

# THE **W**ORD



*Equality, Democracy, Truth and Courage*

**Tariq Ali**  
"EU Referendum crisis in the UK and total panic in Brussels" - see page 23

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George's new film is out this week in selected cinemas - see page 4



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Labour leadership challenge off to a bumpy start  
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**PLEASE SUPPORT THE WORD**  
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**Fortnightly Issue** THIS EDITION - 28th July 2016 Until 10th August 2016

# WE SUPPORT JEREMY

But I abstained on welfare cuts, I was a lobbyist for Pfizer, The people will believe me.

I'm a socialist, I believe in the people of this country

**LABOUR LEADERSHIP CAMPAIGN BEGINS**

## AT LAST A PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE!

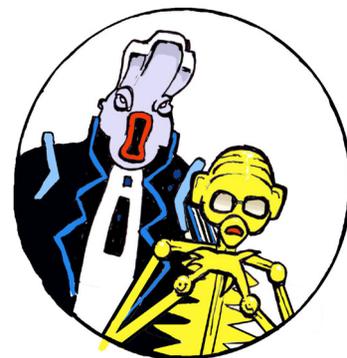
This newspaper will be left wing, radical and campaign for justice. We are independent of any political party but based on the following principles: Equality, Democracy, Truth and Courage

**WE OFFER A NEW VOICE FOR THE UK**  
CONTACT US TODAY IF YOU WANT TO SUBSCRIBE AND CONTRIBUTE

**JEREMY CORBYN** The peoples' champion will face a second leadership battle with the Labour PLP claiming him unelectable to become the PM. But have the PLP shot themselves in the foot by doing everything

they can to keep him off the leadership ballot and to discourage the many thousands of new party members who should be eligible to vote. We believe these are not the actions of a party who practice what they preach. See page 3

**NEW COMIC STRIP**



**PLUTOCRATS**  
Masters of Mars



## We Stand Together Against The Tories



To secure for the workers, by hand or by mind, the full fruits of their industry and the most equitable distribution thereof that may be possible upon the basis of the common ownership of the means to production, distribution and exchange, and the best obtainable system of popular administration and control of each industry or service.

## Equality Democracy Truth and Courage



The peoples flag is deepest red, it shrouded oft our martyred dead. And ere their limbs grew stiff and cold, their hearts' blood dyed its every fold.

So raise the scarlet standard high - beneath its folds we'll live and die, through cowards flinch and traitors sneer, we'll keep the red flag flying here.

### Creators of The Word

Editor	Peter Loo
News Editor	Jamie Lewis
Website	George Christophorou
The Bugle	Andy Keir, Alan Davies
Advertising sales	John Ball
Overseas news	Roxanne Checkley
Cartoonists	Gary Barker, John Francis
Sub editor	Julie Stephens
Reporters	Thomas Northall, Jason Hughes, Adam Douglas, Danny Josephs Andrew Middleton
Quiz master	Phil Brown
Design, Art-working	Daniel Mansfield

Articles, Jeremy Corbyn, Tariq Ali, Jack Cornes, George Galloway, Julie Ward. & many more.

[www.thewordmedia.org](http://www.thewordmedia.org)

# Peterloo Massacre 1819



Peterloo - one of the defining moments of its age.

# THE PETERLOO PROJECT

The Peterloo Massacre occurred at St Peter's Field, Manchester, England, on 16 August 1819, when cavalry charged into a crowd of 60,000–80,000 who had gathered to demand the reform of parliamentary representation

### THE PETERLOO PROJECT

Starting in September of 2015 the project was put together on the Peter Loo Facebook page and then in the "Together against the Tories" Facebook group. The idea is to create a popular and entertaining socialist hub with the involvement of as many people as possible from the left of the socialist movement in Britain.

As the project has proceeded it has become increasingly clear that the media in the UK is run for and by big business and as such will always need to oppose socialist values to keep such a position. The project was then crowd-funded to raise the money to be able to print and distribute this newspaper as a prelude to a whole cross-platform media fight-back.

The first editions will be produced weekly starting on July 14th and

will be launched at the Tolpuddle festival. At the same time as this, "THE WORD" will go on to distribute to your local newsagent. We will also begin efforts towards the production of a daily edition.

**“ THE WORD WILL APPEAR IN ALL GOOD NEWSAGENTS. THE PLAN IS TO EVENTUALLY GO TO A DAILY EDITION.**

The politics of this project are broadly in line with those of Jeremy Corbyn and believe in justice, equality, truth, courage and that only by sharing as fairly as possible the resources of this planet will we be able to live in harmony with each other. Too many people to mention have contributed their ideas but a special mention for

Sean Jones who came up with the name which was then voted on in the "Together against the Tories" group.

If you feel that you believe in the above principles come and join us as you are most welcome. You can contact us by going to our website [www.thewordmedia.org](http://www.thewordmedia.org) or by going to the "Together against the Tories" facebook page. If you have an interesting story or picture or simply want to find out more about us you can contact us at:

[thewordnewspaper@outlook.com](mailto:thewordnewspaper@outlook.com)

**CONTACT US TODAY TO ADVERTISE IN THE WORD!**

We would like to wish a BIG thank you to all our contributors. We hope you enjoy the articles and feel free to send us any feedback you might have.

LABOUR LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE



# WE SUPPORT JEREMY

The imminent leadership election may well be considered our first real test since helping Jeremy Corbyn to his democratic victory - in exactly the same field, this time last year. And just as we propelled him to victory then, so shall we again.

**Jamie Lewis**  
jaime@emailaddress.com

Fear is burning in the hearts of our enemies, whose fascist attempts to keep the Labour Party Leader off the leadership election ballot paper, were shot down in flames. Even as I type, legal battles to keep a man with a mandate from leading the people who support him are in full effort.

We cannot let them continue to treat us as the underclass - democracy isn't even a two-way street, but a poorly signed spaghetti junction. We cannot let peers and ruling class snobs throw money around and get their own way.

Owen Smith all but signed his undercard rival's political death warrant when suggesting that there should only be one opponent to Corbyn on the Andrew Marr show. Angela Eagle, predictably, dropped out of the race, in hope her few fans are anti-Corbyn enough to adopt an "anyone but

him" stance - a Shadow Cabinet position, surely, in place should Smith miraculously swipe a victory.

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“ THEY KNOW HOW MUCH SUPPORT JEREMY HAS, THIS £25 FEE IS AN UNDERHAND TACTIC TO TRY TO MINIMIZE HIS SUPPORT.

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And even since our last issue, if I had not already summed up enough fascism among our own ranks, many of us have discovered we will not be able to vote for the man whose name we signed up in our THOUSANDS for... Unless we pay a sizeable sum of money to do so.

Could this be any more oppressive

to the working people? What does a government have to do for our society to take a long hard look and say: "wait, this just isn't right."

A charge on the, surely, Corbynite Labour members is like charging £25 to vote for any one single candidate in a General Election - there would be uproar. At best, this is a desperately transparent attempt to sway the vote - and, at worst, downright election fraud. Why does nobody raise an eyebrow?

As we go into our second test, high on the victory of 2015 and confident in our numbers, we must ensure we turn out to support the rightful Leader of the Labour Party - the democratically elected leader.

But we must not forget that this will not be our last test. Another storm is coming from within the Labour Party, and it's fair to say it won't take long. Whether we see a split, mass deselections or worse,

we are in for a bumpy ride as socialists.

A bloodthirsty media, mixed with backstabbing MPs and a slew of misreporting and downright lies only inflame the situation. But, while Corbyn still stands, we have a central figure to rally behind, a man who can and has inspired millions across the planet - and I intend to stand by that man as he has stood by the democracy that we, the people, laid out.

- 
- je
  - jeremy corbyn
  - jennifer lopez
  - jessica raine
  - jeremy clarkson
- 

*According to Google Jeremy Corbyn is now more popular than Jesus such is the man's popularity among the UK public - We can be assured that with un-bias coverage in the news he would be top of the polls.*

## COURT SET FOR BLAIR



# BLAIR SET FOR COURT

## Taxpayer will have to fund Tony Blair's legal costs as Iraq War families look to sue him

Legal action is to commence against Tony Blair after a crowdfunding campaign reached its objective.

The Iraq War Families Campaign Group, which represents the families of the 179 servicemen and women killed in the conflict, is to commence legal action against the former Prime Minister after reaching its £50,000 target on Crowd Justice.

Led by Roger Bacon and Reg Keys, whose sons were killed in the War, the Iraq-War Families Campaign Group (IFCG) has campaigned tirelessly to find answers to what went wrong – both politically and operationally – and who was responsible.

The publication on July 6th of the Iraq Inquiry report was a key moment in their search for the truth – as Sir John Chilcot confirmed that there had been catalogue of mistakes and wrongdoing. However, the Inquiry was not a court of law. Justice is

still to be done.

Reg Keys, whose son died in Iraq, said: “The public support the Families have received over the years has been unstinting. With the Report’s publication, we now have the evidence that may mean individuals could now face trial.

We hope and trust the British people will take this unique opportunity to help us determine what legal actions can be taken and support the campaign to get justice for our loved ones and our country.”

There are also plans of a cross-party group of MPs putting a resolution to Parliament holding Tony Blair in contempt of Parliament for his conduct in the run-up to the Iraq War.



*The Iraq war was openly opposed by the UK public at the time.*



**George Galloway**

### GEORGE'S NEW FILM

George Galloway presents **The Killing\$ of Tony Blair**. George is the main presenter of this film which started as a Kickstarter project. Jointly directed by film makers Greg Ward and Sanne van den Bergh, *The Killings of Tony Blair* is as we have come to expect George's work to be - bold and nothing bared in its dissection of one of the UK's most famous politicians of recent history.

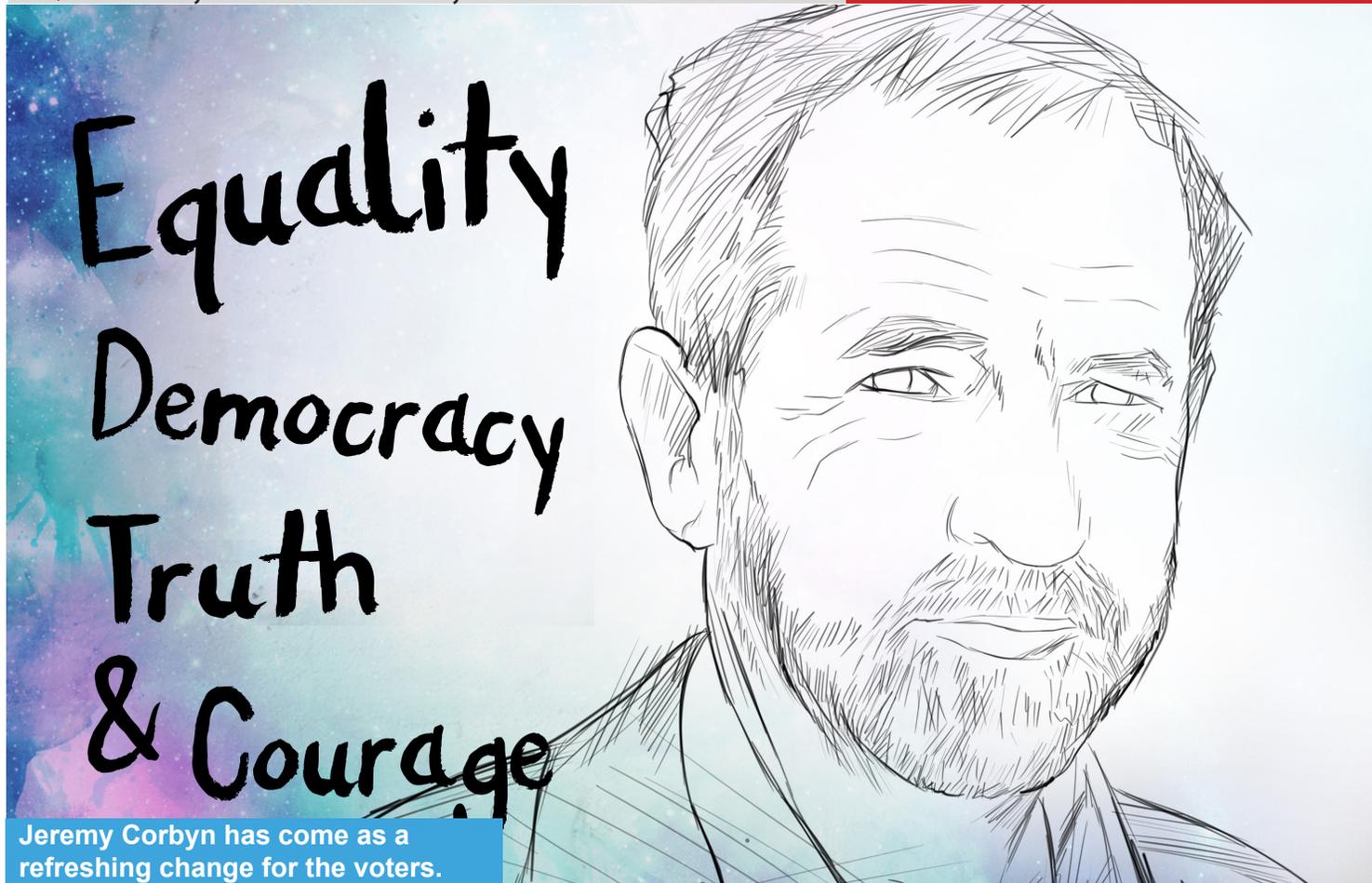
The title refers to separate killings - The killing of 'old' Labour and the ideology of the party that was previously led by John Smith as well

as the deaths of many thousands of Iraqis from the 2003 US / UK invasion of the country.

There is a widespread of contributors to the film with the likes of David Davis MP, Stephen Fry, journalist Peter Osborne, former members of the UK and US secret services and even Lauren Booth (who is Cherie Blair's sister) all featuring and presenting a multitude of views of 'Teflon Tony'.

The film makers have made bold claims indeed over the impact of the 'New' material to be shown and we do hope that it will shed new light and some much needed clarity onto the whole murky business of the last years of Tony Blair's premiership.

*The Killing\$ of Tony Blair is in selected cinemas with live satellite Q&A on 27 July, and is released on DVD and digital on 15 August*



# EQUALITY, DEMOCRACY, TRUTH AND COURAGE

These four principles are what lead us as socialists. A pioneering philosopher once said that we are supposed to live in a democracy – one person one vote, equal to each other. And yet what we live in is a capitalist democracy which states that you are what you own

*Jack Cornes*

These two systems completely contradict each other and this major contradiction is something we live within in the United Kingdom. I think our jobs within this new publication are about trying to alter people's perceptions.

I see it every day on the street, on the bus, in the shop, etc. The human race is bombarded and fed corporate consumerism through every channel to the point they no longer can see that they have been completely and utterly brainwashed into their lives being nothing but a corporate playground in which they are manipulated, sold and tested all manner of goods.

We are all to some extent guilty of this. I believe it is our jobs as socialists to bring light to the dark, to try and

get people to see everybody and not just themselves. As a spiritualist, I try and see the goodness and love in most things, particularly my fellow humans: brothers and sisters. As children, we are brought up to share, to think of others, to be compassionate and to treat greed, selfishness and want as the vices of the soul. The forces that run the material world are led by greed, by selfishness and want multi-national businesses, Western Governments and establishments.

The movement that upholds our earliest human ideals is socialism. I do not see it in liberalism and me most certainly do not see it in the low energy that is conservatism. Pretty much all of the mainstream media in Britain is ignorant, dogmatic poison and it bothers me that it is being fed to the public.

We need to offer an alternative, a socialist newspaper that inspires people and doesn't spit venom. Of course, we need to oppose the Tories and everything they stand for - but we should do it with wisdom, facts and plucky underdogism. We need to expose them for their cruelty, their heartlessness and their prejudices but this has to be done in a manner which is intelligent, insightful and truthful.

This is how Jeremy Corbyn leads – we attack the politics, not the people, otherwise, we might as well all go and try and get jobs at the Sun. We have to be the example, the difference and the inspiration. We have to systematically prove that conservatism is a flawed ideology. We shouldn't just focus on the politics; we should focus on other aspects of life, areas the Tories do not champion.

We should look at charity work across the communities, the arts and communal activities that help people among so much more. Remember :we are the human beings, our politics and outlook of life are based on humanity. Ours is not about fiscal aspiration, preserving an outdated monarchy and demonising minorities.

We welcome all people of all faiths, colours and sex and we should promote this in our newspaper. Socialism has no borders and no flags; we are the free, the loving and the harmonious. We shine a light on all injustices, not just in the UK but everywhere.

Of course, if we are running this outlet democratically then it is important that we open up channels to other political leanings as well. What I mean by this is having an email address or contact details for people of any political background to get in touch if they have a query, need help or want to discuss a topic with us.

We should be able to talk with anybody, no matter what their political background. This would be practising true democracy and is one of the ideals upheld by Jeremy Corbyn. Most importantly – what we need to give people is the truth. Ask yourselves – do we see truthful news and journalism in The Sun, The Daily Mail or Sky News? I don't think so.

We have to be a beacon for truthful, honest and insightful news. I would look at the British political dilemma in a manner of philosophy and try and get people to look at our problems with intelligence and intellect while challenging the political ignorance and propaganda which befalls many areas of our country today.

If we can achieve any of the above then maybe we can say we tried to make a difference in our society, we saw how our society was broken and tried to guide it with truth, love and humanity, the core values of true socialism.





**Joe Solo**

DEAR POLITICAL CLASS

I decided to adopt the principles of neo-liberalism to my household budget as you are so fond of using it as an example as to how to prudently run an economy.

I started by looking at my children. They are really expensive to keep, and to be honest, the economic return is at best marginal so I decided to abandon them by the roadside to fend for themselves. I know somebody somewhere will probably do something about it so I'm sure they'll be ok.

Next to go was my job. I appear to put in a lot more hours than I'm actually paid for, so my new found fiscal responsibility told me this was a waste of my time. I explained this to my boss and now I don't have to deal with that anymore.

After that it was easy. I gave up my house because I was paying twice as much with a mortgage as the house is worth and that can't be right can it? It just isn't economically viable to waste money like that. I got rid of the car too. Didn't see how the loan made sound financial sense.

Now I have no job, house, car or family and everybody hates me. But I can sleep safe in the knowledge that I practiced as you preach, so as Mr. Cameron is so fond of saying, it was the right thing to do.

*yours Joe*

# CORBYN, THE REAL DEAL

What the mutinous MPs do not “get” – at least, not publicly – is that Jeremy Corbyn is not defying them for his own sake. In describing him in The Guardian as “vain”, Neil Kinnock judges Corbyn by his own lights.

*W Stephen Gilbert*

CORBYN the MAN is NOT the ISSUE.

It is plain from the whole of his history in politics that Corbyn is utterly untouched by personal ambition. In no sense has he pursued any issue for any kind of personal gain. He only ran for the party leadership in 2015 because Diane Abbott and John McDonnell had previously done so and it was “his turn” among the Socialist group in the party. In almost every one of his 33 years in parliament, he has claimed less recompense under the cloak of expenses than any other member.

He has risked his life – never mind censure – in meeting terrorists of many persuasions in an attempt to find a means of preparing the ground for some kind of accommodation, of

demilitarisation in the future. Without what he and John McDonnell were able to establish with Sinn Féin and the IRA, Tony Blair would never have been able to claim as a high point of his “legacy” the Northern Ireland peace process. For their pains, McDonnell and Corbyn are blackguarded as “friends of the enemies of this country”.

Much is made of the tradition of “service” in politics. Many politicians interpret that notion as “self-service”. Jeremy Corbyn embodies like few others the highest ideals of service, but that service is not primarily on behalf of the Labour Party as an institution. It is on behalf of Socialism. So the present confrontation in Labour, though presented by his foes as about the man, the leader, the manager of the parliamentary party, the performer in the Commons, is

in reality about his politics, his policies. The membership in the country are not interested in his person-management skills or lack of them.

