RED EMMA * STRIKE ACTION NEWS
BLOOD MONEY CAMPAIGN
ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS
TALKING ANARCHY * BULLDOZER
BOOK REVIEW & MUCH MORE!

IRISH ANARCHIST BULLETIN
Welcome to issue 15 of Barricade Bulletin, which will cover the period of September, October, November of 2021. As always, Barricade Bulletin is printed and produced voluntarily by the Derry Anarchist Collective to bring you all the news and information from anarchists in Derry and those who we have extended solidarity with.

As anarchists we are active within our own workplaces and communities where we live. As part of our ongoing education process we meet monthly to continue with ‘Conversations on Anarchism’, with other likeminded anarchists, but also to help the processing of developing and educating ourselves and those of us who are new to anarchism and its principles. If you feel you would like to participate and help build locally, then please get in touch.

Barricade Bulletin is a free Irish Anarchist Bulletin issued to help generate anarchist information, interest and knowledge of class struggle anarchism to an increasingly wider audience.

Barricade Bulletin takes its name from the radical community news sheet printed and distributed during the period of Free Derry.

Anarchists locally are involved in many different aspects of life from workplace activity to community solidarity. Over the past few months members have been active in different actions, from community solidarity, ongoing mutual aid projects, prisoner support to workplace struggles within the local Industrial Workers of the World, highlighting attacks on our class from the environment, right to choose, Universal Credit to the treatment of Agency workers or the hospitality sector. Likewise, internationally support campaigns such as the #BloodMoneyCampaign through the International Confederation of Labour (ICL).

We welcome the recent development of the Galway Anarchist Collective as a new edition to the growing anarchist movement in Ireland. Hopefully over the next number of months we will be able to collaborate in an effort to ensure greater awareness and knowledge of anarchism both at community and workplace levels.

An important part of our activity is prisoner solidarity work through the Derry Anarchist Black Cross and likewise through the Incarcerated Workers Organising Committee (IWOC) in Ireland.

IWOC through the guidance of the IWW Ireland has in recent times witnessed prisoners unionising and working together more. An important step forward has been the creation of a new prisoners zine titled ‘BULLDOZER’ which has this month published its first edition. A first in recent times, in which a publication has been written and produced by prisoners themselves. IWOC have also created a new information leaflet for prisoners within the Northern Prison System seeking medical support and assistance on the inside. Hopefully this will also be the first of many such projects created by and for prisoners and their families.

We have also received solidarity from anarchists in Sligo, Newry and Donegal who have reached out where they live since our last issue.

If you have ever wondered what anarchists do or get up to, try and take a step away from the keyboards and social media. Take in the actions and solidarity work listed here within the pages of Barricade Bulletin and consider getting involved wherever you live, in community and/or workplace organising. Building horizontally beyond the various political parties, their fronts, faction fighting and self-promotion as we approach another round of elections.

As anarchists, it is our belief that we have to help actively build and play a part on the picket lines, at protests, demos or wherever possible to encourage genuine working class solidarity and resistance.

If you would like to get involved then drop us a line at: derryanarchists@gmail.com
The event itself was organised by the Derry Trades Union Council who are demanding that the forthcoming welfare payment cuts are immediately cancelled.

A spokesperson for the IWW said following today’s event in Guildhall Square in Derry that “The proposed £20 cuts to Universal Credit payments is nothing short of an attack on all of those who are already fighting to keep their heads above water.

“There is no doubt that our city and surrounding area is already topping the UK tables as an economic blackspot and with further cuts now planned on October 6th, that will literally mean working class families will be fighting for lives.

"This is an attack on workers already on or below the poverty line. It is proof, if proof where needed, that this is effectively a class war. An attack by the political establishment, the wealthy few, upon the poorest and most vulnerable within the Derry area.

"For ourselves as a union, it is our belief that the only effective answer to this is workplace and community action. Let's not forget that we are still in the grasp of a global pandemic.

"We cannot allow our class to be subjected to increasing humiliation by the bosses and their establishment. Be that from within Westminster or Stormont who are now in the process of implementing more cuts on the vulnerable and weakest within society.

