

GLASGOW KEELIE and THE 1820 SOCIETY

**REMEMBER**

**1820**

**RADICAL REBELLION**

AT THE SITE OF THE EXECUTION OF  
**JAMES 'PURLIE' WILSON**

OPPOSITE HIGH COURT

**GLASGOW GREEN**

**1PM SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**MUSIC BY THE TENEMENTALS**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**RADICAL  
BOOKFAIR**

Organised by



Sat. 7<sup>th</sup> December  
Glasgow

**GLASGOW KEELIE**

No.50 Sept 2024

Keep Glasgow Revolting

Priceless

**WE  
WANT  
OUR**

**WORLD**

**BACK!**

African &  
Migrant  
workers  
UNITE!



**SOCIAL EVENT**

**MIX & MINGLE. ALL WELCOME**

INC. ALLIES OF PAWA

**28 SEPT. 7 - 9PM**

GLASGOW AUTONOMOUS SPACE  
9 HOLLYBROOK ST, G42 7HH

JOIN OUR WHATSAPP GROUP



**OPPORTUNITY TO KNOW YOUR RIGHTS**  
WORKER RIGHTS AND VISA

Calton Weavers Memorial Committee are pleased to announce...

Commemoration of the  
**CALTON  
WEAVERS**



Plus walks, talks, music  
and entertainment

**SUN 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPT**  
at 1.00 PM

**CALTON BURIAL GROUND**  
Abercromby St, Glasgow

Full programme to follow



**GOT A STORY?**

Contact: [glasgowkeelie@riseup.net](mailto:glasgowkeelie@riseup.net)



"Calton Village masterplan points Glasgow's east end in a new direction."



**THIS IS THE SHITE** planned for the Calton. It's like an experimentation lab for humans. Place a human in each one of the units and see how they react to the banality of living in a box. It never ceases to amaze what the planning department of this city will pass.



**UP TO 1400 PEOPLE** attended Black Song Club, and many more, including the newly formed Red Flag Players.

Organised by Food Solidarity 'Soup'erheroes (check their [Facebook](#) page), the event brought together local groups, musicians, Unity Hospitality, Food Not Bombs, Living Rent, Red and

**QUOTE OF THE DAY: 'in these times over past couple weeks its scary to know if my children will be safe , but things like this, my family feel so safe and part of this community'**



**ANARCHIST CRITIC**

**ONE THING** the political ballerinas that frequent those Westminster Houses of Hypocrisy and Corruption, seem to forget, is that old people have memories, the older, the more memories.

As I approach my 90th birthday, I was born in a room and kitchen, 294 Charles Street in 1934, in the slum then known as Gargad, or 'the good and the bad'. I don't remember much about the Gargad, I left when I was 5 and we were moved to what was know as the 'slum clearances'. However I remember my mother's stories of those days in the 30s. How the word would go round the district the 'Means Test' men were in the area. As soon as she heard that, if she had a loaf of bread she would half it and hide half and some other bits of food, or she could be questioned as to how she could have a loaf of bread mid week, was she as poor as she was claiming.

Her brother, my uncle Willie, long term unemployed, would visit her for a chat and a cup of tea. As soon as it was know the Means Test men were in the area, she would usher him out the door, wash his cup and put it away. Otherwise the questioning would be, 'was he paying as a lodger' if she could feed him, was she as poor as she was claiming and her benefit could be cut. The deprivation and injustice of the 30s are well documented. One of my earliest memories from our

new home top flat in a tenement in Avonspark Street, is from the early 40s, I remember looking out our living room window, which over looked the large estate called Barronhill, it was run as a Poorhouse for men. I would watch as individuals in their conspicuous grey parish suit, yes we used to give the homeless men a suit, a rough course material not meant for comfort or style, but to last, and that was during WW2. as they walked aimlessly round the path which surrounded a large green, never in pairs, always individually. They moved slowly, never moved their arms, they just hung by their sides or in their pocket, the head was usually dropped forward. Perhaps trying to remember, or trying to forget. I felt it a very sad sight.

#### FAILURE

They closed the Poorhouses but they didn't get rid of the poor. they abandoned them to charities. Charities are always a sign that society has failed. I would ask any of those hypocritical political ballerinas to state a year when we had no rough sleepers, no homelessness, no child poverty, no families below the poverty line, and they would need to lie or admit there were no such years.

Here we are in 2024, and child poverty is rising, homelessness is rising, rough sleeping is rising, families living in poverty is rising. Anyone with a grain of rationalism, or even a shred of humanity, must come to the conclusion that the present system of economics has been an abysmal failure to see to the needs of the ordinary people.

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

## FIFTY ISSUES OF THE WEE KEELIE!

THE GLASGOW KEELIE was relaunched in May 2019 to accompany the now annual May Day event at Free Wheel North - in a pocket size format – rather than the original A3 folded forerunner in the 1990-2 as part of Workers City (see <http://www.workerscity.org>).

