



# Inaction equals Extinction

**ITS TWO YEARS** since thousands of young Keelies dogged school to join the Climate Strike protests in **September 2019**.

Massive protests round the world continued while some activists took to the law to vent their anger.

Eight Australian teenagers tried to ban a coal mine expansion arguing that emissions would endanger their future. The court viewed the increase of carbon dioxide emissions leading to climate change endanger children's futures. That court ruled that the Environment Minister has an obligation to children to consider the harm caused by climate change while approving new fossil fuel expansions. Governments' 'duty of care' to its children makes 'the possibility of future harm' illegal. **But hypocrisy won the day since the Court fell on the side of the Coal Company as it would not issue the injunction to prevent mine expansion and Coal Company shares rose 3%.**

In 2019 Friends of the Earth (FoE) went to court against oil and gas giant Shell, alongside six other bodies and more than 17,000 Dutch citizens. The court ordered the private company, its customers and suppliers to reduce carbon emissions by 45% from 2019 levels. Shell is a top 10 Company polluter. It means private companies like Shell have responsibility to engage in meeting the global agreement 'Paris 1.5 degrees' not just Governments. **But Shell is contesting**

**the outcome- it takes time, and also may only apply to Shell within the borders of Netherlands.**

There are many climate cases going on globally but wars, manufacturing and poverty are borderless international climate changers. The latest forecast by the UN World Meteorologist Organisation just doubled its 20% prediction to a 40% chance that global temps will hit 1.5 degrees C. above preindustrial levels within the next 5 years. The impact of climate catastrophe is clearer, the stakes are higher, time to take action is reducing. This is an acutely pressurised spot which highlights how legal action is limited. Now Scottish schools are going back, and Council Leader Aitken has signed us up to Climate Education for all, Youth Street Activism like Fridays for Future Scotland must continue to use every tool in the box to change minds and influence behaviour.

• Get involved: Friends of The Earth Scotland, UK Student Climate Network, Fridays For Future, Extinction Rebellion Scotland, Greenpeace UK, Teach The Future, Save Our Seas



**THE WEST OWES the rest of the world a profound apology and reparations, for centuries the West has invaded, plundered, and pillaged territory after territory.**

In its earliest days the imperialists always marauded across the planet under the false flag of bring civilisation, democracy or freedom to primitive people. As time went on the reasons for these bloody campaigns changed, it was regime change to free a persecuted people, to remove an evil dictator.

Then along came the war on terror, which necessitated exporting terror to other countries, and with modern weaponry our brand of terror massively outstripped the supposed terror we were supposed to be fighting, and the bloodshed usually lasted for years. Try and grasp the amount of death and destruction we visited on the people of Vietnam, of course it was for their own good, to save them from evil.

There are times of course when the various western factions fight each other as they squabble of who owns what part of the plunder planet: WW1 and WW2. The latest bloody escapade of the West "fighting terrorism" is Afghanistan: 20 years of terror and bloodshed foisted on a country, 20 years of

our young being killed, maimed and in some dreadful cases suicide. All the political ballerinas will be pontificating, with a mixture of wringing hands and pointing fingers, crocodile tears and idiotic answers to what we should be doing, have done and who to blame.

Why do we do it? Certainly not for the well-being of the ordinary people of that unfortunate country of Afghanistan. It is all about economics, a small cabal of very rich and powerful people make billions from war. Creating ever greater and more sophisticated destructive weapons, and every time one of these inhuman instruments of death and destruction is exploded, the military come running to order more.

**Wars reap riches to the rich and powerful, there is always more money for war: yours and my money.**

**The ANARCHIST CRITIC**

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## The Good Old Days



**Alexander Wyllie Petrie  
(1853-1937)  
The Glasgow Clincher**

Alexander Petrie, a Glasgow barber, waged a lifelong battle with the powers-that-shouldn't-be on the streets of Glasgow with his idiosyncratic newspaper **The Glasgow Clincher**, first published in 1897.

He vowed "I will be a terror to evil doers from the Lord Provost down to the most humble Corporation official", and his favourite insult to detractors was to accuse them of having "the brains of a Glasgow Baillie".

The Council had him seized in the hope that they could have him declared insane. After a psychiatric examination, he was cleared and given a certificate of sanity. For the rest of his life, he would claim that he was the only sane man in Glasgow and that he had the documentation to prove it.

**THE INCARCERATED WORKERS Organising Committee** developed from experiences of the American prison system, a very profitable corporate business, manned by slave labour.

The USA government extensively uses prison labour for getting all sorts of military equipment, bags, boots, belts and lots of other basic necessities for their war machine, and many top brand names use prison labour to get their products on the cheap. Prisons are not just state repression institutions: like all enterprises in this capitalist system they are used to generate profit. A captured cheap work force with no basic rights, no holidays with holiday pay, no rights to a union. To keep such an operation functioning requires a mixture of vindictive cruelty, intimidation and psychotic managers.

