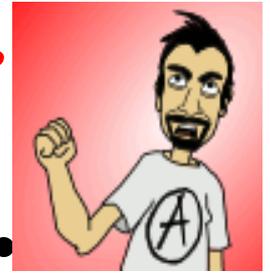


THE ANARCHIST CRITIC.



Issue No. 96 January 2012.

We will try to produce this bulletin on a regular basis highlighting policies and events that influence our lives but are dictated by corporate institutions and governments beyond our control. If we, the ordinary people desire a world for all our children, we must resist, organise, and take control.

CORPORATE FASCISM - THE END OF DEMOCRACY.

Greece, Hungary, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Romania, and the Occupy Movement in America, across the developed world people are on the streets protesting. All this has nothing to do with national governments, it is a world wide corporate assault on the public purse. The national governments are just carrying out the dictates of the corporate financial Mafia. Here in the UK there are those who see the privatisation of public services, including our health service, as a Tory Party affair, yet across the world the same thing is happening irrespective of the political persuasion of the government. In Romania the riots there are against the austerity cuts and the attempt to privatise their already rather flimsy National Health Service. Social Democrat, Liberal, Socialist, Conservative, or whatever, they all have the same agenda, cut public spending and privatise everything that can make money for the billionaire corporate class. Call it what you will, but it is corporate fascism in full frontal attack on the conditions of the ordinary people. Voting for this party or that party, is like choosing which end of the egg to crack first, the big end or the little end. You end up with the same thing on your plate.

This system of corporate fascism can't be modified, repaired, or reformed, it can't be turned into a benevolent beast that will see to the well being of the people. It is an elitist system where control stays firmly in the hands of the super wealthy, the millionaire/billionaire parasites that sit nameless, in rooms in marble halls shuffling their billions around the globe destroying economies and countries in the pursuit of ever increasing wealth. In this system, wealth means power, and it is rigged to make sure you and I don't get our hands on the wealth or the power.

If we want a better world for ourselves, our kids and our grand kids, then we have to destroy this profit sucking, parasite controlled monster. We can't look to the people who stand to gain from this financial sewage system we live under, why should they want to give up privilege, power and unbelievable wealth for our benefit? Forget the ballot box, forget the party political system, these are the toys you are given to play with while the big boys rip you off. The system can never work in your favour, it has to be a new way of thinking, grass roots, people power, community organisations, direct action, occupations, are the only road to real change, we have to take control of our society if we want to change it to benefit all our people.

YEA, --TH'GOOD OL'DAYS!! MY ARSE.

It is difficult to keep your cool when you hear the crap that pours from the mouths of politicians. One bout of verbal diarrhoea from Shadow Business Secretary, Chuka Umunna is typical. His recent splurge of meaningless words was, "What we need is a more responsible and better capitalism," This man believes good capitalism lost its way over the last 30 years. You know the kind of capitalism he is talking about, the sort that always pays its workers a good living wage, always gives them the best of working conditions and always adheres to the best possible health and safety regulations. Like the coal mine owners of the past for example. This so called politician, is oblivious of working class struggle over the years of the good old capitalism days. Lock-outs, mass dismissals, wage cuts and atrocious working conditions, risking life and limb, for the gain of the good capitalist. For the benefit of this ignorant individual, there never has been an era of good capitalism. Capitalism is a system of exploitation, a system of getting the many to work as hard as possible for as little as possible to enrich the few. Those, like Mr. Chuka Umunna, who hold this totally irrational belief, that capitalism is a benevolent system tainted by a few greedy individuals, should read their history. Not the history of a half-wit prince marrying an equally half-witted princess by arrangement of their power hungry parents in the hope of safeguarding lands they had stolen. Rather he should have a look at the miners strike and general strike of 1926, the 40 hour strike of 1919, and the brutal repression of both, or perhaps the dock strike of 1911 in which two Liverpool strikers were shot dead by the troops on the streets of Liverpool. This is the capitalism of old, the "good old days", that Mr Chuka Umunna hungers after, the good capitalism of poverty wages, long hours and working conditions that caused early death. Each time one of these idiots opens their big mouth to vent an empty brain, it reinforces my belief in anarchism as the only hope for humanity.

