



• Image: Daily Record/Tom Ross

## Epistle from The Corinthian

STEFAN KING, reputed to be worth a cool £54 million, owner of Glasgow's Corinthian, Delmonica's and The Social, has suggested that his staff take three months unpaid leave to save their jobs, not to save his company of course. He has also put it in such a fashion that he is doing them a favour. This is the same Stefan King who was back in 2015 reputed to be paying staff below the minimum wage, and in 2019 had questions raised by the Gambling Commission about suspected money laundering at his Corinthian gambling club.

No doubt as the catastrophe that is Covid19, and the ticking time bomb that is the Brexit fiasco, burst upon us, we will see more of these type of offers coming from those extremely wealthy corporate beasts as they try to milk the situation for all it is worth.

As unemployment soars and social services diminish, there is very hard times in store for us the ordinary people. What are we going to do abouts sledgehammer of poverty and deprivation that is about to strike us?

Shall we appeal to our lords and masters the political ballerinas, to please take our taxpayers money and give it to the corporate world so that they will employ us again? Or will we look inwards towards our communities and organise mutual aid, self help, co-operatives and take what we need for the welfare of all our people. Commandeer those workplaces that we deem to be necessary for the health and well-being of our communities.

### Control

Take control of our own lives and decide how we want to live without the exploitation of the profit driven capitalist system, owned and controlled by multi-billionaires, who by the way, while you and I have seen our struggles stiffen, have seen their wealth grow immensely during this pandemic. The choice is ours to make, accept more of the same, or take control of the change we want to see.

• FOLLOW the Anarchist Critic at [radicalglasgowblog.blogspot.com](http://radicalglasgowblog.blogspot.com)

Did Stefan King's letter to his employees have biblical inspiration?

'God loves a cheerful giver'  
(2 Corinthians ch9 v7)

Or looked at from the 'tough shit' angle:

'If a man tyrannises you, exploits you, takes advantage of you, puts on airs or slaps you in the face, you put up with it'  
(2 Corinthians 11:20)

**JOIN THE UNION!  
CHECK CLYDESIDE  
IWW  
ON FACEBOOK**

# GLASGOW KEELIE

November 2020

Priceless

**COVID TEST @ BOOTS £120**

**EAR SYRINGE @ SPECSAVERS £70**

**TOOTH EXTRACTION @ DENTIST £500**



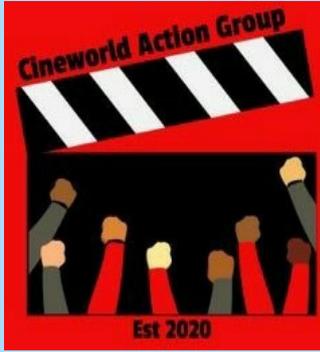
# Cha-ching!

**The Great Covid Cash Grab Continues**

## CyniWorld

Employees are secondary to companies like Cineworld. Hearing via the media of the mass redundancy staff in Glasgow said: "This is just the cherry on the top with how they have treated us during the pandemic. There's been news before where staff have found out on Twitter

We had been told there was a chance our hours would be getting reduced and a lot of it would depend on the Bond film. They were already shutting off parts of the cinema due to the lack of demand. But, they must have known the story was going to be out."



• follow on twitter

## Pollute & Profit

Grangemouth based petrochemical multinational Ineos are by far the worst polluter in Scotland. 3.2 million tons of carbon dioxide was spewed into the air during 2019. In second place the SSE Company at Peterhead with around 1.6 million tons. And the 'bronze medal' to Shell at Mosmorran in Fife.

Next door Exxon Mobil also did their bit to obliterate human, animal & plant life on this threatened planet. It is estimated that Carbon Dioxide emissions have risen 76% since 2010 at a time political rhetoric is about sustainable energy!

The Scottish Environmental agency SEPA has an inventory of 47 pollutants released to the air from 1,327 industrial sites in Scotland. Out of the top 20 sites only 2 are in the West of Scotland, at Irvine and Girvan.

## Wrong postcode

If you lived in a community with lots of poverty you were 4 times as likely as a School-pupil to have your Higher Grade downgraded compared to leafy posh places. 75,000 were well pissed-off.

A lesson learnt: you don't downgrade rich kids!

## National Trust

The Isle of Insh off the coast of Argyll has been sold off by the NTS for £353,000 despite it being given to the bequeathed to the trust in 2016 by the late owner, David Brearley.

No local consultation took place.