"It's high time the political establishment received a clear response to their attacks from the labour movement, that an injury to one actually means an injury to all."
Anarchist Activists In Russia Get Prison Terms For Banner Drop

A court in Chelyabinsk has handed prison terms to a couple who organised a protest against the imprisonment of a group of activists. Anastasia Safonova was sentenced to two years, and her husband, Dmitry Tsibukovsky, to two and a half years.

The couple are self-declared anarchists, and were initially arrested in 2018 after they placed a large banner with the words "FSB - Main Terrorist" outside the building of the Federal Security Service (FSB) in Chelyabinsk. The FSB -successor to the Soviet-era KGB- is already well known for its role in crushing dissent in Russia by means of torture and assassinations.

Tsibukovsky and Safonova were seeking to express solidarity with a group of activists arrested in 2017-18 and imprisoned under false charges of creating a terrorist group called Network.

Even Amnesty International has called the charges in the ‘Network’ case "a figment of the Russian security services' imagination...fabricated in an attempt to silence these activists."

“This is clearly revenge by the FSB,” said Andrei Lepekhin, their lawyer. “This was a peaceful protest. They are being prosecuted for having an opinion”.

The government’s case against Tsibukovsky and Safonova was thrown out twice after investigators failed to prove elements of a crime in the couple’s actions, and yet the State has finally managed to sentence them.

Not surprisingly, Tsibukovsky said that he and Safonov were tortured while in custody, and this included the use of beatings and electric shocks in order to extract a “confession”.

ABC Moscow

BULLDOZER:
Incarcerated Workers Create New Zine

Members of the Incarcerated Workers Organising Committee (IWOC) have been working on a new zine over the past number of months resulting in the creation of their new zine titled Bulldozer: The Only Vehicle for Prison Abolition.

Its introduction states: “Prisons are tools of oppression. Tools that are used by Governments to discipline the working class and repress political dissent. The prison system is also an industry.

“Bulldozer speaks back to this industry of oppression, the suffering it creates and the profits it makes.” Bulldozer is produced by members of the Industrial Workers of the World’s - Incarcerated Workers Organising Committee Ireland.

Bulldozer is free to prisoners or with a donation.
Write to: Bulldozer P.O. Box 346, Derry, BT48 4FZ, Ireland.
With the onset of Covid-19 the Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS) introduced strict restrictions in an attempt to control the spread of the virus. Such restrictions have included the stopping of in-person visits and introduction of virtual visits – video calls lasting up to 20 minutes.

Other restrictions have included the stopping education activities and preventing access to library prison services. The aim of these restrictions was to close down the prison estate to ‘non-essential’ personnel and limiting movement within each prison.

Furthermore, restrictions have been placed on the items that prisoners can receive in the post, which has prevented prisoners receiving books, news publications and political literature from family, friends and independent publishers and distributors.

The effects of these restrictions have been far reaching. Restrictions on movements have resulted in many prisoners spending large parts of the past eighteen months locked in their cells, often for up to 23 hours each day. The lack of purposeful activity has had a profound affect on the emotional and psychological well-being of prisoners. The lack of in-person visits meanwhile has deeply impacted their relationships with family and friends. The isolation and loneliness many prisoners experienced has been made worse by the limited access to educational opportunities and reading materials.

These restrictions have been relatively effective in limiting the spread of Covid-19 among prisoners in the north of Ireland. As of August 2021, there has been only four confirmed cases of Covid-19 among the general prison population in the north.

In recent months, as the Covid-19 pandemic has become less acute, restrictions have started to ease across the prison estate in the north of Ireland. Since 4 May 2021 in-person visits have been possible and since 7 June, one adult and a child from the same household can visit. However, social distance measures continue to be applied to in-person visits – meaning prisoners are unable to touch their visitors.

Meanwhile, in-person visits are extremely time-limited. As a result, many prisoners do not want to put their family through the rigmarole of a prison visit for such an impersonal, short visit. Education activities have also begun to be lifted, which has offered prisoners the opportunity to continue their learning. However, restrictions persist in relation to library services and postal services. As such, prisoners in the north of Ireland continue to face extreme restrictions on their access to reading materials. Currently, prisoners in the north do not have access to: full library services, independent publishers and distributors, and literature sent by family and friends.

