

JOIN THE FIGHTBACK!



ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!



Keelie

'A disreputable inhabitant of a town or city, especially from Glasgow'

Oxford Dictionary

We aim to be a voice for the dissident, the downtrodden, the troublemaker, the enraged, the anarchist, and we welcome the participation of all true lovers of liberty

Got a story? Get in touch!

Email: glasgowkeelie@riseup.net

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Just a wee

GLASGOW KEELIE

No.34 Sept 2022

Keep Glasgow Revolting

Priceless

STAGNANT WAGES AND SOARING BILLS

PURE RAGING!



IT'S NOT CLEVER TO BE SMART

THE PURPOSE OF SMART METERS is not to do with energy efficiency or user convenience at all. A government adviser who was at the meetings with the UK government's then Department of Trade & Industry developing the concept of smart meters told the New Scientist in 2018, the smart meter scheme was not conceived as a way to do remote meter readings or make things easier for customers.

Instead, it was seen as a way for the energy company to automatically and instantly alter the price paid by customers as demand fluctuated. This makes it more difficult for people to budget as their bills could alter without them knowing about it.

Another expert advising the UK Government and European Commission on the roll-out of smart meters observed at the time that the energy suppliers' chief concern in these talks was not help for customers. It was, in fact, credit control. They wanted to more easily and quickly be able to switch people who were in debt onto pre-paid supply.

And today, this is precisely what smart meters can do. They allow energy companies to switch people onto a pre-payment system remotely and immediately. By contrast, if you're on an ordinary meter, being switched to a prepayment meter is a costly and timely process: the prepayment meter needs to be manually installed, which can take weeks and requires specialist skills.



Smart Meters: A Judas in the House?

With smart meters, energy can be withdrawn digitally rather than manually. This means it could happen at scale, with the click of a button, and makes it much harder for people to defend themselves and each other against their energy being cut off. With the government proposing the possibility of rolling blackouts this winter, could smart meters also be used as a way to enforce blackouts remotely?

As those on enforced pre-payment meters already know, this model of debt bondage operates as a form of blackmail. You cannot freely choose not to purchase this life-giving commodity; if you do, you cannot heat your house or eat hot meals. So, you get into debt elsewhere.

The surveillance uses that smart meters can be put to does not end there. In Australia, debt collectors are allowed to make use of the data produced by smart meters to know when people are at home. **How long before they do the same here to enforce debt collection during this profit-driven inflation crisis?**

• Full story: <https://dontpay.uk/articles/its-not-clever-to-be-smart/>



ANARCHIST CRITIC

WHAT SORT OF WORLD do we tolerate, a world that throws billions at the fanciful and war, but struggles to find the money to alleviate the suffering of millions.

Pakistan is almost one third wiped out, millions are homeless and facing starvation, and the UN appeals for \$160 million in emergency aid for that country. However, the EU and 27 countries committed more than \$1 billion of military aid to Ukraine in the first week of the war in Ukraine, that figure has ballooned since then.

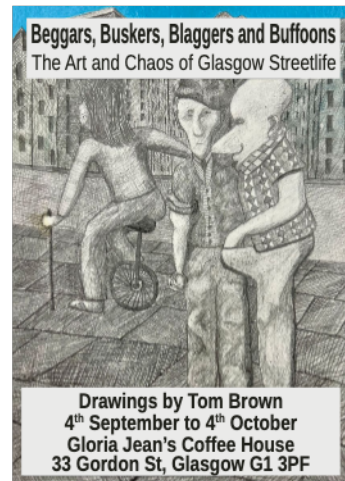
Then there is the latest American

prestige plan, the giant moon rocket. This gigantic toy of the rich and powerful was budgeted at \$10 billion, with a launch date that looked like a calendar. First 2017 then 2018-19-20-21 and then 2022. The total spend comes in somewhere around \$93 billion with each subsequent launch coming in at around \$4 billion a pop.

These sort of priorities tell us a lot about the values of this capitalism and imperialist system that taints the human race.

How much longer will we tolerate this vicious, cruel insane system of greed and wealth to have power over our lives?

• Follow the **Anarchist Critic** at <https://radicalglasgowblog.blogspot.com/>



REDCURRANT HOUSING CO-OPERATIVE is a privately owned fully mutual limited liability company set up by it's current housed tenants in Oatlands area of Glasgow. We're organised on equal and co-operative principles as outlined by legal rules and our internal policies.

None of our members had owned property beforehand, with all of us being subject to the whims of landlords in previous accomodations. Our intent with the co-operative was to primarily establish secure housing for ourselves and people in Glasgow who want to live in a co-operative fashion.

As tenants we control all aspects of our house that someone who has privately bought would be able to control, such as budgets, expenses, gardens etc. It was a real moment of surprise and freedom to be able to paint our own walls for the first time!

Structurally the co-op as an entity has assumed the liability of the mortgage and the private loans. As tenants/directors we're responsible for ensuring the co-operative can pay its mortgage and the loans it's accrued to the bank and our private investors. We choose the way we do that, by setting rents ourselves. We have a principle that rents will be affordable with everyone in the household being able to live here on housing benefits.

Not to mention we've taken a house off the market for ever too!

We're keen to let people in Glasgow know that housing doesn't have to be just renting from an unaccountable private landlord or housing agency or having to buy it outright and be lumped

with the debt. We're keen to help seed new co-ops and to help them grow and flourish in Glasgow. Housing should be for everyone, and that means providing different styles of housing. We think co-ops are great, and we want to share that knowledge and experience.

Do get in touch if you're interested in learning more.

Redcurranthousingcoop@protonmail.com

GET INVOLVED!

Anarchist Critic

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citystrolls.com

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Friends of the Peoples Palace, Winter Gardens and Glasgow Green

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Glasgow Anarchist Communist Group

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Glasgow Autonomous Space

Facebook Instagram or glasgowautonomous.weebly.com

Glasgow No Evictions Campaign

Facebook Twitter or no-evictions.wixsite.com/glasgow

Living Rent

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Radical Radio Scotland

Youtube Spotify

Red and Black Song Club

Facebook

Spirit of Revolt archive

Facebook or spiritofrevolt.info



Check the 1971 TV adaption of Lewis Grassic Gibbon's classic socialist novel on BBC 4



VICTORY IN FIGHT AGAINST FUEL POVERTY

A COMMUNITY GROUP has secured a price freeze for over 10,000 people across the UK after protesting "obscene price hikes" from an energy supplier.

In April, energy supplier SSE raised prices on the Wyndford estate in Glasgow by 50%, plunging residents into fuel poverty. One resident, a cancer patient, told STV News how he was eating mouldy bread because it was all

he could afford after being hit with a £4,000 bill.

After four months of protests organised by the Wyndford Residents Union, energy supplier SSE has agreed to freeze prices for Wyndford residents until 2023 – and for around 10,000 customers who get their heat from similar systems

• Read the full story on Novara Media



AS STRIKE ACTION RAMPES UP across the UK, as well as protests against the cost of living crisis brought about by decades of Tory government and anti-worker policy, nurses have been asked to vote on whether to participate in industrial action concerning pay rises.

While the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) have confirmed that

nurses, midwives and nursing associates have the right to take part in strike action, many nurses and other health professionals remain under the impression that they cannot strike in the UK. This is not the case, and nurses have a rich and storied history of striking with favourable outcomes.

As more workers join in solidarity for the protection of their livelihoods during this crisis, the most vulnerable members of our workforce within the NHS will not be left behind.

What matters now more than ever is that the public show support and solidarity for those key workers who feel striking is their only option for fair treatment.