HAT scheme. The only way to stop these attacks is by destroying the private sector.

BATTLE OF THE BUTTSBURY ESTATE

If there's one thing the Tories love doing most apart from having a wink at an orange in their mouth, and a rope around their neck) it's cutting public services.

That way they can transfer money from their enemies; the working class, to their friends; the wealthy middle classes and the rich.

The Buttsbury Estate in poverty ravaged South Ilford is a current victim of the 'economy measures' the government is inflicting on working class people everywhere. Redbridge council, in a cost-cutting frenzy, is 're-developing' the estate.

This basically means that a working class estate and community is being bulldozed and annihilated. The residents have fought a prolonged and determined campaign to save their community from destruction against stiff odds.

Not only is Redbridge council, with Tory government support, attacking their community. But also private businesses have joined the assault by putting in bids for the land the estate occupies.

The residents brave and determined resistance to the council's plans included turning up at Ilford Townhall when Tory Housing minister Michael Howard paid his Tory councillor cronies there a 'flying visit'. Residents were determined to confront this rich smug scumbag and vent their fury on him.

DIEHARD

But the battle for the Buttsbury estate is slowly but surely being lost. Although individual 'diehard' families on the estate refuse to move, most have little choice but to accept rehousing as a reality. But the estate remains.

Battles like this rage daily in communities and estates across the country. Individual communities that take on the state go down in defeat. What is needed is unity among all working class people, and support for other communities and groups that take on the state.

Remember, an injury to one is an injury to all.

WAR DIARY EXTRA!

We continue Page 2's War Diary reports of this summer, talking about the Buttsbury Estate.

Three coppers, all members of the notorious West Midlands Serious Crime Squad, have recently been found guilty of torturing a Birmingham man, Derek Treadway, into making a confession which put him away for fifteen years.

The Criminal Justice Bill demo shows how some sections of the middle class view the cops. Leaflets were being openly given out asking people to 'stay fluffy' and not get involved with any demonstrations.
CONTROL

HAT schemes are basically attempts to privatise council estates. They begin with local councils offering the private-sector control of estates to improve the quality of housing, especially on neglected rundown estates (usually deliberately neglected by councils to force tenants into accepting HAT schemes). However, once the private sector control of estates is achieved, they are often played, or developed, to the detriment of tenants. Tenants are forced to live in overcrowded conditions in squalid, pokey bedsits and the like.

This policy has been met with resistance and successfully defeated by many estates. HAT schemes have been withdrawn by councils in estates across Britain after those communities rebelled against the proposals. In Newham, East London, and in Hull, HAT has been defeated.

We continue Page 2's War Diary reports of this summer's riots with an eyewitness account by a CW correspondent from outside the Downing Street gates on the Criminal Justice demo.

"It was a lovely sunny day and as we reached the gates we decided to tell John Major what we thought of the bill personally.

CHARGE

Whilst we were trying to break through the gates, the old bill decided to get stuck in with a horse charge from behind some other gates on the opposite side of Whitehall followed by lines of riot cops trying to split our forces in two.

With a swift and effective counter attack we forced the cops to retreat in disarray to behind their barricades, we had control of Whitehall again.

AMMO

They tried another charge about ten minutes later which was again easily beaten back.

"Your going home in a St John's Ambulance" - riot cops on duty outside Downing Street.

After thirty minutes or so it was obvious we weren't going to break into Downing Street so the crowd began to disperse, besides it was fucking hot in our masks (always cover up, remember the Welling photo's).

A good result, 2-0 against horse and riot cop charges. This was despite the lack of ammo and the Social Workers Party stewards who seemed intent on protecting the Police."

With unrest about the bill going unreported in the media we at Class War promise to keep you in touch with all the latest events.

Match reports (treated in the strictest confidence) to Class War Sports Desk, PO Box 467, London E8 3QX.

SELL CLASS WAR

Earn extra cash, and help to do your bit in the war, by flogging Class War to your work/school mates, neighbours, friends etc.

Just send £2.00 for ten copies to PO Box 524, Luton, LU1 1QS.

Also available £1, £2 and £5 packs of the current front cover flyposters in full colour A2 size from same address.
Dear CW

I recently attended a friend's wedding reception at a local luxury hotel, it was one hell of an experience. This was the first time I've ever observed the 'capitalist pigs' up close.

