

Ar-**(A)**-mach

scottish anarchist bulletin

Iris 1 An Lùnasdal 2002

Saor/Free

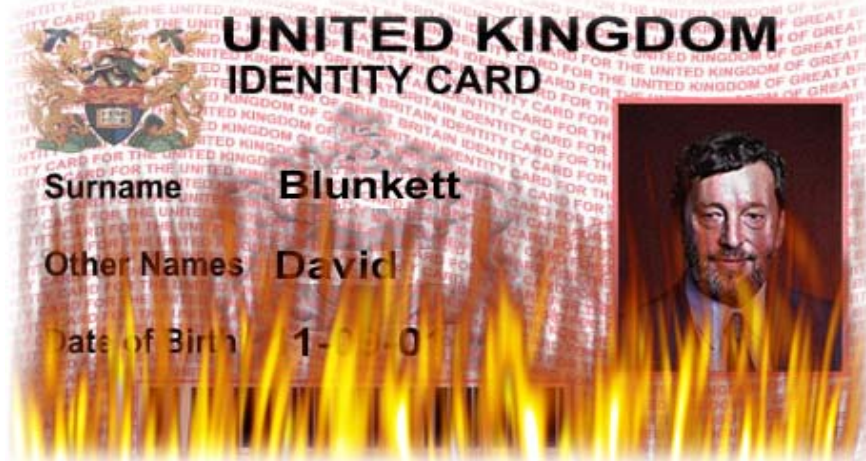
Issue 1 August 2002



Summer of Discontent!

Pensions Rip-off

Not content with extracting the surplus value from our efforts, attacking wages and conditions, increasing surveillance, now our rulers have decided they are not screwing enough out of us in pension contributions. The Pickering report on pensions wants companies to be able to force employees to join company pension schemes yet more and more companies are telling their workers they cannot guarantee final payments, ditching schemes altogether or making the rules even more complex. If this isn't legalised robbery we don't know what is: Mandatory to take your money but no guarantee you'll get it back! You'd possibly get as good odds at the bookies! So now they are saying we should and could work longer. The usual tory pensioner was dragged out to comment that if it's OK for the Queen to work past 60 then it was Ok for him! Not a very good example of a workaholic old chap. An ASDA manager was proudly telling the cameras that they'd recently hired four pensioners in their 80s and how great it was! They tell us that a 35yr old man should be saving £439 per month (adjusted for inflation) to give him an old age pension at 65 of £10K per year. Hold on a minute: $£439 \times 12\text{mths} \times 30\text{yrs} = £158,040$ So if you put the money under your pillow instead of loaning it to a capitalist you'd have £10,000 per year for 15.8 years taking you to almost 81, way over the average life expectancy for a male in most of the UK. The reason for the panic is an apparent £27bn black hole in what the government want us to save for old age. This money in most cases would be invested in the stock exchange by pension companies. How great would it be if thousands decided to forget pensions, it would really accelerate capitalism's crisis.



Who said the class war was over?

One million council workers on strike against poverty pay, vicious attacks on our pensions, I.D cards on the way, MSPs voting themselves huge increases, plans for a bin tax and to top it all the state prepares to kiss the USA's arse and start an invasion of Iraq. Sorry Mr Blair - the class war is not over.

For this reason anarchists in Scotland are getting organised and this month launch Ar-a-mach (gaelic for insurrection), our monthly newsletter to let our class know what our rulers are up to in our name and with our cash. We'll feature one article each month in gaelic to highlight our commitment to our ancient language which has been oppressed for far too long by capitalist interests. We aim to show why New Labour is further to the right than the old Tories, why the SNP have sold out and why the SSP will do exactly the same.

So if a small miracle happens and a politician comes down from his £48,000 salaried ivory tower to knock on your door, don't just tell him to fuck off. Tell him to fuck off and then join us in the fight against capitalism and the state!

If anyone is still in any doubt that Scotland is a small state of the USA then witness events in July where after being kicked out of a Puerto Rican island for environmental damage, the US Navy was given permission to test its missiles on

Scotland's northern coast at Cape Wrath. Within a couple of days a Brit warship had a missile go astray near a tourist beach then a US destroyer had ordered a civilian flight from Stornoway to Benbecula to change course. At least that was more warning than an Iranian airliner got from the USS Vincennes a few years back as it was blasted out of the sky with more than 250 civilians on board. No doubt the media would have described it as friendly fire.

And while all this is happening aren't we glad that our Scottish parliament is there to protect us? Yes our very own set of would-be rulers awarded themselves a whopping pay rise to 48 grand whilst the rest of us are told they can't afford to give us more than a miserly percent or two.

So what can we do about it? This newsletter won't tell you which bunch of politicians will save us. None will that's the point. Until we take matters into our own hands and organise for a social revolution NOTHING will change. In fact it'll get worse. Capitalism is in crisis and the gains fought hard for by our grandparents in the last century are being torn up bit by bit until we'll be back at the stage where 10 yr olds don't sweep chimneys but put up satellite dishes instead. Only self-organisation by the working class will do the business.★

NO PASARAN!

Cogadh Sheòrsach

Roimh-ràdh gu Ceannsachadh an Arain le Peadar Kropotkin.

