

THE ANARCHIST CRITIC.



Issue 93 June/July 2011.

We will try to produce this bulletin on a regular basis highlighting policies and events that influence our lives but are dictated by corporate institutions and governments beyond our control. If we, the ordinary people desire a world for all our children, we must resist, organise, and take control.

WHO RUNS BRITAIN???

There are those who say that the Monarch rules Britain, a constitutional Monarch, but she has to put her seal on parliament's work. Others say we are a representative democracy. We elect our representatives and they do our bidding. Well we have a monarch, that's for sure, our vomit media makes sure we are spewed over with stories of her, her family, all their side-kicks and their antics that we fund. As for a representative democracy, well they are certainly elected by a section of the public, though not all my any means, but do they represent us? The recent slashing of all social spending and selling off of all our public assets, against the loudly expressed wishes of that same public, lays the lie of it being a representative democracy. Just who are they representing?

So who does runs Britain? Recent events are beginning to make that very clear indeed. The News of The World hacking episode with the alleged payments to police officers for information, the spectacle of all the political parties fawning at the feet of a newspaper empire, for fear of it destroying their reputation and their seat on the gravy-train, makes it obvious who sets the menu on the political table.



It is obvious that if we are to answer honestly, who runs Britain, we have to say, a bunch of greedy morally depraved reporters, bent cops, a cabal of self-centred, power hungry, arrogant millionaire politicians and a greedy media mogul. What is more important is for whose benefit are they running the country? You'd be an idiot if you said, the people of Britain.

With three wars running, our social services being decimated, our health and education being privatised, unemployment rising and all our public assets being sold for a song to the corporate world, it is simple to work out for whose benefit they are running the country. Of course that could change, it all depends on the people.

WHOSE DEBT IS IT ANYWAY?

This world is built on debt, the system of corporate capitalism in conjunction with the IMF, means that every country is more or less obliged to borrow, eventually their debt is too big for them to handle so they sell their debt. Then the banks and bond markets that buy the debt have too much debt, so they sell the debt to other banks, bond markets and countries, eventually every country, bank and bond market is carrying too much debt and they scurry around for somebody else to buy their debt, but nobody can, well except Joe public, the tax payer, so they have to pay for the debt with "austerity cuts". Translated that means slashing their standard of living, throwing millions on the dole destroying all social services and selling off all public assets to the corporate world, so that the insane merry-go-round can start up again and the banks and bond markets don't lose their greed gotten gains. It is a system that benefits the billionaires and screws the public. Yet, up until now we have accepted it!!!

IT'S ABOUT TIME!!

We have tried the rest and they have all proved disastrous. Isn't about time we changed they way we live our lives and change the way we shape our society? Time to free ourselves from power mongers, authority and the greed for profit? Time to see to the needs of all our people.



THE EAGLE HAS LANDED.

I was early. I had the luxury - on a clear day - to get off the shoogly bus. Across the Squiggly bridge I sauntered, northwards past the Broomielaw, nondescript buildings housing bureaucrats of BT, the Scottish Office.....

The Job Centre in Argyle Street wasn't my destination, this time, carrying on, was the ATOS assessment centre at Cadogan St. - quiet outside at mid morning - no Black Triangle or disability campaigners this early. Reaching Bothwell Street I at first turned right, only to discover the imposing entrance I had imagined to be "Eagle" was not the place. About turning I strode. Across the road, every window of Habitat festooned the message: closing down sale/ everything must go! A symbol of the sixties myth, going the way of Woolies.....

Just beside the slip-road from the Kingston Bridge was the Eagle building. The penny dropped. This was the immigration office place. Up to the 4th floor, a screening barrier and uniformed civil servant greeted me. Keys, coins, lighters, all to be placed on a tray. It was a hallmark of departure. I had to sit next to the toilets. This was the designated bay for benefit appeal claimants. In the larger waiting room space, a few of Jock Tamson's bairns who awaited a different fate: the right to stay or face deportation.

Another unshaven man was processed. He said he was late because a young lad had thrown himself under an Underground train at Govan. No empathy overflowed from the clerk. My fellow claimant's lateness would undo my planned escape to Paisley afterwards. I settled down - a few BBC science magazines helped distract my thoughts. Others came & went or nervously visited the latrines.

My time came. The clerk led me along the corridor. He opened the door. A surprise greeted me. This was not like Wellington Street or other overspill locations for Appeals. It was a miniature court room. I took my seat, a desk in front with water and tissues. I was at least 12 feet away from judgement.

