

Celebrating the Calton Weavers

Celebrate the heroic struggle of the Calton Weavers, with a day of talks, walks, music and children's entertainment.

In 1787, Scotland's first major industrial dispute was a strike by the weavers of the Calton area, for better conditions and wage rises.

The strike was cruelly crushed by the militia, serving the interests of the ruling class, when troops opened fire on demonstrators, killing three instantly, with a further three later dying of their wounds.

These six became our first working class martyrs — nearly 50 years before the deportation of those who gathered in Tolpuddle in England — yet the Calton Weavers are now largely forgotten.

Their organisation and courage inspired an emerging working class with weavers from Ayrshire, Renfrewshire and across what would become Glasgow. They joined forces and refused to bow to the bosses might.

**Sunday
September 24**

**Gather at 1pm:
Calton Burial Ground,
Abercromby Street,
Glasgow G40 2DD**

Book free Eventbrite tickets at:
rb.gy/06uw3

GLASGOW KEELIE

No.43 Sept 2023

Keep Glasgow Revolting

Priceless

PARENTS SKIP MEALS TO FEED KIDS

EAT NOWT TO HELP OUT



• **INSIDE: GLASGOW'S HIDDEN HISTORY**



FOR OVER SIX MONTHS, local residents and antifascists have gathered every Sunday in support of asylum seekers housed at the Muthu hotel in Erskine.

Refugees from the hotel have joined their supporters for football, fun and pizza in a Summer of Solidarity.

Meanwhile, the totty fascist protest is joined by a dwindling group of local miseries, who kid on they aren't racist... even though their facebook page has comments about Africans being 'munkees'.

• **Come and join the antiracists, every Sunday from 11.30am outside Muthu Hotel, Riverfront, Erskine PA8 6AN**

COONCIL PLANS FOR KIBBLE PALACE AND WINTER GARDENS EXPOSED!

- **Take all the trees, put them in a tree museum**
- **Charge the people a dollar and a half just to see them.**

(apologies to joni mitchell)

• **WRITE TO THE KEELIE!**
glasgowkeelie@riseup.net

DID YOU SEE that TV programme about the Black and White Minstrels? (David Hare on Blackface, BBC iplayer).

The infamous racist programme ran on primetime television from 1958 until 1978.

When people spoke up against the series, management at BBC said 'your campaign is just turning people against you, and you should just shut up.'

A response that in a different time and place is very familiar to Just Stop Oil and many other protesters.



ANARCHIST CRITIC

WHILE OUR PLANET goes through a man made catastrophe of monumental proportions that risks the demise of most of the species on the planet, including our own, our political ballerinas pump out a mixture of bullshit and garbage.

We are told it is our life style, that you and I, the ordinary people have to change. We are offered advice on how to save the planet, from taking shorter showers, shallower baths and only boiling the water we need in the kettle.

IMPACT

This might be good advice in saving on energy bills as we all live in or on the edge of poverty, brought about by the economic system that is destroying the planet.

However this advice will not save the planet nor make much of an impact. The only way to save the planet from this threatening doom, is go after the ones with the biggest carbon footprints.

Instead of taking a short time in the shower, how about demanding that those in the billionaire/millionaire parasite class get rid of their co2 pumping massive luxury yachts, their gas guzzling limousines and private jets, and their several luxury mansions dotted around the planet.

The carbon footprint of one of these greedy thoughtless parasites is probably equal to a small village and all its inhabitants.

Then of course their is the one that must not be mentioned, the largest carbon footprint on the planet, wars and the military industrial complex.

States will take no measure to ban wars but will ban non electric cars and replace them with electric vehicles which still produce all the co2 in the production of the internal combustion car, plus their insatiable requirements of lithium for their enormous batteries.

SOLUTIONS

Of course lithium comes with a massive carbon footprint in its mining and refining and shipping around the planet and massive distribution centres.

The disaster of climate change we are all facing will not be solved by you and I changing a few things in our lifestyle.

It will take root and branch destruction of the present economic system which is based on perpetual growth for profit for the few and poverty for the many.

A system that allows a select few to amass unimaginable wealth at the expense of the planet and our civilisation, and who stand unaccountable.

What sane mind would accept this unnecessary mad suicide dash because of a greedy thoughtless few?

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



The Pan African Workers Association, launched in November, 2022, in Bristol and London seeks to organise workers in Wales, Ireland, Scotland & England of African heritage in low paid jobs.

Linked to the IWW, Industrial Workers of the World, the association is reaching out to

members both inside and outside the IWW, through socials, participation in pickets and assisting workers with grievances against their exploiters: Bosses.

They have attended the Troublemakers at Work Conference giving a presentation, and a workshop run by the Anti-Trafficking and Labour Exploitation Unit, Migrant Rights & The Bureau of Investigative Journalism.

Their main focus at the moment is workers in the care sector, where most of their 1,000 plus contacts are employed.