*This is an extract from a larger article by Stephen Gilbert.*



*Jeremy Corbyn with Sinn Féin Gerry Adams. It is now widely acknowledged by many - Dialogue is the only way to peace.*

*Unfortunately UKIP leader Nigel Farage & some MP's do not share this ideal - Nigel Farage called Northern Ireland peace process 'utterly loathsome'. We are glad he was not involved.*

**OWEN SMITH**



# OWEN SMITH CHALLENGES

In many peoples' eyes the PLP have let down the whole party, Owen himself has recently gone on record to dismiss the Labour party as unelectable with Corbyn as its leader

## *Ken Capstick*

OWEN SMITH is the New Labour candidate for Leader now that Angela Eagle has been ditched. Eagle has been USED as a stalking horse candidate but it is clear that the real Blairite candidate is Smith and the fact that he got more nominations than Eagle is the clearest evidence of that. Angela Eagle is also being politically dishonest by supporting someone who is pretending to be on the left when she must know it is a lie.

Owen Smith has said he believes in more choice in the NHS while he was working for a pharmaceutical company. Everything about this man screams out New Labour. His own pronouncements and his big business connections can ONLY mean he believes in more private health even though he is now trying to distance himself from himself and New Labour

tries to distance itself from itself, at least in the short term, as they try to supplant Corbyn. Smith is a political fraud.

Ridiculously one of his supporters tried to suggest that Smith is in the mould of Aneurin Bevan. How sickening to hear New Labour now mentioning and trying to connect themselves with a man they would never have mentioned again had it not been for their need to get rid of Jeremy Corbyn at all costs. Smith goes out of his way to distance himself from Blair. New Labour has no principles only the desire for career and power and will change like chameleons to that end.

New Labour is now the project that dare not speak its name and is trying to plant its candidate on Corbyn's ground but it is Corbyn who is the real article not Smith. Blair stole the Party by deception,

he lied. It was an establishment coup with Blair presenting himself as Labour when he was ALWAYS Tory and Smith is the new Blair and is certainly no Aneurin Bevan - he never could be.

Ask one question. Why does Smith have to constantly tell us he is on the left? Corbyn never had to do that because we KNOW he is on the left without him having to say it, just as was the case with Bevan. This is one of those strange political facts. The more Smith and his supporters try to present him as on the left the more it rings like a cracked bell.

Not only is it the case that New Labour dare not speak its name it is trying to gain favour with the left by lying as to its true nature. Smith knows he can never win wearing his own political clothes and is shamelessly trying to steal Corbyn's. If Smith wins he will

quickly get rid of Corbyn's clothes and we will see the real Smith in all his political nakedness until, like a quick change artist, he will be wearing his Blairite clothes again.

Smith is a charlatan, an imposter and a phoney but should he win New Labour will be back in charge and we will have two Tory Parties all over again.

As for Angela Eagle, she has abandoned her challenge for the promise of a job should Smith win. She had a job in Corbyn's Shadow Cabinet. Her support for Smith now reveals her as New Labour, which in reality, she always was.

*Ken Capstick is a former coalminer, former vice-president of the Yorkshire national union of miners, and former editor of the NUM journal The Miner*

# CORBYN VS SMITH

Owen Smith is Jeremy Corbyn's sole challenger for the leadership of the Labour Party. Smith and his supporters sometimes say that his political views largely accord with Corbyn's, but that members should vote for Smith because Smith is electable and Corbyn isn't

*Jon Hastings*

## *Corbyn, Smith, Electability and Unelectability*

On the assumption that Smith's supporters agree with his political views, this implies that holding and advocating the right political views isn't sufficient for being electable. If so, what is electability?

A minimal sense of the word 'electable' would be simply that someone is electable if it is practically and constitutionally possible to vote for that person. Since, at the time of writing, both Corbyn and Smith are on the ballot, both meet this criterion. So supporters of Smith must believe that there's something more to electability, if they hold that Smith is electable and Corbyn isn't.

Is it a further necessary condition of someone's electability that they've actually been elected in the past? That would be very odd. It can't be a necessary condition of someone's capacity to run a marathon that they've done so before, otherwise it would be logically impossible for anyone to run their first marathon. Of course, if someone had run a marathon before, we might be more confident in their ability to run the next marathon, and more confident still if they'd completed several marathons. So maybe we should say that, while someone's having been elected in the past is not necessary for their electability, it does give us more confidence in their electability. The trouble with this, though, from the perspective of Smith's supporters, is that it suggests that Corbyn is far more electable than Smith, because, while Smith was elected and re-elected MP for Pontypridd in 2010 and 2015 respectively, Corbyn has won his Islington North seat eight

times – to say nothing of his stunning victory, with 59.5% of the vote, in the Labour leadership contest of 2015. By this criterion alone, Corbyn looks like a winner.

There's a sense of the word 'electable' in which it is perfectly possible for someone unelectable to have been elected, in the same way in which something undesirable can be desired. Maybe it's this evaluative sense of the word 'electable' that Smith's supporters exploit, when claiming that Smith is electable and Corbyn isn't. Maybe they're saying that Smith is electable in that he ought to be elected, and Corbyn is unelectable, in that he ought not to be elected.

But on what grounds? Given that, according to Smith and his supporters, Smith's and Corbyn's political views largely coincide, why ought Smith to be elected, while Corbyn oughtn't? Maybe the view is that Smith is electable and Corbyn isn't, not because of what they respectively believe, but because of the kind of people they respectively are. Maybe the thought is that Smith is a more suitable person to be Prime Minister than Corbyn is; or simply that this is the way that the electorate will perceive things, in 2020.

Here Conservatives and the right-wing media will take satisfaction in pointing out Smith wears proper suits, does up his tie, and would probably sing the National Anthem. But, while I have occasionally met people not unsympathetic to Corbyn who are bothered by his sartorial unorthodoxy and overt republicanism, I've met many more people of different political persuasions who recognise this sort of thing for the cynically manipulative flim-flam that it so clearly is. Certainly they would be

misguided indeed if, at a time when so many of the British people are crying out for significant political change, and hundreds of thousands of them have flocked to join a Labour Party partly because of, rather than in spite of, its new leader's disregard for the offensively meaningless niceties of mainstream party politics, supporters of Smith imagined that not looking enough like a politician renders Corbyn unworthy of election! Therefore I won't insult them by supposing them to think any such thing.

I think the nub of it is this: while both Corbyn and Smith describe themselves as democratic socialists, that description doesn't fit Smith; for Smith accepts and endorses capitalism, and says that he wishes to embed a kind of socialism within a capitalist system. This is what Tony Blair claimed to be attempting, and we know from experience that it didn't work. We also know, a priori as it were, that it cannot work, since the central tenet of capitalism is that the bottom line – money, market forces, profit – trumps all other values, and is indeed the only true value, whereas socialism rests upon an empathetically- and benevolently-grounded conviction that the welfare of sentient beings, equal in respect of their sentience, is paramount. As a genuine socialist leading the official Opposition, Corbyn promises, by implication, nothing less than the rejection of capitalism as the default political context. By all means, let's facilitate small-scale capitalism within a new socialist context – small businesses have nothing to fear, and indeed plenty to gain, from a Corbyn-led government – but make sure that this capitalism is regulated by underlying socialist values, in order to mitigate the enforced austerities, mass insecurities, and myriad

other cruelties inherent in the pure capitalist mindset.

In my view, many who support Smith acquiesce in the assumption, forced to the public by mainstream politicians and media, that capitalism is the only game in town. Even to acknowledge the possibility of a new kind of consensus is, for them, symptomatic of a failure to accord with what they question-beggingly call 'common sense', and live in what they question-beggingly regard as 'the real world'. The fact that Smith subscribes to the status quo makes him a pragmatic realist, and therefore electable, while Corbyn's standing for a very different way of thinking and feeling and acting renders him a naïve idealist, and therefore unelectable.

Along with this goes the notion that electability is, or essentially involves, a willingness to act in, or at least not to act against, the interests of those unimaginably wealthy and powerful extra-governmental forces which, despite being entirely unelected, regard themselves as categorically entitled to run this country and the world, partly through our Members of Parliament. The mainstream British media are only the most visible manifestation of such forces, and Corbyn seems unelectable because they will not allow him to be elected, while Smith seems electable because, for now, they will champion him to usurp Corbyn.

One can understand, even sympathise with, Smith's supporters, if this is indeed what they believe. However, while no-one would or ought to pretend that the task facing a Corbyn-led Labour Party is anything other than monumentally difficult, Smith's supporters need to reconsider their position. For Corbyn's continuing leadership facilitates a quite possibly unique opportunity profoundly to transform the entire political and ethical context of Britain, for the overwhelming good of the overwhelming majority, and this is an opportunity that no true socialist should fail to grasp.

## THE SOMME TO BREXIT



# FROM THE SOMME TO BREXIT IN 100 YEARS

Well the dust is settling after the result of the Referendum. The experience was traumatic for myself and no doubt for a large proportion of voters, whether they chose Brexit or Remain

*John Wilkins*

Perhaps it was not so for those who had already decided well before the campaign, or used the 'stick a pin' method many of us use for picking the Grand National winner.

Brexit has left us with more questions than answers as we await someone to lead us into negotiations on our future relationship with Europe and the new economic challenges for the country. Thankfully a proper strategy can be worked out now that Boris and Nigel's 'wing and a prayer' one has ended with their retreat from the front line of the battle and like leaders of our forces in the First World War they can shout advice from the rear.

This brings me neatly to the irony that the 100th. Anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Somme was commemorated the week after the Referendum was decided. During World War 1,

the generals and political elite who saw working classes as an expendable commodity of the war. So expendable that almost 20,000 allied troops were killed and over on the first day of the battle, with over 57,000 casualties in total. By the end of the war there was a total of over 38 million casualties on both sides with over 17 million killed from 5 different continents.

Following this conflict the League of Nations was founded on 10 January 1920 as a result of the Paris peace Conference that ended the First World War. It was the first international organisation whose principal mission was to maintain world peace. Its primary goals included preventing wars through collective security and disarmament, and settling international disputes through negotiation and arbitration. It also established treaties, which included labour conditions, just treatment of native inhabitants, human and drug trafficking, arms trade, global health, prisoners of war, and protection of minorities

in Europe. At its greatest extent from 28 September 1934 to 23 February 1935, it had 58 members. The nations who were first to leave included Italy followed by Japan, Germany and Spain. There was a rise in nationalistic fervour in these countries following the slump in World Economies in the thirties.

World War 2 was the catastrophic

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WORLD WAR 2  
WAS THE CATASTROPHIC  
RESULT OF THE INCREASE  
IN NATIONALISTIC  
FERVOUR AND THE  
FAILURE OF STATES TO  
WORK TOGETHER.

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result of the increase in nationalistic fervour and the failure of states to work together. Over 60million people died as a result which represented 3% of the World's estimated population in 1940. Eastern European countries were amongst the worst affected as a proportion of their population. Lithuania 14.4%,

Ukraine 16.3%, Poland 17% and a staggering 25.3 of the population in Belarus!

Whilst the United Nations has had its limitations since its inception after the war it showed a renewed desire for nations to work together for the common good. The formation of the European Common Market and then the European Union was a chance for European Nations also to work in a spirit of co-operation rather than competition. Unfortunately it expanded too quickly and has been choked by excessive bureaucracy. The UK leaving and other countries following suit will create a vacuum with the resulting danger of growing nationalistic forces coming even more to the fore.

What is most worrying about the result is that many of the far right feels their racist views are legitimised and have been fuelled by some of the language of the Leave Campaign. Whilst I am sure those leading the Brexit Campaign would not have wanted this, the

## THE SOMME TO BREXIT



fact is that it has exacerbated the proliferation of race crimes which have risen since the result of the Referendum was known. Indeed a study worked on by the sadly departed MP, Jo Cox, showed that racist incidents against Muslims alone had risen by 326% over the last year! For some time there has been a rise in far right nationalistic movements across Europe, with a study showing in Germany that 8% of the people felt Nazism had a good side and many expressed the need for a Fuhrer or authoritarian leader in the national interest.

We must, however, not dwell too long on post mortems as to how the Brexit vote came about. Briefly though the convincing victory for the Leave Campaign was aided by the ineptitude of both major parties to recognise the mood of the people and fail to coordinate their efforts to present a positive dialogue for remaining in the EU. This and the reluctance of all the print media, with I believe the exception of the Evening Standard, to print much positive information on remaining in Europe.

As immigration was the key factor for a majority of Leave voters, we must recognise the need to control immigration, which other European countries are also now starting to acknowledge. Setting targets is

not the way forward, because any rational person would acknowledge the added value of immigrants to the economy in a country with an ageing population, bringing skills that are in short supply and filling vacancies in agriculture, hospitality and the care sectors in particular.

However the pressures caused by high immigration levels on our public services and housing need addressing better. The 'Impact Fund' needs 'beefing up' to help cities and regions under most pressure, with social housing provision a particular priority. Those charged with controlling our borders have been under-resourced for possibly decades and the 'target culture' has meant the Border Agency going after the softer option of deporting families and not going after lone males. Too many people with criminal records and some radicalised individuals have evaded the net. We need to speed up our ability to return offenders to their own countries, and curtail the costs to the NHS of 'Health Tourism', as the NHS have a poor record of recouping costs. In short we do want workers but not offenders or shirkers, so the Government needs to continue with efforts Cameron has already made in making access to benefits less easy for EU migrants and repatriation of criminals a priority, whether

they are from EU or non EU countries.

As a nation we need to look at our priorities and ask questions of our politicians, particularly those who campaigned for this result. It is vital to try and maintain certain links with our European

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“ IT IS VITAL TO TRY AND MAINTAIN CERTAIN LINKS WITH OUR EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURS IN A NUMBER OF AREAS WHERE WE WOULD BE DISADVANTAGED IF WE DID NOT.

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neighbours in a number of areas where we would be disadvantaged if we did not. Three spring to mind which in my view are vital, they are anti-terrorism measures, climate change and working co-operatively on research (some universities are seeing a reduction already in joint ventures ). Economically we must boost manufacturing as the devalued pound will make it easier to export goods. As the vast array of EU regulations can be replaced by better focussed national rules providing there is not a lowering in standards on conditions of employment, environmental safeguards,

food and pharmaceutical legislation. We can now design a new agricultural support and a sustainable fisheries policy. The latter was almost achieved by the EU but for intransigence on the part of France and Spain.

Finally the people, apart from the low turn out of under 25 voters, have spoken, but this should not be the end of the public's involvement in the political process. They must continue to speak out on issues and MAKE their politicians listen. As well as every few years voting on their MP or local councillor they can make their views known in a variety of ways. Almost all our elected representatives have surgeries for the public to meet them face to face. They can voice their opinions through letters to politicians and the media. Of course the internet has opened up a powerful tool to influence policy by joining in debates, supporting petitions which CAN effect change. We need to make politicians more honest and accountable so blindly ticking the same box at election time because of the 'Party Brand' means there is little effective opposition to towns and areas dominated by one or other of the two major parties.

The people have spoken but they must stay involved as 'politics is life and life is politics'.



# WALLACE'S WORLD

This little amusing ditty occasionally does the rounds: A banker, a tabloid reader and a benefit claimant are sat at a table

On a plate in the middle are 12 biscuits. The banker takes 11 biscuits for himself, then turns to the tabloid reader and says – “watch out for that benefit claimant, he’s after your biscuit” If it’s true that there are only seven basic plots or motifs to our storytelling then I’m not quite sure how this fits in with any of the seven or maybe I’ve found the unspoken eighth dimension - the plot of mass distraction.

This insidious little number has to be one of the most annoying persistent memes on the planet and is usually run in all kinds of noxious variants, such as the introduction of an immigrant alongside the tabloid reader and the benefit claimant.

When the banker tosses the 12th biscuit over in the immigrant’s direction and he manages to athletically catch the biscuit mid-air our banker offers

additional commentary with pointed emphasis to his other two companions, “Well, that man REALLY worked for that biscuit, didn’t he?” So this little

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“ SOCIAL INSURANCE AND THE CONTRIBUTORY PRINCIPLE HAVE ALL BEEN CORRODED BY AN EVIL GENIUS WHO WAS ADEPT AT SEDUCING ONE SEGMENT OF THE COMMUNITY AGAINST ANOTHER

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nugget really does seem to sum up the essence of our haughty ruling class who have learned a thing or two over the centuries about divide and rule. And

so in remorseless fashion our noble standard of collectivism, mutuality, social insurance and the contributory principle have all been corroded by an evil genius who was adept at seducing one segment of the community against another, playing off each side with the siren call of beggar thy neighbour. Our allegorical bankers being the richest and most powerful operators in the land are also able by virtue of their standing, able to afford the most expensive and loudest of megaphones to carry their gospel far and wide.

Our ordinary citizenry are naturally more quick to judgement about the indiscretions or otherwise of their fellows and are less quick to take umbrage at their social betters, confined as these mystery beings are behind impenetrable walls of privilege and authority. It may be that the indiscretions

of Jones are but a minuscule smidgen of the governors ill gotten gains, but tabloid mentality will see to it that the unsightly spectacle makes for good copy. Official government figures quietly conclude benefit fraud to be around 70p for every £100 whilst the public estimate the figures some 34 times higher. These ‘uniformed’ opinions don’t operate in a vacuum, they are massively tutored and fanned by powerful vested interests who are happy to see the blame for our economic woes hung around benefit claimants and immigrants.

That is not to say of course that people at the bottom or thereabouts are always angels, of course not, we have our share of idiots like everywhere else that should be dealt with accordingly. Humanity is frail and imperfect but never more so when we delude ourselves about the problems at the bottom end of society whilst giving a free pass to all the dodgy antics of those at the top.

PEOPLES CHARTER



# THE PEOPLES CHARTER

This is one readers idea for a people's charter. If you think you could improve or add to it please email us at [thewordnewspaper@outlook.com](mailto:thewordnewspaper@outlook.com)

- 1.** Reinstate the true Clause 4 and never accept careerist MPs who do not fully support the fundamental tenet of redistribution of resources. Make all mps recallable and reselectable on a regular basis
- 2.** Represent all of the uk citizens in parliament, and prioritise the needs of those reliant on National Insurance benefits
- 3.** Renationalise core industries and services such as the NHS and Education
- 4.** Implement Human Rights and Equalities Legislation and actively police all hate crime. Make misogyny a hate crime.
- 5.** Implement Trade Union legislation to protect and further workers rights
- 6.** Implement requirements on parliament regarding peace and avoidance of military intervention or being used as a strategic military base by foreign powers, including the decommissioning of Trident weapons
- 7.** Make all future legislation and policy have a sustainability requirement as integral to its development
- 8.** Enshrine a transparent absolute uk democracy, by disbanding the house of lords and monarchy
- 9.** Create a transparent tax system and enforce it robustly for big corp who avoid tax
- 10.** Make all private, statutory and voluntary businesses subject to statutory inspection and regulation regarding fair and diversity positive employment and delivery of services or products practice

**NETHERLANDS FOCUS**



# NEWS FROM NETHERLANDS

The Europe roundup will feature a different country every issue. This issue we will take you on a quick and enlightening tour of the Netherlands

## *MARCHING IN THE HEAT*



The 100th edition of the world's largest marching event, the Nijmeegse Vierdaagse, was held from the 19-22 July in and around the Dutch city of Nijmegen. 50,000 people flocked from all over Holland and other countries to join in four days of walking, completing routes of up to 31 miles per day.

Though regarded as a success, the hot weather forced many participants to give up their effort to complete their walks – some walkers were even admitted to hospital due to heat stroke, as thousands of them – including many military personnel – had to defy temperatures of up to 35 degrees.

