



WAKE UP!! IT'S YER SEE NO EDL, HEAR NO EDL...

# SchNEWS

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## FASH, BANG, WALLOP

### MARCH FOR ENGLAND IN BRIGHTON: NOT A PRETTY PICTURE

Quote of the day: "Well who thought it was a good idea to organise these two demonstrations on the same day? Surely it was obvious there would be problems" - random Brighton theatre-goer/by-stander fails to grasp the situation.

Last Sunday's counter-protest against the March for England exceeded all expectations. Although the fascists did march they did so inside a mobile police kettle continuously surrounded and occasionally bombarded by counter-protestors. Their march route was cut short and for once the chant "Police protect the fascists" was 100% accurate.

Last year the police successfully kettled most of the anti-fascists, allowing the MfE free rein through the city. They took full advantage of the opportunity to hand out racist abuse and attack alternative looking types. Brighton anti-fascists were determined to avoid a repeat.

Aware that the cops plan was to push the march straight down the road from the railway station to the sea front, the anti-crowd was encouraged to spread themselves thinly along the route. This prevented a pre-emptive kettle.

The MfE were due to start their procession at midday, but due to the geography of the area no-one in the counter-demo had a direct view of their meet-up point at the station. A strange High-Noon quiet settled over the town centre as the counter-protest shuffled and waited, watching police movements for a clue as to what might happen. Numbers gradually built up, serenaded by the bizarrely soothing tones of dub from a punk-soundsystem.

For a while it looked as if the cops were going to throw the towel in and refuse to allow the MfE out of the station. At half-twelve jogging lines of cops and the arrival of horses let everyone know that the fash were on the move.

One eyewitness at the station told SchNEWS "From where they were mustered, they could only see a tiny part of the counter-demo, mainly the UAF contingent. They were very cocky. As soon as they turned the corner and saw the opposition their faces fell". By this point there were around 500 anti-fascists on the streets.

The nationalists had only mustered around 100, a third of what they had predicted. Yesterday SchNEWS reported that "there was little if any English Defence League insignia actually on display". Since then we've been told that EDL banners and an Essex Infidels flag were unfurled at the station. In reality this was a moot point as the main body of march consisted of known EDL faces, including virtually all of Brighton and Portsmouth EDL with the addition of various unsavoury characters such as Jeff Marsh of Casuals United. Despite the presence of a few token women and kids the march was overwhelmingly male, bald and fat.

It didn't take long after the march set off before the first few antis were in the road behind a banner. From then on the march became a rugby scrum as the cops used horses, truncheons and pepper spray to force the MfE through. Every time the cops broke through an anti-fascist line, another would form ten or twenty metres down the road.



### BATTLE OF CHURCH ST

The pressure only intensified as the police decided to abandon the planned high-profile route and try to smuggle the nationalists down the back-streets. Anti-fascists got ahead of the game and running around the side got in front of the march on Church St to build barricades. Fascists and police came under attack with bottles. It was at this point that someone set a bin on fire, irritating everyone, right and left, with the acrid smoke.

What was totally remarkable was the level of solidarity for the counter-demo by folk from all walks of life in Brighton. There was

### MURDOCH LEVESON SCHOKER!



### CRAP ARREST OF THE WEEK

#### For being...

For taking the turd way...

German protesters were arrested in Athens on Thursday after leaving a giant golden crap on the doorstep of the German embassy in the Greek capital, in protest against Berlin's "neoliberal EU policy".

The politico/artists collective from Hamburg, Schwabinggrad Ballett, who dumped the excremental offering topped it off with a huge photo of the German national emblem - the eagle, embellished with Angela Merkel's head.

Greek cops soon arrested ten of the 13-strong group and confiscated their fake faeces. They're all now presumably in the shit.

no support for the MfE. Pensioners and kids shouted abuse at the fash. The UAF stood shoulder to shoulder with Antifa punks.

Eventually the MfE, numbering around a hundred ended up in their pre-prepared pen, - unfortunately for them so did almost the entire counter-demo. They then had to put up with two hours of being jeered at by the surrounding mob before cops rushed them back to the station to be dispersed. Their march was dogged every step of the way but as they were leaving the crowd was happy to let the cops rush them along. Anti fascists went on to enjoy a pint in the sunshine.

### MARLBOROUGH LIGHT-WEIGHTS

Despite the usual online japery the few EDL who tried to make a stand outside the cordon were quickly seen off. Joel Titus, self proclaimed leader of the EDLs youth wing was spotted skulking with a crew of half-wits in the Marlborough pub, one of the few bars that would serve them on the day. A handful of anti-fascists were able to send them packing. Virtually no other pubs would serve the MfE and they failed to maintain a presence in town after they were dispersed.