● Sources: Ferret, an underground paper at [theferret.scot](http://theferret.scot)

## The Good Old Days FAIR FARES

Back in 1977, when punk had exploded on the music scene and Thatcher was the Opposition Tory leader, Glasgow buses were still in public ownership.

However, many were unhappy about increases in fares, which impacted the most on those in outer schemes of the City. A group of anarchists, claimants and community activists launched the Fair Fares campaign. Only one group act of defiance took place, the main focus was on postering. A contact with access to a van drove around with a group of the Bill Poster Snoopy brigade, and merrily went around postering on bus shelters and other places near bus stops. Drumchapel, Easterhouse, Milton, Possil, Castlemilk and other schemes were targeted.

The philosophy was based on the Italian autonomist idea of 'Takeover the City' which sought to agitate, educate & organise the downtrodden against the System.



## Undiscovered Glasgow No.1

From Cowcaddens, instead of walking along the canal, past Spiers Wharf, Firhill & the Student villages, head down to the basin and the canal blocked, cross on to the new North Canal Bank Street that is under construction.

You may see water skiing and companies like Pinkston Water Sports and The Scottish Scuba Diving Centre. Up the hill in Port Dundas, to the left, a fenced off area with a communications facility and various 'lost' distilleries. A small section of the canal remains a wildlife haven as Cormorants dive and a Heron scoops up fish. Proceeding east, you can view down to the railway line and the vast construction site that is Sighthill. Turn north and you pass McGees Bakers, Scottish Ambulance, and at Keppochill Road, what was once a housing scheme, now a wilderness backing on to Cowlairs Park.

Walk past the northern edge of Sighthill Cemetery where Hardie and Baird were commemorated for the 1820 uprising. At what was a huge railway manufacturing site, walk to Townhead.



## Singing in the Time of Covid

**NO ONE HAS BEEN UNTOUCHED** by the events of recent months. An infectious, potentially fatal virus spreading through our communities and various restrictions designed to slow its path. The disruption to our relationships as well as our political and social activities has taken a toll on the mental health of many of us.

One group that has responded to this challenge is Glasgow Based Red and Black Song Club, who went from performing, supporting campaigns and rehearsing fortnightly to a ban on their activities. They started to meet on Zoom and have continued to sing together regularly for over 6 months.

As one member told The Keelie, "seeing how everyone is, having a chat and offering support and solidarity is as important as the singing".

Their sessions have evolved over time and now include a discussion about a film of political interest and free to watch online. Fruitvale Station, La Grande Illusion, Living Utopia and The Worlds of Ursula K. Le Guin have all featured.

One thing that hasn't changed is that the evening usually closes with a rendition of The Internationale.

To get involved, like and follow their Facebook page. The next sessions are at 7pm on Tuesdays:

3 November – film discussion is **Dawn of the Dead** (1978) <https://fb.me/e/39TWz589P>

17 November – film discussion is **For Sama** <https://fb.me/e/31nr846HH>

### LIVING RENT

#### Tenants Manifesto 2020/21

- **Fighting the growth of buy to let landlordism in our communities.**
- **Restorative justice for vacant land in all new public housing, to maximise public housing**
- **Tackle the accountability gap in stock transfer landlords**
- **Introduce rent controls to improve the quality of our housing stock**
- **Bring rents down – not just limit its increase**

Read the full manifesto: [livingrent.org](http://livingrent.org)

## Covid or Cash Crisis?

To date, with the partial & restricted opening of The Mitchell on 27th October, 11 out of the 33 Glasgow Libraries are open. The hours are Tuesday to Friday 11-4 with many activities suspended.

Community campaigns based on real fears of an agenda of closure, have sprung up in various neighbourhoods, most notably The Southside where Langside, Govanhill & Pollokshields remain closed. However, a Keelie survey of the Libraries that are open and closed reveals startling differences.

Those chosen to open appear largely on a zonal corridor policy. That is one for the South, South-West, South-East, and so on. Not all the libraries that have opened are new. For example, Possilpark and Shettleston. Many of the most modern libraries, like Springburn, Milton & Pollok are closed. Cardonald & Elderpark have been newly refurbished.

## Don't trust your Boss !

After making staff redundant in statutory minimum packages, working to the plan of no re-opening till March '21, Grand Central Hotel now want them to return on the 18th November. Those known to be Union members excepted!

This points to one disadvantage of trade union dues deducted by the employer. Contrast with the IWW: dues are solely between the worker and the Union. The bosses are kept in the dark !