- See <https://pawa.uk>
African workers & refugees,
join their whatsapp group
and email pawu@iww.org.uk



FOOD NOT BOMBS GLASGOW

Anarchist mutual aid, feeding the people,
no questions asked

Check [Facebook](#) for latest news

Glasgow Anarchist Communist Group Public Meeting

Anarchism in Europe

A report back from the Balkan Anarchist Bookfair and the St. Imier Anti-Authoritarian Gathering

**Friday 15th September
18.30 - 20.30**

**Red Rosa's 195 London
Road, Glasgow G40 1PA.**



'THE GREENEST HOUSE IS AN EXISTING HOUSE'

THE WHEATLEY HOUSING GROUP want to blow up 600 flats in Wyndford, and replace them with 300 houses, only 255 of which will be social housing.

Leading architects insist retrofitting existing houses is far better for the environment, and local tenants and residents agree.

- Check developments on Facebook [Wyndford Residents Union](#)

GOVAN GETS GOING

THE OWNERS OF THE GOVAN GRAVING DOCKS plan to construct luxury four-storey flats on the grade-A-listed site known locally as "The Docks"

The Govan Docks Collective was set up to work towards utilising the land for the benefit of the community while also objecting to the plans to build housing on the docks.

One of the main aims of the group is to ensure that the community are properly consulted and represented and made aware of the impact these kinds of developments will have on peoples day to day lives.

We have already put together gigs, gatherings and a consultation and we are planning more in order to ensure that the people of Govan are made aware of how important the docks are not only to their local history, but also in

maintaining areas of biodiversity, open space and future access to much needed green space.

BENEFIT

We have watched as community spaces like Water Row, the site of a local market and what formed a kind of town square, were crudely wiped out by mass building of flats with no consideration of the environment and peoples access or view of the river.

Why should building on the docks be any different? We are working to engage local people in imagining what they see the docks to be and how to preserve it for the benefit of their kids, their friends, and the discerning visitor and a space we Govanites call our own.

- Support our campaign:
facebook.com/savethedocks

GLASGOW'S HIDDEN HISTORY

CALTON WEAVERS STRIKE.

AROUND JUNE 1787 Glasgow weavers and surrounding areas learned payments for weaving muslin were to be cut, the second cut to weavers' income in eight months.

Weavers meetings were held around the districts, anger grew, and on June 30th 1787, 7,000 attended a meeting on Glasgow Green. At this time "combining" or striking was illegal, despite this the weavers decided to strike, which lasted from June to October.

On Monday 3rd September a large crowd had gathered at Calton, a weavers district outside Glasgow. Authorities tried to disperse the crowd but were driven back by stones thrown by weavers.

Later that day authorities were informed that weavers were assembling and intended to march to the Cathedral. A regiment under Colonel Kellie along with Glasgow official dignitaries met the weavers near Drygate Bridge. The order "open fire" was given: 3 weavers were killed, 3 mortally wounded and many others wounded. Activists were rounded up, among them James Granger, who was sentenced to be publicly whipped through the streets and banished from Scotland for 7 years.

This strike is recognised as the birth of Scottish trade unionism.



1820 INSURRECTION.

SCOTLAND'S LAST INSURRECTION was 1820. Prior to the insurrection, on Glasgow Green, Radicals with few guns used pikes to rehearse military tactics in their desperation for worker's rights.

Government's complete disregard for workers destitution, unemployment and suffrage in central Scotland, resulted in 60,000 workers taking strike action. The political class were nervous, and with an eye on the French Revolution tried to preempt any insurrection by monitoring the Radicals' meetings. Some radicals tried

to seize weapons but pre-informed Hussars intervened. The short bloody insurrection ended near Cumbernauld,

The radicals had been set-up by government spies and agent provocateurs, who infiltrated radical meetings. The insurrection was overthrown at the Battle of Bonnymuir,

According to the political elite, organisation, powerful as this, must be quashed by the State. Sentences after the event were harsh for protesters of this week of action. 88 Radicals were arrested with 22 tried for High Treason, and 3 State Executed. Weaver James Wilson was hanged and beheaded on

Glasgow Green, while dragoons trained guns on the 20,000 crowd for fear of riot.

This crowd understood Wilson and others were being murdered by the British state and screamed 'He is a mured man'. Hardie and Baird were executed at Stirling. 19 Scottish Radicals were transported to Australia, others fled to Canada.

The struggle for that fairer world still continues.

• LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY YOU DON'T GET TELL AT SCHOOL:

<https://spiritofrevolt.info/>

IN 1817, ROBERT OWEN was planning his famous Mill at New Lanark.

The leading radical paper of the day, BLACK DWARF, had this to say:

...IT IS VERY AMUSING to hear Mr Owen talk of re-moralising the poor.

Does he not think that the rich are a little more in want of re-moralising; and particularly that class of them that has contributed to demoralise the poor, if they are demoralised, by supporting measures which have made them poor, and which now continue them poor and wretched?