Is this the end of the March for England in Brighton? Watch this space!

Final word to Brighton Anti-fascists "Brighton showed the racists today that their brand of hatred isn't welcome in our city. Brighton has always historically seen off the fascists, in the thirties, the seventies and now today. Big thanks to all who turned out! - Up the punks!"

As far as SchNEWS knows no-one on our team got nicked- If you were arrested and require support then please contact stopmfe@gmail.com

For more <http://brightonantifascists.wordpress.com/>

## I KNOW WHAT YOU'LL BE DOING THIS SUMMER

Long-term Brighton anti-war direct action campaign and Schnews regulars, Smash EDO are gearing up to the start of their Summer of Resistance this coming week.

Still going after eight years of action, involving lock ons, direct action, rooftop occupations, rioting and sabotage (to name but a few) the campaign is now about to unleash three months of intensive protest to really bring the war home to the warmongers.

Whilst the war in Afghanistan rumbles on, covert wars are fought in Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia and the threat of war with Iran looms, the anti-war movement is just not as visible as it was during the (pre austerity) war on terror years.

Smash EDO are planning three months of intensive protest and direct action with weekly demos, marches and mass actions all on the bill. It's time for some creative resistance, so dust off the D-locks, get your balaclava out the shed and start thinking about how to get involved.

Smash EDO's Summer of Resistance kicks off on Tuesday May 1st with an extra special noise demo outside the factory. Meet at the Cowley Club at 11.30am for group travel or at the factory at midday.

See [www.smashedo.org.uk](http://www.smashedo.org.uk) for a full listing of events

## SUMMITS UP!?

Sparks may fly at the third annual UK Energy Summit if the Climate Justice Collective have their way. Aiming to short circuit one of the highlights of the greenwash calender - the attendee list reads like a list of shame - there's gonna be actions across London during the conference on May 3rd.

The Summit sees CEOs and policy execs from such famously forward-thinking and sustainable energy corporations as Shell, BP, British Gas, EDF Energy and ExxonMobil chatting with their financial brethren like Meryll Lynch.

Also appearing are natural gas profiteers such as the BG Group who boast of liaising with governments to 'find, develop and connect' natural gas around the world. The laughable tagline of the conference is 'securing a sustainable energy future'.

Quite how such a motley bunch of blood-suckers are going to come up with anything even close to innovative is not a mystery - it's impossible. Stepping in to smash the veneer of corporate responsibility and 'take the power back', Climate Justice have called on protesters to gather in four themed blocs - details on [www.climatejusticecollective.org](http://www.climatejusticecollective.org)

In other climate change news, last weekend protesters descended on Sizewell nuclear power station in opposition to the planned expansion of the plant with two new reactors and a dry storage dump. Around 40 people camped for the weekend, while locals and those from further afield shared knowledge with speeches and held a Chernobyl remembrance.

## MORE SCHNEWS ONLINE...

Police repression against migrants in Calais has been full throttle for over a month, and more No Borders activists are desperately needed on the ground. See [www.calaismigrantsolidarity.wordpress.com](http://www.calaismigrantsolidarity.wordpress.com) if you're able to go and support.

## OCCUPY THE FARM

Occupy The Farm Following on from the evictions of the USA's Occupy movement a new strategy is taking root roots in the San Francisco area on the Berkeley/Albany border. Last Sunday (22nd April) hundreds of local residents, farmers, students and activists entered the UC Berkeley-owned Gill Tract, which contains the last five acres of prime agricultural land in the East Bay. All set up with a thousand seedlings, chickens and tools started to toil the land, and four hours into the occupation they had succeed in planting three quarters of an acre. This occupation isn't about setting up protest camps, but about reclaiming land in an effort for self-sustainability through community food production. The community has gotten tired of the ever increasing influence of private interests on the University of California's decisions. For around a decade, the land has been used for research funded through investments by Novartis, Cygnet, BP and others who don't give a toss about the local community. Now the Gill Tract has been slated for development and the company most likely to buy it is Whole Foods Corporation.

According to a UC Berkeley alum and educator: "Farming underutilized spaces such as these can create alternatives to the corporate control of our food system. Five acres can feed up to 250 families using a community-supported agriculture model. A major component of what we're doing here is showing that urban land can and should be used to meet the food needs of local people."

