



**DIRECT ACTION TRAINING**

GALGAEL  
5TH NOV  
10AM

CLIMATECAMPSOTLAND.COM

**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](mailto:glasgowkeelie@riseup.net)  
Web: <https://glasgowkeelie.org/>

**CHECK GLASGOW KEELIE ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER and YOUTUBE**

**SICK OF IT ALL!**



Work, Inquiry & Struggle in the NHS

**NEW BOOK**

Healthworkers United launch

**Sick of it All**

Woodlands Community Meeting Room  
66 Ashley Street, G3 6HW  
Sun. 20<sup>th</sup> Nov. 13.30-15.30  
All welcome!



**FOOD NOT BOMBS GLASGOW**

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Just a Wee

**GLASGOW KEELIE**

No.36 Nov 2022    Keep Glasgow Revolting    Priceless

**GET THEM TELT!**



**JOIN THE STRIKES AND PROTESTS**

## AN OPPORTUNITY HAS EMERGED!

**INTERESTING to think of all of the people over time involved in activism and protest.**

Just think where we would be if most of the activists, during the 1989 Poll Tax battle that brought down Thatcher, were still active. The enduring problem we continually face is "**rust never sleeps**". That is the efforts of those who continually work to dismantle all we have built together over the years. Every gain we have made is challenged consistently. And the efforts of that part of the population who continually fight to win gains for ordinary people, can sometimes get exhausted, tired and beaten down. They are called "activists".

While we do win things by the efforts of many, most of our wins are to do with cultural change in making peoples lives a bit better. Which we need. But the other change we need is to change the institutions that work to undo and roll back any progress we will make. The banks, the corporations, the faceless and ubiquitous private equity firms, the off-shore interest companies, the corruption in governments.



• **BACK IN THE DAY: CRANHILL RALLY.** Pic: We're Glaswegians! Twitter

These are the institutions that need to be dismantled. But not just by what we call activists, but by every human being who has some skin in the game and that means all of us. That does not mean that we have to be consumed in politics to make any kind of effort. But ordinary people need to become more aware of the danger that we are in and in our responsibility to do what we can, no matter how little, to alleviate it.

Some times in history, things transpire that exposes the weaknesses of the above mentioned institutions, as happened in the Poll Tax, and is happening now. We might never get this opportunity again and particularly when the effect of the present social and financial problems are cutting so deeply into our communities. But in these same communities we will find the people who are hurting most and also the same kind of people who once helped bring down Thatcher. The opportunity to organise direct action in local communities is now and will determine our future if we do not act together against it. **Remember, opportunities don't last for ever.**



## ANARCHIST CRITIC

**WITH THE FARCE, pantomime, call it what you will, that is going on in the Westminster Houses of Hypocrisy and Corruption and people calling for a general election, I thought I would try to make it easier to choose between Tories or Labour.**

So let's look at how the Tories work, they will follow the dictate of the "markets". They will be business friendly, they will balance the books, which translates as the people will have to pay for this mess. So misery and hardship with poverty for us will be the result.

Now Labour, however, will follow the dictates of the "markets", They will be business friendly, they will balance the books, which translates as the people will have to pay for this mess. So misery and hardship with poverty for us will be the result.

So there you have it, so why bother supporting any of them, the system is rigged in favour of big business. You will be asked, without an option, to bear the brunt of their gambling casino addiction.

There is a better way to organise society, based on mutual aid, freed from the cancer of profit and exploitation. A society of community organising and control of production

and distribution by the people, and seeing to the needs of all our people. Anarchism shows the way, we just have to have the courage and determination to end the state system and build that better world for all.

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

### GET INVOLVED!

**Anarchist Critic**

[radicalglasgowblog.blogspot.com](http://radicalglasgowblog.blogspot.com)

**City Strolls**

[citystrolls.com](http://citystrolls.com)

**Clydeside Industrial Workers of the World**

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

**Friends of the Peoples Palace, Winter Gardens and Glasgow Green**

Facebook or [friendsofppwggg.org.uk](http://friendsofppwggg.org.uk)

**Glasgow Anarchist Communist Group**

Facebook Twitter or

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

**Glasgow Autonomous Space**

Facebook Instagram or

[glasgowautonomous.weebly.com](http://glasgowautonomous.weebly.com)

**Glasgow No Evictions Campaign**

Facebook Twitter or

[no-evictions.wixsite.com/glasgow](http://no-evictions.wixsite.com/glasgow)

**Living Rent**

Facebook Twitter or [livingrent.org](http://livingrent.org)

**Radical Radio Scotland**

Youtube Spotify

**Red and Black Song Club**

Facebook

**Spirit of Revolt archive**

Facebook or [spiritofrevolt.info](http://spiritofrevolt.info)

• **POWER TO THE PEOPLE**  
**GLASGOW** report that 10,000 households will be pushed onto prepayment meters every month this winter.

