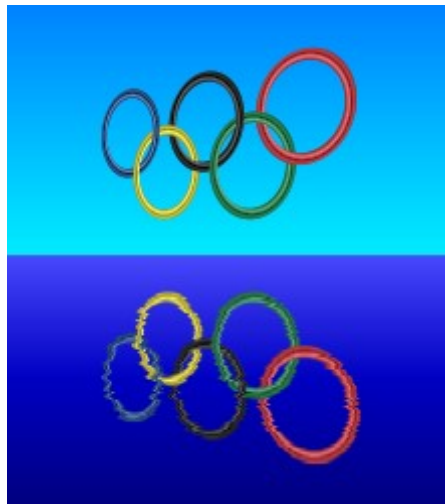


The Libertarian Communist

A Discussion Bulletin for and of the Anti State, Non
Market Socialist/Anarchist sector

Aim: the creation of a World wide Libertarian Communist Society.

Jubilee, Olympics and all that Crap



Nationalism in Britain in the 21st Century

Issue 20: October to December 2012

£1.20

The purpose of The Libertarian Communist is to promote discussion amongst the Anti State, Non Market sector irrespective of whether individuals or groups consider themselves as Anarchist, Communist or Socialist as all such titles are in need of further qualification. If you have disagreements with an article in this or any other issue, wish to offer comment or want to contribute something else to the discussion then please get in touch. If any article focuses on a particular group then that group has, as a matter of course, the right to reply. So please get in touch with your article, letters and comments. You can do this by contacting **(please note the new email address) libcom.bulletin@yahoo.co.uk** or writing to Ray Carr, Flat 1, 99 Princess Road, Branksome, Poole, Dorset.

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Welcome to Issue 20

Welcome to issue 20 which will take us to the end of 2012 and the year or much of it (in Britain), at least, is reflected in the article on the Jubilee and Olympics. Patriotism and nationalism has always been a strong undercurrent here as well as most other countries but the sight of all those union jacks and St George's Cross flags was just too much for the editor, hence the need to get this off his chest and we are sure many others felt much the same. This is followed by an interesting piece which we reprint here from *Principia Dialectica*; '*Britain is a Basket Case*', reminding us of the severe limitations to the '*Bash the Bankers*' campaign which so many seemed to have signed up to. Whilst recently the economic downturn has dominated our thoughts the profit system continues to threaten the very existence of the planet and since this is the most important issue facing us we are pleased to print the introduction of a book: '*The Environment*' by *Lyla Byrne*. As Lyla points out, this book is still in the process of completion and is available on the web. We are hoping to have further extracts in future issues. The Libertarian Communist has always been interested in receiving articles on major figures and theorists of the anti state, non market sector from the past whose ideas current activists believe still have something to offer our movement today so we have pleasure in including '*What William Morris Means Today*', thanks to Terry Liddle. This is followed by a couple of press releases from the Industrial Workers of Great Britain (IWGB) relating to the dispute involving cleaners employed at John Lewis and the decision to break away from the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) As we have printed the statement of the IWGB and the reasons for the decision to form the breakaway we feel it is right and proper to print the response of the IWW. However despite indication that a further statement

would be issued after their conference in late August we have no further news to hand at the time of publication. Finally our From World in Common section features an interesting analysis of the Occupy Wall Street movement. So there should be plenty to discuss in future issues.

The jubilee, Olympics and all that crap: propaganda, patriotism and profits.

It started fairly early in the year in the build up to an event surrounding a family in Britain who behave in an odd way. There is a woman who claims to be the 'queen', her husband calls himself the *Duke of Edinburgh* and then there are various *princes*' and *princesses*' and loads of hangers on. The real problem is that millions of people in this part of the world seem not only to believe the claim that this family is to be regarded as royal, (whatever that may mean), but start behaving oddly themselves when there is some event concerning one or more members of this family. Personally I've got nothing against these so-called royals, as individuals as I do not know them, have never met them and have no strong desire to do so. But that is one of the strange things because the millions of people who do support them (we are told its millions anyway), talk about what a wonderful woman the 'queen' is, what a marvellous job she does for the country and so on and being they do not know her or her family you wonder how they gained such knowledge about the royals as people or had any insight into the job they do. As far as one can make out if what they do can be described as a job it certainly cannot be described as useful work.

