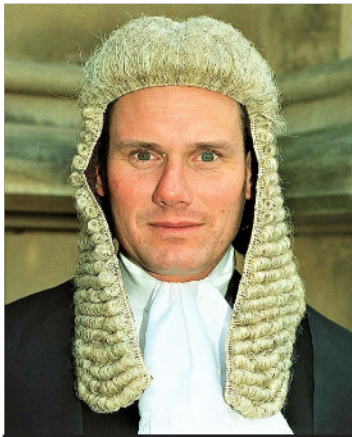


'We will save Britain's statues from the woke militants who want to censor our past'- Robert Jenrick, Tory Communities Secretary



CHECK OUT
Glasgow's
Treasure Trove of
Radical Literature

WWW.SPIRITOFREVOLT.INFO



THE FASHION FOR WIGS really took off during the reign of King Louis XIV of France.

A raging plague of syphilis resulted in patchy hair loss, and wigs were an ideal way of disguising the condition.

More and more elaborate and ostentatious designs followed and resulted in the term 'Big Wig' to describe a self-important, conceited and pompous individual.

The French revolution knocked wigs off their pedestal, and their use today is limited mainly to the most archaic parts of the Establishment.

- Modelled here by Sir Keir Rodney Starmer KCB QC

GLASGOW KEELIE

February 2021

Priceless



GALLUS GLASGOW, LOCKDOWN STYLE

ESSENTIAL Coronavirus restrictions may be in place, but Glaswegians are still managing creative acts of resistance.

In the Valley in Maryhill, local Living Rent members have built 'Booby's Bothy' and plan a socially distanced Vigil against the Council's plans for gentrification of the area.



... AND IN QUEEN'S PARK, members of Glasgow's Polish community re-purposed the giant plastic decoy duck on the boating pond. Translation: Fuck PiS (the ruling government party behind the near total abortion ban).

Photo credit : Kenneth McElroy

Demand for Safe Housing

AT A TIME WHEN COVID-19 continues to spread through our communities, Home Office contractor Mears is forcing pregnant asylum-seeking women and those with babies to move in to hostel style accommodation in Glasgow.

The women were not consulted, with many being moved from their own homes where they had built up links with the local community.

The women say "It feels like I've been uprooted from my community..." and "we were subjected to harassment, intimidation... threatened with deportation if we did not comply"

The accommodation was

originally designed for young single people not families. Residents have told The Keelie "It is practically one tiny room, impossible to live with a toddler" and that "no consideration whatsoever has been given to the babies: babies have no place to play but in the toilet."

The Keelie believes that all parents should have the right to live in safe housing, in an environment that: enables them to raise their children in dignity, is conducive to their health and well being. That includes being able to prevent the spread of Covid -19.

Asylum seekers are being supported if their demands for safe accommodation by a range of organisations including Glasgow No Evictions Network.

• **Get involved:**
[facebook.com/noevictions](https://www.facebook.com/noevictions)

A FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

has revealed that the Home Office is increasingly using Police Scotland to enforce its racist Hostile Environment policy.

From April 2018 to October 2020, 1,723 people were held in Police cells before being transferred to detention centres. The Keelie is clear that this is never acceptable because it is criminalising the acts of fleeing persecution and seeking refuge. Phones are not permitted in cells and people may therefore be

unable to consult with their immigration advisors while being detained.

Even more concerning, is that between April and October 2020, at the height of a global pandemic, 231 people were detained and held in cells by Police Scotland. This at a time when in the criminal justice (sic) system the Home Office was releasing hundreds of prisoners early because of the increased risks from Covid in detention.

• **More on this story:** check [theferret.scot](https://www.theferret.scot)



THE SIGHTHILL STONE CIRCLE designed by Duncan Lunan, is the first astronomically aligned circle to be constructed in the British Isles for at least 3500 years.

Built in Sighthill Park in Glasgow, overlooking the M8 motorway due north of the city centre, the stones came from Beltmoss Quarry in Kilsyth and the layout was completed by a Royal Navy helicopter at the spring equinox of 1979.