## *CHEMICAL FACTORY ENDANGERS PUBLIC HEALTH*



A factory of the chemical company Chemours near the Dutch city of Dordrecht has been accused by toxicologists of endangering public health as it uses GenX, a chemical which can cause cancer, kidney damage, liver damage and fertility problems. GenX has been found in emissions of the Chemours factory near Dordrecht and Sliedrecht.

Chemours denies the allegations by stating that the effects of GenX on humans have not been proven, and that the concentrations of GenX used by Chemours are much too low to cause any damage.

Toxicology tests on rats and mice did reveal that many of the rodents fell seriously ill, but Chemours dismisses these tests by claiming

that the animals only got sick as they were exposed to 'extremely high' concentrations of the chemical and are therefore refusing to make changes.

The government is yet to issue a response.

## *DUTCH CRIME BOSS FIGHTS SEIZURE OF FUNDS*



Lawyers of Dutch crime boss lord Willem Holleeder have announced to fight the seizure of €18 million (£15 million) of his funds by the state. The court ruled in 2012 that Mr Holleeder obtained this money by extorting the late Mr Willem Endstra.

Mr Endstra, nicknamed 'The Banker

of the Crime World' was murdered in public in 2004. Mr Holleeder is currently standing trial as the Public Prosecution Service believes him to have given the command for Mr Endstra to be shot.

During the current trial, Mr Holleeder has been dealt some devastating blows as prosecutors managed to convince Mr Holleeder's sister and his former girlfriend to testify against him. Mr Holleeder is also under suspicion of having murdered his sister's husband.

## *FAR-RIGHT CREEPS AHEAD IN DUTCH POLLS*



Though elections in Holland are not to be held until next year, the latest polls show that the Liberal/Labour coalition should prepare for huge losses in March 2017. The polls

## NETHERLANDS FOCUS



reveal that Prime Minister Rutte's Liberal Party would go from 41 to 27 seats if elections were held today, whereas Labour would freefall from 38 to 12 seats.

The same poll predicts large gains for Mr Geert Wilders' Freedom Party as his party is predicted to win 28 seats, compared to the 12 seats they hold today. Despite this, it is unlikely that the Freedom Party will govern Holland as most other parties have announced to not work with the far-right party under any circumstance.

The Freedom Party is very controversial in the Netherlands due to its hateful language towards Muslims, minorities and foreign migrants.



### **NEXIT REFERENDUM OFF THE CARDS**

Now that the Brexit referendum has been held, support for a "Nexit" referendum has dropped to 34%

among the Dutch people. The fallout from the Brexit referendum with its many broken promises, the economic downturn and increase of racist incidents has made the idea of a Dutch EU referendum increasingly unpopular.

An extra nail in the coffin for a Nexit referendum was the rejection by a large majority of Dutch MPs of a referendum – only 14 MPs voted in favour of having a "Nexit" referendum – far less than the 76 votes needed for a majority.

### **DUTCH CONSERVATIVE POLITICIAN GUILTY OF CORRUPTION**



Jos van Rey, a former politician of the Dutch Liberal Party (VVD), has been convicted of electoral fraud, accepting bribes and disclosing confidential information after a longstanding legal procedure against him which has dominated

Dutch headlines for months.

Despite having been found guilty of the allegations against him, Mr van Rey was only sentenced to 240 hours of community service. The Public Prosecution Service is to appeal against the light sentence, as a spokesman declared "one can't be a just a little corrupt. Corruption is corruption."

Mr Van Rey has declared to appeal his sentence as well, as he maintains he's innocent. However, he has said he will not pursue the appeal and will accept his sentence should the Public Prosecution Service drop their planned appeal.



VVD – a sister party of the British Conservative Party – looked to remove Mr Van Rey as one of their members following the barrage of bad publicity he had caused for them, caused by his corruption whilst in office.

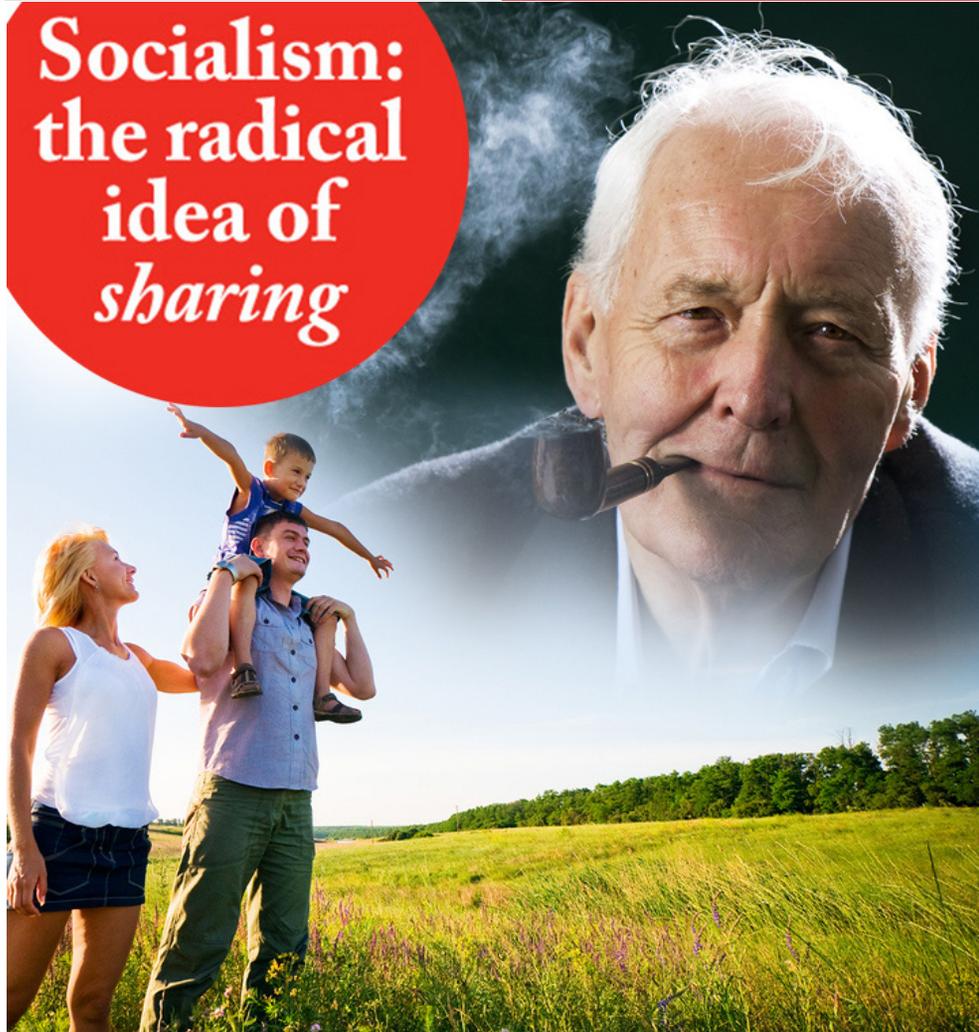
### **CANNABIS CRACKDOWN**



The Dutch police force has closed down nearly 6,000 cannabis growing operations, which is similar to last year. Despite the large number of crackdowns, the police concede that it is unable to battle the growing operations successfully.

Contrary to popular belief, cannabis is an illegal drug in Holland. Though selling cannabis in so-called "coffee shops" is largely tolerated, the largescale growing of cannabis is treated as a crime. This means coffee shops commit a crime when they buy their supply, while selling the supply to individuals is tolerated.

This odd situation has existed for decades as the Dutch government refuses to either legalise cannabis or declare it an illegal drug, making it a criminal offense to grow cannabis – yet selling it is not punishable.



**Socialism:  
the radical  
idea of  
sharing**

## **SOCIALISM AND HUMANITY**

The forces of political and ethical darkness are in the ascendant, apparently. The question is what could Socialism do to make real change today and how could it benefit humanity?

### **Jon Hastings**

Even if, from one moment to the next, one can tell what they are – seems inadequate as a response. In recent days I've heard a number of people attempt to dig deeper and articulate the values they take to underlie their socialism. Often this comes down to saying something like 'We need to act like human beings, in treating human beings as human beings.' What might this mean?

In the late eighteenth century, the philosopher Immanuel Kant wrote that it is categorically imperative – that is, an absolute duty for everyone who is capable of understanding it and complying with it – never to treat humanity merely as a means,

but always also as an end in itself. This is Kant's Formula of Humanity. Minimally, it means 'Don't just use or exploit people. In all of your dealings with them, always treat them as the intrinsically valuable beings that they in fact are.'

Kant isn't saying that we oughtn't to use people at all. In any society, people have to use other people, and rely upon what they can bring to the situation. If I go into a shop and buy some food, I am using the people who work there, and they are using me. In a complex society like ours, it is practically impossible to determine how many people are relying upon how many people in how many ways, in order to go about their daily lives.

Rather, Kant is saying that one should never treat people just as means to one's ends, or collude in their treatment merely as means to the ends of others. People ought never to be used as mere objects, mere tools. Instead, our treatment of one another must be conditioned always by the respect that is due to us in virtue of our humanity.

We must be careful about this word 'humanity', however. Kant uses it to refer not to the biological status of being human, but to the characteristic he regards as setting us apart from other animals – our power of reason, or rationality. So Kant is counselling us never to treat rational beings merely as means to an end. For Kant, what makes a human being intrinsically valuable is his or her rationality.

Disturbing things seem to follow from this. While the pure exploitation of rational human beings is forbidden, it could be argued that the abuse, torture, harvest, consumption, etc., of human infants, those with advanced dementia or mental illness, and, of course, non-human animals, is entirely permissible.

Evidently Kant's formula needs to be adjusted before we can properly regard it as foundational to our

humanity will extend its mantle over everything which breathes ... "

For Bentham, what matters is not the capacity for reasoning, but the capacity for suffering (and, indeed, pleasure). Sentience is the key thing. If we substitute this for Kant's focus on rationality, the Formula of Humanity comes out something like this:

In our dealings with others, we should always be mindful that they are sentient beings, and seek therefore to avoid or else minimise any suffering to them to which these dealings might give rise.

Certainly this exposes a fundamental ethical difference between those on either side of the current debate, both between political parties and within the Labour Party. As I see it, Jeremy Corbyn, and those on the side of what he stands for, stand for something like the above. They believe that human beings are not mere objects; that they are not simply means to the ends of the richer, more powerful, or more ruthless, to be exploited regardless of their consequent physical and psychological suffering, and then abandoned when deemed of no further use.

Those on the other side, however, seem in varying degrees to reject this; and indeed the degree to which they reject it is the degree to which they might be considered to belong on the other side.

Finally, what places some on one side, and some on the other? I suggest that those towards the Corbyn end of the spectrum are more empathetic, and/or more benevolent. They resonate more readily with the sufferings of others, and have benevolence sufficient to motivate them to act to alleviate these, even if, at times, this places their own interests at risk. It seems to me that this sensibility is more virtuous than the alternative. I aspire to cultivate it in myself. That is the basis of my socialism.

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**“ OUR TREATMENT OF ONE ANOTHER MUST BE CONDITIONED ALWAYS BY THE RESPECT THAT IS DUE TO US IN THE VIRTUE OF OUR HUMANITY**

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modern conception of rights, both human and animal. Step forward Kant's great contemporary Jeremy Bentham:

“ ... the question is not, Can they reason? ... but, Can they suffer? Why should the law refuse its protection to any sensitive being? ... The time will come when

## JOHN SMITH'S LEGACY



# JOHN SMITH'S LEGACY

There is a lot of debate within the Labour Party at the moment about where the party should go and what it should stand for

*Thomas Northall*

There are many, myself included who say the party should distance itself from New Labour and The Blair years.

Whilst hindsight is a wonderful thing, I do wonder where the Labour Party would be now had the late, great John Smith sadly not passed away whilst serving as leader of the Labour Party.

For me, John Smith was not only a great leader of the Labour Party he was simply the greatest Prime Minister this country never had.

Smith was a veteran Labour politician having entered parliament in 1970 and was the Secretary of State for Trade from 1978 to 1979 and then the Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer under Neil Kinnock from 1987 to 1992.

Following Kinnock's resignation in April 1992, Smith was elected leader of The Labour Party.

Whilst serving as leader Smith was a fierce rival of Conservative Prime Minister Sir John Major and in September 1992, he made his maiden speech as party leader, where he said that John Major was "The devalued Prime Minister of a devalued Government". At the party conference, he referred to Major and Norman Lamont as being the Laurel and Hardy of British politics. Showing he clearly had a sense of humour as well as being a serious politician. Smith had a history of making quick-witted remarks against Major and the Conservative government having famously said during his time as Shadow Chancellor that the government were "irresponsible" with their plans to cut income tax to 20%, and joked at a Labour Party rally in Sheffield that the Conservatives would have a box-office disaster with "Honey, I Shrank the Economy" – in reference to the Disney movie Honey, I Shrank the Kids, a box office hit at the time.

Smith once said "One should

shoulder that obligation as part of one's citizenship and be proud of it"

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“ IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT SMITH ALSO SUPPORTED INTRODUCING A NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE BEFORE IT WAS LABOUR PARTY POLICY

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It is worth noting that Smith also supported introducing a national minimum wage before it was Labour Party policy and eventually brought in by the Blair government. The introduction of the minimum wage being opposed by the Tories of course. Whilst we can now only speculate, what was likely to have happened is, under a Smith government, the minimum wage would have been set by the politicians, and would have been higher than it was in the Blair years.

There are so many things that a John Smith led government could have achieved but sadly we were never to find out exactly what that would be as on the morning of 12 May 1994, John sadly passed away of a heart attack aged just 55 years old.

Smith had previously suffered a heart attack in 1988 of which he made a full recovery but this time however it would sadly prove fatal. After much mourning on both sides of the house of commons, Tony Blair was appointed leader of the Labour Party beating John Prescott and Margaret Beckett in the process.

We will never know where the Labour Party would be now had Smith lived on to continue as party leader and things did get considerably better for millions of Britons under Blair then they ever were under Thatcher and Major. Things did get better, but things should have only got even better.



# NORTH KOREA BLUES

## Why North Korea is not Communist, and why it matters

*Alexander Dommerholt*

Goose stepping soldiers, psychopathic leaders and famine are three things very much associated with North Korea, as many people tend to think of the country as a living relic of communism that somehow survived the Cold War.

In the minds of many people this makes North Korea the prime example of the 'loony left'. It cannot be denied that North Korea's terrible human rights record, leader cults and the police state it has become draws strong similarities to Stalin's Soviet Union and Ceausescu's Romania.

North Korea's alleged communist nature seems to become even more obvious when taking into account that the country was a brainchild of Stalin himself after World War II. The country's new leader, Kim Il-sung, paid tribute to Stalin and communism like many of the newly communist countries in Eastern Europe; the West took this at face value.

Kim Il-sung behaved liked Stalin's loyal puppet at first but he showed he had a mind of his own after Stalin's death – he slowly removed communism from the forefront and replaced it with his very own ideas while keeping up a communist

façade to the outside world to secure vital money flows from the Soviets and China.

After the defeat of his actual communist opponents in North Korea, Kim quickly did away with the communist ideal of a 'classless society' and invented a new class system called Songbun. It divided all Koreans into 'core', 'wavering' or 'hostile' classes, depending on their own or their (grand)parents' loyalty to Kim's cause, deciding their fate in every possible aspect of life.

Additionally, Kim swapped the communist materialistic ideas for the

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**“ KIM'S 200 FT YACHT IS A “CROSS BETWEEN A FERRY AND A DISNEY BOAT**

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exact opposite: an almost paranoid nationalism and the idea that all that the Koreans need is a strong leader – himself of course. To 'keep the race pure' he even forced all North Koreans to divorce if they had married foreign

spouses, which sounds dangerously far-right.

At the centre of North Korean ideology, the cement that holds it together, is the idea that all Koreans – including South Koreans – want nothing else than a unified Korea ruled by Kim, so that he can 'protect' the Korean people from all foreign influences aimed at 'destroying' Korea.

Once the Berlin Wall fell, the money flow from Eastern Europe dried up and it gave Kim even less reasons to pretend to be a communist. When Kim Il-sung died in 1994, he was succeeded by his son Kim Jong-il – a move even communist hardliners like Stalin or Mao wouldn't have dreamed of trying.

In turn, Kim Jong-il fabricated his own policy called Songun or 'Military First': putting the needs of the military over the needs of civilians – an idea completely incompatible with communism. In the famine of the Nineties, Songun meant that many women and children starved to death while soldiers received the available food.

Meanwhile, the world has been awaiting North Korea's collapse since the death of communism, while North Korea shows no signs of breaking down, having survived

the worst of hardships. In turn, it has now removed the last references to communism from its constitution while voicing its aggressively nationalist message day after day.

The North Korean regime benefits from the world's misgivings that they are communist, as the tactics deployed to topple their regime are futile. North Korea will happily take gifts of oil and money from its neighbours and America, while doing absolutely nothing in return.

The introduction of Coca-Cola and rock music will not cause a democratic revolution in North Korea. Had they been communist, the regime would have been overthrown by now. Instead, the world should become less naïve and make peace with the idea that North Korea is a far-right country that needs a different approach.

This 'different approach' should not be sought in terms of violence – should i.e. America invade, it would only confirm to the suffering North Koreans that their government's propaganda about America's 'war mongering' was truthful all along, and they will regard any invading force as enemies rather than liberators.

What the North Koreans need is knowledge of the truth that will destroy the legitimacy of the North Korean regime: the truth that South Koreans have no desire to be ruled by the Kim dynasty. Once this reality dawns on the North Koreans, we can hope for them to throw off the yoke that has caused them so much suffering.



# FATHERS FOR JUSTICE

The secret family court continues to be in crisis. Fathers are still complaining about discrimination in divorce and separation proceedings when trying to see their own children

## *George Christoforou*

In most disputed custody and contact cases fathers leave court with little or even a bar to contact with their children. Even the handful of fathers who do get contact to see their children often get frustrated when the mother ignores the order of the court.

Then there are the other batch of cases where the social services will step in to take children off mothers who they disapprove of and use the new powerful legislation in the childrens and families act. A law so powerful that allows the local authority via a social service officer to remove a child at birth based on what is known as “risk of future emotional harm”. The UK is the only country in the world that has such draconian legislation. The state can make parents guilty of something they haven’t done but might do in the future.

Over the years many politicians before elections have promised to reform the family court system. But once in to power, those

promises are quickly ditched or watered down. The fact that both our commons and house of Lords are full of lawyers and judges leads one to believe that they have a vested interest in maintaining this legal system which causes years and years of court room battles over children that could and should be sorted out amicably by agreement through mediation. Years of court room battles means solicitors, barristers and judges will never be out of a job.

Theresa May our new PM is a prime example of an MP making promises and breaking them when in power. This is what Theresa May told fathers in 2004:

“That is why, in my first month in Government, I will publish a Bill to give a presumption of co-parenting and a right for both parents to be involved in bringing up their children, when couples separate. We will ensure that the law serves the best interests of the child - and children deserve to see both parents.”

“That is why in my first week in office, I will publish proposals to

abolish CAF/CASS and replace it with a mediation service. Court should be the last resort, not the first. The aim will be to intervene early to make sure disputes don’t have to go to court but are sorted out quickly in the best interests of the children. -And child safety will remain a priority.”

Now that Theresa May is PM, she

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“ THERESA MAY  
OUR NEW PM IS A PRIME  
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IN POWER.

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has no excuse to reform the family court system. But she won’t. The main problem is institutionalised bias and stereotyping. The vast majority of Social Workers and Cafcass officers are female and believe that women are the better carers and treated dads as no more than visitors and a cash machine.

Fathers are six times as likely to play an active role in bringing up their kids as fathers a generation or

two ago. Nowadays, we don’t just attend the birth of our children - unheard of only 50 years ago - but we are also more likely to play with, bath their children and take them to school. Yet when it comes to contact with their children after a relationship breaks down fathers still have no rights to see their children.