The legal man, explained how they would conduct the proceedings. The medical man - whose face betrayed a liking for the bottle - asked the questions. It was a case of casting the mind back, a portrait of anomie in the months before last autumn. A period when the diagnosis was incomplete. The medical scans were underway but not going as planned. I was sleeping fitfully, I was not functioning as before. Enough information was gleaned. Time to go. There would be no verbal verdict. I would be in a state of suspense. They ushered me out of the Eagle's lair. Would I continue under the scrutiny of the State? Or would I tread the path of precarity.

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DISABILITY ADVISOR.



THE MARK OF CORPORATE FASCISM.

This July marks 75th anniversary of the start of the Spanish Civil War, when fascists attacked the elected Spanish government. Thousands of ordinary people from around the world made their way to Spain to help in the fight against Franco's fascists, thousands from Britain alone. That spirit of solidarity is once more needed as the fascists once more attack the ordinary people. This time it isn't Spain, and they are not lead by a general. The modern day fascists are world wide, have no uniform and don't carry a gun. They wear suits, carry laptops and sit at desks in luxurious offices. Today it is corporate fascism that dictates the fiscal policies in every country in the world.

There is not a government in Europe that was voted in to decimate the education system, privatise the health system, close libraries, shut down nurseries, cut social benefits and services, raise pension contributions and raise the pension age. However, that is what you are getting. Not only that we are being told that it is all for our good, we are told that if we don't accept their grand plans we will face dire consequences. What we are told is the best option is austerity cuts, that translates into, we cover the banks and bond markets losses and accept an impoverished society mired in deprivation for at least a decade or two.

However, we don't have to play the game with their loaded dice, we can write the rules ourselves, we can change the way the game is played. Across Europe it's happening now, in France there are mass demonstrations, in Spain weekly protests across the country building up to a national day of action on 24 July, in Greece, on going mass protests in Athens and else where. In the UK we had a public service day of protest on 30 June.

The protests have to move from the big cities, into every city, town and village in the country. This is not the struggle of one particular group it is the struggle of the ordinary people against the relentless march of corporate fascism. Your so called representative government does not represent you, it takes it orders from the banks and the bond markets and they are not interested in the welfare of the people, only in the welfare of their bank balances.

A CLASSY WEE FIRESALE!!!

For those poor deluded souls who still think that "their" government is driving the fiscal policy in their respective countries, the extract below helps to clear the smoke from the bankers and bond markets smoke and mirrors illusion. Austerity cuts, as I keep spouting, have nothing to do with deficit reduction, it is all to do with flogging off everything in sight to the corporate world at "fire-sale" prices. Everything must go, ports, airports, land, anything that the corporate world can make money from, will be handed to them on a plate, social services will be starved of funds letting the corporate world step in and sell the service to you at a price and profit to them, all of this at the dictate of the IMF and ECB. "Your" government is selling "your" country and the money raised will of course, not go to those who actually own these assets, the people, no, it will all go to the bankers and bond markets to cover their losses, and "your" government will comply, even if it decimates the living standards of the people, even if the people take to the streets in mass protests making it quite clear that they do not want this policy to continue. The state's minders will also be on the streets dealing out brutal repression with baton and tear gas, and if that doesn't work their is always the army. So much for democracy.

The short extract below was taken from from an article that appeared in **The Guardian** June 29 and was written by Aditya Chakraborty and titled, *Greece crisis. As Athens erupts Mayfair hosts a classy firesale.*. The full article is well worth reading.

'At first, yesterday's meeting looked like a thousand other upmarket business events; suits gathered at Claridge's hotel in London's Mayfair for a day's discussion of how to reform Greece and its economy. But listening to the presentations from Greek ministers and officials about the airports, the ports, the land they were auctioning off to the highest bidder, the real purpose of the day came into sharp focus. Here in an art deco room with five chandeliers and too many mirrored surfaces to count, was the beginning of a classy firesale.

The men from Athens were not calling it that, of course. "A professionally run privatisation plan" is how George Christodoulakis, the man in charge of Greece's asset sales preferred to describe it. But even he conceded that the pace and scale of the government's scheme to flog €50bn (£44.8bn) of assets within the next five years had been forced on it. "One can say; is this the best time to sell assets?"'

QUOTE: *I believe that the people in power -- not only political power, but also economic and social power -- will not non-violently give up that power to the people. Power is not a material possession that can be given, it is the ability to act. Power must be taken, it is never given.*

The Anarchist Cookbook



TOO MUCH TROUBLE TO TREAT THE KIDS.

