



WAKE UP!! IT'S YER MASKING FOR IT...

# SchNEWS

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## CASTING DISPERSIONS NEW LAW TO GIVE COPS BLANKET DISPERSAL POWERS

Another year – another crackdown on civil liberties. The appallingly derivatively named Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Bill (somebody at the Home Office must have a bit of imagination surely?) proposes that the police be given the power to clear areas of people they “reasonably suspect” are engaged in conduct that contributes to “members of the public in the locality being harassed, alarmed or distressed”.

A dispersal order can be issued by any officer of the rank of Inspector or above and lasts for a period of 48 hrs. It allows the police to specify how and when people must disperse. To not disperse will of course be an arrestable offence with a potential three months imprisonment attached. The new laws will also give the cops the power to seize items used in the conduct of ‘anti-social behaviour’ as well as taking those aged

under 16 to ‘a place of safety’.

In the past – when it came to controlling protests and public gatherings the police relied on the Public Order Act sections 12 and 14 and while misuse of these acts was commonplace the threshold for the triggering of then powers was ‘serious violence, serious criminal damage or serious disruption to the life of the community’. This meant that at least there was a valid defence available if you were nicked on a peaceful demo.

Anti-social behaviour can be defined by the police to mean almost anything they want. It’s going to be draconian enough in the context of organised protest but imagine how it’s going to be deployed in the inner cities. This new law moves us one step closer to the no-doubt-soon-to-be-unveiled “Crime, Disorder and listen just do what yer fuckin’ told Act 2014”...

## BALCOMBE ONE, BALCOME ALL AS SUSSEX VILLAGE FIGHTS OFF FRACKING INVADER

Less than 24 hours after those fracking idiots at Cuadrilla received their licence from the environment agency allowing them to drill in the area of Outstanding Natural Beauty near the Sussex village of Balcombe, they began trying to move equipment onto the site.

Pre-warned locals and campaigners mobilised just as quickly, under the banner of the Great Gas Gala. By 7 a.m, despite the presence of G4S security, members of the fifty-strong demo had blocked the entrance.

The first lorry to try and enter the site had its brake cables cut. Although the vehicle was quickly repaired, more folk began arriving and gazebos were set up on the verge. It wasn’t until an hour later that the police arrived and over the course of the morning the situation developed into a very English stand-off.

At midday the police began warning the crowd that if they didn’t allow the lorry entry then they faced arrest.

In the end however it was the men with the HGV who wilted in the afternoon heat and raucous celebration greeted the departure of the lorry as the crowd, now grown to around 200, realised their victory.

Of course defeating evil is rarely that

simple and Cuadrilla were soon back.

After a relatively quiet day on Sunday, Monday (29th), saw many vehicles arriving on site. Each delivery was met with heavy resistance. A heavily pregnant woman attempted to stop one of the trucks and was forced away as things got dodgy and dangerous. At the same time a man was arrested and brutally wrestled to the ground resulting in a suspected broken arm.

For the rest of the afternoon more deliveries turned up but only got through with police marching in front of the HGV clashing with protesters attempting to stop them. A later delivery of office furniture saw a sit-down protest that resulted in a significant delay and another arrest.

Perhaps as a sign of the struggle ahead, police have installed a mobile office on site—and a casual conversation with one cop made it obvious the plod think they are there for the long haul. Some protesters thought it might pay to also set up a solicitor’s office and branch of Infinity Foods alongside.

Get down there: the site is less than a mile’s walk from Balcombe train station.

\* Continual updates at: <http://frack-off.org.uk/latest-news-from-the-great-gas-gala>



## LEGION ON THE RISE

As truth threatens to trump fiction once again; a short briefing on the latest from those Anonymous hacktivists...

Anonymous UK, as part of ‘Operation Vendetta’, are planning a big “Million Mask March” on November the 5th, 2013 to Parliament from Trafalgar square starting at 6 pm.

If London is not your cup of tea there are plenty of other locations to choose from, where other Million Mask Marches will be starting at the same time and date. You can pick from Nebraska, New Jersey, Washington, California, India, Colorado, Melbourne, Massachusetts, Bulgaria, Adelaide, Romania and Hong Kong.

The aim of this demonstration is to reunite all Anonymous activists and spark the movement back into action against the persecution of internet freedom. The demonstration is against government censorship and tyranny.

The hacktivist group have called for a silent march to build up the suspense en route but it remains to be seen how the cookie will crumble during the event. According to online announcements the dead air will be broken with none other than the 1812 Overture and other pretty little ditties to really get the party going for as long as possible. “It is the target of Anonymous in 2013 to evolve the old traditional idea of protesting into the new. Anonymous have changed the rules, by turning this ‘new tradition’ of petition into more of a festival of ideas, performance art and symbolic new age discussion that has formed the political views of the youth of today.”

The Anonymous website has info on the demo check and you can also keep updated and follow events on their facebook and twitter. Time for catchy slogan:

We are Anonymous  
We are Legion  
We do not Forgive  
We do not Forget  
Expect Us.

### PARTY & PROTEST

For events listings updated weekly see [www.schnews.org.uk/pap](http://www.schnews.org.uk/pap)

INFORMATION FOR ACTION

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# YO,HO,HO AND A BATTLE OF BRUM

Not the best showing for anti-fascism yesterday in Birmingham, a couple of dozen autonomous anti-fascists actually made the effort to confront the EDL at their muster pub. Meanwhile the UAF rally ¾ of a mile away attracted a mere two hundred.