Feminism has made great advances for equality for women in the workplace. Men deserve equality after family breakdown as much as women do in the workplace. Feminists do not preach for equality for fathers rights over their children compared to mothers and they even complain when fathers groups campaign for equality. They label fathers for justice members as misogynist for wanting to see their children. Some even say that a father attempting to gain access to his children is harassing the mother.

The truly shocking story is that the Government now admit that teenagers are more likely to have a mobile phone than a father according to research by the Centre for Social Justice



# COMPASSIONATE REVOLUTION

together we are irresistible...

## COMPASSIONATE REVOLUTION

Compassionate Revolution was launched in summer 2015 as a grass roots run platform for hosting pledges of collective action “I will if you will”

by Gail Bradbrook

The pledges can be acts of art (like mass graffiti), acts from the heart (like group meditations or modelling kind behaviour in politics) and acts of civil disobedience (like tax or rent strikes, work to rule, blockades etc). Here's why this initiative is so vital at this time.

According to political theorists like Hannah Arendt and Gene Sharp, power is always located in the collective – i.e. amongst all of us ordinary folks. This is true, despite the fact power may seem to be centred in Whitehall or in the billionaire owned media, or in the City of London or any other places we feel we have no power over. Since we are being pushed around by an Establishment, increasingly disdainful of true democracy and definitely without our or the planets interests at heart, the fact that we

don't wield our power as a collective can be a real stick to beat ourselves with! Over inability to assert our power implies that it is our collusion with or passivity which allows the system to stay in place...

We hear “Why aren't people on the streets” when the latest scandal erupts. And “People are so apathetic, nothing will ever change”. These statements presuppose two things:

-that actions, demonstrations, blockades and so forth emerge spontaneously, when in fact they are always organised. When Rosa Parks sat on the “white” part of the bus in segregated America, spurring a wave of similar acts of defiance, the event was carefully orchestrated by the civil rights movement- it was no spontaneous act. Campaigns for change need to be organised, this doesn't imply central management, but it does imply a body of people committing to an action and calling for others to join in. The “system” has worked hard over many years to erode the organisations that are

able to mobilise people, like trade unions. Fortunately the internet offers new mechanisms for more nimble, grass roots organisations to mobilise people. Horizontal, distributed networks have increased power.

– that people are passive because they don't care. The passivity of the population is ensured by a number of mechanisms – sure it includes distraction through mind numbing media and socially acceptable drugs. Passivity can also be maintained by providing a vested interest in the status quo, however this is constantly being undermined through economic forces and the erosion of public services. Gene Sharp, in *Power and Struggle*, argues that obedience is often merely habitual and sharing examples of disobedience will encourage others to join in.

The civil rights movement in the US mobilised only 1% of the US population. A recent university study shows that when 3.4% of a

population rises up a revolution is possible. This is about 2.2million people in the UK, (bear in mind around 10 million people vote Labour or Green and that beyond party politics many movements have a complaint about neo-liberal capitalism at their heart (the environmental, peace, anti-austerity and economic justice movements for example).

So the question is, if we argue that 2.2m people in the UK would like a rapid redistribution of wealth and power (a revolution) how are we to go about organising that?

Tim Gee, in *Counterpower* suggests that social change happens through the 4C's:

The raising of Consciousness about an issue, the Coordination of different organisations, a stage of Confrontation (civil disobedience) and Consolidation of gains by having detailed policy solutions ready and energy to drive them home.

## COMPASSIONATE REVOLUTION



Within the current landscape we possibly have too much consciousness raising – the echo chamber of sharing on social media, of this issue and that disturbing fact and so on. The solutions offered are generally to pay an organisation some money and to support the re-sharing of information (what I call, tongue in cheek, the pyramid selling of sh\*t information!). Perhaps 2.2m already know enough but need encouragement and example to act? Coordination amongst groups can be weak, as is the spreading of confrontation, despite incredible efforts by some amazing campaigners, in the face of media lock down, on reporting successful actions.

So how does the “ordinary, progressive, left leaning” individual decide to get involved in an action and commit to doing so? How could organisations best coordinate and share resources, without needing to form coalitions, requiring the merging of cultures and detailed agreements? Conditional commitment- the use of pledges “I will if enough others will” offers a simple way forwards.

Pledging to join collective action is not new. The labour movement transformed when wild cat striking was replaced by organised unionism “I will strike if you will” is the basis of a strike ballot.

The successful rent strikes of 1915, through “Mary Barbour’s Army” involved the pre-agreed actions of groups of women in tenement blocks.

Those involved placed their pledge ‘RENT STRIKE. WE ARE NOT REMOVING.’ in their windows. “This is how they organised the resistance: one woman with a bell would sit in the tenement close, watching while the other women living in the tenement went on with their household duties. Whenever the Bailiff’s Officer appeared to evict a tenant, the woman in the passage immediately rang the bell, and the other women put down whatever work they were doing and hurried to where the alarm was being raised. They would hurl flour bombs and other missiles at the bailiff, forcing him to make a hasty retreat.”

The Women’s Tax Resistance League (part of the movement of suffragettes), formed in 1909 with the slogans ‘No taxation without representation’ and the more direct declaration: ‘NO VOTE, NO TAX.’ 100 members were willing to take up this form of protest. A two-tier approach was adopted, which meant that some took action immediately (40), while others declared they were willing to become tax protesters once the total number of members reached 500. (However, the total never exceeded 200 – this was before the days of social media!)

The current successful rent strikes in UCL have been designed and organised by conditional commitment expert and activist Roger Hallam. First it focussed on one hall, through face to face contact, by asking people how they felt about rent and the condition of the hall and whether

they would strike if 100 people did it together. By the deadline 150 had agreed to strike and the story went viral (35,000 shares of a Guardian article). Then numbers increased to 700, half through online sharing.

The Keystone Pipeline pledge of resistance is possibly the most successful current example of conditional commitment. By March 2014 there had been 398

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“ IN THIS WAY, ESCALATING ACTIONS AND MOBILISING ACROSS NETWORKS, IN A JOINED UP BUT LOOSELY HELD STRATEGY, COULD BE THE PROCESS FOR SEEING THE BIG CHANGES REQUIRED.

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arrests of peaceful protestors who had pledged to undertake acts of civil disobedience in their opposite to the Keystone Pipeline, which would transport the dirtiest tar sands energy across North America. A further 162 were arrested in 2015 and by June 2015 over 97000 people had pledged their willing to participate in peaceful actions

which might lead to arrest.

The current challenge is to get pledging / conditional commitment at the forefront of our collective psyches. Organisers of actions could spend time considering how to mobilise a greater number of people. For example those at home can support a Direct Action against an organisation (for example by participating in a telephone blockade of the organisation targeted). Roger Hallam encourages organisers to think about escalating their actions to achieve greater outcomes each time and involve more people. He has given detailed information about what supports this process. Dissent can be designed!

As grass roots movements and organisations gain confidence in conditional commitment, it will be possible to agree “cross fertilisation” of movements – encouraging those focussed on one action to support the simpler pledges of another, building cooperation and numbers. This itself can be done as a conditional commitment- “We will involve our network in your action if you will involve yours in ours” or “we will work together on a joint action if 6 other organisations agree to be involved”.

In this way, escalating actions and mobilising across networks, in a joined up but loosely held strategy, could be the process for seeing the big changes required.

So the Compassionate Revolution website can host pledges of action – we are trying to offer a range of pledges so that people can exercise their muscles of “peaceful mischief” and feel part of a collective (not all actions are illegal and we de-risk for the majority). A new action can be advertised to those who have already joined another actions. If we demonstrate the viability of this approach maybe Avaaz and others will step up to offering civil disobedience to their bigger databases. We need to normalise these approaches and we have social media on our side to reach the numbers. *Join a pledge or several..*

CORBYN AT SALFORD



# CORBYN AT SALFORD

## Jeremy makes a well received talk at the Salford event alongside many other great speakers

*Corbyn launches his leadership campaign*

Saturday July 23rd, 1pm

**BBC1.** The world cheese rolling championship division 2, Peru v Gibraltar...breaking news.

**ITV.** Woman gives birth to baby – exclusive.

**Sky TV.** The queens second cousins poodle loses a plastic toy...breaking news.

**The Sun.** People from Liverpool drink beer in a pub –exclusive, the sordid details.

**The Mirror.** Corbyn must go.  
**The Daily Mail.** Corbyn sells virgin blood to Hitler supporting zombies.

**Salford, reality**  
We got to the Lowry theatre at about 1pm and soon found ourselves in an orderly line that stretched into the Salford Sunlight like red snakes.

The accidental hero himself comes on at 2pm after the warm up acts of Rebecca Long – Bailey, Richard Burgon, and

a babble of local Labourites. A women in her thirties near us tells us she will try hard not to scream with pleasure at JC’s appearance. Jeremy tells us to “be nice to everyone” and for a moment in time we all want to. Then I think of Owen Smith. The night before he had begun his leadership campaign in the Friends meeting house in Manchester. A Trident supporting Smith at the home of the pacifist Quakers...irony has a new definition.

The news should have said “thousands turn out for Corbyn as Smith blabs to a handpicked hundred.” It really is us versus them.

Thought for the day



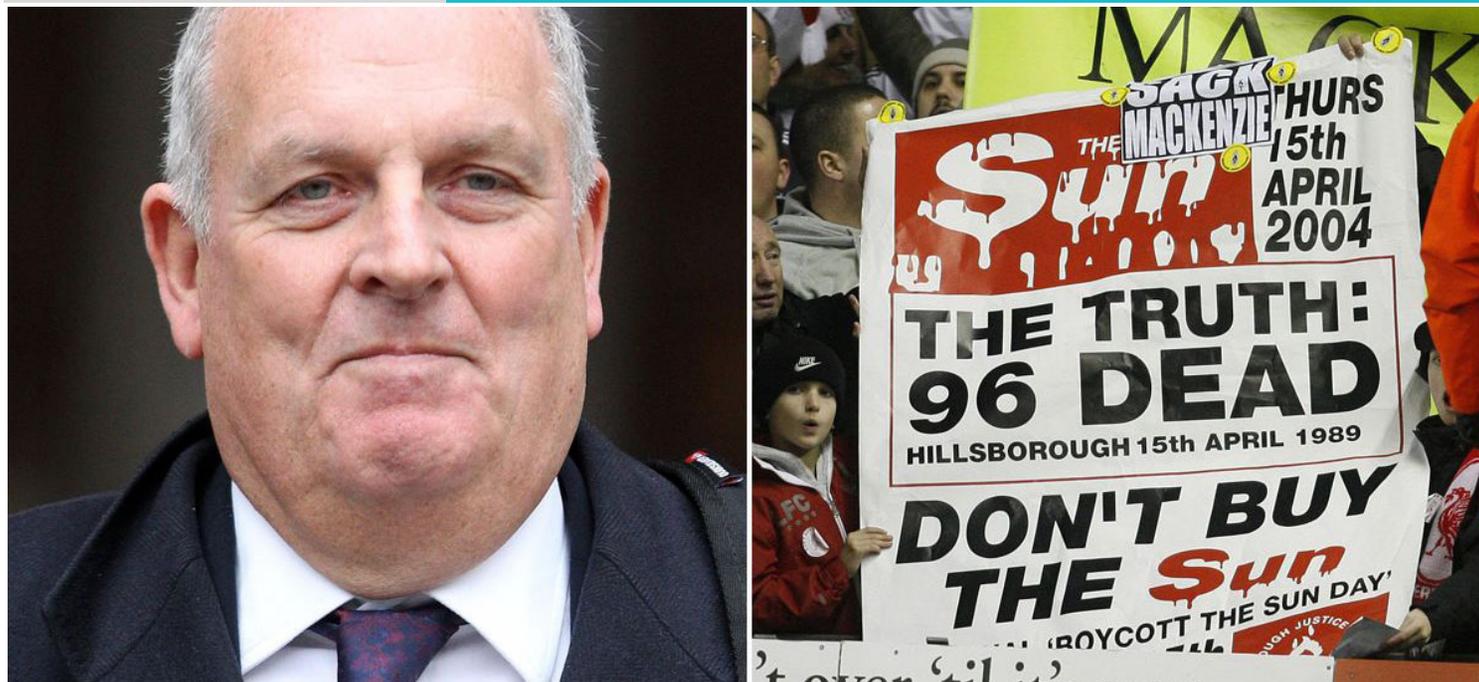
**Poverty is not an accident, like slavery and apartheid, it is man-made and can be removed by the actions of human beings.**

*Nelson Mandela*

“ CORBYN SUPPORTERS MUST NOT BE PORTRAYED AS THUGS, SAYS ALLY RICHARD BURGON



## MURDOCH & THE SUN



# THE SUN NEWSPAPER

## A lot has been said this week about Labour leadership contender Andy Burnham's decision to not do 'special favours' for the Sun

Whilst the initial stories reported that he had actually said he wouldn't grant them an interview he has since clarified his position saying that the Labour Party needs to reach out to as many people as possible but that he won't be granting The Sun any special treatment.

The fact is during my lifetime (I'm 35) The Sun has always been a right wing tabloid supportive of the Conservatives and staunch Thatcher worshippers.

Many if not all of their columnists over the years have been right wing journalists and the paper has regular ridiculed Labour leaders of the past. Most notably Michael Foot, Neil Kinnock, Gordon Brown and Ed Miliband.

The paper is owned of course by the Australian media giant Mr Rupert Murdoch and News International which publishes The Sun also publishes another right wing newspaper, The Times.

These are just several reasons why I believe no Labour party MP, let alone perspective Leader should be

giving interviews to this newspaper. Firstly, In 1979 the paper endorsed Margaret Thatcher in the year's general election and on 3rd May 1979, it went for a front page headline reading "Vote Tory This Time"

During the general election of 1983 They ran a front page featuring an unflattering photograph of Michael Foot, then aged almost 70, claiming he was unfit to be Prime Minister on grounds of his age, appearance and policies, alongside the headline "Do You Really Want This Old Fool To Run Britain?"

A year later, in 1984, The Sun made clear its enthusiastic support for the re-election of Republican Ronald Reagan as president in the USA. Reagan was two weeks off his 74th birthday when he started his second term, in January 1985.

The Sun which is currently branding Burnham a hypocrite for riding around in one of their taxis in 2010 were being hypocritical themselves when slamming Foot but endorsing Regan.

In the mid 80's the paper made

many attacks on what it described as the "loony left" element within the Labour Party and poked fun at Tony Benn and Ken Livingstone.

Perhaps one of the biggest reasons I believe that nobody within the Labour Party should speak to The Sun is for their coverage of both the miners strike of 1984 and the Hillsborough disaster in 1989. The Sun, during the Miners' strike supported the police and the Thatcher government against the striking NUM miners, and in particular the union's president, Arthur Scargill.

A lot has been said about their coverage of the Hillsborough football stadium disaster in Sheffield on 15 April 1989, in which 96 people tragically died and it does not need repeating here. Needless to say the Sun's front page headline of 'The Truth' caused so much outrage in Liverpool the paper lost more than three-quarters of its estimated 55,000 daily sales and still sells poorly in the city 26 years later. Many newsagents to this day refuse to stock it on principle.

The Sun remained loyal to Thatcher

right up to her resignation in November 1990, despite the party's fall in popularity over the previous year following the introduction of the Poll tax

And was enthusiastic about her successor, John Major.

On the day of the general election of 9 April 1992, its front-page headline read "If Kinnock wins today, will the last person to leave Britain please turn out the lights". Two days later The Sun was so convinced its front page had swung a close election for the Conservatives it declared "It's The Sun Wot Won It".

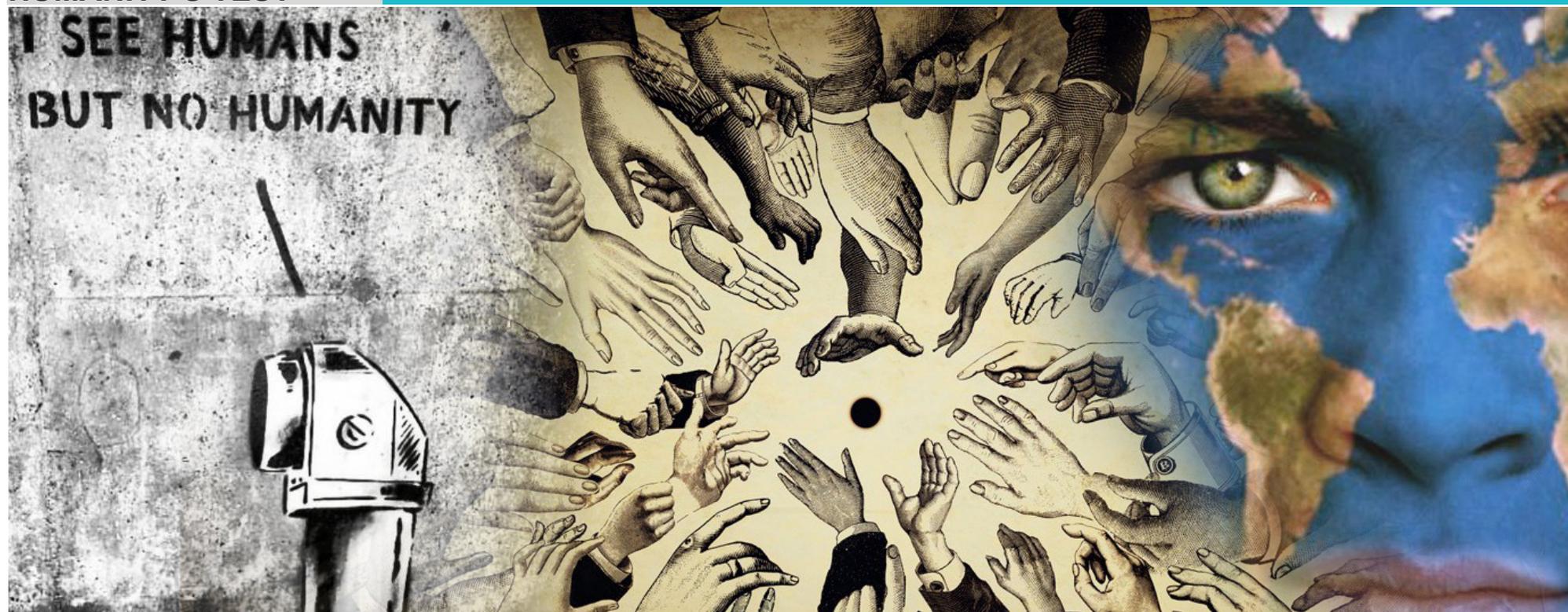
The only time the Sun has supported The Labour Party was during The Blair years. Switching its support to the Labour party for the first time in almost 20 years. But the fact Blair was seen to be on the front page reading a copy of the Sun said it all for me, no true Labour leader would be seen to be reading it. Proof that Blair was about to lead us into 'New Labour' and a move to the center ground (and lately the right) of British politics.

Rather than aligning itself with admittedly Britain's biggest selling newspaper to gain votes, I would much prefer a true Labour MP to stay true to the party's roots and not suck up to the right wing media. Once Tony Blair was replaced in the Labour hot seat by Gordon Brown, The sun's support once again switched support to the Tory's.

The Sun under Murdoch was and always will be a Tory paper, end of. True Labour MP's, Councillors and members should all give the thumbs down to The Sun and Burnham would be advised to do the same as should Cooper, Kendall and Corbyn. Although I doubt Mr Corbyn would ever entertain the idea of speaking to The Sun.

Taking to The Sun might be the right thing to do to win votes but is it worth it at the cost of losing the Labour party's sole?

## HUMANITY'S TEST



# HUMANITY'S TEST

What is humanity and what does it stand for? There are many big questions connected to the ideal of humanity but in what way can we make real changes to have a real impact on the lives we lead?