In June, this woman many people recognise as the 'queen' celebrated her diamond jubilee completing sixty years of sitting on the throne: one could insert one or two jokes at this point but we will resist the temptation. In the period leading up to this long jubilee weekend one was surrounded by union jacks, they were

hanging in the windows or the gardens of peoples' homes, shopping centres and shop windows were full of them, it was almost as though a law had been introduced where one was committing an offence if you failed to display a flag showing your loyalty to the 'queen' and the *royal family*. If you went into your local pub it was likely to have a picture of the 'queen', a few union jacks and some red, white and blue flags, even things like cakes were designed to celebrate this non event. In their localities people held street parties, garden parties, tea and coffee mornings and so on. The weekend culminated with millions of people standing around for hours just to wave to a woman and members of her family standing on a balcony at Buckingham Palace one of their many oversized homes.

We hardly had time to get over all this and along came the European Football Championships. With the union jacks still flying here, there and everywhere they were joined by St George's Cross flags. Once again they appeared all over the place and you saw them constantly flying from the windows of cars and other vehicles. In this continuation of national pride (well this one was confined to England), you had to support the England football team even if you detested football and no matter how their style of play bored you stiff. Personally I celebrated when they got knocked out but kept it to myself to avoid getting verbally abused or beaten up; actually it made no difference the St George's Cross flags stayed up and so did the union jacks and worse was to come; the Olympics were just around the corner.

The Olympics: more patriotism and sport commercialisation.

With the start of the Olympic Games the levels of nationalist fervour increased. More union jacks went up to join those that had been paraded since before the jubilee. Every capitalist institution from banks to communication companies to food chains strove to convince us how crucial their role was in the games. Most things one purchased had a design including a union jack to emphasise how British it was. Examples of this included; "Made in Britain", on jars of pickles, potato wedges that were formally just wedges or perhaps if a bit more spicy, Mexican Wedges, now became British Wedges, bottles of ale with a union jack logo on the bottle top and so on and so on an so on.

In light of the above - although he may have been over the top - one can sympathise with Morrissey's statement in his online fanzine magazine - "True to You" - comparing the coverage of the games with its overt jingoism and patriotism to that of Germany in 1939. Morrissey stated:

. "I am unable to watch the Olympics due to the blustering jingoism that drenches the event. Has England ever been so foul with patriotism? The 'dazzling royals' have, quite naturally, hijacked the Olympics for their own empirical needs, and no oppositional voice is allowed in the free press. It is lethal to witness. As London is suddenly promoted as a super-wealth brand, the England outside London shivers beneath cutbacks, tight circumstances and economic disasters." He continued: ***"I recently drove through Greece I noticed graffiti seemingly everywhere on every available wall. In large blue letters it said: 'WAKE UP WAKE UP'. It could almost have been written with the British public in mind ..."*** (Yahoo News August 28th 2012)

Of course this surge of nationalism and patriotism is served up for the majority.

The capitalist class of the world have bigger fish to fry; namely sales and profits. The Olympic games is supposedly the largest sporting spectacle of them all but capitalism has done to this event what it has done to all major sporting events and indeed to all major sports, it has turned them into a massive advertising event. How major corporations use events like the Olympic Games is highlighted by a campaign by **SumOfUs.org** to try and shame Adidas into paying the \$1.8 million severance pay it owes to 2,800 Indonesian workers who formally worked for PT Kizone. PT Kizone was a supplier to Adidas whose boss suddenly closed the company and fled the country. Adidas is supposed to be responsible for ensuring that its suppliers stand by local and international law but PT Kizone failed in this respect as it did not set aside funds for severance pay. Former PT Kizone workers have been campaigning for over 18 months to get the \$1.8 million that Adidas is responsible for but when a meeting took place in June between company officials and union representatives the offer was just a mere \$53 in food vouchers. By all accounts the Adidas logo was very prominent if you watched the games on television because they slashed out \$122 million to sponsor the games .Why does it shell out all this money? Because it believes in the values the games are 'supposed' to represent? Well not quite. Adidas has a different type of value in mind. It expects its sponsorship to yield billions in sales. This year Adidas has not done that badly; its sponsorship of German and Spanish national Football teams is worth over \$77 million and its football sales alone are projected to top \$2 billion and its total sales are expected to total \$18 billion. But it cannot afford to pay less than 2% of the money it paid to sponsor the Olympic Games to the Indonesian workers its former suppliers laid off. (**SumOfUs.org**) Well what's new?