IT IS VESTED INTERESTS THAT ARE KILLING PEOPLE **WHERE IS OUR GDP??**

We should never lose sight of the fact that all this talk of "austerity cuts" has a human face. While those, the faceless ones, in expensive suits, sit in marble halls discussing how, where and how deep to cut at the social fabric of our society, the results among those without the expensive suits, you and I, the ordinary people, can be ill health, poverty, deprivation, mental health problems and even death. It is discussed politely on TV and radio and long winded economic articles appear in the mainstream media, all with a cold rationalism that belies the horror and hurt of the situation to most ordinary people. As the results of the polite decision makers policies grind on, our society changes, suicides rise dramatically, family relationships start to break down, hopelessness descends on youth, who see their future as a bleak unknown devoid of opportunity. It is not the "economy" that is killing people, it is a small group of human beings making decisions to protect their vested interests.

The powers that be would like to keep that veneer of politeness and cold discussion, but it can't last. The people are getting more anger by the day, across the developed world we are taking to the streets to vent that anger, and there is more to come, we will not be destroyed to save the wealth of the financial Mafia

WHAT DO I MEAN?

At the start of the year and claiming to be an "**anarchist**" and advocator of "**anarchy**" I should make it a bit clearer what I mean when I use these two words. I know there are a multitude of meanings out there and I don't state these as the definitive word on either, just what I personally mean when I use them.

Anarchy - Without (an-) ruler (archos). To my way of thinking this doesn't mean, a free-for-all. My interpretation is, I am responsible for ALL my actions and accept ALL the consequences of those actions. It is freedom that comes with one basic human responsibility, you govern *yourself*, instead of abdicating to some external authoritarian group or individual, be it dictator, president, monarch, religion or government, In essence, no Gods, no Masters.

Anarchism - A political theory advocating elimination of governments, also, elimination of authority over any individual, be it religious, gender or race. Society based on mutual aid, free association and voluntary co-operation.

I think, together, these two definitions are not a bad way to live. Certainly an excellent place to start. It would be nice to know what is your personal interpretation of these words.

THIS IS THE FACE OF CAPITALISM.

Tuesday, January 10, 2012: At approximately 7pm on Monday evening, 78-year old S.K. set himself alight with petrol at a parking lot in the town of Lefkada, in Western Greece. The man died on the spot.

This follows from a tremendous increase in suicides across Greece, and Crete in particular – where also, two days ago (on Saturday night) a homeless man died of the cold in the streets of the city of Chania.

Page 2.

I believe it is generally accepted by the public that as a country gets richer, we should all be better off. After all, that is why the powers that be, keep telling us about the growth of our GDP, to let us know how much richer we are becoming. It is safe to say that over the years the UK GDP has been growing steadily, with the exception of 2008/9, but suddenly we are told that we can't afford most of the things we take for granted. Things like libraries, nursery classes, decent pensions, and a half decent social welfare system are now beyond our reach. We are now being told that we have to accept wage cuts/freezes, work longer to get a smaller pension, cuts in social benefits, rising unemployment, while our kids education system is decimated and privatised along with our National Health Service. But I thought our GDP had been growing year on year for some considerable time, with just the odd blip? Well it has, so where is all that extra wealth, who has the money? What has also been happening as our GDP kept growing, was that a larger share of the wealth was being syphoned upwards to an ever decreasing number of individuals. The salary gap just kept getting wider and wider, so must of that extra wealth from our ever growing GDP, (your effort and my effort) was ending up, not in the common pool, but was heading straight into the bank accounts of the ever dwindling little bunch of parasites. If all those gains from the ever increasing GDP had been evenly spread in the common good, infrastructure and welfare for example, would we be facing the same problems? It is really ironic that it is those who gained all that extra wealth from our ever growing GDP, who are now telling us that we can't afford all the most basic parts of a decent civilised society.

Even a glance at such an economic system tells you that it is inefficient, wrong, immoral, unjust, and corrupt. It doesn't take an Einstein to come up with a better, fairer and more just system, based on mutual aid, co-operation and sustainability, a system that sees to the needs of all our people, instead of working, struggling and worrying, just to keep a bunch of millionaire/billionaire parasites in the lap of luxury. Isn't it about time we sorted this lot out and started taking care of our own people?



Some difficult decisions will have to be made.

FLOATING SEWAGE CREATORS. CAPITALISM = CHILD POVERTY.