The hotel residents and fat business men in the bar made it abundantly clear we working class oiks were not welcome. As we sat in the bar cursing, swearing and being as offensive as possible I hit upon an idea - why not organise a large group of homeless/unemployed people to hold a mass trespass on one of these places similar to civil rights actions in 60s America?

The security in these places is piss-poor, usually consisting of an old man holding doors open so that rich shits don't have to exert themselves. The upper classes regard these places as their domain where they can go and escape the nasty commoners. They ought to be educated to the fact that workers find such places deeply offensive. I personally find every luxury hotel an insult and kick in the teeth to every unemployed man. (And woman! - CW)

Give the scum the message nowhere is safe from workers' power.

'Mad Mike', Paisley

P.S. I had a 'magic marker' on me so I left a few messages on the shithouse doors.

This issue's tenner is winging its way to the anti-M11 campaign as requested by the person who took the photo—don't forget to send all your wonderful graffiti competition entries to PO Box 467, London, E8 3QX. Every one that's printed gets a tenner!
IN THE UNION

Dear Class War,

As nurse rep. for Unison at my local hospital, I've been involved in negotiating with management over the last year. This deal 'allows' staff at the hospital to have a say in what goes on through their union reps.

The management decided to have a signing ceremony to 'celebrate' this deal, (which is our right, as the working class, to have a say in our working lives), union full-time officials thought this a great idea and sat down to free champagne and buffet while the staff have just faced a 50% increase in prices at the canteen with no pay rise and job cuts for canteen staff.

As long as I'm in Unison I won't accept management bribes to stay sweet. Unions are in existence to create a powerful force against the management not to provide high wages and a cushy disabled and have to somehow survive on state benefits.

Dear Class War,

All pop and rock music - in fact the entire concept of 'youth culture' - is a con-trick to neutralise working class resentment. Here's how it works.

Via 'youth culture' the younger working class is told (both covertly and directly) that something is more important than their class status - namely their age, or 'youthfulness'. Consequently some working class kid at a factory bench thinks he has more in common with some rich brat like Amanda de Cadanet than with older members of his own class.

Thus his class resentment is neutralised, not fanned, by the very concept of 'youth culture'. Pop and rock music thus serve to divide the working class - silly clothes, sexism, bad attitude to family and peers, inter-class conflict, punching the air some demented wanker, to name but a few.

Despite the marginalised middle class status of pop/rock at present, it remains a potent weapon in the ideological arsenal of the elite.

This is not to say that union bureaucrats are like any other, they have a financial interest (i.e. their salaries) in keeping the status quo, only ourselves alone can successfully win the class war, we can't rely on union bureaucrats to do it for us. This is not to say that union activity is not useful, but as a tool to be used, not an end in itself.

GET A GRIP ON REALITY

Dear Class War,

All pop and rock music - in fact the entire concept of 'youth culture' - is a con-trick to neutralise working class resentment. Here's how it works.

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Despite the marginalised middle class status of pop/rock at present, it remains a potent weapon in the ideological arsenal of the elite.

Like the so called revolutionary left, it mirrors rather than challenges the existing class structure.

Yours sincerely,

Johnny, Warrington

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LET'S ALL GO MENTAL IN THE COUNTRY

Dear All

I don't think I'll be reading the paper again as I have no desire to be associated with an organisation that is made up of 'ordinary people'.

How dull! Like Terry Firth, I also look at home on the terraces. Unlike him I'm not likely to be off 'turning on' other people because they look a bit odd after the match.

If Class War wants to be a federation of grey heterosexual males with 2.2 children then that's up to you to call on me, it's your problem if you want to get evicted. Just pretend to be a concerned neighbour and invite them in - I'm sure they'd be pleased to call me a 'hippy' and I'm sure they'd love the idea of my mates coming in to meet the 'ordinary people'.

Northumbria police.

And maybe we should keep this in mind for the next time we're getting evicted. Just pretend to be a concerned neighbour and invite them in - I'm sure they'd be pleased to call me a 'hippy' and I'm sure they'd love the idea of my mates coming in to meet the 'ordinary people'.

TOP COP!