Yes we can join in the campaign waged in this case by **SumOfUs.org** and **Clean**

Clothes Campaign and so on and sign the petition, stop buying Adidas products and so on. However whilst there is nothing wrong in doing this it is a bit like trying to hold back the sea with a broom. Adidas and companies like them are acting as capitalism dictates; in the interests of capital accumulation and their shareholders. Such campaigns may have minor successes but you cannot hold back the tide and prevent a system based on profit acting in the interests of profit rather than human need.

The International Olympic Committee and the Corporate Games

An article by **Corporate Watch** in the August issue of **Freedom** focuses on The International Olympic Committee (IOC) The IOC began to develop as a more successful body in capitalist terms in the late 1970s. In 1976 the games in Montreal attracted only \$7 million in domestic sponsorship but generated a debt of \$1.5 billion which took 30 years to pay off. Two years latter Richard Pound was elected to the IOC and he transformed the Olympic Movement, which, as the Freedom article suggests, can more accurately be described as the '*Olympic Industry*'. Pound struck up huge sponsorship deals with corporations such as Coca-Cola, Kodak, McDonalds and Visa and arranged TV sponsorship deals. From this point as the authors of the article point out:

"The games became a multi billion dollar enterprise, spreading corporate power and imagery throughout the world."

Advertising is a major reason that the IOC is so successful in modern times. It, like many other sporting events, is just one gigantic advertising event for the world's best known commodities. Or, as the authors put it:

"The Olympic Games is in effect the biggest billboard in the universe".

Perhaps it should be renamed as The Corporate Games.

Using a low end estimation as accurate figures are difficult to obtain the authors conclude that the IOC makes around \$750 million a year (**Freedom, August 2012, p.13**)

Behind the rhetoric of Olympic values.

Whilst we hear a lot about the values inherent in the Olympic Games, such as respect, friendship and so on the reality is somewhat different. The **Corporate Watch/Freedom** article quotes C.A Shaw the author of "*Five Ring Circus: Myths and Realities of the Olympic Games*":

"Were there ever a democratic, egalitarian organisation promoting sport for the masses? Well, no. Of the nine actual or acting presidents, the IOC have put three barons, two counts, two businessmen, an overt fascist and a fascist sympathiser in its top job. With leaders like this are the outcomes surprising?"

Apart from the con about the Olympic Games being about friendship and co-operation the organisation of such a vast event which has the power to get what it wants whatever the consequences has social implications on a quite massive scale. Especially dating from the 1980s the Olympic Games has led, or contributed to people becoming displaced, increased homelessness and state violence aimed at those seeking to protest against the games and their social consequences. For example the Beijing Games in 2008 saw displacement on a massive scale and prior to those games there was a systematic round up of political activists that involved imprisonment, beatings and torture of any dissenters. The 2012 games themselves did not pass off free of such problems. There were pre-emptive arrests and evictions within London and in July there were protests aimed at such issues as

discrimination against female athletes, issues of corporate sponsorship, the presence of mass surveillance and restrictions on the right to protest. The latter is part of the contract that every host city has to agree to (**Freedom, August 2012, pp.12-13**). This recent history goes to show that the games and their organisation have costs that go beyond financial ones. These include social consequences for people, especially the less well off, who live in areas where the games are taking place as well as further limits on democratic rights such as free assembly and the right to protest.

Events such as the jubilee or major sporting events such as the Olympic Games perform important propaganda for the ruling class; in the former that is its major function for the latter it is a very useful by product. Patriotism cements the illusion that in the case of, for example, the current economic recession, we are all in it together, we are united by our place of residence from the very richest to someone living on the streets. In reality patriotism and nationalism are reserved for the majority, the minority ruling class have no time for such clap trap: they will invest wherever their capital outlay is promised a profitable return, exploit the labour power of workers from any point of the globe, where those workers live or the colour of their skin does not matter one bit. The graffiti that Morrissey mentioned on the walls in Greece comes back to mind: 'WAKE UP, WAKE UP'. Some person going around with a crown on their head or whether a gold medal goes to someone in this part of the world or someone in Tin Buck Two is meaningless trivia we have a world to win and to save if it is not already too late.