A statement from the Incarcerated Workers Organising Committee demanded that the Northern Ireland Prison Service immediately end their policy of banning books and reading materials across the prison system.

"This must not be allowed to continue. We call upon all those interested in human rights and social justice to supporting prisoners human rights by demanding an end to this situation immediately."

Incarcerated Workers Organising Committee
International Solidarity with

The International Confederation of Labour has extended its solidarity with radical unions in Myanmar as part of the international Blood Money Campaign.

Blood Money Campaign: Solidarity actions have taken place outside Primark/Penneys Stores

Members of the Industrial Workers of the World in Ireland took part in worker solidarity actions as part of the international week of action with workers in Myanmar.

In Derry, Belfast and Dublin City Centres, members of the Industrial Workers of the World extended its hand of solidarity with the various unions and grassroots social justice movements in Myanmar such as the Federation of General Workers Myanmar (FGWM), All Burma Federation of Trade Unions (ABFTU) and Food not Bombs Myanmar.

This also includes the support of the Asia Working Group of the International Confederation of Labour (ICL) who have confirmed a host of international companies that continues to assist the regime and/or military owed businesses.

A member of the IWW Derry spoke during one of the actions saying "We're here as part of a wave of international support with workers in Myanmar, which is coordinated by the International Confederation of Labour (ICL)."

"The reaction is great from the public, who have
Workers in Myanmar

"As a union, we are determined to continue these actions against multinationals to assist the Blood Money Campaign and the workers in Myanmar. Like our posters say, we call upon Primark Limited to immediately stop blood money investment in the Myanmar military regime."

The recently established 'Bloody Money Campaign' has been endorsed and supported by IWW Ireland to help raise awareness of how multinational companies are still profiting from doing business with the military regime in Myanmar.

To help defend workers' rights, members of IWW held a series of information stalls outside businesses currently assisting investment and the funding of the Myanmar military regime. To date protests have taken place outside of Primark and Penneys stores across the country. Actions designed to help shine a light on those businesses in Ireland who are still happy to assist the brutal Military Council in Myanmar.

BLOOD MONEY CAMPAIGN NEWS

It has been confirmed that Primark Limited and Penneys in Ireland are still engaged in doing business with the Myanmar regimes who have a track record in war crimes, human rights violation, genocide and crime against humanity in Myanmar.

As part of this unfolding international campaign the IWW will play its part to help highlight the abuse of workers in Ireland and in Myanmar.

For updates, more information and you can help out at actions locally, please check out our social media pages and main website:

onebigunion.ie
#bloodmoneycampaign
#whatshappeninmyanmar
Talking Anarchy is part of our ongoing educational work in which each issue will touch on areas of anarchism, prominent figures as well as historical events.

If I can’t dance...

Anarchism, an essay written by Emma Goldman endures as one of the most important and reassuring works on Anarchism to this day.

Goldman was castigated in the worlds media at the time as “The most dangerous woman in America”. Born in modern day Lithuania in June 1869. She had a hell of a life and left one hell of a legacy.

In 1885 already under suspicion for radical politics, Goldman moved to America to live with her sisters. Further inspired by the events surrounding the Haymarket massacre Goldman moved to New York where she joined with fellow anarchist Alexander Berkman in the failed plot to assassinate Henry Clay Frick to end the Homestead Steel Strike.

Goldman’s reputation and notoriety grew from this point, she was a huge advocate for free speech and spoke to thousands across the world.

She edited magazines, wrote books, and championed women’s rights including birth control, and she was a fierce opponent of military conscription. The ruling tried over and over to silence her including associating her with the assassination of William McKinley the US President. It was J Edgar Hoover who gave her the moniker “The most dangerous woman in America”.

Goldman emigrated to Russia in the wake of the ‘red scare’ but soon became disillusioned after the events of the Kronstadt Uprising. She then obtained British citizenship and continued to tour the world advocating for her principles and the rights of the oppressed.

