

COUNCILS IN SCOTLAND got funding to make more 'Space For People' during the cities' economic recovery from COVID. But is Glasgow money going where we want the Council (& Sustrans) to put it?

Has fresh-air-Castlemilk **Barlia Sports Centre** to get any? **NO!** Does it mean the calming green well of botanical space in the **Winter Gardens** will reopen? **NO!** The tranquil mind space of the wonderful library reading rooms at **GOMA** and **Whiteinch** and across Glasgow might reopen? **NO!**

That money is earmarked for making 'people friendly streets'. Those nasty narrow pavements in St Vincent Place can be extended into the parking areas to create wider friendly spaces! Wooden boardwalks will have wooden seating all along that stretch of road. Every Keelie knows wet wood is lethal.

Funny coincidence - but the boardwalk might also extend the outdoor drinking area and capacity of the hospitality sector there.

The Atlantic, The Anchor Line and the £8million premium Aparthotel above it are all owned by DRG - Scotland's premier independent restaurant group. DRG say this year has been 'catastrophic', expecting a sharp fall in profits across its 20 restaurants including Di Maggio's chain, Café Andaluz, The Citizen, Barolo, Amarone, and property development firms Ruthven Lane Partnership and D&G. But for Castlemilk tax payers - it's their money too. Bet they canny wait to get the bus into town for a wet wooden seat, breathe the congested traffic fumes and get their 'Space for People'.

More council pick-pocketing, public money shifted and wasted from the people's purse.

GLASGOW KEELIE

July 2021

NO CLOSURES SPECIAL

Priceless

OPEN THE WINDAES!



**BARMULLOCH LIBRARY
(BEFORE THEY CLOSED IT)**

RADICAL FAIR SATURDAY

1PM. 17th JULY GLASGOW GREEN

Behind People's Palace/Winter Gardens

From campaigning against Council closures, getting ready for Cop 26, or making sure the Boss Class doesn't make us pay the cost of Covid, join us in our wee celebration of protest. **ALL WELCOME!**

Sir Angus Grossart -

HOLE IN ONE!

AVERAGE HOUSE PRICES in Stepps are currently £232,000, up 10% on last year. **Glasgow Life/SNP Glasgow City Council** just sold **Lethamhill Golf Course** at Hogganfield Loch, beside Stepps for £200,000.

This is **COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER (CAT)**, outright transfer of ownership from public into private hands. They will run it and all profits will line their pockets, not ploughed into the public purse for all our benefits. **This is daylight robbery, but who's doing the thievin'?**

Plundering the public purse of course is Council Leader Aitken and Director McConnell and the rest of the rogues paid to be managing our heritage.

Sniffin' out their big bargain was The **Royal and Ancient Golf Club** in St Andrews, Fife (R&A), and they have their greedy wee sights set on Littlehill Golf Course on the boundary between Springburn and Bishopbriggs next.

How did they find out about it? Surely not an insider job? Well, **Sir Angus Grossart's** castle is 12 minutes from R&A and he is a longtime member of this highly secretive Fife Golf club of 2,400 members worldwide. **Grossart is also on Glasgow Life!**

This Merchant Banker has been sitting beside Labour and SNP councillors inside board meetings for Glasgow Life since 2007. **Is that what's called a conflict of interests?**

Founder of Noble Grossart Bank and multi-millionaire, he 'couldn't' make Lethamhill work under his watch but his pals at R&A are rubbing their hands all the way to the bank!

Grossart is into 'real cooperation' between public sector development projects and private sector investment. He loves this so much he thought up and chairs the **Scottish Futures Trust (SFT)**, a procurement body which streamlines public sector with private deals. Community Asset Transfer is the Transfer into private hands of our land, buildings, and social infrastructure built up over the last 100 years a firesale bonanza, **our stuff gone forever.**

They're blaming it on COVID but Lethamhill was well in the pipeline before that, signed off 9 months ago. Arms Length External Organisation(ALEO) have long been planned, the Councillors facilitate committees with our heritage land and buildings laid out on their banquet table for developers to take their pick of the grub. It gets run down and snapped up. **Simple!** SNP and Labour canny get enough – they've been doing it since at least 1990 Glasgows Glasgow when they charged us to see our own Art Collection, and 1996 Kinning Park Neighbourhood Centre Sit In.