References

Morrissey: Olympic Spirit 'Like Nazi Germany' Yahoo News August 28th 2012

Adidas and the Olympic Games SumOfUs.org
Bread and Circuses; Freedom August 2012, pp.12.13. See also www.corporatewatch.org

Britain is a basket case

By principiadialectica.co.uk



UK Plc – a classy act

Not many of us were able to compete for elbow space to cheer millionaire athlete Ryan Lochte on as he sipped a \$3000 'golden' cocktail in celebrity London hangout Chinawhite's this week.

But the crisis of the economy will still be with us when the hangover kicks in. As a therapeutic remedy, us Brits love to reach for that now fashionable cure-all: bash a banker. But why can the demand for a return to a more 'gentlemanly ethos' or 'better regulation' of the Square Mile not solve the crisis?

The huge expansion of the finance capital sector only occurred because there was no way for capital to increase the extraction of surplus-value given the high rates of productivity in the industrial sector. Finance capital was the response of capital to the economic crisis of the 1970's, and that response has now run its course. Financial instruments have long detached themselves from surplus-value extraction taking place in the present, and are backed by the promise of surplus-value to be extracted in the future.

The volume, however, of these future commitments is far too great for there ever to be enough surplus-value to meet them. Massive asset devaluations are the

only way to reconcile these demands on future surplus-value to the reality. As each renewed shock in the course of the crisis has the effect of seizing up the supply of credit, there will be regular and painful contractions in commercial activity and private consumption, given how much of this is paid for out of credit backed by asset price inflation. Unemployment can be expected to rise substantially. Compared to the past, much of youth is simply excluded from the market and from the figures. If we look at southern Europe — not to mention the global South — it is clear that there is massive unemployment everywhere.

Also, we can't speak of the crisis in the past tense. What happened three years ago was just the first phase of the crisis. The continuing slow contraction of economic activity shows we are in a plateau between phases, the next one can be expected to bring a more pronounced depression. The state has powers to ameliorate the effects of the crisis today that it didn't have in the 1930s and states do, to some extent, co-operate on anti-crisis measures today.

If anything, the banking sector has actually helped to postpone a crisis that has been a long time coming. As is argued [here](#), the roots of the crisis are that 'capital could no longer find sufficient opportunities for valorisation in the 'real economy' and a gigantic bubble of unsecured 'fictitious capital' (Marx) was inflated. Without this diversion, which allowed the crisis of capital-accumulation to be postponed, the global economy would have collapsed long ago.'

The following article is the Introduction to a book by Lyla Byrne on ***The Environment***. We preface this article with a brief statement about this project by Lyla.

Extracts from 'The Environment Book' which has three parts 1) What's happening 2) Why it is happening 3) What we can do. This is a work in well developed progress. As they are completed, sections are being added to this website <http://www.stephenshenfield.net> I am interested in ideas for publication of parts of the book as a pamphlet, or of the book as a whole. I am also interested in moving to, or helping to set up, a socially and environmentally friendly community as a centre for learning and generally healthy development. To discuss any of this, or for other enquiries contact meriyon@live.co.uk

The Environment Book:

By *Lyla Byrne*

Introduction

From the mountains of West Virginia, decapitated for their coal, to the once lush paradise of the Niger Delta, now blighted by leaked oil and gas flares; from the melting ice caps to poisoned rivers and poisoned air; the pursuit of profit – with its many invasive and stultifying effects in society - continues to devastate our environment. Every ecosystem on the planet is in decline, and most biologists believe that we are either at the brink of, or already in, a mass extinction event.

We rely on the myriads of creatures that both supply for us directly, and are essential to the creation of all our life support systems. For instance, amongst many other contributions, trees oxygenate the air; and bees, as well as making honey, pollinate the flowers so that fruits develop, providing food, and the seeds of new plants and trees. However, deforestation continues apace; and bees are suffering from various effects of climate change, together with the use of pesticides (which weaken immune systems) and herbicides (which eliminate wild flowers).