While our millionaire public school thugs, do their utmost to privatise our National Health Service at the same time as uttering camouflage statements like *"the health service is safe in our hands"* and *"we are not privatising the health service"* there are those who see the millionaire cabal's plans as an advance in the service, an introduction of the American model. For those who are not too familiar with the "American" model perhaps the following statement will give them some insight. It was taken from an American blog. It might help you to realise where this bunch of millionaire public school thugs are driving our National Health Service.

"Sixty-six percent of publicly-insured children were unable to get a doctor's appointment for medical conditions requiring outpatient speciality care including diabetes and seizures, while children with identical symptoms and private insurance were turned away only 11 percent of the time, according to an audit study of speciality physician practices in Cook County, IL."

"We found disturbing disparities in speciality physicians' willingness to provide outpatient care for children with public insurance — even those with urgent and severe health problems. This study shows a failure to care for our most vulnerable children" said a study author."

Never accept that a bunch of millionaires have your best interests at heart, they will always serve their own class. We must make sure that we do the same.

NOW, WASH YOUR HANDS??



ON SECOND THOUGHTS — HOW MUCH WILL IT COST??

ENJOY THE ECSTASY OF YOUR RIGHTEOUS ANGER.

As the Greek government tries to push through more "austerity" measures to appease the IMF and bond markets, the people of Greece are saying NO, enough is enough. The riots, strikes and now camps on Syntagma Square are proof of their determination. Here in the UK, we are also being hit with "austerity" measures for the same reasons, to protect the bond markets, the banks and to appease the IMF. However, to date, we in the UK seem to be taking it on the chin with the mythical stiff upper lip. There are those who might say that the reason for that is because we are not being hit as hard as the Greeks. Perhaps not, but we still have unacceptable poverty in this country and our "austerity" cuts have still to bite.

Save the Children state that there are over 1.6 million children in the UK living in extreme poverty. No matter the illusions they try to weave, no country can claim to be civilised where over 1.6 million children live in extreme poverty. This is an increase on last years figure, the main contributing factor to this increase being because of huge increases in the cost of energy, petrol and food. According to the British Retail Consortium, families have seen the average food bill of £100 increase by £5 since last year. This continuing rising cost of living, has thousands more families struggling to pay for the very basics in the home. What people have to cope with in the face of wage cuts, wage freezes and benefit cuts are such things as Petrol £1.37 a litre, diesel £1.42 a litre, and according to the Office of National Statistics, the last 5 years have seen the price of bread increase by 50%, butter by 57.7% and milk up 33%, on top of this gas is expected to rise by 19% and electricity by 12% before the end of this year. Obviously if you are on a low income, benefit or a wage freeze, then these factors are going to hit you hard, as you are obliged to spend a larger proportion of your income on the basic necessities. Last year over 61,000 people across the UK approached Foodbanks for help. Poverty is wide spread here in the UK, but our millionaire friends of the IMF and bank Mafia's hatchet job, has still to do its real damage. Will the UK people still continue with their orderly strikes, marches and banner waving, or will they vent the very real anger that they are already feeling? "*Enjoy the ecstasy of your righteous anger*", goes an old Korean saying!!!



GET IN TOUCH.



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ann arky would like to hear
your views, news, gripes and
opinions, so drop a note to;
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www.glasgowanarchists.org.uk
Glasgow anarchist's website.

www.radicalglasgow.me.uk
Local resource home of the Anarchist Critic

www.iwwscotland.org
Revolutionary trade union run by its membership.

www.praxisglasgow.wordpress.com
Libertarian socialist organisation building strength in
communities and workplaces.

www.libcom.org
Anarchist/libertarian/communist news and resource site.

www.classwar.uk.org
Militant anarchist group, publishers of the
newspaper of the same name.

www.freedompress.org.uk
The oldest British anarchist newspaper, going strong
since 1886.

www.anarchistfaq.org
Infoshop.org's Anarchist FAQ, details what anarchism is and why you should help it come about.

www.solfed.org.uk
The Solidarity Federation, British section of the
International Workers' Association.

www.katesharpleylibrary.net
Library of Anarchist history.

www.citystrolls
Think of your City and make it happen.

www.redpepper.org.uk
A radical independent magazine.

www.akuk.com
Anarchist publications.

www.schnews.org.uk
Free alternative news site

www.indymediascotland.org
Scotland's alternative news site.

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