



WAKE UP!! WAKE UP!! IT'S YER MIDWEEK...

# SchNEWS

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## BY GEORGE!

AS SCHNEWS DIVES INTO THE PATH OF THE MARCH FOR ENGLAND

Here we go again, the St George's Day weekend in Brighton will once more be tarnished by dodgy 'not the English Defence League, honest gov' March for England. Our home-town is now unfortunate enough to have played host to this outbreak of dubious patriotism for five years in a row. Anti-fascists are calling for a counter-mobilisation to jeer them off the streets.

On the face of it the March for England (MfE) is an annual shambling plod through Brighton by lagered-up idiots. A few folk have suggested to SchNEWS that they should be simply ignored – and indeed from the vantage point of the Brighton bubble, where soya cappucino flows on tap and anarcho-buddhism is virtually a mainstream religion, they do seem like a hilarious irrelevance.

However, unfortunately MfE is an organisation as well as an event and as an organisation they are very much part of the new fascism – the growing European 'counter-jihad' right. Of course the counter-jihad's most famous exponent to date is Anders Breivik, the Norwegian mass-murderer.

Although the annual march in Brighton is the main public event organised by the group, their banners can be found at many other EDL protests across the country. It's leadership are enthusiastic members and supporters of the EDL. MfE membership overlaps significantly with other groups including the Infidels, English Nationalist Alliance, Stop Islamification of Europe and Casuals United. Their focus is on a sense of English rather than British identity and opposition to Islam. They have also recently started to get excited about a possible war with Argentina.

Although MfE claim to simply be patriots – what they mean by 'English values' is in fact thinly veiled racism, often although not limited to anti-muslim statements. The word 'muzzie' – the modern day version of 'paki' – is never far from the discussion on their forums or facebook profiles.

During their last outing in Brighton the MfE openly displayed English Defence League flags and chanted "Allah is a paedo" – which besides being offensive doesn't even make any sense. They also (at the start of the march at least) displayed a pink union jack, apparently in support of LGBT rights. This didn't stop a substantial part of the march shouting 'You lot take it up the arse' at passers-by and counter-demonstrators.

### COLOUR BAR

This year there have been desperate pleas by organisers to make this a 'no colours' event, i.e. that EDL members should leave their flags at home. Will they be able to restrain themselves?

Last year the MfE truly revealed their colours as a racist mob roaming Brighton's streets.

The truth is that the MfE come to Brighton because they feel that it is a site of 'anti-english' activity – they are against pretty much everything our city stands for. Let's show 'em they're not welcome!

Meet up along Queen's Rd between the station and the Clock Tower from 11 a.m Sunday 22nd April.

### STATEMENT FROM STOP THE MARCH FOR ENGLAND

We stand in opposition to the March for England not because we are anti-free speech. We have no problem with anyone celebrating their national, regional or ethnic identity or criticizing organised religion. We are not calling on the police or local government to ban this march. However we believe that ideologies of hate flourish when they are ignored and want the people of Brighton to show that the hate speech of the English Defence League isn't welcome here or anywhere. The MfE were given the benefit of the doubt the first few times they appeared in Brighton, a mark perhaps of our city's laissez-faire attitude and reputation for tolerance, however they've used their platform to spread a message of hate and that we should not allow.

We want to bring the people of Brighton out onto the streets to let the MfE know exactly how welcome they are.



## ROOFLESS EXTREMISTS

SQUATTERS TAKE TO THE STREETS TO EXPRESS THEIR ANGER AT THE IMPENDING CRIMINALISATION OF HOMELESSNESS

On Wednesday 28th March Clause 130 the Legal Aid and Punishment of Offenders Bill passed through the House of Lords with little mainstream attention. The clause creates the new offence of 'squatting in a residential building' punishable by up to 1 year in prison.

It has made it this far despite a campaign of lobbying and protest by groups such as Squash and SNOB. Receiving barely any debating time since being tacked onto the (already draconian) Legal Aid Bill at the last minute back in October – completely ignoring the responses to the government's own consultation, which found over 96% against new legislation.

The act could come into effect as early as May, though it will be some time before it's full implications are realised, as the way it is enforced and how the courts interpret the new law will define how it will work in practice.

The government has claimed that the criminalisation of residential squatting represents a compromise, though in reality squatting in commercial and industrial buildings was not included due to the risk of inadvertently criminalising sit-ins and student protests. Also the definition

of residential has been made so broad it will cover the vast majority of squattable properties. In addition to all this 'justice' minister Crispin Blunt has already stated that this is merely the first step – so expect the act to be extended when there is a surge in non-residential squatting.