Dear Class War,

Oh, I don't know why you lot are always slagging off the police - they do sometimes make a useful tool to be used, not an end in itself.

This government hasn't got a clue what it's like living on state benefits. The 'Cops In the Community' are a bit of a joke. The security in these places is piss-poor, usually consisting of an old man holding doors open so that homeless/unemployed people to hold a mass trespass on one of these places similar to civil rights actions in 60s America?

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P.S. [had a 'magic marker' on me so I left a few messages on the shithouse doors.
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The management decided to have a signing ceremony to 'celebrate' this deal, (which is right, as the working class, to have a say in our working lives), union full-time officials thought this a great idea and set down to free champagne and buffet while the staff have just faced a 50% increase in prices at the canteen with no pay rise and job cuts for canteen staff.

As long as I'm in Unison I won't accept management bribes to sweeten. Unions are in existence to create a powerful force against the management not to provide high wages and a cushy lifestyle for bureaucrats such as Jinkinson.

The 'Care in the Community' charter is a farce and it's all words. There are disabled out there that need help but can't get any because they can't afford to buy the services. The present government has no desire to be associated with an organisation that is made up of 'ordinary people'!

Take my recent example: my bastard landlord's trying to evict me (just cos I haven't paid any rent for the past few months - I'm skint and anyway we shouldn't have to pay to live)... anyway, one nice summer afternoon a load of cops charged round to my house, kick all the doors in and smash all the windows. They said they were looking for drugs but of course they couldn't find anything.

Yours sincerely,
Johnny, Warrington

**GET A GRIP ON REALITY**

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Via 'youth culture': the younger working class is told (both covertly and directly) that something is more important than their class status - namely their age, or 'youthfulness'. Consequently some working class kid at a factory bench thinks he has more in common with some rich brat like Amanda de Cadanet than with older members of his own class.

This his class resentment is neutralised, not fanned, by the very concept of 'youth culture'. Pop and rock music thus serve to divide the working class and neutralise their resentment in a very powerful yet subtle way.

No class warrior should ever listen to rock or pop music - it's an upper middle class rip-off, a total wank devised to protect the establishment.

The result: the bastard government hasn't got a clue what it's like living on state benefits. The 'Care in the Community' charter is a farce and it's all words. There are disabled out there that need help but can't get any because they can't afford to buy the services. The present government has no desire to be associated with an organisation that is made up of 'ordinary people'!

Yours sincerely,

**KILL A COP**

Dear Class War,

Did you know that the authorities in Leeds have decided to pull down parts of Chapeltown - to stamp out crime they say - as though it will vanish somehow once they've done this!

However, the real reason they've done this is to get round a ban the residents put on the cops to stop them coming into the area.

It's well known the cops are spineless scum who intimidate, assault and fuck people over when the odds are stacked in their favour but this stunt really is pathetic!

Yours, a class warrior, Leeds

**TOP COP!**

Dear Class War,

Oh, I don't know why you lot are always slagging off the police - they do sometimes get it right.

Take my recent example: my bastard landlord's trying to evict me (just cos I haven't paid any rent for the past few months - I'm skint and anyway we shouldn't have to pay to live)... anyway, one nice summer afternoon a load of cops charged round to my house, kick all the doors in and smash all the windows. They said they were looking for drugs but of course they couldn't find anything.

The result: the bastard landlord's stuck with a house no-one will rent off him! So thank you, Northumbria police.

And maybe we should keep this in mind for the next time we're getting evicted. Just pretend to be a concerned neighbour and grass up those filthy young people down the street - and the landlord will end up with a house that no-one wants!

Love, Samantha, Gateshead.

CW REPUL:

I think it was made quite plain in the last issue that it doesn't matter a fuck what someone looks like. Obviously you're a lot more bothered about appearances than we are!

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How dull! Like Terry Firth, I also look at home on the terraces. Unlike him I'm not likely to be off 'turning on' other people because they look a bit odd after the match.

If Class War wants to be a federation of grey heterosexual males with 2.2 children then that's up to you and Terry and his mates, I suppose.

For me - I've had enough of being pushed around because I don't fit in - what I want around me is a group of fucking weirdos who don't care how I look.

And dancing around a camp fire sounds more fun to me than staying at home all night to worry about if I'm ordinary enough to be let into your club.