• Source *Unite Hospitality Twitter*

There is scant evidence that with social distancing that libraries are a source of virus transmission. If that was the case, then Partick with consistently high levels of infection wouldn't be open. This is a financial decision by the Glasgow Life bureaucracy.



Start a Read-In if the library is closed!

## Uproar over Jobs

Pensioners and those needing Winter Flu jabs who don't have cars are livid.

The plan to make people travel to Community Health Partnership sites that are much further away than your local Health Clinic or surgery is massively unpopular and exposing the vulnerable to Covid travel risks.

Scottish Government reverse this madness!

## Save the Yorkhill Bee Cafe



The UN Climate Change Conference COP26 will take place in Glasgow in Nov 2021 (postponed from this year). Here's what GCC say about its aims:

'It is vital that Glasgow's communities are able to be part of climate change actions in the lead up to this momentous event in the city's history'.

'a fantastic opportunity for Glasgow and its citizens to help push for a better world and support a rapid response to the climate emergency.'

"Glasgow City Council will be taking steps to allow young people to get involved in COP26'.

'discussing with the organisers how we can engage with our young people on the debate around climate change'

**But despite GCC's claim that in May 2019 they 'declared a climate & ecological emergency', here's what their Parks Dept are doing to 'engage young people':**

During the lockdown, children and families around Yorkhill Park created two wooden planters full of flowers and greenery - the 'Herb Hotel' and the 'Bee Cafe'. Accessible to disabled residents, they can be enjoyed by everyone whilst fulfilling the aims of improving biodiversity and the benefits of outdoor urban spaces. They featured in an article by the Glasgow Evening Times on 11 July 2020.

GCC Parks Dept, at odds with their newish title 'Neighbourhoods & Sustainability' are now insisting that the planters be removed - so they can 'cut the grass'!

Sad to see that despite all their talk of encouraging children's interest in the environment, such a short-sighted attitude still seems to prevail at GCC Parks.

## First they came for Assange

**Gramsci reminds us. "What comes to pass does so not so much because a few people want it to happen, as because the mass of citizens abdicate their responsibility and let things be."**

Such is the case of Julian Assange, rotting in jail and treated as a side show by many. Some even judge him on his personality, so unimpressed are many of the dangerous territory, both domestic and internationally, the outcome of this trial could leave us in.

This is not a difficult trial to understand, given the sheer tyranny being exercised in our so-called courts of law. The near silence of the main stream media, particularly the BBC, and the lack of press and public accessibility to evidence, even to Assange himself, to the trumped up charges, is palpable.

Meanwhile many of the worlds most respected thinkers are against Assange's extradition and have been warning us of the prospects, as well as proffering a mountain of evidence of the dangerous calamity we will be in if the extradition goes ahead. But then, what does evidence have to do with anything?

At the other end of the media landscape is another ongoing tyranny done in our name and almost ignored by so-called professional journalists.

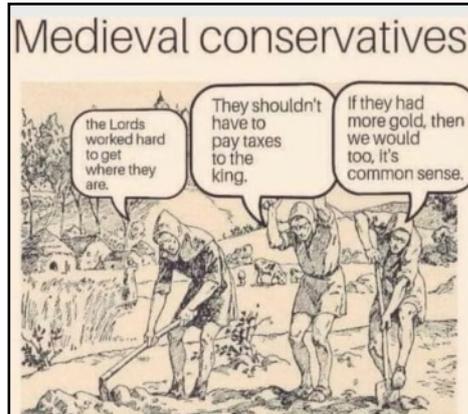
The vague intelligence that Britain, America, and France, have used to accuse the Syrian Government of a chemical weapons attack in Duma. justifying these nations to empty the bulk heads of bombs from their jet fighters on Syria. The renowned former Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) Director General José Bustani



was stopped from testifying in support of the inspectors whose findings cast doubt that the chemical attacks even happened and may have been set up to justify the bombings. This evidence was banned from the inquiry and kept from the public. (As was Bustani's rejection of the evidence used to justify the Iraq war).

Like Assange, evidence in his case, as well as this one, was restricted. Even when provided by some of the most experienced OPCW inspectors. They were silenced. And the top level of OPCW is going along with it. This is the world we are living in and will deteriorate even more rapidly if Assange is given to the US by the government.

These are two of the most serious events happening in the world today. Because if they are not vociferously challenged and stopped, we will have given the right for the U.S. and its puppets to treat individuals and countries anywhere in the world, the same way they have treated the thirty and more countries they have bombed with impunity since the second world war.



**One reason people insist that you use the proper channels to change things is because they have control of the proper channels and they're confident it won't work**

**Jon Stone**

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