Her work on Anarchism which was later published in the book Anarchism and Other Essays, Goldman sets out a defence of Anarchism and attempts to persuade readers of it’s validity as a way of thinking, living and being. One of her most important passages reaches to us down through the ages:

“Anarchism is a living force in the affairs of our life, constantly creating new conditions. The methods of anarchism therefore do not
compromise an iron-clad programme to be carried out under all circumstances. Methods must grow out of the economic needs of each place and clime, and of the intellectual and temperamental requirements of the individual.”

I do not think that this quote could be timelier. There seems to be the same criticisms of anarchist goals and tactics being voiced by the ruling class and their devotees.

Anarchism is utopian, it can’t work and that somehow the implementation of anarchism will lead to all against all. The above quote serves to remind us that as anarchists we have a duty to evolve and to always analyse what tactics are required in any situation.

There is no doubt that the tactics that served us well in the 19th and 20th century have become outdated. But this is because the forms of oppression that those tactics attempted to challenge have evolved as capitalism has evolved to become pervasively oppressive.

We must continue to find new ways through mutual aid and affinity to develop new 21st century tactics to resist the neoliberal project.

Goldman railed against all forms of domination however, some of her fiercest criticism was for the state: “Anarchism directs its forces against its third and greatest foe of all social equality, namely, the state, organised authority, or statutory law,- the dominion of human conduct. Just as religion has fettered the human mind, and as property, or the monopoly of things, has subdued and stifled man’s needs, so has the state enslaved his spirit dictating every phase of conduct”

As Anarchists we sometimes have to question why we believe certain things. Goldman helps illustrate that our will to destroy the state does not lie in the craving for destruction and chaos but rather has a way of liberating the almost entirety of human essence that is pervasively oppressed by the state.

When Goldman says that Anarchism in “its economic arrangements must consist of voluntary productive and distributive associations, gradually developing into free communism, as the best means of producing with the least waste of human energy.”

Spanish Revolution: Emma Goldman on stage with Irish Anarchist Jack White

She is reminding us that we all have a part to play in the destruction and abolishment of the structures of hierarchies and domination, and that we can do this in our own way often without grand gestures but always with the goal to subvert and erode the power of capitalism and the state.

“If I can’t dance I don’t want your revolution,” said Goldman asserting her rights to fight her way and protect the rights of everyone to do the same as individuals or in groups and communities. The dance is the dance of resistance in action, in thinking, in organising and sometimes... in dancing.

BOOKS ON GOLDMAN

The following books written by or about Emma Goldman related works on anarchism, feminism and life:

Vision on Fire: Emma Goldman on the Spanish Revolution by Emma Goldman, David Porter

Anarchism and Other Essays by Emma Goldman


My Disillusionment in Russia by Emma Goldman

Marriage and Love by Emma Goldman

The Traffic in Women and Other Essays on Feminism by Emma Goldman, Alix Kates Shulman

Red Emma Speaks by Emma Goldman, Alix Kates Shulman

Anarchism - What it Really Stands For by Emma Goldman

Trotsky protests too much by Emma Goldman

The books listed above are available to purchase online or from your nearest radical or independent bookshops.
A Workers Voice:  
Anti-Union Sentiment & Greed is an Open Secret

At the end of May this year, a number of media outlets in Derry reported in a celebratory tone the fact that the NORTH WEST MANUFACTURING NETWORK was to get £170,000 from government money.

The network apparently led by Nuprint Technologies, is made up of engineering and manufacturing businesses in the Derry and Strabane area, including Precision Processing Services, AE Global, Fleming Agri, Dupoint, Invista, Segasite, Terex, E&I, GES, Hunter Apparel, Derry Precision Tools, Fast Technologies, McColligans, O Neill’s, MIM Engineering, North West Medical Ltd & KES Group.

The owners of these companies, through the network, claim to “promote skills and employability in the industry”. In pompous statements to the press, the representatives and media faces of this network also announced that “the network will have a strong focus on how best to attract, retain and engage a skilled workforce to enable businesses to grow and develop skills”.