Yours for an unusual, exciting and free society,

Ben

CW REPLY:

I think it was made quite plain in the last issue that it doesn't matter a fuck what someone looks like. Obviously you're a lot more bothered about appearances than we are!
COP KILLER
Donald Gorgon
(The X Press £4.99)
"We're tired of being used, of being abused. We assert our right to defend ourselves by any means necessary."

When Lloyd Baker’s mum is gunned down by the cops on a bungled drugs raid, his world falls apart. Gradually though his anger hardens and he sets out on a one-man mission to settle the score and bring a bit of people’s justice to the streets of London.

Published by the same people who gave us the 'black gangsta' Yardie series, this is a brilliant book—fast-moving, violent and extremely sussed. But unlike the Yardie books, Cop Killer isn’t full of harder-than-hard macho bollocks and it isn’t scared to tackle real issues. Lloyd

PAPER BOYS
This is an excellent little read, a first-hand account of the 1986-7 printers’ribution depots, and attacking scabs and scab lorries. This is working-class history, written not by academics but by an ordinary working-class bloke; and what’s refreshing, especially with all the ‘non-violence’ crap which seems so fashionable at the moment, is that he takes it for granted that fighting cops is okay.

Throughout this booklet the message is very clear: all bosses are bastards; neither police nor state are impartial—both are our enemy; scabs are scum; and union officials and leaders are simply soft cops.

Paper Boys is an inspirational little booklet: when the working class struggles, when the working class fights back, we gain confidence, we learn how to best organise, we learn tactics, and we are able to overcome our fears.

SHOPPING (18)
Top cop: “What’s prison taught you, Billy?”
Billy: “Don’t get caught”

The first quarter of an hour of Shopping is an absolute belter. When Billy gets released from nick, the first thing he does is meet up with Jo, his joy-riding sidekick, rob a BMW from right under its yuppie owner’s nose, and set off on a mad drive across the city. They spray-paint ‘chase me’ across the car boot and when the cops get on their tail, Jo leans out and pelts them with all the shit tapes she can find in the car—Billy Joel, Dire Straits, Whitney Houston... The audience whoops and cheers.

Add to all this a pumping soundtrack full of the likes of Utah Saints, One Dove, and Credit to the Nation and you can see why it took the film censors almost two months to decide whether or not to give Shopping a certificate. It’s a film that glamorises joy-riding, shows cop cars being trashed while they’re parked outside the station, BMWs and Porsches being nicked, shopping malls ram-raided and destroyed, and includes a full-blooded assault on police officers with a fridge and a shower of bottles, bricks and petrol bombs...

In the end though you can see why it wasn’t so difficult to slip Shopping past the censors. For all its ‘rebellious’ style, it is just another teen exploitation flick, another cynical ‘youth’ movie. With a script that
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But unlike the Yardie books, Cop Killer isn't full of harder-than-hard macho bollocks and it isn't scared to tackle real issues. Lloyd sets out with just one goal, to hunt down his mum’s killers. But when his investigations bring him across a local crack-dealer who's making a living by spreading shit and misery among the streets of London.

**PAPER BOYS**

This is an excellent little read, a first-hand account of the 1986-7 printers' struggle against Rupert Murdoch's News International—the view from the picket line.

Here we have 28 action-packed pages of the adventures of the Dangerous Brothers, the Bomber, the Windmill, the Student, and others: battling it out with the cops ("paper boys"), carrying out raids on distribution depots, and attacking scabs and scab lorries. This is working-class history, written not by academics but by an ordinary working-class bloke: and what's refreshing, especially with all the 'non-violence' crap which seems so fashionable at the moment, is that he takes it for granted that fighting cops is okay.

Throughout this booklet the message is very clear: all bosses are bastards; neither police nor state are impartial—both are our enemy; scabs are scum; and union officials and leaders are simply soft cops.

**SHOPPING (18)**

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The first quarter of an hour of Shopping is an absolute belter. When Billy gets released from nick, the first thing he does is meet up with Jo, his joy-riding sidekick, rob a BMW from right under its yuppie owner’s nose, and set off on a mad drive across the city. They spray-paint 'chase me' across the car boot and when the cops get on their tail, Jo leans out and peels them with all the shit tapes she can find in the car—Billy Joel, Dire Straits, Whitney Houston... The audience whoops and cheers.