This action is directly inspired by the efforts of the international peasants' movements La Via Campesina and Brazil's MST (Movimento Sem Terra / Landless Movement). Supported by La Via Campesina, on 17 April, International Peasants Day, thousands of farm workers occupied 12,000 hectares across Honduras as part of a land dispute with large landowners and the government. Although many evictions already took place at least 10 farms are still being occupied. The great majority of rural people in Honduras are increasingly losing land to large landowners due to 'development' efforts advocated by the government and the World Bank. The pressure on the expansion of an industrial model of agriculture that facilitates land grab by giant corporations brings catastrophic consequences for the Honduran population. According with the UN's World Food Program, Honduras is 'the third poorest country in Latin America and the Caribbean' with 7.5 million people - has 1.5 million people facing hunger, while a third of its population earns less than a dollar a day.'

In the eyes of neo-liberal ideologues, development is based on the theory that wealth will "trickle down" and assure the livelihood of the common people. Reality tells a different tale - the current international system of food production relies on waste and indulgence in the western countries and the sacrifice those toiling the land. On the other hand, it tethers the west's population to supermarkets while denying them enough space to grow their own more sustainable and healthy alternatives. 'Occupy the Farm' is a forceful alternative that intends to break the cycle and claim land as a human right.

## CALAIS CALL OUT

Police repression against migrants in Calais has been full throttle for over a month, and more No Borders activists are desperately needed on the ground. See [www.calaismigrantsolidarity.wordpress.com](http://www.calaismigrantsolidarity.wordpress.com) if you're able to go and support.

## FLYTILLA GROUNDED

The second, doomed attempt at a 'Flytilla' - a mass fly-in to Israel by pro-Palestinian activists with the aim of highlighting Israel's apartheid regime, which closes Palestine off from the rest of the world - occurred last week. In a sad way, it proved its point. More than 1000 international activists were prevented from flying into Israel on Sunday (15th) and a further forty three were detained at Tel Aviv airport, as part of the 'Welcome to Palestine 2012' campaign. Thirty-one were immediately imprisoned, including a Mavi Mamara survivor who'd slipped through the net, while twelve were sent on the next flight back home. Nine Israelis protesting in sympathy with the Flytilla were also arrested in Ben Gurion Airport. Flytilla prisoners were kept for several days before being released.

Israel's Ministry of Interior had sent out a list of about 1200 names to airlines of people blacklisted from flying into the country, and their willingness to agree has prompted protesters to threaten to sue. Others took a more direct route - the budget airline Jet2 had their check-in desk in Manchester closed briefly after 100 activists challenged their decision. Easyjet was also under the spotlight after refusing flights (but at least agreed to refund protesters).

The action took place soon after an Israeli army officer came under fire for an slamming a Dutch pro-Palestinian protester in the face with a rifle, and just two days before 1200 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails began an open-ended hunger strike against cruel and degrading treatment. They are demanding their right to family visits, an end to isolation, and an end to so-called 'administrative detention' which allows prisoners to be held indefinitely without charge. Eight non-Palestinian prisoners have been reported as joining the strike in solidarity with the Palestinian political prisoners, including British protesters detained as part of the flytilla.

## ...and finally...

Rupert Murdoch is a commie... it's official, well at least according to our friends on the various forums and facebook sites that make up the collective half-wit of the far-right. Just imagine returning home, exhausted from your efforts to hold the George Cross high and shout racist abuse while being showered with horse-shit by a bunch of communist homosexual freaks - only to find out that your favourite newspaper has a decidedly different take on events.

Hilariously the Sun Says op-ed piece on Monday blamed the 'neo-Nazis' of the EDL for dragging the flag 'through the gutter'. This one fact did more to rile the knuckle-draggers of the March for England than any number of airborne bottles of piss.

In fact some of the EDLs intellectual vanguard are beginning to suspect that the red-tops aren't telling the whole truth (!), with one online marcher spouting "*DONT BUY A F\*CKING NEWSPAPER. IT SPOUTS THE SAME B\*LLOCKS ALL THE TIME. TAKE A LEAF OUT OF LIVERPOOL. MOST OF THEM DONT BUY THE SUN ANYMORE SO BOYCOTT ALL NEWSPAPERS!*"

Now lads - if you could just extend that (albeit slightly faulty) logic to all the "Muslimic suicide-nonce Sharia Law benefit fraud shame" stories that got you so riled up in the first place, then maybe we could all enjoy next years St George's Day in peace..

### Disclaimer

SchNEWS warns all readers, there's plenty of other fash by the Sea. Honest.

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