

## Action Against Austerity

The Scotland wide network of unwaged and activist groups welcomed Black activist Lorenzo Komboa Ervin to a Zoom event which you can now view in two parts.

Following this up they have a meeting of the network online on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Details via the AAA Facebook page.

It is also worth following posts by groups involved such as Edinburgh Campaign Against Poverty which operates out of the Autonomous Centre of Edinburgh (ACE), Dundee against Austerity and Food not Bombs in the same city. Invites have been extended to 'from below' groups in Aberdeen, Dumfries, Glasgow and around ' about.

## Slay the Dragon

**Dragon Group**, with fewer Multinationals wanting to trade with them due to worldwide pressure from syndicalist unions in the ICL-CIT made a financial concession on the 12th of October.

They have now backtracked on this and the 6,000 sacked garment workers in the GWTUC face acute hardship and malnutrition. A worldwide campaign to raise 20,000€ has been launched.. LIDL are one of the few stores known to still take their products and protests took place in Derry, Hamburg and elsewhere.

<https://www.icl-cit.org/supporting-suffering-textile-workers-in-bangladesh/>  
to contribute

## THE MURMUR OF THE POOR.

Brokers, bankers, Earls and Dukes,  
callous, mercenary, pirate crew  
gasconading through the land  
bloated, pampered, privileged few.

Striding with selfish arrogance  
plundering as you go  
grasping at the fruits  
the common people sow.

Take heed, you swaggering fat-cats, in  
our world you don't belong,  
that murmur you hear is the poor  
rehearsing an angry song.

The day is fast approaching  
when our chorus loud you'll hear,  
then all your greed and treachery will  
surely cost you dear.

A price you'll pay for being blind to  
the hungry at your door,  
oh, haste the day our angry chorus  
becomes a mighty roar.

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



Have you the bottle?

# GLASGOW KEELIE

December 2020



Priceless

## REMEMBER THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS



# HAUNTING THE RICH TO PAY THEIR WORKERS!

## AROUND THE D.I.Y. UNIONS

• **THE IWW** has been organising among English Language Teachers in firms such as Kaplan and Overseas Teacher. See [iww.org.uk](http://iww.org.uk)

• **THE IWGB** won a landmark ruling for health & safety protections for 'gig economy' and precarious workers as reported on the 13<sup>th</sup> November at [iwgb.org.uk](http://iwgb.org.uk)

• **The United Voices of the World** has been organising Security Guards, Sex Workers, Architectural, Designers and other forgotten industries see [uwunion.org.uk](http://uwunion.org.uk)

• **Living Rent** members in Muirhouse in Edinburgh invited residents to write & draw in chalk their housing issues & re-pairs onto a wall at the shops at Penny-well Road. Members and residents then walked to the West Pilton Garden Council Offices to hand in a list of their demands to Edinburgh City Council. [contact@livingrent.org](mailto:contact@livingrent.org)

# VICTORY

## STILL GAME FOR THE VALLEY



**ORGANISED PEOPLE HALTED THE SALE. NOW IT'S TIME WE FOUGHT FOR THE FUTURE.**

Wyndford residents came out in force to oppose the sell-off of public land on Collina Street (where 'Still Game' was set) to private developers committed to building private housing.

They have escalated their campaign and collected many signatures demanding a halt of the sale, and have now received confirmation from

GCC's Housing and Regeneration Committee that they have been successful in halting the sale until mid-January.

Wyndford residents won't be sitting on their laurels. They are deciding their next steps in ensuring that the sale does not take place.

**Join the Still Game for The Valley facebook group and get involved!**

## The Good Old Days

**The year was 1830. In the dock were two men, described in a report which appeared in the Glasgow Advertiser as "rather good looking young men".**

John Hill, was the son of a dispossessed weaver, from the Calton, his companion William Porter, had fallen from grace, having being comfortably off, before being cast asunder by his Strathaven family, for the sake of respectability. Their crime: to befriend, accompany and assault an elderly citizen of Townhead, who was robbed of 7/- . No meaningful defence was offered.

It was as if the couple had had a "good run", living off the spoils of small-time villainy, propositioning men & women. Lured by such a handsome pair, able to be suave and seductive, others had no doubt given up small sums so that Hill & Porter could live without engaging in industrious toil.

As the Judge passed sentence of death by hanging, William Porter reached over and kissed his condemned lover.

## Undiscovered Walks No.2

**Meet or alight at Govan U or Bus Interchange.** After checking out the Barbour/Rent strike statue, cross the road down to the Clyde, head east along the Clyde where the Riverside scheme is.

Opposite is the Transport Museum & Tall-Ship. Where the path ends head up to the Community Hall/ community garden, and turn left at Clydebrae street. You reach the Dry Dock. There are plans to develop it, but take this opportunity to explore. It is a mecca for industrial artefacts. Watch your feet, or guide any visually impaired friend are there are 'manholes' or wooden bridges to traverse.