Keelies say its premeditated grand theft by the SNP council, the Labour members and developers. Another example why voting in pail-of-shit-councillors never stops the grinding wheels of capitalism or the Angus Grossarts and Chums. Councils just grease those wheels.

We must get rid of all these chancers!

No Yipee!

NOW THAT THE COVID19 beast has been somewhat restrained, our millionaire/billionaire parasite class want you run into the street, credit card held high, cash in the other hand and shouting yipee.

The only group that came out of this pandemic better off than they went in, are our sleazy millionaire/billionaire parasites. They cleaned up with government grants and lucrative government contracts, while the rest of us felt the harsh end of this situation. They are now eager that the loot keeps coming their way, so their hope is that you get out there and get those tills ringing like mad.

Let's look at what you and I have been facing, during covid19 while the millionaire/billionaire parasites raked it in, in bucketfuls. Approximately one million people have lost their jobs as a result of Covid19, with that figure likely to double. Fire-and-rehire has meant that almost 1 in 10 workers have been forced to accept the same job with worse conditions and pay or lose their job. Between April 2019 and April 2020, the real value of average earnings

fell by almost 1%. Those who were obliged to continue working saw 10s of thousands contract Covid19 and many died.

All of this and more from a pre-covid19 lousy base line. Pre-Covid19 a staggering 5+ million workers earned less than the Real Living Wage of £9.30 an hour. More than 8 million people in working households were living in poverty. Of course having a job could mean you lived in poverty but also of those in work, approximately 1 million were on zero hours contracts, more than 3 and a half million were in insecure employment.

So let's not be so eager to run out there and feed the parasite class, who have shafted us for years.

Let's continue with mutual aid, self-help and DIY clubs, etc. and make them grow, Let's take control of our communities and work places and shape society for the benefit of all our people, let's scrap their "economy", after all it is just the rich parasites gambling club, and is not there for the benefit of the population at large.

The ANARCHIST CRITIC
Follow The Anarchist Critic at <https://radicalglasgowblog.blogspot.com/>

WAR IN IRAQ: TURKEY'S ATTACK ON THE KURDS

TURKEY IS INVADING the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and no one wants you to talk about it. At least no one in authority.

They already have over forty military bases and thousands of troops there, and it is clear that they intend to occupy the border area just as they have in northern Syria/Rojava. As in Rojava, they have driven away local inhabitants, deliberately destroyed thousands of trees, and brought in jihadi mercenaries. They have also used poison gas.

We don't hear of this war because this region is where the PKK is based. It is the PKK guerrillas who are defending Kurdish land, and Turkey has persuaded its NATO allies to list the PKK as 'terrorists'. Turkey has also succeeded in making the semi-feudal political party that dominates the Kurdistan Regional Government dependent on Turkish support. They have been helping Turkey - to the growing horror of other parties.

No part of Kurdistan can be understood separately. If Turkey is able to get a stronger foothold in the Iraqi mountains,



they will not stop there. They have long been issuing threats to attack more of Rojava, and they have bombed the Yazidi city of Şengal and UN-recognised Maxmour refugee camp. Turkish President Erdoğan has made no secret of his dreams of recreating the Ottoman empire and occupying Mosul and Aleppo. We have seen what Turkish occupation means in Rojava – ethnic cleansing and gang rule.

You might think that international powers would, at least, be worried about the instability this creates, with openings for a resurgent ISIS, but they are too busy appeasing Turkey. Turkey buys weapons and keeps immigrants out of the EU, and is a strategically placed NATO ally. An international peace delegation was not only given a hard time by the Kurdistan Regional Government, they also had delegates stopped and arrested by Germany. But this can't hide what is happening.