Hybachi LeMar, a member of IWOC has exposed the hidden everyday cruelties:

- **People held in cells without air conditioning, where fans have to be bought from the Prison Store;**
- **essential medication such as asthma inhalers impounded at great health risk;**
- **solitary confinement making worse mental illness such as paranoia;**
- **water deprivation, forcing prisoners to drink toilet water to prevent dehydration;**
- **fostering ignorance by restricting literacy and education programmes.**

And of course, it suits the prison system to keep prisoners divided according to ethnicity and letting racist ideologies flourish.

• Check [incarceratedworkers.org](http://incarceratedworkers.org)

**THE WEEKEND** of June 12th and 13th saw the brand-new East End Anti-Raids group running stalls outside Dennistoun's Alexandra Park, where they shared know-your-rights information about what someone can do if they experience or witness an immigration raid.

They've been out most Saturdays since in various east end locations including **Tollcross, Parkhead, Easterhouse, and Hogganfield Loch.**

They've spoken to people who couldn't believe that the weekly asylum support is even less than Universal Credit. They've given out translated information in **Polish, Punjabi and Urdu**, and had some created in **Sorani** after a conversation with a Kurdish family where the son had to translate for his mum. They've had fruitful encounters with people who work for Safe in Scotland, The Library at the Bridge, and the Dennistoun Saints, and are planning to do outreach with other groups and organisations that work with Glasgow's migrant communities. They've started doing shop outreach, sharing rights information with businesses who want to protect themselves and their staff from workplace raids.

The first two stalls outside **Alexandra Park** took place a month after the **Kenmure Street** resistance, but they also took place seven weeks after another unsuccessful raid which occurred in the Glasgow North East constituency. That raid failed only because the 67-year old man they were trying to detain collapsed and was



taken to hospital instead. The empathy-deprived immigration officers told the man's wife and daughter that they'd be back.

It's hard not to compare the two situations: **No Evictions** was able to spring into action at Kenmure Street because they'd received training the night before from Haringey Anti-Raids, but the news three weeks prior of the raid in the northeast caught them off guard. The East End Anti-Raids group (and those in other areas of the city) was set up by **No Evictions** members so that the groundwork could be laid for citywide community-led raids resistance. Kenmure Street need not be an outlier: by sharing knowledge and building links in their local community, they are helping ensure people in the east end feel empowered to intervene in the event of an immigration raid.

• Get involved via [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/noevictionsnetwork) or [noevictionsnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:noevictionsnetwork@gmail.com)

# AN APPEAL TO THE YOUNG

AS THE PANDEMIC EASES, there are healthy signs that people have no wish to return to the old normal.

From refusing to go back into life-denying office cubicles, to rejecting tedious commuting and the drudgery of the 9 to 5, Monday to Friday routine, many are imagining a NEW normal.

Join one of the lively, grassroots campaigns in the city fighting for an alternative future!

## How do you get started?

Some have the stamina to immerse themselves in self-education but others benefit from having training provided.

The likes of **Living Rent**, and the **Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)** provide 101 Organiser Training or a variant (Member Defence in Living Rent) which can assist a new activist to work out how to organise in their workplace,



**FOOD NOT BOMBS GLASGOW** have been very active for months on their mission to provide free food to the community - because all food should be free. They have a stall every Sunday afternoon at Queen's Park. Follow on [Facebook](#)

local area or utilise that knowledge in campaigns.

## Contact

[clydeside@iww.org.uk](mailto:clydeside@iww.org.uk)

or

[glasgow@livingrent.org](mailto:glasgow@livingrent.org)

or similar DIY member organisations.

**CRITICAL MASS** is a celebration of cycling that takes place on the last Friday of every month all across the World.

It takes the form of a bike ride - very unspectacular, but a lot of fun.

We meet at 6:30pm for a 7PM start in George Square. Bring your bike, pals, appropriate clothing and join us.

## CLAIMANTS REVOLT

So why aren't claimants collectively saying. "We've had enough"?

Disenchantment is bound to rise with the £20 Universal Credit top up loss.

**Edinburgh Coalition Against Poverty (ECAP)** combines protest with advocacy, seeking to educate, agitate & organise.

There is a small group of the unwaged in the **Clydeside IWW**, and the **Action Against Austerity** network in Dundee and elsewhere have been battling against the odds.

**ECAP** are keen for a similar group to emerge in Glasgow.

**Contact** via **0131-557-6242** (leave a message), or check **Edinburgh Coalition against Poverty** in [Facebook](#).

[edinburghagainstpoverty.org.uk](http://edinburghagainstpoverty.org.uk)  
[ecap@lists.riseup.net](mailto:ecap@lists.riseup.net)