In a tragic irony, many of the farming methods which have been developed with the promise of producing abundance are

destroying the natural abundance of our environment. Another example of this is the use of non-organic nitrogen fertilizers. These cause the formation of nitrous oxide in the air – which is a greenhouse gas.

Of course, in the present capitalist system, these practices have largely developed as they have due to the priority of profit making. They are also now held in place, despite the known dangers and the known alternatives, not only due to the profit making of agri-business, but because they are integral to a whole profit making network of military/'security', armaments, machinery, engineering, oil, chemical, banking, advertising and media industries etc.

A small minority of people financially own most of this network, and thus have main control of the rest of it; so they are inordinately powerful in, and because of, capitalism. Money can be provided to buy media outlets, to lobby governments, and for the election campaigns of candidates who look favorably on 'business as usual'. So they have remained in control, even in democracies, despite the fact that their activities have numerous socially and environmentally detrimental effects.

Present main stream practices that are causing global warming are brewing up immanent and massively destructive events for humanity, but little is said about it. It is in a way a taboo subject – because everyone (rightly) feels implicated; but most do not know enough about what can be done to improve the situation, except that it requires big changes that we do not yet have enough support to make. Then if the subject does come up it is boring; 'Oh, not global warming *again*'.

There is no leadership from the owning minority - or the politicians that serve them - towards reducing emissions, because they are largely maintaining their ownership and control/rule/leadership

position *by making profits from activities that produce emissions*. Instead, it is good for profit making if we are made to fear each other, so we don't share things; and indeed to hate each other – especially people in other countries when public support is required for a war to forcibly takeover resources. The wars and the use of the acquired resources involve more mass production of green house gasses, of course.

Large corporations have even been funding global warming and human cause denialism to try to ensure that the profits keep rolling in. This was being done secretly by Exxon (known as Esso in some countries), until recently revealed by Greenpeace research. However, the heat retaining properties of certain gasses are well known – indeed these gasses are used in some industrial applications *because of this property*. Plus we know that we are producing these gasses in large quantities.

Evidence for global warming gasses in the atmosphere does not only come from measuring parts per million; and evidence for global warming does not only come from using our thermometers. Glaciers and the polar ice caps are visibly reducing, sea levels are rising, deserts are expanding, and the ranges of many animals and plants are moving north.

In most studies that are carried out scientists are saying 'the changes are happening faster than we thought they would'. It is looking increasingly likely that the arctic will have its first completely ice free summer for more than 2,500,000 years by 2040 or earlier; and the effect on the rest of the climate is bound to be dramatic. The forerunners of modern humans evolved between 400,000 and 250,000 years ago, and modern humans about 200,000 years ago. In other words, the conditions overall will be beyond those that we have adapted to for survival/healthy life. Decades or even hundreds of years do not constitute

enough time to biologically adapt to major changes. Besides which, if present trends continue, the conditions will not stabilise soon enough for any kind of survival. The heat will continue to rise, exceeding anything that life can adapt to, except perhaps for a few bacteria and viruses.

Globally the weather is already noticeably changing. In the Northern Hemisphere, thaws now come about a week earlier in spring, and freezes a week later. More water evaporates from warmer seas, so some areas are getting heavier rainfall. More heat also affects air pressure and ocean currents, causing stronger winds and different wind patterns. So whilst some areas are getting more rain, others have been losing rainfall, and are ravaged by drought and wild fires.

Coral reefs and plankton are the main foundations of the ocean food chain. They are both sensitive to changes in water temperature. Corals suffered the worst extent of damage ever recorded in 1998, with some areas having bleach (death) rates of 70%.

When there are increasing amounts of global warming gasses in the atmosphere, increasing amounts consequently dissolve in the oceans, where they cause acidification. Corals are not only suffering from the heat. Acids erode existing reefs, whilst increasing acidity reduces the amount of available calcium carbonate – which is essential for coral, and for many other marine species that form shells and skeletons. Problems with larval shell formation are already being recorded. Some types of plankton that form minute shells are also affected.