Shopping is being touted as the sexiest, most controversial film of the year: it definitely isn't that, but it will do nicely until the real thing comes along. Set against a background of inner-city wasteland that looks like a left-over from Mad Max and which seems so fashionable, Shopping is a realistic film about joy-riding, ram-raiding and surviving in a dead-end economy.

While Billy is the typical anti-hero, who gets his kicks from adrenaline and getting one over on the cops, his rival on the estates is Tommy, a man who has 'evil villain' written all over him. Tommy does much the same as Billy, but for him ram-raiding is serious business, a way to make big money and become a full-time gangster.

Tommy has the massive headquarters, the mobile phone, the drug-dealing. But Billy has the edge when it comes to walking the police, do they? And, in case you still haven't got the message that crime doesn't pay, the very predictable ending hammers it home.

Add to all this a pumping soundtrack full of the likes of Utah Saints, One Dove, and Credit to the Nation and you can see why it took the film censors almost two months to decide whether or not to give Shopping a certificate. It's a film that glamourises joy-riding, shows cop cars being trashed while they're parked outside the station, BMWs and Porsches being nicked, shopping malls ram-raided and destroyed, and includes a full-blooded assault on police officers with a fridge and a shower of bottles, bricks and petrol bombs.

In the end though you can see why it wasn't so difficult to slip Shopping past the censors. For all its 'rebellious' style, it is just another teen exploitation flick, another cynical 'youth' movie. With a script that looks like it was cobbled together in half an hour down the betting shop, it's full to bursting with cliches, poseurs and bad acting. It's set in a kind of Mad Max city with no name, where absolutely no-one seems to have a job apart from the cops. On top of that no-one really wants to kill the police, do they? And, in case you still haven't got the message that crime doesn't pay, the very predictable ending hammers it home.

All this isn't just bad film-making; it's also a way of making Shopping more fantastic, less real, less of a threat. "I mean, it's only a film: no-one really wants to kill the police, do they?" And, in case you still haven't got the message that crime doesn't pay, the very predictable ending hammers it home.

But if you can forget all that, Shopping is still an unmissable feast: bold and trashy, it's the only film this year that will show you the full effect of a fridge being dropped from 30 feet on a cop car. Enjoy!
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**VIDEO**

**SMALL WORLD**

Undercurrents, #1

This is a collection of short films, lasting 85 minutes in total, documenting various struggles not covered by the mainstream media. The two longest films are a twelve-minute piece about the Public Order Act and Criminal Justice Bill, and 35 minutes on the campaign to stop the M11 Link road.

It's a sound idea and some of the footage is really good: it's great to see people singing and dancing with confidence, and generally having a good time, in defiance of cops and bailiffs.

But singing and dancing on its own isn't enough and I found a lot of what I saw and heard disempowering. The protesters filmed here are all brave and committed to what they are doing. But I saw far too many of them being led away by cops or resisting arrest only passively. I heard too many complaints about the police “not doing their job properly”; about “so-called ‘democracy’”; and about “us becoming as bad as them if we resort to violence”.

Let’s be clear: the job of the police is to protect the rich, their profits and ‘the system’—they always do it ‘properly’! That’s what democracy is all about. So if we are a threat to capital and to profits (and like squatters, etc. the anti-roads movement is such a threat) then capital will always use any means necessary to try and crush us—any bollocks about non-violence can only weaken us.

Available from Small World, 1A Waterlow Rd, Archway, London N19 5NJ for £4 (unwaged) or £8 (waged) plus £1.50 p&p; cheques payable to Small World.

**BOBBY SANDS, ONE DAY IN MY LIFE**

Mercier Press, Dublin, 1983. £4.95

Bobby Sands was sentenced to 14 years in prison for possession of weapons. He went on to become the first of ten Republican prisoners to die on hunger strike in 1981.

This is the most moving account I’ve ever read of one person’s struggle against the naked brutality of the state. Long Keah (now officially called the Maze) is a hell—the Republican prisoners are daily, routinely and constantly subjected to harassment, torment, beatings, dunkings in icy water, minute body searches and other humiliations. Bobby Sands and his comrades never give up. Throughout everything they maintain their will, their courage, their commitment, their faith in themselves and in each other, and their humanity. Despite being in prison, despite all the deprivations, solitary confinement... despite everything, their struggle always continues.