On Friday 30th March 30-40 people marched through Bristol, promising to continue squatting regardless of the ban.

In Brighton around 100 squatters and supporters took to the streets on Saturday to express their anger at the new legislation and highlight the number of people who will become criminals merely for seeking shelter. Further protests are expected and SchNEWS' local squatters are also planning on hosting a squatters' convergence from 17th-20th May.

With an increasing population and another recession just around the corner it is disappointing, if not surprising, that this full frontal assault on the idea that the property ownership is not an absolute right has gone almost unnoticed.

To get involved with the fight contact SNOB(aha)

Email; snobaha@gmail.com

Phone: 07531871895.

https://network23.org/snob/

INFORMATION FOR ACTION

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## BIBLE BASHERS BUSTED

Last Sunday, around eighty pro-choice protesters gave some anti-abortion activists a taste of their own medicine. They gathered in front of Worthing High School, which is where the Jubilee Community Church holds its Sunday morning congregations, for a 'Carnival for Choice.'

Jubilee Church is the base of 'Abort67' an extremist anti-abortion group that stages bi-weekly protests outside an British Pregnancy Advisory Service clinic in Brighton.

Towards the end of last year pro-choice campaigners in Brighton caught wind of the horrific 'vigils' that they hold outside the clinic. Their vigils include holding large-scale banners depicting late-term aborted fetuses outside the clinic entrance, handing out misinformation and untrue medical facts (claiming abortion leads to breast cancer, infertility etc) as well as haranguing and encircling women, some of them victims of rape, calling them 'murderers' and 'mothers of dead babies.'

Jubilee, an evangelical newfrontiers church is the perfect breeding ground (no pun intended) for these anti-choice bigots. Nearly all of Abort67's members (including it's leaders) are church members. The church leadership publicly state that they fully support Abort67 in their aims and

tactics, as well as holding nicey-nice bake sales at the church to raise funds for Abort67.

The carnival started at 9.30am, to show the other members of the congregation that these tactics of harassment and intimidation of women accessing a legal medical service is completely unacceptable. They were confronted as they went to their service by pro-choice banners and chants such as 'Abort your support' 'Keep your religion out of my womb' and 'Abort Abort67.'

Brighton Pro Choice, a local campaigning group set up to counter these protests, handed a 3000-signature strong petition to the church leadership (who would obviously agree with an extreme minority than with a large number of people talking actual sense) calling on them to withdraw all their support of Abort67.

Jubilee's website now contains a disclaimer on the front page stating that they are a separate organisation to Abort67, but that they still 'defend the rights of the unborn child.' - i.e they're starting to feel the pressure.

After confronting the congregation before and after their service (and receiving lots of support from passers by) around fifty people marched into the centre of Worthing, finishing up outside the Guildhall Centre. One organiser told SchNEWS "The number of people who turned up to sleepy conservative Worthing\* on a Sunday

morning shows that people care strongly about reproductive rights and that we will not accept harassment and intimidation of people accessing a legal medical service. The pressure is on - lets keep up the momentum."

To find out more about the Brighton Pro Choice Campaign, find them at [www.brightonprochoice.wordpress.com](http://www.brightonprochoice.wordpress.com)

### PARTY & PROTEST

For events listings updated weekly see [www.schnews.org.uk/pap](http://www.schnews.org.uk/pap)

## INSPIRING SOLUTIONS FOR DESPERATE TIMES

After several years in recession and with 21% unemployment rate, the Greek city of Volos was pushed towards finding their own solutions. A few months ago a new bartering system has been introduced by a grass-roots initiative. The new currency is called TEMs and enables now more than 800 members to access products and services in the local area, from food to babysitter services.

This solution comes with greater benefits than the mainstream economy, for instance, a woman who went to the market with a tray full of cakes brought home at the end of the day plenty of fruit, two litres of olive oil, soap, beans, a dozen eggs and yoghurt. Although the cakes were sold at only 1 TEM each (thus not fully covering the costs of producing them) but the quantity of products exchanged came at a much lower price than if she had bought them in a supermarket.

This kind of community entrepreneurship has a precedent in Germany. It started as a school project by Christian Gelleri that motivated their students to create their own money to be directly used in local businesses. The name of the currency is chiemgauer and in 2010 counted with more of 600 businesses in the Rosenheim- Traunstein area and at least involved 2500 people regularly using the new currency.