The big test for humanity. Do we truly care for humanity love and caring for our neighbours..

OR

Do we love money and possessions more than we love our neighbours?

We can have our materialistic possessions and our families and some fair-weather friends whom probably only care if it doesn't affect them or their little comfort zones.

How many of us actually know or talk to our neighbours, maybe because we are afraid of what they may want from us. Or we can have real society of social bonding, sharing,

looking after each-other and true friends whom would stand by us in adversity.

In my opinion a capitalist society is a cold society of survival of the people with the most money. If you can't afford health care you will die of something that could be cured. If you cannot earn enough money to pay bills or rent or buy a house. Our children may not get an education if we cannot afford to school them.

Capitalists accuse people of being lazy when we should be caring of someone in hard times to build them back up. In times of no work is our leisure time to study and appreciate life. We have the money to support us all. Capitalists will lie about

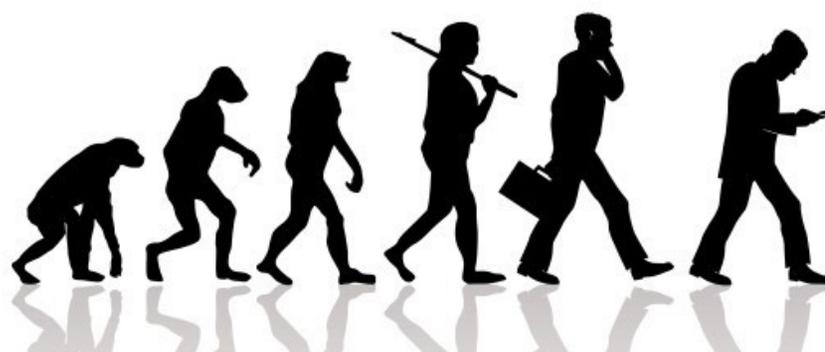
money saying there is no money. Capitalist make people feel guilty for not being productive and this in turn makes people feel guilty and worthless and then angry and defensive.

People should be encouraged to improve themselves with study in a free education system to build on self-esteem and in turn will be adding to society.

I do not think much of a society where one has to fight for scraps of food from food-banks just

because I could not afford the education to get a good job but maybe it wont matter if I get a disease and it will be over quickly! Better luck in the next life aaay.

We must all stand together for a better society! We cannot sit and wait for everything we want to fall into our laps.



IMMIGRANTS VIEW



# AN IMMIGRANT'S VIEW

Salutations pasty comrades of the Neoliberal capitalist West!  
Pleasure being here, on this slave ship, off the coast of France

By *Maya Leverkuhn*

Birmingham last week

Been out to dinner with “respectable” professor of economy.

Talking about social historical philosophical and economic issues spanning all human history.

Lavish restaurant. Endless courses and fucking pompous cocktails with half a mango in them, exotic erotic names and little umbrellas. This is rococo France all over again. Champagne, candles and prostration from a totally submissive and oppressed staff. The magnitude of the opulence—excessive, obscene. Useless and pedantic. From the little stories on the menu to make the act of eating stuff you're meant to shit into some sort of heightened experience... The mind boggling pretentiousness of everything. And then the waitress that attends to our table with a tortured fake smile. Crushed and dead on the inside, going through the motions of polite ass kissy conversation because it's—not her job, but her captivity. Psychological prisoner. And if she as much as acts human, not Robo-waitress, for a millisecond, she'll get her ass

kicked and possibly end up in the street.

And you know what? The evening offered some mathematical cornucopia. Right out of the restaurant, young, almost attractive homeless people. Maybe that waitress wasn't just stuffy and terrified because “these damn frigid women” or “goddam paupers buzz killingtons”; she maybe knew the downgrade from gilded slavery to fat diners was directly rough sleeping in a sleep sack next to junkies in Rape Alley.

My dinner date? Joyous economic sophisms on merits of the British. He's Indian. Talk about Stockholm syndrome. How's that double anal penetration coming along, pal? You don't bite the hand that feeds, do you? Deep throat, rather.

Open plan kitchen so that slobbering diners can witness their oral enema being cooked. By what looked like brutalised, hopeless, crushed, automatons. Big fellas look Eastern European with dead eyes. Through the steam of the kitchen looking nightmarish. For the fat inane bastards to have retarded “cultured” conversation about plays they see and galleries

they troll; not real appreciation of art or anything, just a sort of snob douche mutual cultural patting on the head.

I used to go to these plays and events and film festivals and talks and shit. Always come home disappointed, “maybe it was the wrong play”; “maybe it was the worst film in the festival”. NO. IT'S VACUOUS, IT'S THE RULE. It's not meant to muse on the reality of human nature. And contemporary reality. Or even the truth from Dead Ages. Or any worthwhile goals of a sane human being.

This pseudo culture mass produced in Britain is a hypnosis device for halfwits that need to feel savants and superior; to justify their neoliberal capitalist lifestyle; to motivate them to throw their Carcasses under the machination of power, to generate infinite power for someone else—and get probably some trinkets in return. Cars, Michelin dinners, formula 1 tickets in Singapore, skiing in Ischgl, experimental Shakespeare. The emperor is naked, douche bags! You sit there talking about your purchases :“did I do good?”; “do I get a biscuit”—but in posh flat accents. And it's all a big fart.

On the walkback to the hotel, scratch glitz and sycophantic waitress and artificial warm and chatter—forest of devastated homeless people in the freezing cold. Eerily young and pretty. Haunting. I tremble. Cameron's Britain. I hear the Tories' sinister laugh in their gold palace as the fools let themselves eviscerated.

My pal: ” I often think of helping them but it's the question of incentivising failure, you know?"; “They need to know worth is earned”.

I vomit on his face, the big Michelin fancy pants dinner.

No, I don't really. Wouldn't it be cool if I did?

Then I see a silhouette, my heart skips. A picture of utter desolation and hopelessness. A woman sitting in the dark, upright, knowing she's dying. Silent dignified despair. In a pack of loud homeless men. She doesn't look old or ugly. Just worn out. It's freezing.

I feel ashamed by my red nails and designer bag. I give her my change. Only a pound left. I feel awful. She looks up and thanks me deeply, gracefully. I shiver with shame. But I walk on.

My pal starts to talk about charities he contributes to. I'd vomit but I'm lost thinking of the woman.

And I go to bed in my hotel thinking of her. Torn between the shame of not going back to help and the rage at this country of slaves that passionately defend slavery, waving their capitalist trinkets like monkeys.

This is Britain. DOESN'T IT F\*\*KING SUCK?!!!

## BRIGHTON PARTY SUSPENDED



A formal complaint was made against Council Leader Warren Morgan after he tweeted unsubstantiated allegations

# BRIGHTON PARTY SUSPENDED

In September 2015, a week after Jeremy Corbyn was elected Labour leader, I joined the Labour party in Brighton and Hove. I had voted Labour throughout the 1980s and into the 1990s but drifted away from the party during the Blair years.

In 2012 I joined the Green party, which was strong in Brighton and seemed more likely to oppose austerity than Ed Miliband's Labour. But after Corbyn's inspirational campaign and election it was clear to me that the real fight for democratic socialism in this country was within Labour.

That fight would not be easy. In Brighton, for example, the local party was dominated by a small but powerful clique of right-wing Progress supporters led by the Labour council leader Warren Morgan, and the newly elected Labour MP Peter Kyle – both of whom publicly supported Liz Kendall's candidacy for leader. But at the same time the party was attracting thousands of new members, enthused by Corbyn and what he stands for. I felt that over time the ordinary party members would assert themselves and, using the accepted democratic procedures, be elected to leading positions in the local party.

But history repeats itself, first as

tragedy, then as farce. If the attempted coup mounted by a majority of the parliamentary Labour party (PLP) against Corbyn is a tragedy (and a crime), then the mini-coup now mounted by the PLP's satraps in Brighton and within the official Labour machine is a farce, though a very unamusing one.

It began when the party's 2016 annual general meeting (AGM) was called for Saturday 9 July. Nominations were sought for candidates to the branch executive – for chair, secretary, treasurer, two vice-chairs and five ordinary members. This was the first time the entire local party had a chance to express its wishes on the executive since Corbyn's election last year. It would also be a verdict delivered on Corbyn by the largest Labour party branch in the UK, with over 6,000 members.

The 'slate' for the executive put up by Corbyn supporters was an inclusive group of members, most of whom had been in the party for many years, including Greg Hadfield, who had

held senior posts on the executive before. Another slate of candidates stood for the executive under the title 'We are Labour'. Their political views were fuzzy but they appeared to have the support of the Morgan-Kyle axis of the local party and to generally not support Corbyn.

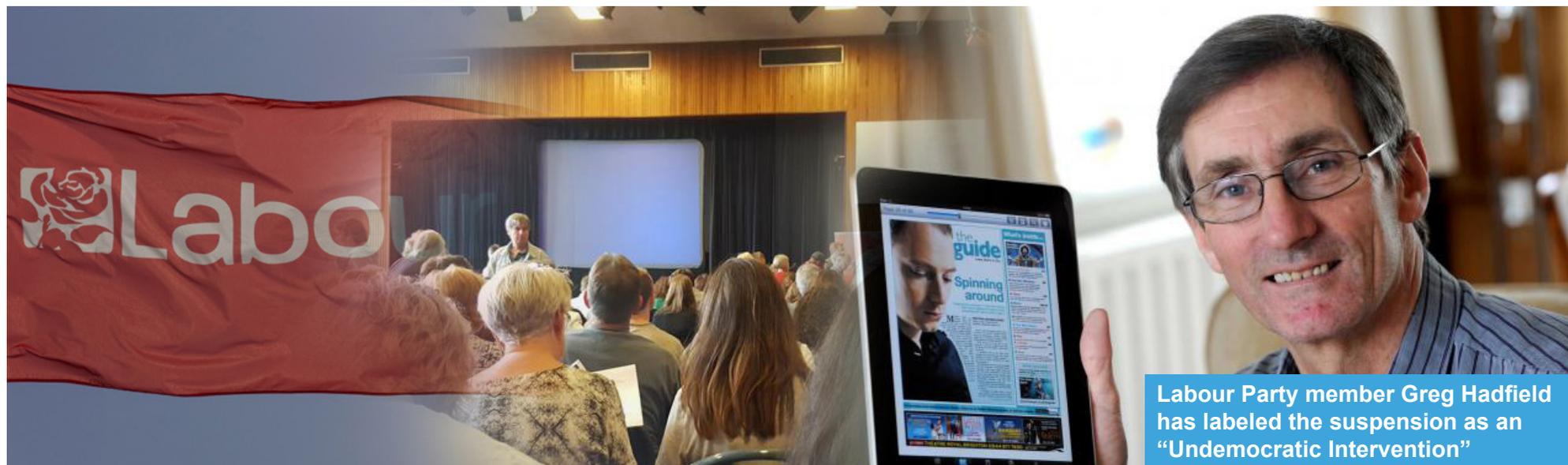
Following the PLP's manoeuvres against Corbyn and relentless pressure on him to resign, a pro-Corbyn rally organised by Brighton & Hove Momentum was scheduled for 2pm on 9 July in the Brighthelm community centre. The AGM itself was scheduled to begin at 4pm at City College down the road.

The Brighthelm's main hall can hold, at most, 400. Rally organisers thought that would be sufficient, but at least 700 people showed up. A hands-up poll showed that the vast majority were Labour members intending to go to the AGM. Judging by the range of speakers from the floor, my personal impression of the rally was that it was a classic Labour gathering – teachers, care workers, local government workers, trade

unionists, many pensioners (mostly women, I noticed), no obvious 'Trots' at all. Also a good number of younger members, including my own 19 year old daughter who joined Labour last year – the first political party or group she has ever been in. The rally was addressed by several speakers, including Greg Hadfield, local UNISON and NUT representatives, and Seema Chandwani – the secretary of Tottenham Labour constituency Labour party (CLP) – who offered the benefit of her experience as a BME female secretary of a large CLP who had successfully struggled to overturn the stranglehold of a reactionary right-wing clique in her constituency. (After the rally Seema was later verbally abused in a pub and told to "Fuck off out of Brighton" by people who seemed to know who she is and what she had come to Brighton for – the only actual case of confirmed abuse on the day I am aware of.)

So many members turned up to the rally that not everyone could get in, and some speakers had to go outside to address the overflow. The rally was good-humoured and even-tempered, with speakers emphasising that no matter what provocation might arise at the AGM or how angry people were about the attempt to remove Jeremy Corbyn, they should be polite and respectful at all times. After the rally closed at 3pm many hundreds of Labour members walked down

Continued Next Page >>



Labour Party member Greg Hadfield has labeled the suspension as an “Undemocratic Intervention”

to City College to participate in the AGM and to vote for those candidates who supported the current Labour leader.

Me and my daughter arrived at approximately 3.40pm. It was immediately apparent that there were simply too many people attending to fit into the City College meeting hall, which holds about 250-300. There was a queue out of the hall, down through the building and out the door, and growing. Members were obviously concerned that they might not get in to cast their vote. However, at no point did I see or hear any member in the queue raise their voice or abuse or criticise City College staff who were faced with a difficult situation. On the contrary, the queue was orderly and polite. I was not aware until later that, by lucky coincidence, I had arrived at exactly the right time and place to witness what is now known as the ‘spitting incident’ – and indeed I might have witnessed it had it taken place. But it didn’t. When I arrived a member of City College staff had locked the doors as he said the main hall was full. It was unclear on whose instructions he had done this, and it was pointed out to him that locking the doors actually endangered the health and safety of those inside.

It’s not entirely clear what happened to change this decision – it appeared to be an intervention by a more senior member of staff – but a few minutes later the doors were unlocked and orderly procession into the building continued. I entered and proceeded slowly in the queue up the main stairs to the first floor. I saw and heard no incident of any kind. There was no noise from below to indicate an

incident had occurred, which there surely would have been had someone spat in someone else’s face. On the first floor I looked over the balcony to the entrance and could only see a peaceful and orderly queue.

Later, after the AGM, some of the local party who opposed the pro-Corbyn candidates began to tweet that a member of City College had been spat at during this time, yet many in the queue at this time have reported that they saw and heard nothing of the sort. Prominent among those who claimed, via Twitter, that a spitting incident had taken place was Labour council leader Warren Morgan, who I did not see in the queue at the time, or in the meeting I attended inside. Later that evening he tweeted that he was “saddened that our MP Peter Kyle and our party organiser were abused at the AGM today, and I’m sorry that venue staff were spat on.”



*Why the Labour party management has intervened we can only guess?*

I do not know why Cllr Morgan tweeted this or what evidence he had to believe it. He made no attempt to bring a formal complaint to the newly-elected executive, even though he also tweeted that he hoped it “... would investigate and expel the

member responsible.” The police have not been contacted about the ‘incident’. No-one has asked to see CCTV footage except the member accused, who has demanded it be produced in order to exonerate him. The member concerned has also submitted a complaint to Labour party secretary Iain McNicol about Warren Morgan for perpetuating inaccurate and slanderous allegations, and for bringing the Labour party into disrepute.

After about 20 minutes of queuing – during which time my daughter and I had advanced inside and up the stairs, but not entered the main hall – at about 4.05pm the then-branch chair Lloyd Russell-Moyle made an announcement (repeated several times as he went down the queue) that because of the overspill there would not be one AGM meeting but two and possibly three, one after the other. The first meeting had begun and he apologised that those not yet inside would have to wait. All the meetings would be addressed briefly by the candidates for the five main executive posts, and then voting would commence. Two emergency motions put to the AGM – one to support Jeremy Corbyn, one to ask he step down – would not be taken, as that would mean the meetings would go on for too long.

Although those members, such as myself, who did not get into the first meeting had to wait longer, and in quite stuffy heat, the reaction to Lloyd’s announcement was remarkably calm and understanding. No-one raised their voice or complained. Most were relieved they would, eventually, get into the meeting and be allowed to cast their vote. Me and my daughter

joined a separate queue for our local ward and received our papers for the next meeting, and then retired to the side to allow others to do the same. People gave up seating space for older members. At that time I saw Hove’s Labour MP Peter Kyle talking to members in the queue. He was laughing and joking with those he spoke to, and although it is probable that many members disagreed with his position on Jeremy Corbyn’s leadership the atmosphere was pleasant and non-confrontational. As far as I know, Kyle himself has not claimed he was subject to abuse at the AGM.

“ I SAW HOVE’S LABOUR MP PETER KYLE TALKING TO MEMBERS IN THE QUEUE. HE WAS LAUGHING AND JOKING WITH THOSE HE SPOKE TO

At approximately 4.45pm the first meeting ended and the doors were opened to allow members to enter the second meeting. Everyone who had queued patiently filed forward and entered the main hall. My personal experience is of this second meeting, although reports from the other meetings are consistent that they went off as well as the second one. My oldest daughter, who had arrived at the venue early, attended the first meeting and reported that it went smoothly, with the candidates making brief speeches, to which the audience listened respectfully. There was apparently more applause for

Continued Story >>

## BRIGHTON PARTY SUSPENDED



Local MP Peter Kyle was at the meeting and has not made any statement about this issue - although many people have reached out to him on social media politely asking that he acknowledge that no one was threatened or bullied at the event.

Continued Story >>

those candidates supporting Corbyn, not surprisingly as there were more members present who supported Corbyn than did not. The members at the first meeting then exited through the car park as other members came in.

In the second meeting, as with the first, the candidates gave brief speeches. All were listened to in silence. There were no jeers or adverse comments of any kind. Again, Corbyn-supporting candidates received more enthusiastic applause, reflecting the feeling of the majority there, but nothing untoward or intimidatory. There was no heckling at this meeting. Again voting took place, after which members left through the car park. As I left I had a brief friendly chat with a Brighton Labour councillor (who did not support the Corbyn slate) and we both agreed how well the meetings had gone and that the local party could congratulate itself on having provided members the opportunity to participate and vote, despite the logistical difficulties.

The truly extraordinary thing about the AGM(s) was the extremely well organised, polite and respectful the manner in which it was carried out, and which make the later claims made about it such a travesty of justice. The atmosphere throughout was cordial and good-natured. The subsequent ballot count was conducted by party members who supported different sets of candidates. No complaints were made from either side about the integrity of the voting or count.

The later suggestion that the meeting put members' safety at risk is ridiculous. Nobody claimed this at the time. At no time was the safety of members even remotely put at risk, and the allegation that it was – an allegation still unseen, if it exists at all – does not explain in what manner

their safety was supposedly put at risk.

The results of the election came in later in the evening and the next day. The Corbyn-supporting candidates won all the main posts on the executive and could therefore command a 'majority' on the executive. The victorious candidates had secured over 60% of the vote, with the new secretary Greg Hadfield securing 66% of the vote. Greg's first act as new secretary was to put out a request for members to assist the outgoing chair, Lloyd Russell Moyle, in his council by-election contest in East Brighton. He also emphasised that he and the new executive wished to work with all within the party, and he exchanged several amicable Twitter messages with those who had opposed him and the other winning candidates.

The matter of the AGM and the election seemed to be over. But on the evening of Thursday 14 July the Labour party disputes panel issued a statement, without first informing the new branch executive, that it had received 'many' complaints (though the actual number remains unspecified) about the conduct of the meeting, alleging "...abusive behaviour by some attendees, as well as reports that the ballot results were not properly reached." It added that it was "...particularly concerned that the safety of members at the meeting was compromised." As a result the disputes panel decided, with no investigation of any of these matters, to suspend the entire Brighton & Hove party immediately and also to cancel the results of the AGM. Members were informed there would be a new AGM "at a later date." For the moment, and we assume until at least after the leadership election, not only is there no local party democracy, there is no local party at all.