Aon dhen na gearanan gnàthaichte an aghaidh cho-mhaoineas agus sòisealachd gu lèir, 'se gu bheil am beachd cho sean, ged nach eil e air a' bhith a thoirt gu buil fhathast. Thathaich innleachdan nan stàit saor smaoinèadan a' Ghrèig àrsaidh; nas fhadalaiche, thàinig bràthraicheasan mòra co-mhaoineach gu bhith rè a' ghluasaid leasachaidh. An uair sin, Dhùisgeadh na h-aon shàr-bheachdan rè nan ar-a-mach mòr Sasainneach agus Fraingeach; agus, mu dheireadh, chaidh, o chionn goirid, ann an 1848, ar-a-mach, brosnachtaiche gu ìre mhòr le sàr-bheachdan sòisealach, air adhairt anns an Fhraing. "Agus gidheadh, chì sibh," Dh'innsear dhuinn, "cho fad air falbh a thathar fhathast bho ur innleachdan a thoirt gu buil. Nach smaoinich thu gu bheil mearachd a choiregin bunaiteach 'nad thuigse air nàdur a' chinne-daonna agus am feumalachdan?" Aig a' chiad sealladh tha e coltach gu bheil an gearan seo glè

chudthromach. Nuair a smaoinicheas sinn air eachdraidh a' chinne-daonna nas fhuralaiche ged-ta, tha e a' call a neart. Chì sinn, anns a' chiad àite gu bheil ceudan de mhilleanan de dhaoine air soirbheachadh a ghleidheal a-measg iad fhèin, anns na coimhearsnachdan baile aca, airson iomadh cheudan de bhliadhnachan, aon dhen na prìomh eileamaidean a' shòisealachd - sealbh coitcheann a' phrìomh bheart thoradh, an talamh, agus a roinn an aon rud a rèir comasan obrach nan teaghlach eadar-dhealaichte; agus ionnsaichear sinn ma chaidh cuir às do shealbhadh cho-mhaoineach an talamh anns an Roinn Eòrpa an I ar, cha b'ann on a-staigh, ach bhon a-muigh a bha e, le na riaghaltasan a chruthaich lèir-shealbhadh a bha fàbharach dhan na daoine uasail agus na meadhan-bhuidheannan. Ionnsaichear sinn, a bharrachd, gun do shoirbhich bailtean-mòra na meadhon-aoisean ann a' bhith a' gleidheal nam measg, airson ghrunn linntean as dèidh a chèile, eagrachadh sònraichte sòisealt a a' thoraidh agus malairt, gun robh na linntean seo àmnanan adhartas luath

inntleachdail, tionnsgalach agus ealdhanta; am feadh thàinig crìonadh na stèidhichean coitcheann seo anns a' mhòrchuid bho neo-chomas daoine air co-aontachadh am baile beag leis a' bhaile mhòr, an tuathanach leis am fear-àiteachaidh, mar sin a dhol le chèile an aghaidh fhàis nan stàit cogail, a chuir às dhan na bailtean saor. ★

John Maclean Centre

Glasgow's new radical bookshop staffed by unpaid volunteers as part of a workers co-operative. Meeting space available

www.johnmacleancentre.org



In memory of a brave comrade
Carlo Giuliani - July 20 2001
The struggle goes on!

Join the resistance

The **Anarchist Federation** is an organisation of **class struggle** anarchists aiming to abolish capitalism and all oppression to create a free and equal society. This is **Anarchist Communism**.

We see today's society as being divided into two main opposing classes: **the ruling class** which controls all the power and wealth, and the **working class** which the rulers exploit to maintain this. By racism, sexism and other forms of oppression, as well as war and environmental destruction the rulers weaken and divide us. Only the **direct action** of working class people can defeat these attacks and ultimately overthrow capitalism.

As the capitalist system rules the whole world, its destruction must be complete and world wide. We reject attempts to reform it, such as working through parliament and national liberation movements, as they fail to challenge capitalism itself. Unions also work as a part of the capitalist system, so although workers struggle within them they will be unable to bring about capitalism's destruction unless they go beyond these limits.

Organisation is vital if we're to beat the bosses, so we work for a united anarchist movement and are affiliated to the International of Anarchist Federations.

The Anarchist Federation has members across Britain and Ireland fighting for the kind of world outlined above. Contact us at:

Anarchist Federation Alba,
PO BOX 248
Aberdeen, AB25 1JE
Visit: flag.blackened.net/af/alba
Email: af-alba@hushmail.com



Subvert and resist

Take precautions when going on demonstrations and don't take cameras, booze or drugs. If you're nicked give your name and address then say 'no comment' to any other questions.

- Jul 28th: Indymedia Film Night:** Globalisation and the Media, S-11 Redux 2001, Genova: Red Zone. Social and discussion on IMC Scotland
GFT Glasgow 5:30pm
- Jul 31st: With the Zapatistas:** Black Flag member returns from Chiapas.
John Maclean Centre - 7:30pm
- Oct 19th: Anarchist Bookfair** - Camden Centre, London. For more details see www.anarchistbookfair.org
- Nov/Dec: Anarchism Day School** - Proposed event in Glasgow. Speakers from various anarchist groups. Date and times in next issue

Web links worth visiting:

- <http://flag.blackened.net/af/alba> - Our website also in Gaelic
<http://www.afed.org.uk> - the Anarchist Federation site
<http://www.afireland.cjb.net/> - AF Ireland
<http://www.geocities.com/resistanceab/> - Aberdeen Anarchist Resistance
<http://flag.blackened.net/blackflag/> - Black Flag Collective (BF Magazine)
<http://gaia.4dw.com/> - Glasgow Anarchists and Independent Anti-Capitalists



Subscribe to Ar-a-mach

- I enclose £4 for postage only (£6 EU, £12 Rest of the world) for 12 issues of **Ar-a-mach** bulletin (cheques payable to "AF Scotland") and send to **AF Alba**, PO Box 248, Aberdeen, AB25 1JE
- I enclose £4 for a year's subscription to **Organise!** the magazine of the **AF**.
- I am interested in the **Anarchist Federation** and would like more information.

Name.....
Address.....