The idea is not new, if anything is a forgotten ancient practice, and when institutions and governmental practices work against our basic best interests it presents a empowering strategy that closes up economy into a community level. It brings the responsibility of our livelihood back into our own hands, thus tackling our dependence on big chain stores and globalized banks.

### ...and finally...

Brighton cops have launched a nation-wide man-hunt for an insurgent who used a sophisticated device to disable a vital part of their transportation network. Babylon issued a statement saying: "Sussex Police have released CCTV images of a man they are keen to trace following the find of several large wood nails that had been placed at the entrances of Brighton police station car parks on Friday 23 March." Apparently all three car-park entrances were thoroughly seeded with the pointy little fuckers.

Alarmingly, but ungrammatically the statement continued "We believe that this is not the first time nails have been placed at the car park entrances but on this occasion a sergeant's car tyres have been punctured by the mystery nails."

Police are seeking a 60 year old man in blue baseball cap with an orange carrier bag, possibly a Sainsbury's 'bag for life'. If you know the mystery shopper, then you know what to do - buy him a pint!

### Disclaimer

SchNEWS warns all readers, even if the EDL are chased out of Brighton this weekend, there are plenty more fish by the sea. Honest.

# AMAZON DAMNED?

## PROTESTS AGAINST BRAZIL'S HYDRO POWER DAM PROJECT

The latest protest against the Amazonian Belo Monte Dam project took place in Washington last Monday (9th of April). This demonstration against the Brazilian government's anti-social and anti-environmental policies took place on the same day that Brazil's president and former revolutionary guerilla Dilma Rouseff met Barack Obama. Despite international and indigenous outcry, construction of the world's third largest dam is already under way. With five thousand men at work, nothing seems to stop the government's determination to build this dam.

Brazil is rapidly becoming a strong economy at the global level. Industrial development and increase in the standard of living has meant that demand for energy is at an all time high, hence the government's enthusiasm to construct a network of dams in the Amazonia. Indigenous groups and their supporters had successfully fought legal battles to stop the work before it started, arguing that that its development threatened environmental sustainability and the human rights of those living in the Amazonian.

The plans for Belo Monte Dam consist of a group of 3 huge dams, numerous dykes, and canals to supply two power stations on the Xingu River in the state of Pará, Brazil. More than 80% of the flow of the Xingu river will be diverted causing a permanent drought on the river's "Big Bend," as well as directly affecting the Paquiçamba and Arara territories of the Juruna and Arara indigenous peoples. It will also flood a total of 668 km<sup>2</sup> of which 400 km<sup>2</sup> is standing forest. The flooding will displace way more than the 20,000 that Brazil's government admits will lose their land, including Juruna, Xikrin, Arara, Kuruaya and Kayapo indigenous communities. It will permanently destroy much of the Amazon's biodiversity. The radical disturbance of the ecosystem presents a high level of health risk from insect-borne diseases such

as malaria. As regards energy efficiency the dam is in way below its promises. Belo Monte dam will only produce 10% of its capacity during the 3-5 month long dry season, or 39% of its nominal capacity. It is not a feasible project and private investors know it, and this is why the Brazilian government is bankrolling 80% of the project through the country's development bank, BNDES.

The project was approved based on half truths and the omission of essential facts. Both the ILO (International Labour Organisation) Convention 169 and the Brazilian constitution recognises and protects indigenous rights and it demands thorough consultation on any projects which affect them. The Environmental Impact Assessment only considers affected populations those in the area of flooding, but not populations that face permanent drought on their land. The assessment states that populations dependent on the Xingu river were consulted, but in fact there were only four public hearings (where security forces obstructed the entrance of civil society representatives) and any queries were ridiculed and dismissed. Concerning environmental issues, there is no mention of the impact of the project on fish species, quite an omission given that there are four times the total amount of fish species in this region than there are found in the whole of Europe.

Belo Monte is shaping up to be one of the major battlegrounds in the ongoing struggle of economic development vs indigenous and ecological survival. Belo Monte Dam will irreversibly affect some of the richest biological and cultural diversity of our planet. Construction has only started and there is every reason to fight it.

Stay informed and get involved:  
<http://www.internationalrivers.org/>  
<http://www.xinguvivo.org.br/>  
<http://amazonwatch.org/>

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