Written on toilet paper with a biro refill and smuggled out hidden inside Bobby Sand’s own body, no review can possibly do this book justice. It doesn’t matter what you think about the IRA—just read it.
LONDON CLASS WAR PRESENT:

"WHY CLASS ORGANISATION and class violence? THIS IS CLASS WAR!"

AN OPEN MEETING

at

THE CONWAY HALL
RED LION SQUARE
HOLBORN
LONDON

Wednesday 26 Oct.
7.30pm

CONTACT THE LONDON ADDRESS IF YOU WANT MORE DETAILS..SEE YOU THERE!

BULK ORDER OF 'CLASS WAR' ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE LUTON CLASS WAR
ADDRESS: ORDER 'EM UP NOW!

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CALLING ALL SUPPORTERS...

The Federations' supporters' bulletin has been relaunched and revamped. It's packed with news, views, debates and decisions that the Fed has been making and having. It also has updates on what's been happening both regionally and nationally. It costs just £1.50 for three issues, and if you want to give a bit extra as a donation, that'd be well appreciated.

Please use the form below:

SUPPORTERS' BULLETIN

NAME...

ADDRESS... 

COST £1.50 (PLUS DONATION?)...

I'D LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT
BECOMING A MEMBER OF CLASS WAR - SEND ME MORE INFORMATION (tick box).

SEND TO: P.C.W PO BOX 108, PLYMOUTH, DEVON

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NORTH WEST: PO Box SWD0, Manchester M15 5NN
EAST & WEST MIDS.: PO Box 3021, Saltley, Birmingham B8 3DP
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EAST ANGLIA: PO Box 467, London E8 3QX
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This is CLASS WAR!
The CLASS WAR FEDERATION is an organisation of groups and individuals who have come together to do something about the society we live in.

WHAT WE BELIEVE
This society is divided into classes based on power and wealth. The ruling class, who are supported by the middle class; and the working class. Such a society is the cause of most of the problems experienced by working class people the world over.

This can only be sorted out by the destruction of the ruling class: this is class war.

Real change can only come about by working class people organising themselves to deal with the problems that they experience: using direct action against the institutions and individuals that cause them. There is no alternative. Violence is a necessary part of the class war—but as mass class violence, out in the open, not elitist terrorist actions.

Class society creates other oppressions based on sex, ethnic origin, disability, sexuality etc. To the ruling class this 'justifies' extreme exploitation of people placed in such groups, and divides our class.

The class war must fight all these oppressive class and divisions.

Above all the CLASS WAR FEDERATION believes that politics is life and life is politics. We reject the so-called 'revolutionary' left. Politics must be fun; it’s a part of everyday life and must be able to take the piss out of itself.

OUR AIM
The aim of the CLASS WAR FEDERATION is not to change the system; but to help the working class understand the system and organise to change it.

FANTASY FOOTBALL
...COS IT'S ALL WE CAN AFFORD!

The football season is here again and if you think that football is still the people’s game, then think again. Our once proud working class game has been changed without trace over the last few years, and it’s big business that now calls the tune.

Manchester United, one of the biggest, richest and most powerful clubs in the English league have released a new football strip ‘surprise surprise!’ It’s their fifth one in two years. The shirt to mere mortals like ourselves is priced £40. It’s no wonder Man United’s turnover was £30 million, and only half of that came from ticket sales.

The ordinary supporter is being ripped off left right and centre, as are workers at the clubs. In previous Class War issues we have revealed that in the ex-executive suite a waitress in United is paid £13.75 for a six hour shift!

No wonder Man United's share prices have risen from £2.50 in 1992 to £6.95 now. On who's back has that been made?

NET PROFITS
All the Premier clubs last year made an average profit of £1.46 million while the First division clubs made a loss of £332,000. Blackburn spent £13.29 million last year alone in wages and over £15 million in the transfer market. Meanwhile over at Brighton, the ordinary working class football fan has been pushed to a point of despair.

SMILEY LOOKS AT THE GAME

Don’t let our game take a dive too

Here at Class War we have taken a look in to the Crystal Football to see what is in store for our game if the bosses and big business get their way.