The latest research, published in 2012, looks at global temperature and ocean acidification data for the last 300 million years, during which time there were four other periods of significant global climate change*. The current rate of ocean acidification is not just faster, but several

times faster than during any of those periods – which include the aftermath of the asteroid impact that wiped out the dinosaurs, and the Permian mass-extinction 252 million years ago, when 95 per cent of life on Earth was destroyed.

Climate change is presently progressing at such a fast rate because with one hand, so to speak, we are pumping out CO₂ (along with other green house gasses), and with the other we are cutting down the trees that absorb it.

Respected scientific bodies are now saying that we have till 2017 to fundamentally change how we live so as to become carbon neutral, i.e. *to stop emitting such huge quantities of global warming gasses*; and most figures reported by respected scientific bodies have so far *under* rather than *over* estimated the urgency.

As the planet warms there are growing risks of local disasters and of runaway global warming; particularly because of other warming effects *that are caused by the warming*. These are known as 'feedback loops'. For example: Marine algae, especially phytoplankton, perform half of all the photosynthetic activity on Earth. This means that they are responsible for about half of the oxygen produced, and about half of the CO₂ that is absorbed by all existing plant life. There are presently conflicting reports, but some scientists believe that phytoplankton are already diminishing in abundance due to ocean acidification. It is anyway certain that they will decline if the temperature and acidity levels of the oceans continue to rise. *So there is/will be more CO₂ being left in the atmosphere, because of the effects of the higher levels of CO₂ in the atmosphere, and so on.*

Other examples involve methane, which is a potent greenhouse gas. Global warming is causing more permafrost in the arctic and elsewhere to melt each year. Permafrost is frozen earth containing a lot of decayed and decaying organic matter.

As it melts methane is released into the atmosphere. Along with this, warming seas are causing the expansion of methane deposits that are presently buried beneath the sea bed. Methane is already venting from the sea in larger quantities, plus it is possible that there will be a sudden and large methane eruption.

If human caused emissions of global warming gasses are not drastically reduced, global temperatures and ocean acidification levels *will continue to rise*, and this will inevitably result in the collapse of the main terrestrial and marine ecosystems. Globally, the frequency and extent of ecological disasters *will increase*, until the utter annihilation of our living environment. On land the forests will burn and the crops will die, the air will be toxic, and in the sea the coral reefs, once teeming with diverse, multi-colored life, will be replaced by uniform bacterial slime.

Global warming is a threat to the health and safety of humanity of the most extreme and serious nature. Unyet, as noted above, political leaders and those with the most economic power are barely attending to it. Rather, their energy is taken up with continuing and extending the practices that are causing it.

There is little dillydallying when 'health and safety' laws are required - and required to be implemented - that will benefit big business. When it means that many of us have to pay for a training course, or for new equipment from a large company for instance, and/or if it makes small businesses financially unfeasible, so large ones can acquire them/their customers cheaply.

But when it comes to truly healthy life, and indeed saving life itself, there is a sudden lack of interest and activity. In fact, as I write, some of the most powerful corporations in the world are pushing for a trade agreement, the

'Trans-Pacific Partnership' that would, according to its own conditions, allow for previous environmental and social protection laws to be over ruled. This involves the establishment of an international tribunal to make sure that corporations get their way, and to make more money at the same time by suing 'offenders' - i.e., those who try to uphold environmental/social protection laws that were previously made by democratically elected governments.

The insanity of the heartless and myopic profit system is engulfing us in the most grievous and horrific social oppression and ecological abuse. If this continues the disaster will be of such magnitude that extinction will be almost certain, as the biosphere will take millions of years to recover anything like the wealth of life and life giving resources that human beings inherited.

The present system both depletes us and prevents healthy growth and development in human and environmental terms. The hour is late, but not yet too late if enough of us can see through the unhealthy divisions, distortions and distractions caused by hierarchy and finance, and help each other to shed the suffocating and stultifying profit system like a dead skin.

Of course capitalism is not our only problem - there are always challenges in being human; but capitalism makes manifest the worst rather than the best of our potentials. If we work together and with the rest of nature directly for our wellbeing, it is still possible for us to create a peaceful, prosperous, and indeed marvelous world.