The recent disaster of the cruise liner hitting a rock off the coast of Italy brought to mind my thoughts on these very large floating hotels.

Have you ever watched those large cruise ships sailing in to port and thought, what beautiful constructions. I have always seen large passenger ships as things beauty. However over the years they have got larger and larger, and today they look more like very large floating hotels. Now I tend to see them as massive filthy contraptions for transporting pretty-pretty butterfly people around the world to flutter about on exotic islands. Then there is the other dimension to them, all that filth and sewage they dump in our oceans sometimes not that far from shore usually less than 3 miles off shore.

The average cruise ship carries more than 2,000 passengers and approximately 1,000 crew, that translates into approximately **21,000 pounds of untreated sewage** every day, that's a lot of sewage to dump near your coastline, Of course it is not just the sewage dumping that should concern us. Every single day, a single cruise ship can dump approximately one ton of garbage, 6,400 gallons of oily bilge water, and 25 pounds of batteries, fluorescent lights, medical wastes, and expired chemicals into our oceans. **That's just one ship.**

The pretty-pretty butterfly people that create all this sewage and waste don't in any way pay for the clean up, and don't seem to be too concerned about the problem, nor do the cruise companies pay anything towards the clean up, the oceans are to them, just a waste basin from which they make millions, floating the pretty-pretty butterfly people around.

The Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU) recently singled out AIDA and TUI, two German cruise lines, for being especially environmentally filthy. It's time for them to update their filtration systems to stop thoughtlessly spewing waste into our oceans. Poisoned oceans means poisoned fish and that affects you and I.



FLOATING LUXURY TOILET!!

Recent figures show a shocking level of child poverty in Scotland, 13 Scottish councils have wards where more than 30% of children live in severe poverty. The worst areas are Glasgow, West of Scotland, Edinburgh, Dundee, Fife, Aberdeen and Stirling. Population wise, that is about all of Scotland. Over all child poverty level for Scotland is more than 20%. Of course every child living in poverty is in a home with at least one adult living in poverty, Labour social justice spokesman Drew Smith said “--- we need a renewed focus on creating jobs and implementing a Living Wage for Scotland.” What a load of crap, when has capitalism ever paid a living wage to all its workers? Mr Smith, that's not how the system works. Why are people in poverty, because they can't access their needs. Why can't they access their needs, because we have created a system where the people's needs are priced so as to allow an army of parasites to live in luxury. Our system doesn't produce for needs of the people, it produces for the wealth of the shareholders. The two are incompatible. This line of work being the answer shifts the blame onto those unable to find work. It's their fault, if they were working they wouldn't be in poverty. History tells us different.

Scottish Liberal Democrat education spokesman Liam McArthur said: “---- it is more clear than ever that effective collaboration at all levels of government is required to help ensure the right conditions for creating jobs and reducing unemployment in our communities.” More crap, when has capitalism in any country every produced conditions where all were employed on a living wage?

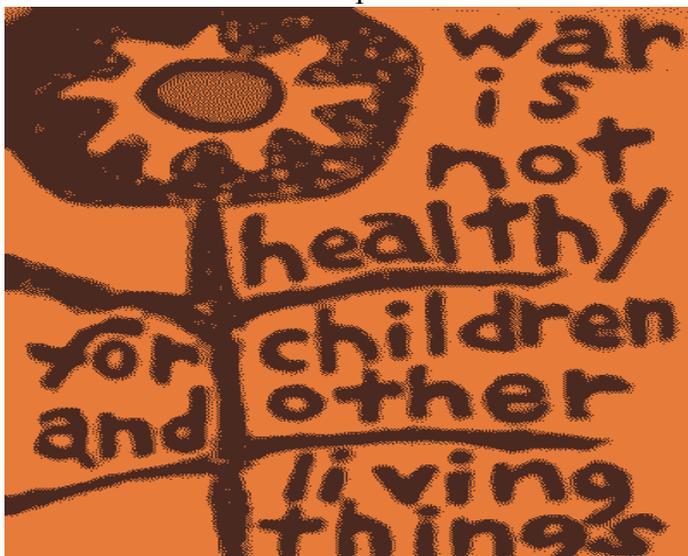
Two of the worst areas of severe poverty in Scotland, Govan, where I once worked, as part of the Clyde, was the shipbuilding capital of the world and Springburn, where I live, once the locomotive manufacturing centre of the British Empire. Lots of work, but also lots of poverty. In this society the two are not incompatible. But, it was with “*effective collaboration at all levels of government*” that saw to the demise of both these industries. Now Govan has a child poverty level of 38% and Springburn, the worst in Scotland, 52% of children living in severe poverty. More than half the children in an area in the UK living in severe poverty, that's 21st century capitalism in the developed world, not a third world country.