BEFORE THE GAME

No longer the charged atmosphere of fans chanting their club's name and singing songs of solidarity. Here at Class War we expect a new kind of football, one which will be played in the name of the working class, with working class people at the helm.
the world over. This can only be sorted out by the destruction of the ruling class: this is class war.

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WHAT WE DO

The CLASS WAR FEDERATION produces and distributes propaganda: a paper, discussion and debating magazine, other books and pamphlets, as well as local and national leaflets, posters and newsletters.

We’re involved in working class struggles and we encourage involvement in the Federation, to do the above, for discussion and for a laugh!

CLASS WAR
NATIONAL SECRETARY
PO BOX HH57
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YOUR FOOTBALL BOARD PLC
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Don’t let our game take a dive too

NET PROFITS

All the Premier clubs last year made an average profit of £1.46 million while the First division clubs made a loss of £332,000. Blackburn spent £1.46 million last year alone on players. How can lower division clubs compete? They can’t because the big business bosses don’t want them to, or they would share some of the profits made by the greedier Premier clubs.

Look at Millwall, one of the lucky First division clubs, it’s profits leaped to £1,374,000. But then it’s no wonder Man United’s share prices have risen from £2.50 in 1992 to £6.95 now. On who’s back has that been made?

The ordinary supporter is being ripped off left, right and centre, as are workers at the clubs. In previous Class War issues we have revealed that waitresses in the United executive suite only get £13.75 for a six hour shift!

No wonder Man United’s share prices have risen from £2.50 in 1992 to £6.95 now. On who’s back has that been made?

This story is the same at clubs all across the country. We get ripped off so directors can drive their Jaguars and Mercs and holiday four times a year in places that the ordinary working class fan is being priced out of. The story is the same at clubs all across the country. The message is clear, the football league is a filthy reflection of the society we live in, where the rich get richer and the working class get fuck all. The clubs now exist to make money for fat business bosses and tell them what they really think about the new admission prices etc.

And maybe, just maybe, we will be able to bring back to the fans a sport that we all love, a sport that has been hijacked by the greed and capitalism in this country. As Celtic fans would say ‘Tlocfaldh Ar La’ (Our Day Will Come!).

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SPORT FOR ALL?

During the local elections, the ANL/SWP plastered many cities with posters giving dire warnings that if elected the BNP and the NF would ban rave and soul music.

Those unfortunate enough to attend the SWP's flag waving conference, Marxism 94, found that the fascists aren't alone in attacking people's leisure habits. Throughout the building TV screens only showed the message "the organisers of Marxism 94 have requested we do not show World Cup coverage".

After all, how could a game such as Brazil v Holland possibly compete

SPORT

HIT THE BOSSES

Following the death of Bradley Stone, after challenging for the British super-bantamweight title, we yet again hear calls for the sport to be banned from the middle class do-gooders.

Whilst it must be recognised that boxing is dangerous, it should also be seen that it is a sport that is taken up almost entirely by working class youth.

Young working class men, and now increasingly women, enter the sport because of the shit that capitalist society throws at them.

Faced with violence on the streets from the cops and anti-social crime, boxing is a way that our class have gained some form of self-defence.

Also for the very few who make it, this is one of the few ways that working class youth can make some decent money, a lot more than the normal shitty wages they give us.

MONEY

Bradley Stone was going to use the paltry £8,000 prize from the fight as a deposit on a house and Michael Watson (who almost died in the Eubank fight) earned £50,000 - which would have taken him at least four years to earn in his previous job as a van driver.

Even these purses are nothing to the £1,000's that the tossers from the British Medical Association earn, one of the biggest lobbies to ban boxing.

Remember these are the people rip us off through the fund holding system: it doesn't matter if we get better as long as they make a profit.

Anyway boxing is not the most dangerous sport by a long way: between 1986 and 1992 whilst one man died from boxing, 46 died from ball games, 31 horse riding and 412 in water sports.

COPPERS

And what about the thugs who go around stamping on each others heads playing rugby, a lot of them are cotters so I suppose we shouldn't be surprised.

Remember Wade Dooley, the Blackpool pig, knocking out a Welsh player in front of millions, if any of us had done it to him we'd have been in the cells, trashed and sent down for a year or two.