A day later the members of Brighton & Hove party received an e-mail from 'Brighton & Hove District Labour' (with no personal signature) that repeated verbatim the statement of the disputes panel. At no time did the disputes panel communicate with the new executive or attempt to discover the credibility of the allegations before closing the largest local Labour branch in the country and revoking the election of a new executive by a large majority of local members. Many are wondering at the panel's motivations for taking this action, the evidence on which they have based their decision, and if it would have done so if the election for the executive had produced a different result.

The suspension of the party was widely reported in the media, usually with headlines about 'bullying' and 'abuse'. It is my belief that the allegations made about the conduct of the AGM have no basis in fact. Nothing I saw or experienced at, before or after the AGM supports the allegations. The indirect legitimacy given to the allegations by the actions of Labour's disputes panel – and the subsequent reporting of the AGM in the national press – are a gross slander on the members who took part, and particularly on the large majority who voted for the winning candidates.

Clearly I was not everywhere and did not see everything. But I have spoken to friends and family who were at the rally, in the queue at City College, and at all three meetings. Not one reports a different experience than mine. The overwhelming reports and feedback from the event was that, in spite of logistical difficulties, it went off extremely well, and was a credit to the Labour party. When asked his view on BBC News, Peter Kyle

MP – who Warren Morgan claimed was abused at the AGM – replied that "if" abuses had taken place "on the margins" then these had to be investigated, indicating that he himself does not support the main allegations.

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“ NOTHING I SAW OR EXPERIENCED AT, BEFORE OR AFTER THE AGM SUPPORTS THE ALLEGATIONS.

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The number and credibility of any complaints remains unknown. At the moment no-one in the Brighton & Hove Labour party has even been informed what those allegations are. In the circumstances, there is a very good chance they are trivial, vexatious and politically-motivated. Yet on this basis the largest Labour CLP in the country has been shut down and the results of a transparently fair election, which returned candidates supportive of Jeremy Corbyn to the senior posts of the local executive, has been annulled.

For the moment the democratic wishes of Brighton & Hove Labour members have been overturned. That will not last. Like the bigger coup against Jeremy Corbyn, the smaller coup in Brighton is already disintegrating under its own ineptitude. Eventually the AGM will take place, monitored by Labour HQ officials, and it will pass off as quietly as the first one did. The result will be the same. The party can then begin to fully support and campaign for the anti-austerity, pro-public ownership policies supported by Jeremy Corbyn, John McDonnell and the vast majority of Labour members.



# THE GLORIOUS REVOLUTION

When the Dutch invaded - Do you remember the story of the Glorious Revolution of 1688, when Britain was saved from an evil Catholic king by a Protestant Dutchman

*By Alexander Dommerholt*

Do you remember the story of the Dutchman who restored order and helped towards unifying the kingdoms of England, Ireland and Scotland into one powerful United Kingdom that would rule the world?

That's exactly what it is: a story. The actual history behind it is much less heroic, and – as history often is – the reality has much more to do with the ambitions and interests of individuals, which have affected the lives of millions of people for the past few centuries.

What started it all was when a new king entered the scene in Britain: James II, a Catholic. Ireland and Scotland - home to many Catholics - were not unwelcoming to him, but the Protestant English felt threatened by James and his Catholic son, who could overturn the favourable position of the Protestants in England.

James handed out important offices to known Catholics, increased his standing army, showed to have a relatively open mind about religious

freedom and had little interest in sharing his power with Parliament.

Still fresh in many English minds was the Gunpowder Plot of 1605 when Guy Fawkes and other Catholics had tried to blow the Protestant royal family and aristocracy. This had given anything that reeked of Catholicism a bad name, making James all the more suspicious in English eyes.

Enter William of Orange, the ruler of the Dutch Republic – and James's son-in-law(!). The Dutch Republic was one of England's main rivals and one of the most powerful countries in the world, but it had come dangerously close to collapse when the French, English and Germans attacked them in 1672, yet eventually managed to win the war.

William was worried about James as well; the Dutch were a fiercely Protestant people and feared becoming surrounded by Catholic enemies – including a Catholic England. Knowing that another war could destroy the Dutch Republic and his own power with it, William was eager to prevent another war on Dutch soil.

Fortunately for William, a group of English noblemen invited him to invade England to restore Protestantism. For William it was the chance he needed to safeguard and increase his own power, and he landed in Torquay with a force of several thousands of soldiers and mercenaries.

Despite having a larger army than William's, James did not know how to deal with the invasion (the last time Britain was invaded by a foreign army to this day) and didn't strike back, prompting many of his own men to choose William's side. James fled to France, paving the way for William and James's daughter Mary to become the new King and Queen.

Though the Glorious Revolution was mostly bloodless in England, it wasn't in Scotland and Ireland. James landed in Ireland to fight William in 1689 – James lost all hope of regaining his crown in the famous Battle of the Boyne, and the remaining Irish resistance was wiped out the following year.

Ultimately, the real story isn't as clear

cut as Protestantism vs. Catholicism, which many would have us believe – for example, many Dutch Catholics fought on William's side against James. Instead, what we are looking at is a story about a man who felt threatened, and dealt with that threat by trying to increase his power by ruling two countries at once.

William's gamble didn't pay off in the long term – as a foreign ruler, it was fairly simple for Parliament to gain more power at his expense, while the newly formed Kingdom of Great Britain soon overtook the power of the Dutch Republic. William died childless, leaving the Dutch in disarray – never again would the Dutch be a world power.

Though William of Orange is long gone, his mythologised history lives on – especially in Northern Ireland where the Orangemen (named after the Dutch national colour) still march each year in remembrance of his victory in Ireland – reminding us that the wounds caused by the Glorious Revolution and William's personal ambition are still fresh to this day.

#LABOURBULLYING



# #LABOURBULLYING

By the time you read this it will doubtless be old news so apologies for that, but it will still be significant for a number of reasons – most important it should really cheer you up because it reveals just how desperate New Labour, Progress and the current leadership challengers are to hide from political debate and focus on murky stories of intimidation and political victimisation.

So it all began with a brick through the window of Angela Eagle's constituency office, you'll recall, on July 12th. This was unequivocally linked to her leadership bid by herself and by the press. Every few days a new anti Corbyn commentator has come out of the woodwork to imply a link to Momentum or Corbyn himself and this has snowballed into a #LabourBullying campaign launched by the right to help to index the alleged incidence of on-line abuse by "Corbynista's", as the right are superciliously calling the biggest party political movement ever known in British politics. Now Angela is out and Owen Smith is continuing on in the same vein, accusing Jeremy Corbyn of passively heading up a movement of left wing bullies.

Also, of course, Merseyside police advised Angela Eagle to close her constituency offices for the safety of all that worked there. Or did they? And that brick – where exactly was the window it went through? And that #LabourBullying index.... After a couple of days what has it harvested? Taking the questions in chronologic sequence let's look at the broken window, and a typical headline that went with it – due entirely to Angela Eagle's press statement. The window frames are red.....

there's a "Vote remain" placard being used to shore up the damage...Looks pretty authentic right?

There's just one thing wrong with this picture – it isn't Angela Eagle's constituency office.

The stairs might be a clue, and it's what got people thinking. Eventually a rather nice produced clip was uploaded to YouTube showing that the window was broken in the communal stairs of the building, it's not an office area at all and the building is not even exclusively used by the Labour Party – it is used by several businesses.

Takin only a few steps back from this window a much more sensible story emerges, and it would be hard pressed to see why anyone who was interested in the truth would have a different interpretation of events:

Some really good research released by <https://wirralinittogether.wordpress.com/> shows several important things – the broken window is on the pathway of a well-used route home from the local pub. Also that Angela Eagle's office window was not the one that was smashed, but most damning of all from this picture you can see that anyone genuinely intending to damage Angela Eagle's office could

easily have done so by walking another few metres and throwing the brick from there!

communal staircase windows in order to intimidate Angela Eagle when her personal office windows were only few feet away?

Who on earth would smash in the

**Jeremy for PM** @jeremyforlab · Jul 22  
Jeremy Corbyn is simultaneously a weak coward who hides behind closed doors AND he bully who is in people's faces. #LabourBullying

**Jane Hersey** @HerseyJane · Jul 22  
That nasty Mr Corbyn attempting to #LabourBullying Tories out of austerity cuts which UN describe as human rights abuses. This will never do

**Rob Brown** @communicapist · Jul 22  
Corbyn is threatening my complacent disregard for the rest of humanity & contempt for global biosphere - how horrid is that? #LabourBullying

**MaccLabour** @MaccLabour · Jul 22  
Len McClusky has a point Every time @jeremycorbyn stats show him in a lead up pops another attempt to destroy him #LabourBullying #OwenSmith

**Robin Corbyn's Vest** @WarmongerHodges · Jul 22  
"Me and 171 of my mates tried to get Corbyn to resign by making his life hell for 10 months but the EVIL BULLY wouldn't go". #LabourBullying

**Angry Salmond** @AngrySalmond · Jul 22  
Jeremy Corbyn once sternly explained to me that Star Trek was better than Star Wars. #LabourBullying

**Jane Hersey** @HerseyJane · Jul 22  
#Labourbullying #Corbyn promised to fight austerity and attempt to tackle social injustice an anathema to right wing Labour MP's.

## #LABOURBULLYING

“ WHO ON EARTH WOULD SMASH IN THE COMMUNAL STAIRCASE WINDOWS IN ORDER TO INTIMIDATE ANGELA EAGLE WHEN HER PERSONAL OFFICE WINDOWS WERE ONLY FEW FEET AWAY?

It seems at least equally likely that it was a random act of vandalism performed by a drunk on theory way home.

But why would Merseyside Police advise Angela to close her offices then? Well again, after a small amount of analysis it emerges that they didn't give this advice. It seems more like Angela or her office put the suggestion into the conversation with the police who at best gave mild encouragement to it. They didn't initiate the idea and even came out to state publicly that the decision to close surgeries had not been a police matter – presumably if a serious threat had been identified it would have been?

DCI Sarah Kenwright of Merseyside police said: “We have given Ms Eagle advice about her surgeries, at her request, but the decision to cancel surgeries is not a police matter and would lie entirely with them.”

Sadly for Owen Smith et al, the online #LabourBullying campaign little has been yielded little as yet except a rather amused and sarcastic response from those who see it as yet another desperate attempt to draw the leadership debate away from robust political discussion and into the kind of personalised mudslinging with which the Right of the part seem determined to try to use to bamboozle voters into taking their side..... I think we can all say a confident and somewhat sarcastic “good luck with that!” and I will leave you with a choice pick of some of the best responses I could find to the #LabourBullying campaign; Some had a more serious political point to make.

**Celestine** @CelestineBee · Jul 22  
Was it not bullying when Jeremy Corbyns own party members were hissing & sneering at him yesterday at PMQ's? #LabourBullying

**Macclabour** @MaccLabour · Jul 22  
The aim of @OwenSmith\_MP accusations of #LabourBullying is to shut down debate Shameful that he used concerns of others to serve his agenda

**JamieJones77** @JamieJones77 · Jul 22  
Corbyn grabbed my bicycle pump and threw it down a railway embankment. "Nationalise that!" he screamed. #LabourBullying

**Tony Hughes** @TheProtestBoard · Jul 22  
JC forced this man to 'keep the change' what an outrageous bully. #LabourBullying



**Macclabour** @MaccLabour · Jul 22  
Someone on Twitter is calling me a headbanger for being a supporter of @jeremycorbyn I think that's #LabourBullying

Robert J Somyne and 5 others follow  
**CIlr Susan Press** @susanp\_80 · Jul 22  
Old tactic Jeremy kind but weak New tactic Jeremy vile bully no-one is fooled by this #LabourBullying

**Shlomo Anker** @Hapoel4 · Jul 22  
Corbyn is bullying the owners of Weapons Companies by being Anti-War and taking away their right to buy a 3rd Luxury Yacht. #LabourBullying

Amelia Womack and 1 other follow  
**Sweary Pagan Mama** @Amethystra80 · Jul 22  
"Corbyn wouldn't let me go to the Commons tuck shop because I voted for Trident!" claims Labour backbencher. #LabourBullying

Green Party follows  
**kevin** @banjaxer · Jul 22  
#LabourBullying My hat blew off in the wind. This never happened before @jeremycorbyn became leader. I'm telling my dad.

**Curious** @myviewontopic · Jul 22  
Dennis Skinner: The only thing left about Owen Smith is his left hand 😂 #LabourBullying



**Tariq Ali**

## THE BIG EU FALLOUT

The Referendum results have created a full-blown crisis in the UK and total panic in Brussels. Denmark and Holland will go next. The French elite will be under huge pressure to concede a referendum. The German establishment will be meeting frequently and in secret to prepare a Plan B, which will mean a serious restructuring of the Eurozone.

It was a revolt against the political establishment (Ed Miliband acknowledged this fact) and had Corbyn come out for LEAVE his party would have been in a very strong position. The Tories are wounded. Labour and others should demand an early election. Impossible to wait till 2020. And the election campaign should be waged fiercely for an anti-capitalist programme and fighting the Right on racism/xenophobia, etc. Mass campaigning of the sort that won Corbyn the leadership is the way forward.

PS: After I debated Varoufakis he came and whispered in my ear: ‘Tariq, don't doubt that if there is a Brexit, I won't be shedding any tears.’ Time for him to say it in public...

# Talk like a Leftie

With  
**EMMANUEL GOLDFISH**



(c) Sebastian Melmouth

The Class Conscious Carp says "Reds, they be all like this .."

## TALK LIKE A LEFTIE WITH EMMANUEL GOLDFISH

When most people say 'Class' they mean a big set of iron gates or a particularly skilful fart – depending on your age and social group.

### Sebastian Melmouth

Most people are taught that 'Class' means how much money you have. That's how the recent Government survey of 'Class' was redefined. But, defining people ONLY by bank balance obscures how Class works.

Sociologists define Class with Culture and Community – so someone who saves up for books may be Middle Class even if they have to skip buyjng beans to afford it whilst someone who wins the lottery and spends it on pink 'Cinderella' tat may be Working Class.

Lefties have their own idea of Class.

For them, the 'Working Class' have only their skills and

labour to live off. The Middle Class may pretend they're not Working Class because they use a computer but If they're replaced, their status declines pretty quickly.

The Upper Class have money that works for them. It might be land, a shipping fleet, oil or a portfolio of shares. They can become alcoholics, give their kids a succession of company's to crash, or run for President - and it will never wreck their lives.

These are the people who tell the Working Class that they need to 'Apply themselves' because inheriting a publishing empire is just a matter of WILL.

On the whole, the same families that ruled the UK or America four centuries ago still rule it today.

The Media keeps us informed about the lucky few who, by skills and good luck, do become rich (rarely as much as the REAL rich).

It's not a conspiracy, The people who run and own our world just aren't as exciting as J-Lo's arse.

Which brings us back to how some other people define 'Class'.

DO say :

"This is class war by the Rich on the Poor"

DON'T Say:

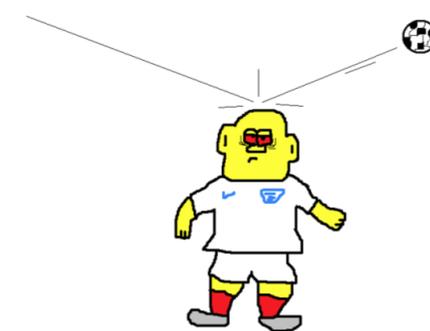
"That Queen – she got no class, y'getme?"



Since he was our leader  
Everything's gone wrong  
Its cloudy and it rains



Michael's hanging round  
Was never teacher's pet  
IQ of a primate  
Best selection yet



A team of stunning talent  
The best that we've seen yet  
But cannot find their form  
Or even find the net

**YOUR STARS** by   
**EMMANUEL GOLDFISH**  
*He's forgotten the past but he knows the future*

**♈ ARIES** You are drawn to powerful men. You may meet the Republican of your dreams when he comes to your town to build a new golf course on it.  
March 21  
April 20  
Your Lucky Mineral is Bullsh\*t

**♉ TAURUS** Shopping tip: This week, we are touchy about big vehicles that plough through pedestrians. Get a cycle or motorbike. Watch out for mad motorists.  
April 21  
May 21  
Your Lucky Mineral is Polystyrene

**♊ GEMINI** If your birthday's May 26, you may be Jeremy Corbyn and the Guardian & Mirror have made you realise the millions who paid £25.00 to vote for you did it as a practical joke.  
May 22  
June 20  
Your Lucky Mineral is Irony

**♋ CANCER** Tory cuts to NHS cancer treatment are a bit of a blow but just remember that Carmeron Osbourne, Gove and Hunt are all in this together - with you. SO reassuring!  
June 21  
July 22  
Your Lucky Mineral is P32

**♌ LEO** The star with the most influence over you is the Sun. If you're a soldier planning a trip to the Middle East/Brecon Beacons, a thermos of iced tea may save your life from Climate Change.  
July 23  
Aug 22  
Your Unlucky Mineral is Oil

**♍ CAPRICORN** If you work for Sports Direct, there's an air of fear amongst your management as Tax Inspectors ask why you're paid less than minimum wage. A good time to write a letter.  
Aug 23  
Sept 22  
Your Lucky Mineral is Money

**♎ LIBRA** This could be your lucky week! Under the influence of Theresa May, oppressive Human Rights may be lifted and you can help Security Personnel without worrying about The Law. Your Lucky Mineral: Sodium Pentathol  
Sept 23  
Oct 23

**♏ SCORPIO** Why not phone the sexy wife of a well known Politician? She may have an Agency deal with 'The Sun' - and that Bolly doesn't buy itself!  
Oct 24  
Nov 22  
Your Lucky Mineral is Cubic Zirconium

**♐ SAGITARIUS** There's no better place to go to avoid the EU now than Turkey - even if they put all their bananas in straghtjackets they'll not get in sniffing distance of an Eurocrat. Take a tank.  
Nov 23  
Dec 21  
Your Lucky Mineral is Boron Salt

**♑ VIRGO** Been made a scapegoat of an illegal invasion supported by most newspapers and Parties? God being unfair when it was HIS idea? Chillax! You're worth over £25 mill but you'r legal aid's paid by the Taxpayer! Ker-ching!  
Dec 22  
Jan 20  
Your lucky Mineral is Oil

**♒ AQUARIUS** One of the growing 554,000 using Foodbanks? You'll know water's a vital part of your healthy diet. So - great news that now EU funding's stopped, Tories have no funds for flood defence. Plastic bottles ready for October!  
Jan 21  
Feb 19  
Your Lucky Mineral is Cake

**♓ PISCES** A worrying week for fish - With no EU Fishing regulations, the UK will kill off the recovering fish stocks. Happily the big fishing combines will still be snapping up the snapper and the Chinese won't wrap you in 'The Sun'!  
Feb 20  
Mar 20  
Your Lucky Mineral is Topaz.

FOOD FOR THE SOUL



# SUMMER SMOOTHIE!

## Pep up your gizzards with a vitamin boosting smoothie that will Boost Your Immune System and energy levels for the whole day.

Strawberry Smoothie. Chop a handful of strawberries, 1 frozen banana, add a cupful of almond milk and blend until a smooth consistency. The strawberries are nutrient-rich and packed with antioxidants (like vitamin C) and will provide half of your recommended daily dose.

Or for a more filling and



nutritious breakfast meal add more frozen bananas to thicken the consistency and then include fresh toppings of chopped fruit, coconut shavings, or a handful of nuts and seeds for protein, minerals and zinc.

Blueberry Nice-Cream for a quick, simple and nutritious dessert just freeze a couple of



peeled and chopped bananas, whiz in the blender and add a handful of blueberries and spoonful of peanut butter - a healthy alternative to ice-cream low in saturated fat, loaded with anti-oxidants and dietary fibre.