The stress on the development of skills is not accidental. These companies have been telling their workforce for years that the only way to get a decent wage is by constant “upskilling”: “The boss would love to give you a raise, but you need more skills...!”

In reality, this is just a lie that translates into a very real increase of the workload for the workers, and an empty promise of a better salary in an unknown future time. Most of the employees in the engineering network have not seen a substantial salary increase in years.

On top of that, we shouldn’t forget the scam of the apprenticeships, also known as the scam of the century, and very much loved by our employers in the North-West. Why hire a skilled worker when they can hire an apprentice for minimum wage and make them do the same work?

Workers at Derry Precision Tools and Nuprint, to name just two, have been complaining for years of this practice.

Workers in this city do not forget the threats, intimidations and dismissals they have had to endure whenever they disagreed with management on the way they were being treated, whenever they refused to get exploited. The anti-union stand and the greed of the above companies is also an open secret in Derry.

The ugly truth is that the very skilled -and often over qualified- workforce is kept on a near-minimum wage for years, while the owners keep on buying themselves luxury cars and holiday homes.

This is the elephant in the room that the Mayor of Derry and Strabane is only too happy to ignore when he says that the taxpayer boost to the NWNN “is fantastic news for Derry and Strabane, where we have a serious skills deficit”. And yes, they will say it with a big smile on their faces.

On hearing these words, one cannot help to think of the huge numbers of young talent that still leave the north-west for good, precisely because the wages here are decided behind closed doors in dark rooms, between greedy company owners and politicians.
Black Flags & Windmills By Scott Crow

In this engaging and ultimately harrowing book, scott crow takes us through his own radical journey and the origins and rise of the Common Grounds Collective.

The Common Grounds Collective is an Anarchist Direct Action group that began as a response to the widespread destruction and human misery in the wake of hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Crow begins by taking us on his journey of becoming a radical. He was brought up in a deprived Christian conservative Texas by his mother. He attended day-care run by the Black Panthers which would ultimately inform his worldview. He describes growing up and getting into music, (industrial metal) and being able to tour Europe, seeing a resistance to the burgeoning neoliberal politics of Thatcher and Regan. He spoke of befriending Panthers and Wobblies who helped develop his learning and theory.

The Wobblie told him of the real history of the IWW showing how many of the IWW struggles were informed by anarchism. It was at this time when crow began to self identify as an anarchist. “Anarchism was a cluster of living ideas that spoke on many levels, politically and philosophically about us as individuals and our collective struggle.”

Once he left his music career behind he form a collective in the antiques industry promoting radical labour values such as, “Share and take care of each other,“. Crow continued to develop his ideas as an anarchist and activist through the 1990’s and through the turn of the century, being involved in eco causes animal rights and anti-globalisation protests. He was even questioned by the FBI.

Fast forward to 2005 and hurricane Katrina.

In the immediate aftermath of Katrina crow and some others travelled from Texas to New Orleans where they took small boats out in the flood water to try to find a comrade who was trapped somewhere in the city.

They faced a post-apocalyptic scene where armed white militias where patrolling to keep ‘law and order’. Where the state had the resources for gunboats and helicopters but not rescue facilities, where bodies were floating in the stink.

Unfortunately it became too dangerous to continue and they were forced to turn back. Crow talks of the heartbreak of having to prepare to use violence to save themselves and being so close to rescuing others but not being able to.

Back in Texas crow and others regrouped and decided to go back to New Orleans but with better supplies and with more realistic expectations. With the flood waters receded He describes going back into what appeared to be occupied territory.

He and his group secured supplies for redistribution set up security for the supplies made fake passes to get past the states immediate answer to any problem; needless bureaucracy. He describes poor black neighbourhoods where there has been no investment or social security for decades before the storm.

The efforts of the police and military was to protect the profitable businesses, and there was a strict curfew where people were shot on site. In the absence of the state local racist and very deadly militias patrolled to keep ‘law and order’.

There was an occasion where there was a standoff as the ‘patrol’ went in front of the property where the supplies were being protected there was the usual racist remarks and the tension was sky high as both the militia and the activists were armed. Crow talked of being under siege but being inspired by Durruti. Later it was reported that the working together of white and black activists helped to ease the racial tension in the area.

