

WAKE UP!! IT'S YER INCONCISE..



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## SHUT YOUR FACEBOOK

“Troops Out” you say? You’re fokkin’ nicked then. If you’re muslim, live in the UK and say it on Facebook that is. This was the fate of Azhar Ahmed, 19, who chose Facebook as his medium to express his disgust that the deaths of 6 British soldiers serving in the occupation of Afghanistan was treat as a much more solemn and grief stricken event than the regular killings of Afghan civilians. In language not much more colourful (well, maybe just a bit) than you’d find in the pages of SchNEWS.

*“People gassin about the deaths of Soldiers! What about the innocent familys who have been brutally killed.. The women who have been raped..The children who have been sliced up..! Your enemy’s were the Taliban not innocent harmful families. All soldiers should DIE & go to HELL! THE LOWLIFE FOKKIN SCUM! gotta problem go cry at your at your soldiers grave & wish him hell because thats where he is going..”*

As a result of his internet diatribe (hardly the first angry anti-imperialist posting the internet has ever seen), Azhar was arrested for a “racially aggravated public order offence”.

As astute readers will no doubt be aware, “soldier” is not a race. There’s no mention of race or religion in his post, but, if you’re Muslim in Britain, you can pretty much forget any freedom of speech niceties that we bandy around when we compare ourselves to despotic foreign regimes that crush peoples’ human rights.

Azhar will appear at Dewsbury Magistrates Court on 20 March 2011. Other Facebook commentators have decided to pitch in their two-penneth over his allegedly racist rant with actually racist comments such as *“Dirty smelly greasy bastard needs f\*cking torturing the dirty paki bastard!”* and *“Cheeky smelly pakki c\*nt wants tying to a tree n shooting ...Smelly f\*kker.. Lock him up n throw the key away ..Grrrrhhhh.... SKUM.....!”* Needless to say, there have been no arrests in connection to these posts.

## OPPOSE THE MARCH FOR ENGLAND



## FREE PUSSY RIOT

Russian avant-garde punk agitators Pussy Riot have been banged up. A Riot grrl inspired feminist octet they shot to fame as bizarre cheerleaders for the anti-Putin protests last winter. Clad in multi-coloured balaclavas they grabbed attention with a series of guerilla gigs, including a surprise appearance in Red Square in January where they performed their signature tune “Revolt in Russia”.

Their last excursion, an improvised ‘punk prayer’ in the pulpit of a cathedral demanding that the Virgin Mary chase Putin out of office and denouncing the collusion of the Russian Orthodox hierarchy with the political elite. Two of them, Nadezhda Tolokonnikova and Mariya Alekhina, have been charged with hooliganism and incitement to religious hatred and are threatened with seven years in jail.

On Wednesday 14th they were denied bail (meaning they will spend at least another six weeks inside) and a solidarity picket outside of the court in Moscow was attacked by fundamentalist Orthodox Christians. They have gone on hunger strike in custody and there is an international campaign to release them (there is a petition for their release).

On Thursday a third woman was arrested and integrated by Russian Police. For the latest on their case see:

<http://freepussyriot.org>

<http://pussy-riot.livejournal.com/>

# HOWLING BLUNDER

The sustained insanity that is the Canadian tar sands exploitation has been turned up another notch this week – with a huge projected wolf cull.

The problem is that the massive environmental devastation caused by the extraction of the marginal energy resource is causing a decline in caribou numbers. According to the Pembina Institute, a Canadian non-profit think tank that advances clean energy solutions, “95% of woodland caribou habitat in northeastern Alberta is to be lost in order to promote oil sands development.

Faced with this threat to one of the iconic mammals of the frozen north – what’s the Canadian government’s answer? – well obviously it’s to launch an attack on the caribou’s main predator, the wolf. The plan is to poison some wolves with strychnine and gun down the rest from helicopters. Environment minister Peter Kent has been quoted as saying that “thousands” of wolves might need to be killed.

A four year study by the the Center for Conservation Biology at the University of Washington, agrees that mining oil from tar sands is a greater threat to caribou than predation by wolves. After all wolves and caribou have managed to violently co-exist for nearly two million years in the area Lu Carbyn, an Emeritus Research Scientist with the Canadian Wildlife Service and adjunct professor at the University of Alberta, has stated that “restoring habitat in highly disturbed oil and gas regions should be the top priority for anyone interested in caribou conservation”.

The study found that in winter, oil production activity is at its height. when food sources for caribou diminish and the animals rely on lichen. Moreover, oil extracting operations take place in the same open, frozen areas that caribou use. The noise, vehicles, machinery and industrial commotion of oil extraction stress the caribou as they try to paw through the snow for sustenance.

Tar sands extraction is one more in a long series of insults to the natural resources of Alberta. Logging and oil and gas production are also adversely altering, fragmenting and degrading the forests of Canada. According to Ed Struzik, Canadian author and Arctic specialist “At last count, 34,773 wells, 66,489 kilometers of seismic lines, 11,591 kilometers of pipelines, and 12,283 kilo-

meters of roads had been built in caribou country in west central and northern Alberta. That doesn’t include the vast areas of forest that have been logged”

Over the past five years, the government of Alberta has spent more than \$1 million poisoning wolves with strychnine and shooting them from the air. In all, more than 500 wolves have been killed.

For more on anti-tar sands action <http://www.no-tar-sands.org/>

For more on wolves [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gray\\_wolf](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gray_wolf)

*...and finally...*

Russia’s elections – fraudulent, corrupt, proof that Russia is still a one party state with nothing but a figleaf of democracy. If that’s what you think then you’re dead wrong. At least, that’s what Nick Griffin discovered after he went on an all-expenses-paid trip to oversee the Russian elections earlier this month. Nasty Nick came out with some insightful comments into the true nature of the Eastern Land of the Free such as “Putin’s Russia is more democratic than Cameron’s UK Banana Republic,” and “I went half expecting to see a poorly designed system vulnerable to fraud. I was stunned to discover instead a robust, transparent and properly democratic system that made me even more aware than ever of the ... shambles that masquerades as free and fair elections in Great Britain.”

Griffin’s BNP has been desperate to blame its consistently terrible electoral performance on anything other than the fact that their nothing but a bunch of ugly thugs that everybody hates, so slugging off the British electoral system has become more or less instinctive for him nowadays. Yet something (maybe free vodka or a the promise of a mail order bride) has led him to become a useful idiot for Putin, who’s autocratic, nationalist populist style is probably the sort of thing that Nick imagines he would be like as leader, when he’s practising in front of a mirror alone at home.

Does pose the question, if Nick Griffin loves Russia so much, why doesn’t he go and live there?

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