This will see thousands of self-connections during the coldest months of the year.

**AN ELOQUENT and erudite communicator, Brian Biggins who has died at the age of 86 was a highly respected Glasgow anarchist, a larger than life character who exercised an intellectually incisive mind and surgical political analysis and judgement.**

Brian was born in 1935 in Pollokshaws, an area to which he had a lifelong affinity. Leaving Holyrood School and already a confirmed atheist Brian joined the Govan constituency Labour Party and was employed as a Cooperative Union Organiser where his considerable talent for public speaking and debate was nurtured and developed. Brian was involved with the Left Fraction, the British section of the Trotskyite Fourth International, his experience of National service in mid 1950s Nottingham ironically serving as a formative period for his political development and maturation.

Brian then served his time as a printer/composer working in McNaughton and Sinclairs and the Albion Street newspaper print shops before opening Biggins the newsagent in Oswald Street which he ran with his then partner until the mid 1980's. Brian thereafter went back to work, until early retirement, in the print room of the Daily Record / Sunday Mail on Anderston Quay where he was a member of SOGAT 82 and delighted at showing visitors the precomputerised "flying paste up".

Brian had embraced anarchism by the mid 1970s while retaining an essentially Marxist analysis of social, economic and historical process.

Brian in between working constant nightshifts was energetically involved with the Clydeside Anarchists early to mid 1980s series of public meetings, street speaking and fund raising for the Miners Strike ensuring that every penny was dutifully delivered to the frontline strikers and their communities. He also played a leading role in the occupation of Price Waterhouse in West Nile St, who were involved in the government charged sequestration of National Union of Mineworkers funds.

Brian was an ebullient character, warm, intelligent, humorous with a generosity of spirit and always the first to provide financial support for projects and people. He was an inveterate reader and autodidact, a Guardian devotee and with musical tastes from Classical to George Melly to Jake Thackray. While his activism decreased with age his belief in the tenets of anarchism and sense of social and economic justice remained undiminished.

Brian was a loyal, honest and reliable friend and comrade always optimistic his glass never half empty or half full but overflowing such was his passion and lust for life, his humanity and decency.



• **BRIAN, left, at an 'Unemployed Diners Club' occupation of the Marriot Hotel 1983**



• **EARLY MORNING Postie Picket at Victoria Road, one of the most visible strike sites in the city, and well supported by local people.**

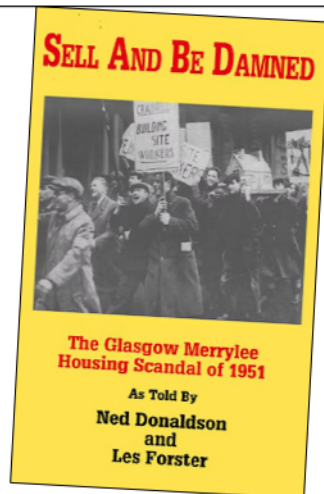
**Think about dropping by a picket near you to show solidarity (check Glasgow Strike Solidarity on Twitter for info).**

**Support Groups are active in Glasgow South and Glasgow West. Why not form one in your area?**

**ORIGINALLY published in 1992, this book marked the 40th anniversary of the successful protest campaign to halt Glasgow Corporation's plan to sell the newly built council houses in Merrylee.**

This new, expanded edition marks the 30th anniversary of its original publication and the 70th anniversary of the protest itself – an important chapter in Glasgow's history of housing activism. Copies of the book will be on sale on the night (£5.00 cash only) - proceeds from sales will be donated to **Living Rent**.

**BOOK LAUNCH: ALL WELCOME**  
**Thursday 24 November 2022, 6 to 8PM**  
**5th Floor, John Smith House Unite the Union, 145-165 West Regent Street Glasgow G2 4RZ**



## COP 26 REVISITED

IT'S A YEAR since Keelies found ourselves at the centre of the COP 26 circus marching to Glasgow Green, while it was blowing a gale, voicing hopes and doubts at the pledges of governments, financial firms, and the fossil-fuel industry.