The message of no.1 was “Gie it Laldy”. A follow up and a new collective arose in November of 2019 to accompany the “Then & Now & What it could be ” at the CCA, drawing its inspiration from the 1915 Rent Strikes. It also publicised a Walk of Pride and the first “Good Old Days” flashback to Glasgow’s turbulent history. In no3 the focus was on child poverty, with the prophetic title: “Come on Die Young”, the centre spread commencing for the writer with being born in a Gargad slum in 1934, and asking “Where is your righteous anger” as poverty rose under the Tories.

Like most, we were unprepared for the coming health disaster that was Covid. Some issues of no6 in March not reaching pubs, cafes and other outlets of distribution, before the Lockdown was belatedly imposed by an incompetent Government in Westminster. There was no April issue as we discovered Zoom to stay in contact and issues were largely online only, for much of that year.

Issue 6, while celebrating Feminist Ways, Radical Ways, front page graphic was a placard from Lebanon;

The Power of the People is stronger than the People in Power. People strolled at a distance in parks, stickers appeared in these rediscovered public spaces.

We had to celebrate May Day online, but did so from Glasgow reaching out top Radical performers such as Attila the Stockbroker & Robb Johnston and linking in with the Ireland Branch of the IWW.

Some protests outdoors, however erupted, such as The Battle for the Square, covered in July 2020 as the eviction of Asylum Seekers continued and racists sought to foster prejudice & division. By issue 10 in September, some of us met, safely at Glasgow Green for the first time in months to landmark the 200 year centenary of the 1820 uprising and the execution of the 60 year old radical James 'Purlic' Wilson, who unlike Hardie & Baird was not executed in Stirling but in our very own “green place” where the Arch now stands.

• Check past issues from the last five years at [glasgowkeelie.org](http://glasgowkeelie.org)



**FIVE PALESTINE ACTION activists were sentenced to prison on the 20<sup>th</sup> August at Glasgow Sheriff Court, following a rooftop protest at Thales factory in Govan.**

Thales is one of the world's largest arms companies - producing armoured vehicles, missile systems and drones. The company works in partnership with Elbit Systems, Israel's biggest weapons producer, to manufacture military drones which are "battle-tested" on the Palestinian people.

• MORE INFO: Palestine Action on Twitter

### Keelie Quote

'We should always watch how politicians treat refugees, Neal Ascherson once wrote, because that's how they would treat the rest of us if they thought they could get away with it.'



**SILENT AGITATOR**, by Glasgow artist Ruth Ewart, based on a 1917 Industrial Workers of the World poster, at St Mungo's Square in the West End.

• Check out IWW Clydeside on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

# LEECHING THE SICK

**IN AN EMERGENCY getting a Taxi to A&E is pricey, but taking your car could cost you more. The Royal Infirmary A&E free carpark is often overflowing so prepare to be fleeced!**

Because streets surrounding The Royal are besieged by private parking companies, including the ALEO City Parking Glasgow LLP (now returned to city council) and Group Nexus.

Glasgow Council Chief Executive earns over £200,000 + pension so visiting her folks won't burst the bank. And she always wants to get the best for us Glaswegians. But who attends a hospital?- the sick and loved ones and staff usually under stress. These Companies are parasites intentionally exploiting the very nature of the crisis - greedy wee grabbers.

## **RACKET.**

They leech on the sick at their most needy. It's a total and utter racket. The Council earned £4.8 million last year in fines. [STV news 10.3.24]. This year's target is additional £3.1



million. This revenue stream is being extended into 17 new areas disguised as being 'crucial' to ease congestion and increase safety. Around Castle St, Wishart St, Alexandra Parade and Cathedral St. it's mostly graveyard! Yet it's £1 for 15 minutes and £5 after 6 until 8 am. With 20% of patients in A&E waiting 8 hours it's a costly £32! So when free parking is full expect the following:

- **A 12 hour staff shift might cost £48**
- **A 4 hour visit to A&E £18**
- **Day patient - sedation procedure £18**

- **Outpatient procedure for chemo £8**
- **2 hour bed visit plus walking £10**
- **Twice daily visit afternoon and evening- from £15**
- **Sitting by the bedside of critical family - £40 daily**
- **Waiting hours for admission to a ward - £85**
- **A twice daily visit to family over their 27 day admission costs a staggering £405.**

And if the hospital patient is the blue badge holder forget it! Even if you are their designated driver and you use it to deliver

them fresh laundry, a wheelchair, treats or comfort and solace. If you use their badge it will be confiscated. but even worse than the fines is becoming victimised by these Companies and turned into prey.

## **DISTRESS**

They know hospital visitors are worried and in a rush so warden workers are tooled up with quite a bag of tricks. They lie in wait at visiting times, stalking and ambushing - stealth is not uncomfortable to them buzzing on the viscid taste of a blue badge confiscation. Pumped up on a little authority some people dissociate and lose sight of others' distress, pain or grief and surrounding this hospital we are their easy meat.

**Never putting people first, Glasgow City Council targeted care workers jobs to plug their deficit yet awarded themselves £2.5 million for the top 19 jobs [STVnews20/3/24]. So it's no surprise that the Council has no conscience when leeching the sick.**