Home-made nut milks are a cheap, healthy and lactose free alternative to dairy and simple to make. To prepare soaking nuts first reduces natural toxins and makes them easier to digest. For the following milks, soak the nuts for recommended timescales almond 12 hours, hazelnut 8 hours and cashew 2 hours.



Soak 1-2 cups raw, unsalted, organic nuts in filtered water for the stipulated time, drain and rinse then blend the soaked nuts with 4 parts filtered water to 1 part nuts. Once blended pour into a nut milk bag and squeeze, separating the pulp from the milk. Store in a bottle and refrigerate, will last 4-5 days.



The Nefarious Dr Wobblies'



# Bugle Information Network

ENTERTAINMENT LANDFILL

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BUTTOCK CLENCHING FIRST ISSUE!



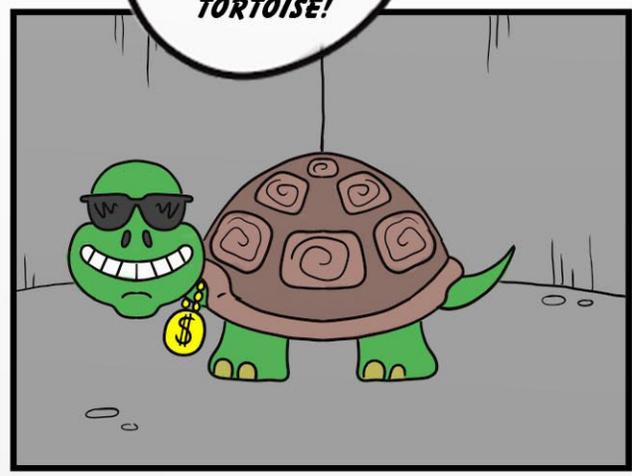
# CHRIS THE CAREERIST

HI I'M COUNCILLOR CHRIS



I'M NICK MCGUINNESS, MP FOR MIDDLEPLACE

I'VE GOT A PROBLEM, CHRIS! THE PRESS HAVE FOUND OUT ABOUT THE TORTOISE!

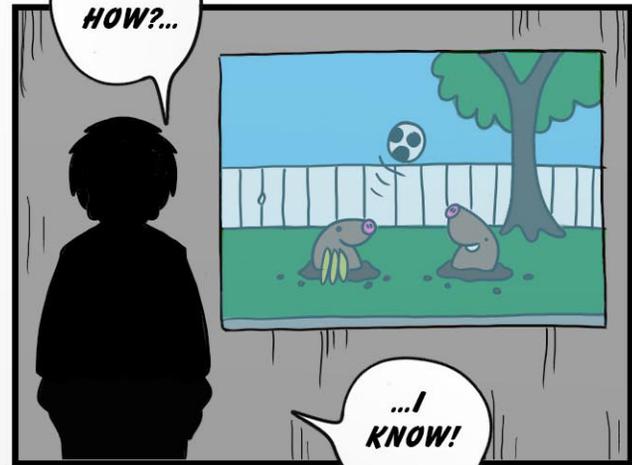


I TOLD YOU NOT TO PUT IT ON EXPENSES...



IF YOU COULD GET CONTROL OF THE MIDDLEPLACE PARTY, YOU COULD BE THE NEXT MP, CHRIS

BUT HOW?...



...I KNOW!

WE HAVE GOT MOLES! WE NEED A SECRET GROUP FOR SECRET THINGS



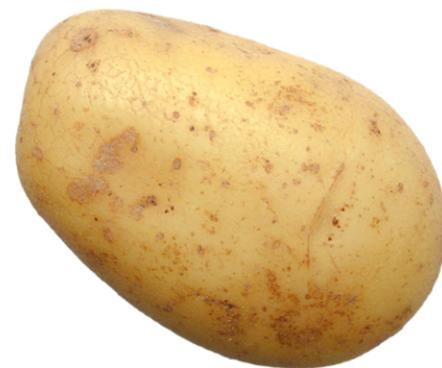
BUT IT'S NOT DEMOCRATIC!

DO YOU WANT TO BE IN IT?

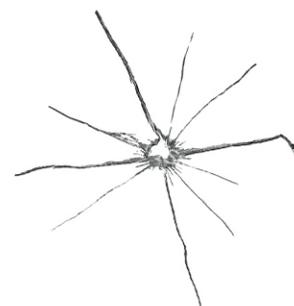
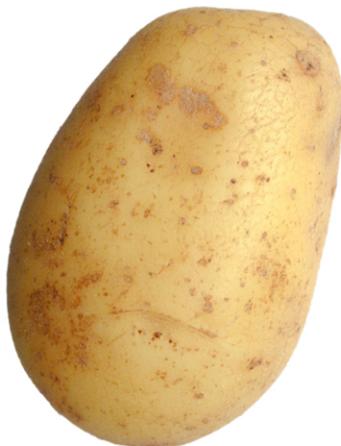
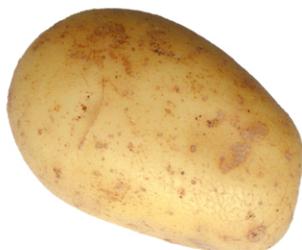


YES PLEASE...

# JOKES



It was my first time, I was very very nervous.  
 Luckily my brand new girlfriend at the time had plenty of experience,  
 I think it was one of the many things that made her so attractive to me,  
 she knew exactly what to do & she knew exactly what she wanted from me  
 & today was the day that she was going to get it!  
 I was so nervous, but I will never forget my first time.  
 Beads of sweat started to gently appear on my brow,  
 my heart started to beat faster as I looked into her eyes & said "I'm not sure I can do it?".  
 "You can" she replied "Just start with one finger & slowly slide it in?".  
 I took a deep breath & did as she asked... "OMG" I said, "it's so wet & so warm!"  
 She started to moan with delight "that's it baby" she said, "doesn't it feel good?"  
 "Baby it feels wonderful" I replied!...  
 "Quick" she said "slide another finger in now?!"  
 Without hesitation I slid my second finger deep inside next to the first one...  
 "YES!" She screamed excitedly! "OMG YES! You are doing it, you are doing it right!"  
 She shouted with a huge smile on her face...  
 "DON'T STOP BABY!" She squealed excitedly... "Now put your whole hand inside?" ....  
 By now it was so wet & so warm I had never seen her so excited?  
 So I gently closed all my fingers together & plunged my whole hand deep inside!!!  
 "OMG!" She screamed!!! "YES BABY!!! YES!!! That's it! That's it!  
 Your doing it, your doing it!" She shouted in the cutest most excited voice I ever heard!  
 "Now just stick your other hand in there baby & you CAN DO THE DISHES!!!" She said....  
 She was so proud of me & I had never made her so happy



**FOR SEVERAL YEARS, A MAN WAS HAVING AN AFFAIR WITH AN ITALIAN WOMAN.. ONE  
 NIGHT, SHE CONFIDED IN HIM THAT SHE WAS PREGNANT.  
 NOT WANTING TO RUIN HIS REPUTATION OR HIS MARRIAGE, HE SAID HE WOULD PAY HER  
 A LARGE SUM OF MONEY IF SHE WOULD GO TO ITALY TO SECRETLY HAVE THE CHILD.  
 FURTHERMORE, IF SHE STAYED IN ITALY TO RAISE THE CHILD, HE WOULD ALSO  
 PROVIDE CHILD SUPPORT UNTIL THE CHILD TURNED 18.  
 SHE AGREED, BUT ASKED HOW HE WOULD KNOW WHEN THE BABY WAS BORN. TO KEEP IT  
 DISCREET, HE TOLD HER TO SIMPLY MAIL HIM A POST CARD, AND WRITE 'SPAGHETTI'  
 ON THE BACK. HE WOULD THEN ARRANGE FOR THE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS TO BEGIN.  
 ONE DAY, ABOUT 9 MONTHS LATER, HE CAME HOME TO HIS CONFUSED WIFE. 'HONEY,  
 SHE SAID, 'YOU RECEIVED A VERY STRANGE POST CARD TODAY.'  
 'OH, JUST GIVE IT TO ME AND I'LL EXPLAIN IT LATER,' HE SAID. THE WIFE OBEYED  
 AND WATCHED AS HER HUSBAND READ THE CARD, TURNED WHITE, AND FAINTED.**



**ON THE CARD WAS WRITTEN:  
 SPAGHETTI, SPAGHETTI, SPAGHETTI, SPAGHETTI, SPAGHETTI.  
 THREE WITH MEATBALLS, TWO WITHOUT.  
 SEND EXTRA SAUCE.**



# WELCOME TO

## THE LONDON INSTITUTE ART REALISATION SEMINARY



Founded in 1483 by King Henry 7<sup>th</sup> to take the piss out of Richard 3<sup>rd</sup>, and keep the local peasantry in mud and turnips, the London Institute Arts Realisation Seminary has always, obviously, been based in Manchester.

Thanks to it's tropical climate and sun-kissed beaches that embrace the gentle cascades of the Manchester Ship Canal, the school is well placed to deliver the kind of courses that gives you the silvery tongue, and back stabbing edge that yields the profits, and career results you deserve...

sign on today - and tell porkies like a pro!

# LIARS SCHOOL

Liar's school has always been run by corrupt retired politicians, these are the people that really rule the world. Here is how the most successful liar of all time got the job.



# LIARS SCHOOL



# LIARS SCHOOL



# LIARS SCHOOL

# POETRY CORNER

I passed the place  
where you first  
reached out to me.  
And now you are gone  
and I feel  
like a ghost.

**Alex Taylor**

## *Sick and Dog Tired*

I'm sick of fighting wars  
That have nowt do wi' me  
I'm sick of the faux patriotism  
To feed egos and greed  
I'm sick of being ignored  
When I scream NOT IN MY NAME!!!  
I'm sick of going hungry  
While you play Westminster games  
I'm sick of career politicians  
Who once every five years care  
I'm sick of Hilary, Angela, Theresa, Michael  
And their father Tony Blair  
I'm sick of a sick world  
Made from their bloodthirsty zeal  
I'm sick,  
But I think i can be healed  
i need to find the gentlemen  
Who wants a new kinder deal

*Ibby 2016*

## *Valediction*

You won't be able to walk with me when I'm gone.  
I'll have nothing left but nether traces haunting already haunted places  
and people will say great sadness lingers there.  
The time to walk with me is when I'm here.

**Kevin John**

## *Contemplation*

I've had time to burn  
I live and learn  
I am always satisfying my soul  
by drinking from the Universe's bowl

I love it when a plan comes together  
I love it when a conversation doesn't involve the weather  
Communication is the name of the game  
Kindness brightens life's flame

I love it when I'm chilled  
I love it when I'm thrilled  
Little things fill my heart with glee  
I'm so glad to be independent and free

The floating of a butterfly  
Scattering ants that multiply  
Daffodils skirting a concealed lay by  
Fluffy clouds up in the sky

A miracle of rejuvenation and birth  
A first step for all its worth  
Cherry blossom scattered across the earth  
Dragon flies hovering in mirth

Snowdrops encased in morning dew  
Icicles collapsing on cue  
Scented roses blooming in lieu  
Spring lambs gambolling in view

I've got time to contemplate  
magic moments holistically  
I find time to compensate  
I look at life romantically

**Jules Clare**

# POETRY CORNER CLASSIC

## Dulce Et Decorum Est

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,  
 Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through sludge,  
 Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs,  
 And towards our distant rest began to trudge.  
 Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots,  
 But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame, all blind;  
 Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots  
 Of gas-shells dropping softly behind.

Gas! GAS! Quick, boys! - An ecstasy of fumbling  
 Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time,  
 But someone still was yelling out and stumbling  
 And flound'ring like a man in fire or lime.-  
 Dim through the misty panes and thick green light,  
 As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.  
 He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If in some smothering dreams, you too could pace  
 Behind the wagon that we flung him in,  
 And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,  
 His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin,  
 If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood  
 Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs  
 Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud  
 Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,-  
 My friend, you would not tell with such high zest  
 To children ardent for some desperate glory,  
 The old Lie: Dulce et decorum est  
 Pro patria mori.

WILFRED OWEN

*What is this life if, full of care,  
 We have no time to stand and stare.*

*No time to stand beneath the boughs  
 And stare as long as sheep or cows.*

*No time to see, when woods we pass,  
 Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.*

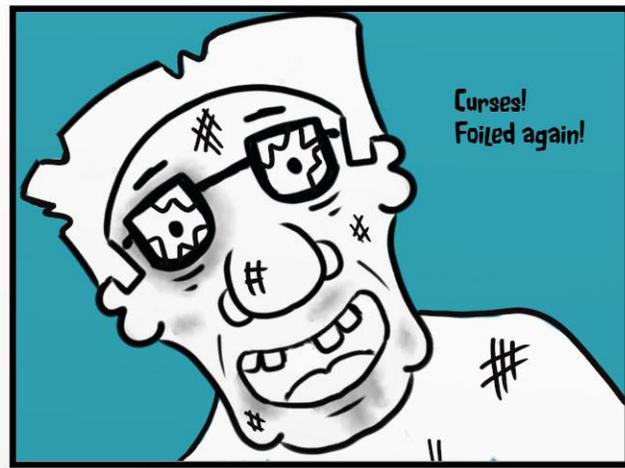
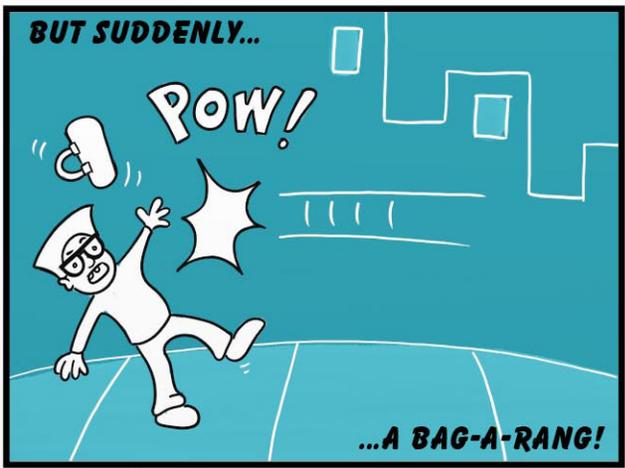
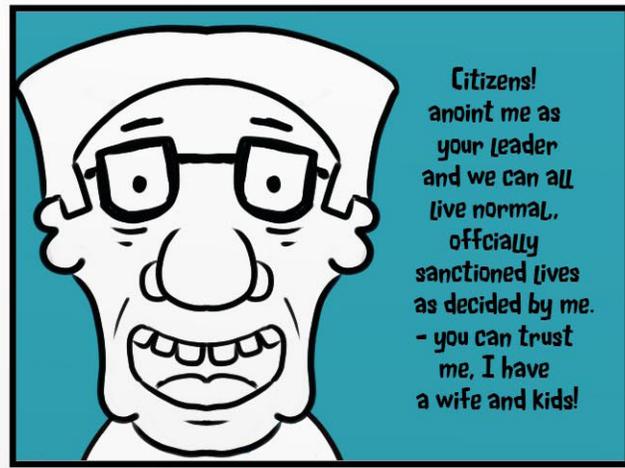
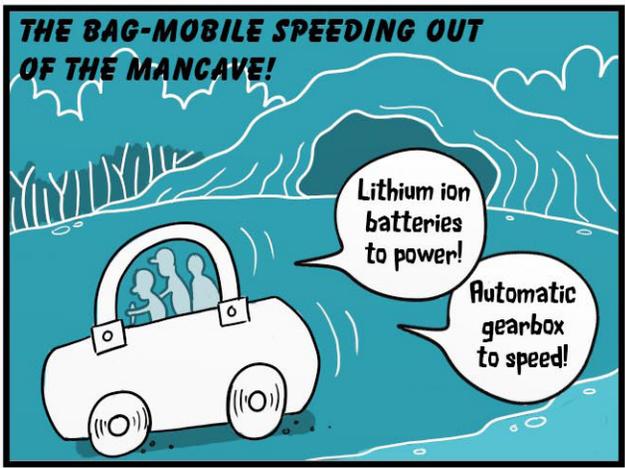
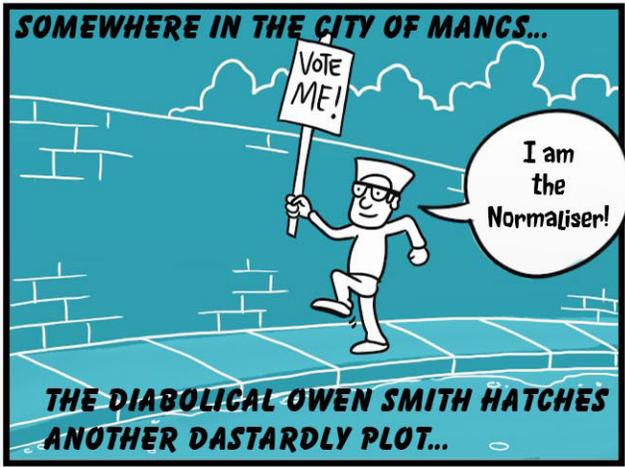
*No time to see, in broad daylight,  
 Streams full of stars, like skies at night.*

*No time to turn at Beauty's glance,  
 And watch her feet, how they can dance.*

*No time to wait till her mouth can  
 Enrich that smile her eyes began.*

*A poor life this is if, full of care,  
 We have no time to stand and stare.*

WILLIAM HENRY DAVIES



# XENOPHONS ADVENTURES IN SALFORD

**Xenophon, our country is falling apart...**



**I need you to travel North  
and ask them for help!**

**Take this with you my mighty warrior.**

**It is a map of the known world.**



**It's that way!**

**Alexsis, Yanis, refugees from  
the tyranny of Xerxes...**



**Come with me.**



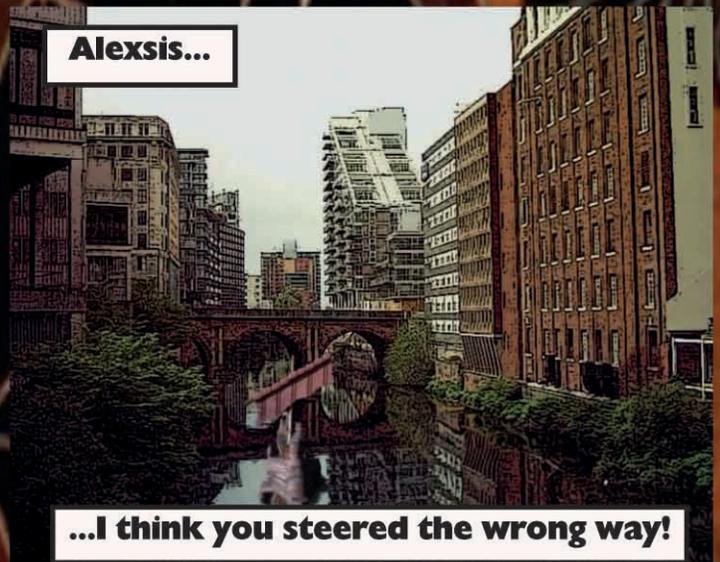
**The good ship Europa will  
surely bring back treasures!**

**This storm has lasted for years...**



**Where are we?**

**Alexsis...**



**...I think you steered the wrong way!**

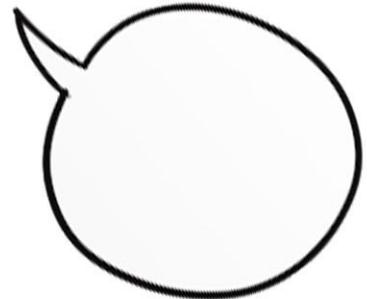
# QUIZ PAGE

**MATCH THESE SAYINGS...**

1. 'THOSE WHO DENY FREEDOM TO OTHERS DESERVE IT NOT FOR THEMSELVES.'
2. 'TO FEAR LOVE IS TO FEAR LIFE; AND THOSE WHO FEAR LIFE ARE ALREADY THREE PARTS DEAD.'
3. 'POLITICIANS ARE THE SAME EVERYWHERE. THEY PROMISE TO BUILD A BRIDGE WHEN THERE IS NO RIVER.'
4. 'PROMISING TOO MUCH CAN BE AS CRUEL AS CARING TOO LITTLE.'
5. 'LIFE DOES NOT CEASE TO BE FUNNY WHEN PEOPLE DIE;  
ANY MORE THAN IT CEASES TO BE SERIOUS WHEN PEOPLE LAUGH.'
6. 'THERE WAS NEVER A GOOD WAR; OR A BAD PEACE.'
7. 'HEAVEN IS WHERE ALL THE INTERESTING PEOPLE ARE MISSING.'
8. 'RELIGION.....IS THE OPIUM OF THE PEOPLE.'
9. 'HE WHO KNOWS OTHERS IS WISE; HE WHO KNOWS HIMSELF IS ENLIGHTENED.'
10. 'BREVITY IS THE SISTER OF TALENT.'
11. 'IF YOU'RE WALKING DOWN THE RIGHT PATH AND YOU'RE WILLING  
TO KEEP WALKING, EVENTUALLY YOU'LL MAKE PROGRESS.'
12. 'FAITH IS TAKING THE FIRST STEP, EVEN WHEN YOU DON'T SEE THE WHOLE STAIRCASE'
13. 'A CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT IS AN ORGANISED HYPOCRISY.'
14. 'NO ONE CAN MAKE YOU FEEL INFERIOR WITHOUT YOUR CONSENT.'
15. 'I WAS BORN A SLAVE, BUT NATURE GAVE ME THE SOUL OF A FREE MAN.'
16. 'THE GREATER THE POWER, THE MORE DANGEROUS THE ABUSE.'
17. 'EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD.'
18. 'ALL THE WORLD OVER I WILL BACK THE MASSES AGAINST THE CLASSES.'
19. 'THINGS GO WRONG WHEN THEY GET BIG.'
20. 'AN EYE FOR AN EYE MAKES THE WHOLE WORLD BLIND.'

