

Just a wee

# GLASGOW KEELIE

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Keep Glasgow Revolting

Priceless

# HOW TO START A REVOLUTION

## POLIS WATCH

**IAIN LIVINGSTONE, Chief Constable of Police Scotland recently wrote a puff piece for a national newspaper in which he states that his force has been radically reformed.**

He points to the lack of arrests at Cop 26, the 'Don't be That Guy' campaign on men's behaviour to women, and the plan to issue Naloxone, a drug overdose first aid nasal spray to all serving officers. He also states there will be no tolerance for misogyny, racism or discrimination.

**But what's the hidden agenda here?** Is he throwing his scrambled egg covered hat in the ring with this makeshift CV? If so, it's unlikely to be as a replacement for Cressida Dick, the sacked Head of the Metropolitan Police.

That particular can of worms carries a salary of around £250,000, not enough above his current pay grade to justify all the extra grief. And the acting Metropolitan Commissioner is Sir Stephen House, who was effectively sacked as Chief Constable for Scotland in 2015, after it took three days for the police to respond to the fatal death of a couple in a car crash on the M9.

**But maybe Livingstone has his eye on a bigger prize:** there are rumours of a plan to combine all 43 forces in England into one, and in his article Livingstone bums about how combining Scotland's 10 forces saves £200 million a year.

Just like in the Army, where squaddies are being replaced by drones, the Police Service is changing. Having 17,241 people on the streets of Scotland who can administer anti-overdose medication will undoubtedly save lives. And the days of the whisky fuelled 'lend us a packet of fags until the shops shut' Glasgow polis are long gone.

But the idea of the Police as a 'woke' Social Justice Organisation is a farce. When van loads of police raced Keystone-Kops style to the anti-war occupation of a Russian Oligarch's London mansion they were demonstrating their prime purpose: protecting the property of the Boss Class.

**In the Miners Strike of 1984-5, the Police were used as a sledgehammer to smash entire communities in England, Scotland and Wales, and were paid handsomely for doing it. When called for, they would do the same again. That's the real Police CV.**



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**IN THE 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURY**, the common people of Glasgow were not allowed to walk on the 'plain stanes' pavement on the Trongate. That was strictly for the Tobacco Lords and City Merchants.

300 years later, pensioners, the disabled and mothers with buggies have to walk on the road in Candleriggs to make way for Cafe Society.

**• CONGRATULATIONS to Amazon Labor Union who started two years ago with 2 tables, 2 chairs and a tent and have now won a historic victory over one of the world's biggest Companies.**

## Wyndford Residents Union - An alternative for Maryhill

**Since 2010 Scotland has lacked an independent national voice for the 50% of Scots who live in housing schemes.**

The old Scottish Tenants Organisation, born in the rent strikes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> world war came to represent that voice, and stood 2<sup>nd</sup> against housing stock transfer, mass demolition of social housing, and for massive investment in a new generation of world class public housing.

This led the New Labour government to all but destroy the organisation in the early 2000s, and to attempt to set up tame tenants groups and so called 'regional networks' that could not challenge crazy ideological government policies. All attempts to subsidise public sector rents to lower housing costs for everyone were abandoned.

We are living with the result. Since the advent of the Scottish Parliament the private rented sector has

doubled and social housing has been blown up (literally) and disinvested in. The result is a rent crisis in Scotland's big cities and too high rents in social housing which traps working class people in low wage economies like Glasgow on benefts, because the alternative is not being able to afford a roof over their heads.

This has to change. In Maryhill this August a group of tenants and community activists from across Scotland are meeting to re-found the STO with a laser focus on working class issues in areas of public and public housing.

In the run up to this event the organising group is conducting weekly interviews for its **Scottish Tenants News** video-podcast series, and is working with tenants activists in Maryhill to use the local elections to force the political classes to change tack on planned attacks on this neighbourhood.

**• Watch this space for further information Tel: 07904553200**

## Yes! Yes! UCS! At the Pearce Institute

In this performance of Yes! Yes! UCS! about the famous work-ins on the upper Clyde shipyards in the early 70s the two young and talented actors gave it their all, moving from dialogue to pleasant harmonies, picking up different instruments, drums, guitar, keyboard, Ciddle, cello, moving around the stage and scene changes with ease.

Their characters were instantly likeable, and they worked really well together. The set and graphics were excellent. And the idea of telling the story of the UCS shipyards struggle through the eyes of two young women was class. This was a great idea well written and



performed and right it should be shown in the PI, on the home ground of the struggle as it were.

But I had to leave after the 1<sup>st</sup> act. First because I couldn't make out most of what was going on because of the booming hall noise and second I would like to see it again.

Because what I could make out this was a well thought out and historically important production that should definitely do the rounds again and again.

## When the Russian invasion of Ukraine started, we had a migrant crisis, millions of Ukrainians fled across the border to neighbouring countries, in most cases accepted and welcomed.