Anybody who is interested in what our society is like knows that poverty has always been part of capitalism. The system is not designed to see to people's needs, profit is the only game in town. All this crap about getting people into employment, being the answer to poverty, is just election sound-bites, in the hope of getting the mouth-piece elected to a cushy job. They don't believe it themselves, if they do, they are more stupid than I have stated. Child poverty at this level is an indictment against any system, it condemns future generations to a stunted development, a waste of the future potential of a people. We are told that capitalism is the only route available, when common sense tells us otherwise. Mutual aid, co-operation, sustainability and developing a needs based society is there waiting for the people to take it up. The evidence has never been more glaring, the need has never been greater.

KEEP EDUCATION FREE FROM THE MILITARY.

Another upper-crust brain-dead parasite spouts his mouth off and thinks he is a genius. Education Secretary, Michael Gove, had a chat with a 17 year old cadet from The Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and left thinking, why don't we get all the working class kids into cadets, then the little bastards would stop thinking for themselves and become nice obedient workers for our corporate buddies. After his visionary conversation with the 17 year old cadet, Gove has come up with the idea of introducing military style cadet forces into all secondary schools. Note, all secondary schools, no mention of grammar schools. So enthused is he with his vision that he has told Children's Minister Sarah Teather to get her head together with Defence Minister Nick Harvey, and get the ball rolling. The one thing our right-wing millionaire class don't want is a disobedient working class. Get them into uniform and let them know who is boss, teach them to take orders, be subservient. It has always been the fear of the rich parasite class that the ordinary people would eventually see through their smoke and mirrors and decide to take control of society for the benefit of all. With unrest looming on the horizon all the more reason to get those possible protesters into uniform and have them sitting around looking to their leaders and waiting for orders.

This latest piece of right-wing militaristic ideology must be resisted, we don't want our kids going to school to be prepared as cannon fodder for some corporate resource grab or some foreign policy caprice by some egocentric parasite millionaire Prime Minister. With unemployment rising and kids being groomed for the military while at school, it is obvious more will end up in the military and fighting to protect the share value of some oil giant. There should be no room in any of our schools for the military, education is about thinking for yourself, not about taking orders from your supposed superiors. Kick the military out of our kids schools and keep them out.



GET IN TOUCH.



Don't be shy,
ann arky would like to hear
your views, news, gripes and
opinions, so drop a note to;
annarky@radicalglasgow.me.uk

GET INVOLVED. ANARCHISM ONLINE.

www.glasgowanarchists.org.uk
Glasgow anarchist's website.

www.radicalglasgow.me.uk
Local resource home of the Anarchist Critic

www.iwwscotland.org
Revolutionary trade union run by its membership.

www.praxisglasgow.wordpress.com
Libertarian socialist organisation building strength in
communities and workplaces.

www.libcom.org
Anarchist/libertarian/communist news and resource site.

www.classwar.uk.org
Militant anarchist group, publishers of the
newspaper of the same name.

www.freedompress.org.uk
The oldest British anarchist newspaper, going strong
since 1886.

www.anarchistfaq.org
Infoshop.org's Anarchist FAQ, details what anarch-
ism is and why you should help it come about.

www.solfed.org.uk
The Solidarity Federation, British section of the
International Workers' Association.

www.katesharpleylibrary.net
Library of Anarchist history.

www.citystrolls
Think of your City and make it happen.

www.redpepper.org.uk
A radical independent magazine.

www.akuk.com
Anarchist publications.

www.schnews.org.uk
Free alternative news site

www.indymediascotland.org
Scotland's alternative news site.

www.edinburghanarchists.noflag.org.uk
The real Edinburgh folks.

FREEDOM

Britain's Longest Running Anarchist Newspaper
Established 1886 --- 126 years fighting the system
www.freedompress.org --- copy@freedompress.org