SchNEWS spoke to one of those who confronted them "They'd been shut in the pub for three hours and were completely pissed, really drunk and baying for blood. It was when they got the pig's heads out we made our move – we were massively outnumbered but that was step too far." After scuffles the two groups were separated by cops in public order gear.

With that said the EDL rally attracted around a 1000 – certainly a huge jump from their disastrous outings to Cambridge or Walthamstow and indicative of how they've benefitted from the Lee Rigby bounce but nowhere near what their leadership was hoping for.

The fash didn't fare so well in Liverpool however where a mission of number of the EDLs splinter groups to disrupt an Irish republican march descended into farce as twelve of them were nicked for offences ranging from racially aggravated abuse to possession of cocaine – party on dudes!

The EDLs next outing is to be a return to Tower Hamlets – at the moment scheduled for September 7th.

<http://antifascistnetwork.wordpress.com/>

## BEXHILL REVISITED

On Saturday (13th), hundreds of people joined a walk and Rally against Roadbuilding in East Sussex. There were guided walks along the route of the Bexhill Hastings Link Road, which started construction in January. After time learning about and experiencing some of the wildlife that is being destroyed, and seeing the grim reality of roadbuilding, the walks then all converged on the village of Crowhurst.

SchNEWS talked to one participant: "It was awful walking around where they've started construction, with a lunar landscape where there used to be trees and lots of machinery there doing more damage, but then we arrived in Crowhurst and it was like a village fete with a vegan buffet, displays and even a coconut shy. It was inspiring to see so many people there working together to stop new roads wrecking the countryside."

There were speeches from a range of people working against road building in different ways, including CPRE, Combe Haven Defenders, Campaign for Better Transport,

# 5-1 AGAINST LUNAR LANDINGS

Only forty supporters of the English Volunteer Force made the trip to Lunar House. They were greeted by nearly 200 anti-fascists, a mash up of trade unionists, UAF and autonomous anti-fascists.

According to SchNEWS' man on the scene "A few punches were exchanged but they basically went straight into their prepared pen"

The next hour was taken up with a bit of ritual chanting before the fash were forced by the cops to march to East Croydon station in a mobile kettle. Activists from the Anti-Fascist Network paraded ahead of them and they were harangued from all sides.

Next stop was Woolwich where the tens of EVF then made up the bulk of the People's March, technically held under the South East Alliance banner. In any case the two groups overlap – with March for England supremo Paul Pitt seeming to supervise both gatherings.

In the event the ten miles on foot to Westminster proved just too daunting for the racially profiled crowd so they marched 500 yards to the nearest station and opted to let the train take the strain.

By re-emerging in Westminster they cunningly dodged the gathering of anti-fascists in Deptford and made straight for Old Palace Yard. Unfortunately this rather predictable dodge left them largely unopposed - just as well they are so poorly supported...



Hastings Alliance and Crowhurst residents. All compered by Sir Ian Bowler MP. Everyone is still determined to fight this road all the way - and to link up with other groups fighting other roads, which are all part of the Tory roadbuilding programme, dragged back from the dead for these 'times of austerity'.

Which brings us nicely to the news that the budget for the Bexhill road has just been increased by £13 million to a total of £113 million. This is roughly the amount being cut from the local social care budget...

New or widened roads are planned all over the country including the Peak District, Stonehenge area, the Norfolk Broads and the South Downs.

There's probably one near you. Find out more on the Roads to Nowhere website.

The Earth First Gathering will be just next to the route of this road, near Bexhill on the **7th-11th August**. Come to learn about resisting road building and other types of environmental destruction, meet people, go on bat walks, and have some fun.

## PROBATIONARY TALES

Fancy trying to make your way in life fresh out of jail for an animal rights conviction? Debt to society paid? Thought not. Here's a list of just some of the conditions imposed on Lewis Pogson:

- \* Notify your supervising officer prior to any contact or relationship with individuals or organisations engaged in demonstrations or activity concerned with Animal Welfare or the Rights of Animals, unless otherwise instructed by your supervising officer.

- \* Not to enter within one mile of Highgate Farm, Highgate Lane, Normanby-By-Spital, Market Rasen, LH8 2HQ, Lincolnshire, without the prior approval of your supervising officer.

- \* Not to use a computer or other electronic device for the purpose of accessing the internet or to have access to any internet messaging services or other internet message board/forum or community without the prior permission of your supervising officer. You must permit reasonable access to any electronic devices to permit technical checks.

- \* Not to contact directly or indirectly any employee or associates of Huntingdon Life Sciences in Woolley Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, without the prior approval of your supervising officer.

- \* Not to own or possess or permit in your address any computer without the prior approval of your supervising officer.

- \* Not to own or possess more than one mobile telephone or SIM card and to provide your supervising offer with the details of that mobile telephone, including the IMEI number and the SIM card that you possess.

Piece of (vegan) cake, huh? Lewis has written a full feature piece about draconian probation and his experiences - read it on the [www.schnews.org.uk](http://www.schnews.org.uk)

*...and finally...*

Sussex cops opened up their training centre at Kingstanding today (25th) as part of a carefully choreographed 'Be the Police for the Day' Event. The aim of the day? "For the public to get a better understanding of how the force works to keep them safe."

Around 100 kids turned up for the craic, and the cops went to great lengths to find novel ways to connect with da yoof. After a profitable morning of funny handshakes and creative statement writing, the cops had to admit that "among the most popular activities with the children were the simulated public order exercises in which the youngsters were asked to hurl bricks at officers.... [the participants] threw themselves into exercises enthusiastically." We bet they did - where was our invite?

### Disclaimer

SchNEWS advises all readers, don't miss the opportunity to take another brick from the wall. Honest.

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