Check out AK Press UK or PM Press UK for this and other publications listed within Barricade Bulletin.
Fáilte go hÉirinn Zapatistas 2021

From 12th to 26th October a delegation from the indigenous autonomous Zapatista Communities will visit Ireland to listen and speak with grassroots movements here. The tour nationally is being supported by a number of grassroots organisations including the Industrial Workers of the World. Sadly not visiting Derry however they do intend to meet with the Tyone community of Greencastle to learn more about their fight against the toxic gold company Dalradian.

For more information of the visit here in Ireland please check their facebook page: Fáilte go hÉirinn Zapatistas 2021 for announcements, photos, events and activities.

COP26: WE ONLY WANT THE EARTH!

The upcoming UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26), is happening in Glasgow from the 31st October to the 12th November, at a crucial moment in history.

On the 6th November in Derry there will be a global day of action with people gathering across this globe demanding climate justice.

Gather in Waterloo Place in Derry from 1.30pm for stalls 2pm Rally and March

Check out the COP26 Global Day of Action Derry and the North West page on social media.

Reaching Out & Useful Contacts

If you would like to get involved with anarchists locally, take part in anarchist activity, discussions and conversations, prisoner support or contribute to Barricade Bulletin, then drop us a line to our email listed below:

Derry Anarchist Collective
derryanarchists@gmail.com
facebook.com/derry.anarchists
derryanarchists.blogspot.com

If there are no anarchist groups active where you live or work then think about creating one and let us know so we can advertise it or help out.

Anarchist Black Cross
abcireland.wordpress.com

Derry Radical Bookfair
derryradicalbookfair.wordpress.com

Derry Antifascists
facebook.com/DerryAntiFascists

Incarcerated Workers Organising Committee Ireland
www.onebigunion.ie/iwocireland

Belfast Anarchists/Ainrialaithe Bhéal Feirste
coramadhubh@riseup.net
Facebook: Belfast Anarchists
Twitter: @ainrialaithe

Migrants & Ethnic-minorities for Reproductive Justice
www.merjireland.org/

Justice for the Craigavon Two
www.jftc2.ie

Industrial Workers of the World
P.O. Box 346, Derry, BT48 4FZ, Ireland
ireland@iww.org.uk
onebigunion.ie

Galway Anarchist Collective
Twitter: @GalwayAnarchist

Organise!
facebook.com/Organiseanarchosyndicalistsireland

Anomie
facebook.com/anomielireland
Who We Are:

We are a class struggle anarchist collective, organised by and for working class people. As anarchists we are opposed to all states and institutions, and all attitudes and ideologies that stand in the way of equality and the right of all people everywhere to control their own lives and environment. The working class has no country.

The class struggle is world wide and recognises no artificial boundaries. The Armies and Police of all states do not exist to protect the workers of those states, they exist only as the repressive arm of the ruling class.

Our Aim

Our aim is to abolish world wide, the state system, governments, capitalism and the wage slavery in all its forms and replace them with a free classless society based on self-managed communities and industries where production is for need not profit. In order to bring about an anarchist society the working class must take over the means of production and distribution, along with the day-to-day running of our communities.

What We Believe

As anarchists we believe that the only way for the working class to achieve this is by independent organisation in the workplace and the community. In federation with others in the same industry and locality, independent of and opposed to all political parties and trade union bureaucracies. Industrial and community federations must be controlled by the working class themselves and must unite rather than divide the working class.

Dividing the working class by skin colour, religion, sex, nationality, sexual preference etc. is one of the main ways that the ruling class keeps us fighting amongst ourselves instead of against them. In creating a free society we must combat and destroy these divisions which the ruling class fosters within the working class.

Get Involved

Derry Anarchist Collective exists in order to further our aim for the creation of a social system where the working class alone controls industry and the community, free from the dictates, rules and laws of politicians, bureaucrats and bosses. If you share the ideas contained in this statement then we urge you to get involved with us.

Governments don’t fall down by themselves, they need your help.

You can write to us at: derryanarchists@gmail.com