Why don't the middle class tosspots call for these sports to be banned rather than boxing? It's because they don't understand our way of life and the shit that everyday life deals to us.

They have a patronising attitude that makes them think they know what's best for us, they try to run our lives all the time and the call to ban boxing is just another example of this.

We should tell them to fuck off! Banning boxing would only force the sport underground which would produce far more and worse injuries than at present, reducing the purse for the fighters and increasing profits for the managers and promoters.

RINGSIDE

We think that the rich bastards who milk the sport should be made to provide greater medical services and back up at the ringside, facilities which would probably have saved Bradley Stone's life. At the moment boxers have to pay for their own medicals. There are also many other ways that the fight game can be made safer - having fewer rounds for example.

Boxing like the rest of society should be seen in class terms. Chris Eubank likened the promoters to the bosses and the fighters as the workers.

Don King, a complete wanker if ever there was one, took a young black street fighter, made a fortune out of him and when he couldn't cope with his new fortune dropped him to let him rot in jail.

We of course think Mike Tyson was a menace to society, hitting his wife and raping a young model, but we think that King is as much to blame for creating that problem. He should be banged up and the key thrown away!

CONTROL

Boxing, as with other forms of self-defence, will not disappear whilst we have to protect ourselves against the bosses society.

Boxing will go when we get control of our own lives and until then it is a way to survive in this society and a useful skill to bash the rich and the cops!
SPORT
FOR ALL?

During the local elections, the ANL/SWP plastered many cities with posters giving dire warnings that if elected the BNP and the NF would ban rave and soul music. Those unfortunate enough to attend the SWP’s flag waving conference, Marxism 94, found that the fascists aren’t alone in attacking people’s leisure habits. Throughout the building TV screens only showed the message “the organisers of Marxism 94 have requested we do not show World Cup coverage.”

After all, how could a game such as Brazil v Holland possibly compete with gripping political meetings such as “Is there any socialist opera?” or cries to support Tony Blair?

The arrogance of a supposed ‘revolutionary’ party telling its members what they can and cannot watch in their own spare time tells us much about how any future society governed by these gangsters would look.

SWP members who missed that game may be interested to know that a tape of the match is available from London Class War for £5 (please make cheques payable to “Class War”) – and we promise not to tell your central committee.

“Iss this a civilised society? Once we get a civilised society then I say perhaps we should concern ourselves with banning boxing, but let’s get a civilised society first” - Terry Marsh, former undefeated world champion boxer.

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IN THE LIONS DEN

We received the following report from a Millwall fan in response to the article about the Millwall/Derby match in our last issue

Even walking to the ground the atmosphere was like a cup match. The new den was packed to the rafters, with everyone singing their hearts out, wicked!

Half an hour later we are five goals down on aggregate, the fans are on the pitch and the players are sprinting off. So what happened?

STAND AND SING

Frustration and anger have been building up at Millwall for ages. We’ve got an all seater stadium that we never wanted but were given anyway.

We want to stand up and sing for our team, not pay £10 minimum for a seat in a ground that’s so quiet at half-time it feels like a library.

RIP OFF

Then there was the Lions card rip-off, similar to Arsenal’s bond scheme, give us your money and we’ll take the piss out of you! On the night the old bill surrounded half the East Stand so no-one in the lower section could see.

Then they started pulling fans out and arresting them for no reason, the fans reacted in the traditional fashion and charged through the police lines onto the pitch.

All this was left out of the media coverage which made out that all Millwall fans are subhuman scum who should be drowned in Bermondsey docks.

NOT PERFECT

Now Millwall fans aren’t perfect, attacking players is bang out of order and there is also a big problem with racism, however the fans don’t run around in hooded tops waving burning crosses!

It’s racism at all football clubs which reflects the racism that runs through society. It remains to be seen what the FA’s decision will be about the riot but, like at Tottenham, it will be the ordinary fans who suffer – not the rich bastards on the board or the cops who caused the problem.

KICK THEM OUT!

All they’re bothered about is making a bit more money out of us or splitting our heads open, whilst we care about how the team is doing.

A lot of Millwall’s problems could be got rid of if we kicked out the rich bastards who run the club, but to deal with the racism, it’s up to us the Millwall fans to sort it out!
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