***<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/03/120307145430.htm> For this and related news. [Other references relevant to the above are included in part one, where the points are looked at in more detail.]**

We are pleased to include the following article on William Morris and would encourage readers and supporters to send in articles on theorists and activists from the past who they feel have made a valuable contribution to communism, as we understand it. Articles on what might be considered as lesser known revolutionaries are especially welcome.

WHAT WILLIAM MORRIS MEANS TODAY: Terry Liddle

Socialism has a bad image. For the majority of non-socialists and sadly for many who consider themselves to be socialists, socialism means a paternalistic bureaucratic Labour government or Stalinist totalitarianism, state capitalism with aspects of oriental despotism. Yet there is another socialist tradition, often deliberately written out of history, that of a stateless, moneyless society based on the common ownership of the means of production and distribution. Although he has been claimed by everybody from the Stalinists of the New Communist Party to the Strasserites of the National Front, the best exponent of this view in Britain was William Morris. Although formulated at the end of the 19th century his views have much meaning for today and the continuing struggle for Communism.

Morris became a socialist early in 1883 when he joined the Social Democratic Federation. He soon became its treasurer. Dissatisfied with the dictatorship of Henry Hyndman and the SDF's increasing reformism, he became part of the split which in 1885 formed the Socialist League. Morris called himself neither a Social Democrat nor a Socialist but always a Communist. For Morris it was the only hope for these confusing days.

Thanks to the generosity of Morris, the League published a weekly paper *Commonweal*. In the first issue the League published its Manifesto. This attacked state socialism.

"No better solution would be that of state socialism...whose aim it would be to make concessions to the working class while leaving the present system of capital and wages still in operation: no number of merely administrative changes, until the workers are in possession of all political power, would make any real approach to socialism."

Morris returned to the question of state socialism in the May 17, 1890 issue of the *Commonweal* writing:

"State socialism? I don't agree with it, in fact I think the two words contradict one another, and that it is the business of socialism to destroy the state and put a free society in its place."

Bolshevism in practice was not Lenin's *State and Revolution* nor the Soviets of 1917. It was the terror of the GPU and the iron rule of the Party apparatchiks.

As a political organization the League defined itself thus:

"Close fellowship with each other, and steady purpose for the advancement of the cause will actually bring about the organization and discipline among ourselves absolutely necessary to success but we shall look to it that there shall be no distinctions of rank or dignity amongst us to give opportunity to the selfish ambition of leadership which has so often injured the cause of the workers. We are working for equality and brotherhood for all the world and it is only through equality and brotherhood we can make our work effective."

The workers at the factory Morris run in Merton Abbey voluntarily joined the Socialist League.

Look at any Leninist organization, there is neither equality nor brotherhood. There is dogmatic myopia, rigid hierarchy and bullying with the rank and file being treated as cannon fodder while the leadership perpetuate their role by means which make nonsense of democracy.

Democratic centralism is an awful lot of centralism and precious little democracy.

Morris rejected sectarianism which litters the political scene with splits from splits all bitterly hostile. He wrote that it was the duty of League members to co-operate in the most cordial way with other Socialists on all occasions. He was delighted when socialists worked together to celebrate the Paris Commune and the lectures held at his home attracted everyone from Fabians to Anarchists. Those who believe in the hegemonic vanguardist sect as a fetish treat members of other sects as far worse enemies than the ruling class.

Morris is best known for his *News from Nowhere* which was in part a reply to Edward Bellamy's *Looking Backward* which Morris described as deadly dull. Although now over a century old, this remains the best description of a sustainable, libertarian communist society. Morris had an eye for detail and his description of the bread served in the Guest House made my mouth water. People are fitter, healthier, better dressed, more relaxed and younger looking. The polluting industries which blighted London have gone. The Thames is clean again and people fish for salmon in it. The false antithesis between town and countryside has been abolished. Everywhere there are gardens filled with fruit trees. When the hero wants a new pipe he offers money to children playing at staffing a booth but they can't understand what he is doing, nor does a waterman who rows him on the Thames. He says the coins offered could go to a museum. People work not for a pay cheque but for the creative joy of labour. A dustman produces fine metal work.

The hero William Guest (Morris himself) interviews old Hammond, he lives in the British Museum, who recalls the days before the revolution. The aim of the revolution, says Hammond, was to make

people happy. How did you gain this happiness? Asks Morris.