The full story is told in Duncan's book 'The Stones and the Stars, Building Scotland's Newest Megalith'.
<http://www.duncanlunan.com/thestonesandthestars.asp>

In 2013, Glasgow City Council decided to destroy the circle and the park to build an Athletes' Village on the site for the 2018 Youth Olympics. A vigorous campaign to save the circle began.

Eventually it was agreed that not only would the circle be recreated, but the topsoil would be removed and replaced at the new site for the sake of those who had scattered their loved ones'

ashes at the previous site.

The Sighthill stones were removed intact in April 2016. During the removal the time capsule was recovered. It was reburied along with a new 2020 one at the new site which is the highest point at the eastern side of the development, and much more visible than the previous circle was.

The stone circle is now complete, but at the moment is still fenced off as part of a building site. It will be opened to the public sometime soon, hopefully in time for the summer solstice.

<https://www.facebook.com/SighthillStoneCircleRecreated>

• **Photo:** the stones in original setting

SWEET

A major financial sponsor of the Tory Party is the aptly named Silver Spoon, the sugar manufacturer, via George Weston, CEO of its parent company, Associated British Foods.

WHILE MOST PEOPLE DON'T PUT IT IN SUCH BLUNT TERMS, US foreign policy is generally designed to put America first. National foreign policy is generally about national self-interest. The Kurds in Rojava know that Biden will be guided by American interests (or rather the interests of the American elite), but they welcome his arrival in the White House.

For them, the Trump years brought brutal tragedy. In 2019 Trump withdrew US troops, allowing Turkey to attack. And Bidens's inauguration coincides with the third anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Afrin, also made possible on Trump's watch. Afrin was once a model for peaceful coexistence, women's rights, and community organisation; it is now a nightmare lorded over by jihadi mafias.

Despite his slogans, Trump's friendship with Turkish President Erdogan (one of his favourite bullies) meant that his actions in Syria were not simply guided by US interests and could be even more dangerous. When he gave the green light to Turkey's invasions and the 'ethnic cleansing' of hundreds and thousands of Kurds, he actually ceded power to Turkey and Russia.

The Kurds never had illusions that the alliance they built with the US in the fight against ISIS was anything more than tactical.

They can defend themselves on the ground, but they needed US



protection in the air. Without that tactical alliance many more Kurds would be dead and there would be no Rojava.

The US needed the Kurds, too, but the US leadership does not, as a rule, recognise the need for an exemplary alternative to neoliberal capitalism. They may fetishize 'democracy', but they have little time for the grassroots democracy practiced in Rojava, which is intended to create a society run by local communities rather than by and for big business.

They are convinced, though, that their Kurdish partners will discard Ocalan's vision for a better society as though it were some childish fantasy; and they are actively pushing for the progressive Kurdish leadership to make compromises with much more conservative Kurdish forces.

Rojava's radical experiment is caught between a rock and a hard place. None of the countries scrambling for power and influence in Syria wants to see it succeed, but people across the world know that solidarity with the autonomous region is the best way to put *humanity* first.



Get ready for COP26

IN NOVEMBER OF THIS YEAR Glasgow is set to host the latest instalment of the toothless and farcical UN climate summit, 'COP26.'

Another round of delegates from 197 countries will pay lip service to the unfolding ecological catastrophe; all the while ensuring any tangible efforts to divert from our current apocalyptic trajectory interferes as little as possible with the capitalist system that drives the destruction of our planet.

We at **Glasgow Green Anti-capitalist Front** believe it would be unacceptable for this pageantry of greenwashing to unfold in our city unopposed.

Our focus this year will be on organising a radical anti-capitalist opposition in our host-city and beyond, to ensure that our voices are heard in the run

up to and during the summit. We must counter the narrative that a solution to the climate crisis can be found by retaining the very system that poisons our rivers, chokes our air and contaminates our soil.

Organised action against the ecocidal onslaught of capitalism is the only viable means of resistance to the massive harm which the early stages of climate breakdown have already set in motion.

● **WE NEED YOUR HELP IN THIS.** If you would like to get involved, get in touch via our social media @GlasgowGAF and come along to one of our fortnightly organising meetings.

Contradiction

Scottish Universities signed up to a COP26 climate network, yet have over £5 million worth of shares in fossil fuel firms and arms companies.