It was as if this was the only migrant crisis on the planet. For years Europe has been griping on about the migrant crisis from Iraq, Libya, Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia, Yemen, and so the list went on. These migrants however were never accepted, never welcomed, thousand languished between authoritarian lines on the land called borders. neither allowed to move one way or the other.

Trapped in appalling conditions, in unforgiving weather, men, women and children, herded like cattle to prevent them from entering this country or that country, continually seeing repression

and brutality, and Europe wringing its hands and shouting "crisis" but no solution just detention centres. Along comes the Ukrainian affair, and suddenly the only migrant "crisis" is the 'ow of terrifed people seeing Ukraine and Europe opens its arms. The other migrant "crisis" has disappeared off the media map, off the agenda, no longer worth mentioning.

Sadly however, those thousands of humans lumped together as a migrant "crisis" before this Ukrainian affair are still there, still trapped between those inhumane borders, their real problem of course is that they are the wrong colour, they are not European, therefore not welcome in our European white race military camp.

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



• "Overthrow the Tsar / Stop the war !" Anti-Putin graffiti in Tula, Russia

**FOR THOSE WHO DON'T SWITCH OFF THE NEWS IN DESPAIR, the pictures and stories from Ukraine are harrowing. Millions of civilians fleeing, young soldiers sacrificed in botched assaults, apartment blocks, hospitals and places of shelter obliterated by missiles.**

It brings in mind the siege of Sarajevo in Bosnia 30 years ago and more recently the destruction of Syria's second biggest city, Aleppo by the forces of Assad and Russian aircraft. Many other conflicts like Yemen; Ethiopia & Tigray; Myanmar, the Turkish assault on Rojava in Kurdish controlled Northern Syria, Mali and the Sahel region, in western Congo, Somalia and so on, go under-reported.

It is clear that the aim of 'liberating' Russian speakers in Kharkiv, along the Sea of Azov coast – especially in Mariupol has gone way off course. The very people who voted against the nationalist agenda of Ukrainian Governments after the 'peoples' uprisings' of 2004 and 2014 are being blown to smithereens and not rising up against the Ukrainian Government.

Mariupol a port of over 400,000 people, including 22,000 Greeks, is paying the price. It is a strategic link between the breakaway areas of the Donbass & Crimea. Defended in part by the Azov Special Operations Detachment, a neo-nazi brigade of

1,000 since 2014 when Russian separatist forces were expelled from the city. 'De-nazification' has been a key justification by Putin for the invasion but less than 1% of the Ukrainian defenders could be tagged as such.

Support for the Far-Right Svoboda Party in the Ukraine has been declining since a high point of 2010, and only significant in the west around Lviv and Ivano-Frankivsk which have only received occasional missile strikes. It is no more popular at the polls than ultra-nationalist parties in Russia, and much less so when compared to French, Italian and German and East European populist fascists who Putin has cultivated to undermine the European Union.

Meanwhile, with NATO membership ruled out as part of any future ceasefire with the Zelenskyy Government in Kyiv, Putin's grip on power seems certain to be undermined by the effects on the Russian economy, the losses of the Russian Army and his support amongst the sanctioned Oligarchs waning.



• Anti War sticker, Moscow



**CAMPAIGNERS HAVE VOWED TO PROTEST outside their local community centre until it finally reopens.**

Ruchill Community Centre is one of the many Glasgow Life venues not planned for restarting, although a £100 million funding guarantee from Glasgow City Council has allowed 90 venues across the city to be reopen.

Karen Love, one of those taking action outside the centre, said "We've been fighting to save Maryhill library which eventually successfully opened at the end of January. But Ruchill Community Centre is well used by all local families and urgently needed. It's vital that this community facility is reopened.

Other NUC (North United Communities) centres are too far for

local kids to travel. Milton is miles away from Ruchill so is Wyndford. We don't want older kids travelling by themselves to access community programs, arts, crafts, sports etc: it's ludicrous. Please reopen our centre ASAP.

**In February 2020 we were assured by our MSP and Councillor that the community centre was safe, yet in March 2020 Glasgow Life closed it.**

A few of the locals will be protesting every Saturday until the Council and community leaders get together and tell us what's happening.

We've contacted every Councillor and some are supporting us in this protest along with Friends of Peoples Palace, Glasgow Against Closures and Glasgow Keelie, so campaigning is working"



# 'Because things are the way they are, things will not stay the way they are'



• After the official International Workers Memorial Day commemoration, join the Glasgow Keelie and friends in their second annual display of aprons in remembrance of lives lost in industry. Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 1pm at the Drying Green, opposite the site of the Templeton disaster.



• A Celebration of Cycling 6.30 for 7pm ride Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April George Square



• The Annual STUC March makes a welcome return. Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 11am George Square to Kelvingrove Park



• Workers Stories Project May Day Exhibition. Check [Facebook](#) for details



• Welcome to the Wonderful World of Anarchism! Bookfair, Talks, Meetings, Films and much more  
Updates: [redandblackclydeside.wordpress.com](http://redandblackclydeside.wordpress.com)