Opposite to the east the science Centre. To the North where the Kelvin meets the Clyde, Yorkhill. After satiating yourself on this Graftiti artist paradise it's mysteries, head back to Govan Rd, go up Southcroft St., past the new 3 school campus via new housing, to the gap site to the west of what was Wine Alley. From there you can head east to Festival Park south of the BBC, or west, back to Govan X or on to Elderpark.





**"Open to the People for ever and ever, 1898"  
Let's keep that promise!**

On Halloween the Friends of the People's Palace, Winter Gardens and Glasgow Green unveiled their beautiful new banner, designed and made by the artist Stasia Rice of Spirit of Revolt. The banner represents the campaign to save, repair and restore the People's Palace winter gardens and museum and have them open to the public again.

A witch, a zombie, a cat and the Grim Reaper turned up on Glasgow Green with the message 'Don't zombify the People's Palace'

The Winter Gardens have been closed since 31 December 2018 and the museum has no opening date since closing due to the Covid 19 pandemic. We must press the Council & Glasgow Life to commit to reopening the museum when lockdown lifts and to repair the winter gardens asap.

Since the pandemic, KEELIES need 2020 vision! Keep yer eyes peeled for plunder and asset stripping of our stuff. It isnae new. History demonstrates how 're-organising' and 'tough times' enables the 'spiriting away' of our rights, privileges and common goods.

The new banner reminds us of our history in our much loved urban space;

- 'Open to the people for ever and ever' declared Lord Rosebery in 1898 in the Winter Gardens – these Gardens SHUT since 2018 with plants removed and People's Palace temporarily shut.
- Glasgow Green is owned by the citizens of Glasgow since 1792 by selling off other stuff, a space which had the right to hold lively public meetings of all types without a license.
- The Labour Council made a bylaw in 1916 making it illegal to "sing, preach, lecture, or take part in any service, discussion, meeting, or demonstration, or hold any exhibition or public show...or play any musical instrument".

Activists fought against this for SIXTEEN YEARS finally gaining back a free speech platform in 1932. Rights are easy to lose but SO hard to get back.

**KEELIES won't let them hit and run in 2021!**



On the 7th of November members of the Clydeside Industrial Workers of the World walked along Great Western Road with flags and placards against workers conditions in vintage clothing and other small retail outlets

Email: [Clydeside@iww.org.uk](mailto:Clydeside@iww.org.uk)

A picket was held at the Glasgow Vintage Company at Kelvinbridge to protest against:

- Cuts to working hours
- A forced switch to zero-hours contracts
- Ignoring staff concerns about proper social distancing and hygiene
- Bullying staff
- Sacking staff members, including one who had been there for almost two years

All this, while the owner expands their business and makes plans to open another shop. Glasgow Vintage Company have passed the costs of expansion onto their workers through cuts and sackings.

Across Glasgow workers are having their wages slashed and health endangered by bosses just like this one

**IKEA: Whose Victory?**

IKEA may have given Richie Venton a financial settlement.

For many in the Trade Union movement and the Left, this represents a "victory".

However, others have pointed out that no reinstatement means that a Company has asserted it's rights under the flimsiest pretext to sack a Shop Steward .

As has been highlighted at the Saturday solidarity mobilisations at IKEA at Braehead, Venton took action on health & safety grounds to protect workers put at risk by the intentions of firms to be open 'for business' and his sacking was a direct consequence of his diligence and the Company's desire to keep the workers subjugated. Has it given a 'green light' for Shop Stewards and Union activists to be singled out for dismissals?

**Unions will have to be mindful of this threat, with the spectre of 2.5 million unemployed by Easter.**

# The Old Keelie Almanack

A Look Back  
At The Peculiar And  
Inspiring Events Of  
The Year 2020

## The Peculiar



Daddy, what did YOU do in the Great Toilet Roll War?

• MARCH: Panic buying of Bog Roll



• JUNE: 'Yir Da Guards Statues' George Square



• JULY: Japan's theme parks banned screaming on rollercoasters because it spreads coronavirus. "Please scream inside your heart."

LOWER VAT = LOWER PRICES

## SUNAK'S SPECIALS

£1.29	£1.79	£1.99	£1.99

**RISHI SUNAK, LEGEND: THE MAN WHO INSTIGATED TAX EQUALITY BETWEEN SUPERMARKETS AND PUBS**

wetherspoon

• JULY: Wetherspoons serve Tory Propaganda

## The Inspiring



• MARCH: Feministas Hispohablantes organised a performance of 'The Rapist is You' at the Buchanan St steps for International Women's Day.



• JUNE: Following the murder of George Floyd, thousands assembled for a Black Lives Matter demonstration at Glasgow Green to protest racism in America and Scotland.

For a more caring and supportive society we need to embed Mutual Aid in our daily lives. The pandemic has highlighted the need for mutual support and to let each other know we're not alone.



TOBI ADEBAJO

• MARCH ONWARDS: Glasgow Mutual Aid organised in the city to provide vital grassroots support



• ALL YEAR ROUND: Living Rent fought evictions, reclaimed tenants deposits and fought multiple campaigns