It cost £100s of millions of UK public money to host it with hospitality and landlords profiteering. The COP Show exploits us all by manipulating the public purse as it shifts our money over to private companies – disguised as a legitimate and necessary process. USA attended with the Pentagon being the largest producer of greenhouse gases in the world mostly from burning petroleum and using Depleted Uranium in missiles.

And UK hypocrisy was also obvious because Cambo oilfield, Shetland (Israeli investment July 22) and coalmine at Whitehaven, Cumbria (Australian investment) were hovering in the wings – just waiting to be signed off against Scotland's wishes. So this November they all fly off to Egypt's COP 27 Climate Change jamboree to 'discuss' how the Earth's fragile climate is to be managed .... again.

November also sees the UK government decision on the Whitehaven Coalmine in Cumbria. Scientists warn us that mining by far dominates as the main cause of human-induced earthquakes - check out Cuadrilla's fracking site near Blackpool where quakes are felt at Lytham-St-Anne's 5 miles away. So it's a big deal to create conditions imposing tremors or subsidence in return for jobs.



But crucially Whitehaven miners will run shafts 5 miles from Sellafield Nuclear's 2 mile site. It includes Windscale, built for early experiments with toxic plutonium for the atomic bomb which profited UK Nuclear and War industries. **The site is remembered as one of the world's worst radiation disasters in 1957 that spawned a cancer cluster.**

Another by-product of the site is Depleted Uranium (DU) used in warfare. But 1950's nukes were not future-proofed so the deadly radioactive waste was dumped in holes, silos and ponds with Greenpeace estimating '8 million litres of radioactive discharge into the Irish Sea' by 1998 with a land leak in 2019. Since the 1980's, Dundrennan MOD (30 miles away) have fired (they call it 'pluced' to avoid prosecution) over 6700 DU test shells into the Solway Firth, stopped in 2013, but now a poisonous missile midden - with UK current plans to create a neighbouring underwater storage dump for 100 tons of lethal plutonium.

The area is uniquely hazardous if the muddy sea bed is disturbed. Yet local Councillors have already allowed exploratory boreholes for the Whitehaven mine to proceed directed out under the Irish Sea - with reports it accidentally hit a methane gas pocket. And the Tories

under Truss wanted the mine to go ahead to 'plug the fuel crisis'. There is no doubt that Capitalism requires veiled hypocrisy and greenwashing the public to continue profits. Disguised as new jobs or the fuel emergency or War, climate catastrophe cannot be avoided without destroying the Capitalist Economic System.

**The COP Show focus on Climate Change without System Change is futile. Keelie eyes must see through the lies.**

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/coal-produces-more-earthquakes-than-fracking-lets-talk-about-sellafield-and-the-mine>

## THE BURNING QUESTION

**THESE ARE UNCERTAIN TIMES. There may be few times within the destructive force that is the capitalist mentality that weren't. Listening 24-28 October to the short reads of The Climate Book on BBC Sounds Radio 4, is a sobering experience.**

Many novels, films, even albums have heralded a dystopian future of severe impact on the climate. Many escape towards the nonsense of superheroes, zombies, alien invasions. The science is overwhelming in it's conclusions: five tipping points are already becoming

evident. The World Leaders from those in denial, trapped in short term outlooks, plus those who attend Climate Summits such as Glasgow in November 2021, and in Egypt are for the most parts not meeting the agreed targets.

Like many big companies, **greenwashing**, preserving their public image is uppermost. Yet what passes for normal carries on unabated, with only minor modifications. And War creates further devastation not only in Ukraine but in 'Great Power' potential conflicts in the South China Sea.

The idea that we have a responsibility to our fellow creatures on this planet is of secondary concern. Humans have wiped out so many species for centuries. There is a consciousness that this has to stop, but the march of capitalism, encroachment on habitats continue. It is wonderful to marvel in the nature documentaries often narrated by Sir David Attenborough. **Yet it feels like a means to document in many cases a fast disappearing world.**

Alarmed by the trend even charities like the RSPB and programmes like Autumnwatch allow climate warnings to infiltrate their message. They are still drawn into appealing to the 'common sense' of the very perpetrators of the chaos that is increasingly impacting on the existence of all life on earth – Governments and Big Business.

**An end to the system as we know it, arising from an international movement to foster cooperation, mutual aid with workers taking over the means of production, is the only hope for our kids, grandkids, ancestors and animal species on the planet.**