<https://defend-kurdistan.com/>



Dave's Golden Trough

FREE DINNERS aren't the only perk of the job for Councillor David McDonald, the chair of s-inking Glasgow Life.

Dave is SNP Councillor for Pollok (3) where over one third claim out of work benefits and male life expectancy is below the Glasgow average.

He snuffles up around 10 freebies a year! His predecessor the late Eddie Nolan believed in transparency as a Glasgow Councillor. He called the free stuff **The Golden Trough**.

Dave works hard on Council commitments - free tickets for

KEELIE COMMENT

The People's Palace Winter Gardens closed in December 2018.

The first meeting of the Council's 'Sounding Board' consultation was December 2019. The second meeting of the Sounding Board was December 2020.

From 13th November 2020 to 24th January 2021 GCC completed a consultation about its Climate Emergency Implementation Plan.

If a full-blown consultation to save the planet can be carried out in two months; why does a consultation about a solitary building in the East End of Glasgow seem set to drag on for years?

him and a pal to see Tom Jones, Beachboy Brian Wilson, Beyonce, TRNSMT, Psycho Live - t-ough work but somebody's got to do it! SURF awards, dinner with posh folk at flagship museums, Rangers V Celtic, Netball, SFA freebies, Glasgow Warriors, Pro-14 Rugby and Celtic V Nomme Kalju.

And go easier Dave on the carbon footprint! His Committees have secured hospitality for him in Dusseldorf, Estonia, Bosnia, Japan, Dublin, and Berlin.

Can your City Councillor beat Dave's Golden Trough! You can look up their Register of Interests: it's transparent for all to see!

FUR COATS AND NAE KNICKERS

BEFORE COVID, Glasgow City Council was already up to its neck in debt.

While the Equal Pay Dispute hovered over the bank balance the Councillors wasted tons of money on the 're-imagining' jamboree, tarting up the tourist areas with glittery granite pavements and fancy zone lights. Their wacky district regeneration framework planned to throw money at turning underused streets into all-weather urban playgrounds including a Waterslide in Blythswood Street.

Meanwhile our loved and existing indoor social space like Peoples Palace, Glasgow Green have been intentionally run into the ground. And now these same Councillors and Glasgow Life are carving up the remainder of your municipal services, museums



• **BEWARE of Councillors bearing gifts. Poster at Whiteinch Library.**

libraries, pools, deciding where the AXE will fall next.

They blame it on COVID but it's clearly a longer intentional framework putting people's real needs last. Save the flagships Riverside and

Kelvingrove- It's all fur coat and nae knickers.

But vulture developers will be circling over all PUBLIC CUTZ made. As part of the charade to keep themselves in jobs, the councillors offer us new models of Social Spaces. But make no mistake **YOU ARE BEING SHAFTED.** They want you to take responsibility for running, staffing and delivering local services, volunteering your precious home-time to run services you already paid for them to run for you.

Models like Govanhill Baths or Kinning Park Complex exist because of petitions/demonstrations even occupations but they are municipal ghosts. – **SAVED** by the people? Don't waste your time. The people lost those campaigns, lost those workers and lost those services. The people now

have to give up their own time to pay to have the use of that facility.

Community Management is a red herring – Not an alternative model it is **PRIVATISATION OF PUBLIC SERVICES** plain and simple. When the inevitable £300,000 bill for the leaking roof drops on those volunteers, developers will dive right on to that gray train.

It's the dream of councils everywhere to shift services into private hands and we pay twice. We are being robbed in daylight and it's a disgrace. We don't need telt we can have a new model. We pay their wages, we can de-select them.

Community Asset Transfer the City Chambers to the people and get rid of the chancers!

Sparky

WE WANT EMPOWERMENT NOT ENTRAPMENT