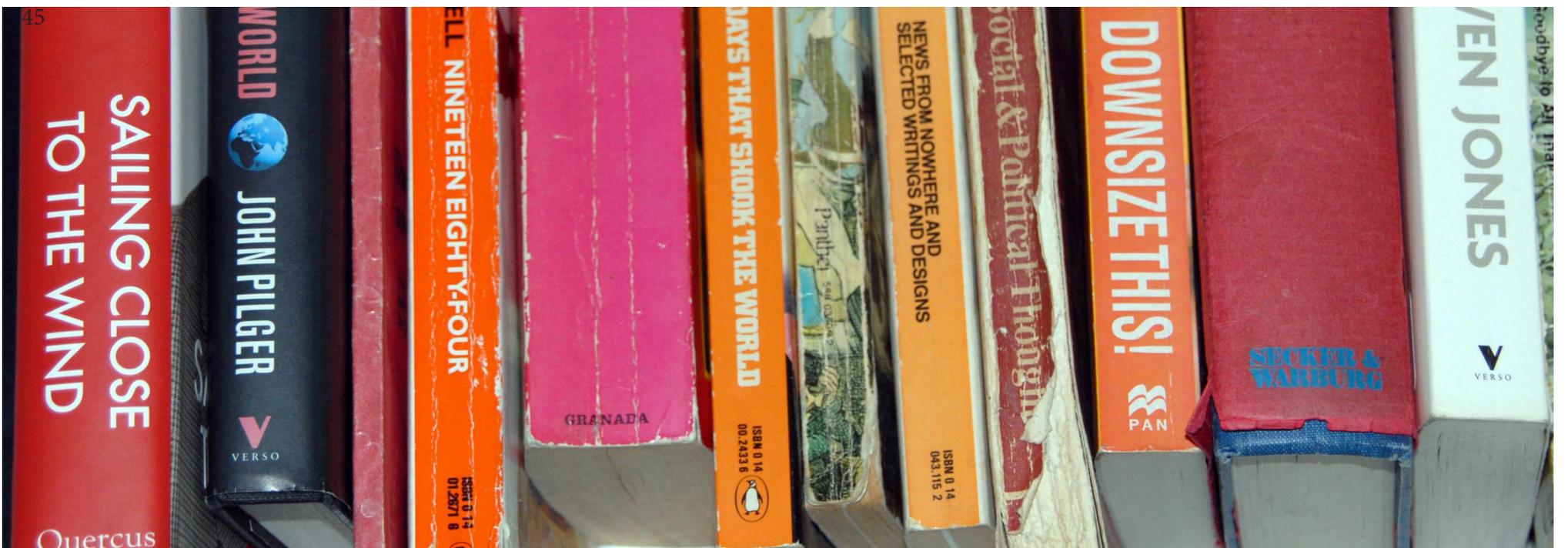
**IF YOU THINK YOU KNOW THE PERSON WHO MADE THE QUOTE,  
NOTE IT DOWN. OTHERWISE LOOK AT THE NAMES BELOW  
AND MATCH THEM WITH THE QUOTES.**

- A. LAO-TZU ( C6 TH.BC) CHINESE SAGE, FOUNDER OF TAOISM.
- B. BENJAMIN FRANKLYN (1706-1790) AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE LEADER.
- C. BILL CLINTON. ( 1946 - ) PRESIDENT OF U.S.A.
- D. NIKITA KRUSCHEV (1894-1977) SOVIET PRESIDENT.
- E. FREDERICK NIETSCHE (1844-1900) GERMAN PHILOSOPHER.
- F. GEORGE BERNARD SHAW (1856-1950) IRISH PLAYWRIGHT.
- G. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT (1884-1962) US FIRST LADY AND SOCIAL REFORMER.
- H. PETE SEEGER (1919 - 2014) AMERICAN FOLK SINGER AND SOCIAL ACTIVIST.
- I. ANTON CHECHOV (1860-1964) RUSSIAN PLAYWRIGHT AND DOCTOR.
- J. BERTRAND RUSSELL (1872 - 1970) PHILOSOPHER AND MATHEMATICIAN.
- K. BARAK OBAMA ( 1961 - ) PRESIDENT OF U.S.A.
- L. MAHATMA GHANDI (1869 - 1948) LEADER OF INDIAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT.
- M. EDMUND BURKE (1729-1797) WHIG MP. AND PHILOSOPHER.
- N. MARTIN LUTHER KING (1929 - 1968) LEADER OF CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT.
- O. W.E. GLADSTONE (1809- 1898) LIBERAL AND 4 TIMES PRIME MINISTER)
- P. ABRAHAM LINCOLN (1809-1865) US PRESIDENT AND LAWYER.
- Q. KARL MARX (1818-1883) GERMAN POLITICAL THEORIST.
- R. NELSON MANDELA AKA MADIBA (1915-2013) PRESIDENT OF SOUTH AFRICA.
- S. TOUSSAINT L'OVERTURE (1743 - 1803) LEADER OF HAITIAN REVOLUTION.
- T. BENJAMIN DISRAELI (1804-1881) TORY AND TWICE PRIME MINISTER.



**ANSWERS:**

1.P 2.J 3.D 4.C 5.F 6.B 7.E 8.Q 9.A 10.I 11.K 12.N 13.T  
14.G 15.S 16.M 17.R 18.O 19.H 20.L



**Harold Pinter: The Caretaker  
An Existential Crisis; in 3 halves**

**Davis: "Is this your house?"**

**Aston replies: "I'm in charge"**

**Davis asks: "You the land lord are you?"**

**Aston enquires: "What?"**

**In this play of three halves, Pinter, asks us to listen and join in on a conversation, a conversation in a degenerated house. Join in a conversation in some room, a room in a UK place. Listen and join in on a dialogue of three ordinary people via the magic of an invisibility cloak.**

**Pinter: 'The Care Taker' focuses on the conversations of three 'ordinary' beings and in doing so invites people to hear an ordinary conversation and through this medium, implicitly questions the ontology of our existence. The 'Care Taker' is a play that asks the listener/ participant to think about and question : what really is an existential existence and crisis? For example, do ordinary people have a formidable capacity to create illusions and self delusion, in a changing socio - political environment that destroys and creates personality, both simultaneously?**

**Pinter, achieved a qualification of this question by posing the idea of : 'How? '**

**How? Pinter asks, can an individual experience an ordinary banal pub fight, electro shock therapy, homelessness, no shoes, a dripping roof and still hold together some mental capacity to question their existence?**

**Pinter poses the answer of : JUST**

**Just...**

**Just, Happens...**

**How? Is the just, JUST?**

**On further eves dropping of Aston and Davis's conversations, we come to realise that a reasoned tale emerges. A tale that tells a story of a woefully, absurdly, conceived narrative that has been socialised onto some form of history, a history of a tale of yonder before.**

**The 'Care Taker' is a historical take of a tale of yesterday, the yesterday where Davis argues he had a place to sit (somewhere) before the: 'Greeks, Poles and Blacks were : "doing me out of a seat". A tale of a 'yesterday'. A yesterday when The Sun shone in a place called Sidcup and identity was fixed and seated in place.**

**In: ' The Caretaker' Pinter, attempts to make sense of a reconfiguration of space and time and in doing so appears take the position that the form of apparent properties such as places, global cities, migrations of people, movements of capitals, only offer an illusion a production of things yet also, implicitly create identity. Identity appears for Pinter, as an illusion. The notion of Identity, in Pinter's, The Care Taker, seems to mean that dialogue is constructed through a messy complexity of narrative, spin and self serving justification that is entwined within a conditioned socio political, personality. Through the illusion of 'Care Taker' we are also entwined.**

**For all the controversy surrounding Pinters' observations and his Nobel Laureate Prize 2005, he was a socialist that listened in on three conversations and asked three questions:**

**Who are we ? Who is the 'Care Taker? And How?**

LEAGUE LAST SEASON & NEW FIXTURES

# WILL ANYTHING SURPASS LAST SEASONS FINALE?

We are all wondering what will happen next season.. Will Leicester City do it again?.. Could they - Or should we put an outside bet on Sunderland and Bournemouth??

NEXT MONTHS FIXTURES  
Get ready! The new season is just around the corner.

Position	Club	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GF	GA	GD	Points
1 ●	Leicester City	38	23	12	3	68	36	32	<b>81</b>
2 ▲	Arsenal	38	20	11	7	65	36	29	<b>71</b>
3 ▼	Tottenham Hotspur	38	19	13	6	69	35	34	<b>70</b>
4 ▲	Manchester City	38	19	9	10	71	41	30	<b>66</b>
5 ▼	Manchester United	38	19	9	10	49	35	14	<b>66</b>
6 ▲	Southampton	38	18	9	11	59	41	18	<b>63</b>
7 ▼	West Ham United	38	16	14	8	65	51	14	<b>62</b>
8 ●	Liverpool	38	16	12	10	63	50	13	<b>60</b>
9 ▲	Stoke City	38	14	9	15	41	55	-14	<b>51</b>
10 ▼	Chelsea	38	12	14	12	59	53	6	<b>50</b>
11 ▲	Everton	38	11	14	13	59	55	4	<b>47</b>
12 ▼	Swansea City	38	12	11	15	42	52	-10	<b>47</b>
13 ●	Watford	38	12	9	17	40	50	-10	<b>45</b>
14 ▲	West Bromwich Albion	38	10	13	15	34	48	-14	<b>43</b>
15 ▼	Crystal Palace	38	11	9	18	39	51	-12	<b>42</b>
16 ●	Bournemouth	38	11	9	18	45	67	-22	<b>42</b>
17 ●	Sunderland	38	9	12	17	48	62	-14	<b>39</b>
18 ●	Newcastle United	38	9	10	19	44	65	-21	<b>37</b>
19 ●	Norwich City	38	9	7	22	39	67	-28	<b>34</b>
20 ●	Aston Villa	38	3	8	27	27	76	-49	<b>17</b>

last seasons table showing Leicester City gloriously on top and a cheeky second place for Arsene Wenger's Arsenal; being able to pip Spurs in the last game. Full credit to Claudio Ranieri's team for a thrilling ending to the season - will they do it next year?

SATURDAY 13 AUGUST		
Hull City	v	Leicester City
Burnley	v	Swansea City
Crystal Palace	v	West Bromwich Albion
Everton	v	Tottenham Hotspur
Middlesbrough	v	Stoke City
Southampton	v	Watford
Manchester City	v	Sunderland
SUNDAY 14 AUGUST		
AFC Bournemouth	v	Manchester United
Arsenal	v	Liverpool
MONDAY 15 AUGUST		
Chelsea	v	West Ham United
FRIDAY 19 AUGUST		
Manchester United	v	Southampton
SATURDAY 20 AUGUST		
Stoke City	v	Manchester City
Burnley	v	Liverpool
Swansea City	v	Hull City
Tottenham Hotspur	v	Crystal Palace
Watford	v	Chelsea
West Bromwich Albion	v	Everton
Leicester City	v	Arsenal
SUNDAY 21 AUGUST		
Sunderland	v	Middlesbrough
West Ham United	v	AFC Bournemouth
SATURDAY 27 AUGUST		
Tottenham Hotspur	v	Liverpool
Chelsea	v	Burnley
Crystal Palace	v	AFC Bournemouth
Everton	v	Stoke City
Leicester City	v	Swansea City
Southampton	v	Sunderland
Watford	v	Arsenal
Hull City	v	Manchester United
SUNDAY 28 AUGUST		
West Bromwich Albion	v	Middlesbrough
Manchester City	v	West Ham United

## ALLARDYCE FOR ENGLAND



*Continued from rear cover*

that this would utilize the forward power of Rivaldo, Ronaldinho and Ronaldo. Scolari looks at his players and tries to find a method to win and isn't afraid to rock the apple cart. Sam is similar, his Bolton side's playing style got the best out of players such as Kevin Davies and Kevin Nolan. If an England manager plays to the strengths of the likes of Jamie Vardy, Harry Kane, or even a fit Andy Carroll (whom Allardyce brought to West Ham) then the side would likely be better for it. Oh and for those of you that don't know, Scolari went on to win the World Cup for Brazil in 2002.

But if the criticisms of Sam are fair, will the British media allow England to win ugly? Portugal won Euro 2016 through hard work rather than exciting football. If England won that way it would probably be passable, but the media would likely still be critical. Fabio Capello, another former England incumbent, was once sacked as Real Madrid manager eleven days after winning the league, with the owner citing that the team had laid the foundations but needed a more enthusiastic way of playing. It is hard to imagine the FA sacking a manager after winning a World Cup, but anything other than a tournament win with that style of football and the knives will soon be out. Some

West Ham fans, maybe even most, were glad to see the back of Sam, even though his record wasn't ever bad at the club, and yet the Hammers appear much happier with Slaven Bilic, even before last season had begun.

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## “ FIRST UP FOR ALLARDYCE WILL BE A TOUGH OPENING WORLD CUP 2018 QUALIFIER IN SLOVAKIA

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First up for Allardyce will be a tough opening World Cup 2018 qualifier in Slovakia, probably the toughest game, on paper at least, in the group. A poor start, and a poor performance, may set Sam on an upwards slope from the off, but ordinarily, avoiding defeat against the most likely rivals in the group away from home would be an achievement. Hodgson's extraordinary qualifying campaign for Euro 2016 - the only team to win all ten

qualifiers - puts further pressure on Allardyce. Further pressure is heaped on him from the derbies against the Scots, which are always mouth-wateringly feisty affairs, the kinds of games Allardyce's management style seems suited to. Anything other than wins home and away against Slovenia, Malta and Lithuania would be deemed failure. But England's problem has not been in qualifying groups (Steve McClaran aside), but rather knock-out football appears to be the Achilles heel, and appointing a manager with a pedigree in cup competitions as a manager may have suited England best.

His record in domestic cup competitions (FA Cup and League Cup) reads as won 21, lost 21 and 7 draws. Twice reaching the semi-finals of the League Cup, once each with Blackburn and West Ham. He hasn't made it past the last sixteen in the FA Cup with any team since 2005 with Bolton. This seems to be a cause for concern if England reach the knock-out stages of the World Cup in 2018. His European record is almost irrelevant, just one campaign with Bolton in 2005/6 which ended in the now defunct intermediate stage to Marseille. It is surprising that the FA would appoint their national manager with such little European competition pedigree, but if they were insistent on appointing an English manager

then the options were severely limited. If the appointment of Allardyce indicates one thing, it's a rethink on the infrastructure and development of English coaches.

Allardyce's first challenge may be to win over the players. Starlets such as Raheem Sterling and Marcus Rashford may feel a little underwhelmed working under a manager which wouldn't be considered in a shortlist of managers for their respective club sides. But previous players Sam has managed do overwhelmingly speak positively of his coaching methods, so winning the players round may be possible. But Sam finally gets his chance to prove upon his 2010 statement that "I'm not suited to Bolton or Blackburn, I would be more suited to Inter or Real Madrid. It wouldn't be a problem to me to go and manage those clubs because I would win the double or the league every time. Give me Manchester United or Chelsea and I would do the same, it wouldn't be a problem. It's not where I'm suited to, it's just where I've been for most of the time". Nothing less than a World Cup win would back-up that claim, and if Allardyce achieves that then maybe the glass ceiling for British managers would finally be shattered in a way Moyes couldn't when given the opportunity at United.

## ALLARDYCE FOR ENGLAND



# ALLARDYCE FOR ENGLAND

Sam Allardyce has finally landed a top job, and it's with the England national team. But can the Dudley-born man succeed where so many have failed before?

Big Sam played for a number of clubs before becoming a manager, most notably for Bolton, Preston and Millwall. He was renowned for his tough tackling style of play, and that reputation has probably been hard to shake-off throughout his transition from pitch to dug-out. Allardyce, as manager, has a strong, if not spectacular CV to his name; having relative success at Blackburn, West Ham, Sunderland and most notably at Bolton, where he spent eight years. Arguably, Newcastle is his main blotch, where he spent half a season with limited success, but not many can point to the Magpies as a highlight on their managerial resume, two that come to mind are former England managers themselves: Sir Bobby Robson and Kevin Keegan, and it's hard to argue that more than one of those went on to be

successful as England manager.

He was one of the most forward thinking managers whilst at Bolton, being one of the first British managers to buy into sports science techniques, and he embraces the worlds of statistics and psychology. He enticed world stars such as Yuri Djorkaev and Jay Jay Okocha, alongside Real Madrid imports Ivan Campo and Fernando Hierro to unfashionable Bolton. And yet, despite attracting that level of flair and quality, Allardyce still cannot shake the tag of an old-fashioned, dourly styled manager. He joked in 2012 that he would not be considered for a top four club because his name wasn't Allardici, he quickly announced it as a tongue-in-cheek comment, but there may well be an element of truth in that, eyebrows were

certainly raised at the FA's choice, and he does divide opinion; not much call for a Sunderlandesque escape from relegation in the international football arena.

There are echoes to the appointment of David Moyes - ironically his Sunderland successor - at Manchester United. British managers, perhaps Eddie Howe aside, just aren't considered out of their depth at a Champions League side. Heck, England predecessor Roy Hodgson at Liverpool is another ironically similar choice. Appointing a British manager at the top level just appears a risk, even media darling Tim Sherwood couldn't keep his job at Spurs, despite an excellent record during his reign, another media darling 'Arry Redknapp

comes to mind as the only English manager given a decent chance at a top six Premier League club in recent times. But can Allardyce buck the general trend and bring success to England?

Maybe inspiration can be drawn from somebody else long-tipped for the England job, also prefixed with "big": Phil Scolari. Scolari was appointed Brazil coach in 2001, at first impression you could not find a Brazilian manager further away from samba football the country was known for. Instead, "Big Phil" was a tough manager, tactically aware and with a mantra more for winning than exciting fans. The parallels are clear. He drew criticism for introducing a back three for Brazil, but he reasoned

*Continued Page 47*