"...by the absence of artificial coercion and the freedom of every man to do what he can do best, joined to the knowledge of what production of labour we really want", answers Hammond.

Parliament has been redeployed as a dung store. **"Well",** says Hammond, **"dung is not the worst kind of corruption; fertility may come of that, whereas mere dearth came from the other kind..."** **"The government itself was but the necessary result of the careless, aimless tyranny of the times, it was but the machinery of tyranny."** **"...we have no government."**

The only model Morris had for a Communist society was the short-lived Paris Commune. He mentions a Mote House and it is clear that his own model for workers' democracy was the Anglo-Saxon Folk Mote, a kind of general assembly. Morris celebrates this in a poem. It was more mythology than history. As far back as the Levellers of the Civil War, many thought class tyranny had been imposed by the Norman invasion. If a viable community is around 200 people a decision making general assembly could work. But the Soviets of 1917 and the Spanish collectives of 1936/37 possibly offer a better alternative.

The marriage of Morris to Jane Burden was far from happy. She had an affair with the artist Rosetti. Morris does not think that a Communist society could solve all the problems of human relationships. True enough, but such a society could create the material conditions in which love, if only for a short time, could flourish and bring joy. It could help people combat the negative emotions of jealousy and possessiveness.

When one reads Morris and then looks at what happened in the USSR and similar countries the contrast is all too obvious. In Morris we can find dreams, visions, inspiration; hope for a different, better

world, a stateless, classless, moneyless society. In a world made as ugly by capitalism as it was when Morris wrote, it is a hope we desperately need.

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INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF GREAT BRITAIN



Announcing the re-launch of the Industrial Workers of Great Britain

Dear Comrades and Fellow Workers,

I am writing to inform you of the decision of the IWW London Regional Committee to re-launch as the Industrial Workers of Great Britain.

1. To some fellow-workers this decision may come as a surprise – to others closer to events in London they may wonder why we have waited so long. To those fellow-workers who have shown a great deal of solidarity and assistance we appreciate you will be disappointed.

2. There are numerous reasons why the London Regional Committee has reached this decision to reconstitute ourselves as I.W.G.B. Some reasons are organisational, others are political and there is no escaping the reality that the shameful conduct of a minority element has been an influence on our decision.

3. Over the last year, starting with the wildcat actions at Guildhall in August 2011 up to the seminal strikes of cleaners at John Lewis – the IWW Cleaning & Allied Industries London Branch have co-ordinated with bus-drivers, TfL workers and others in the London Regional

Committee in an organising campaign. We have engaged in disputes, which have resulted in major gains by workers in defeating cuts, and securing significant pay rises. These achievements are not minor – they are almost unheard of in the current period of austerity.

4. In the course of this campaigning, we have sought to improve our organisation to enable us to engage in more effective campaigning and mount effective legal and industrial action. Our campaigning has reached a new stage with the dispute at John Lewis that brought us to national prominence. We have gained the respect of significant sections of the labour movement seen in the fabulous solidarity with the John Lewis strikers by PCS and RMT.

5. This last year however has seen the IWW evolving very unevenly. The IWW is still largely at the level of a network of activists, despite the best efforts of some fellow workers to drag it screaming and kicking forwards. With the exception of a few other branches, we, the London Regional Committee, have found ourselves engaged in a very different experience of organising and struggle. We have found ourselves increasingly independent, partly through the different organisational life we are living, and out of necessity to actually carry out our work effectively.

6. It has been the case that in the last year as we have expanded and secured some major successes in a number of disputes, we have simultaneously found ourselves under attack by employers, the labour bureaucracy and even rogue sections of our fellow workers. This is to be expected and we have mounted as robust a defence as possible. However, more problematic is that we have found ourselves in one conflict after another with elements inside our own union. Through our own self-organisation, we have sought to overcome this hindrance. However, the conduct of a small number

of members in and around the London General Members Branch, and some bodies outside the IWW, during the recent dispute at John Lewis was the straw that broke that camel's back.

7. Instead of seeing the strike at John Lewis as a seminal turning point for our union, where we needed to put the union on a war footing, some people have seen it as an opportunity to engage in a divisive campaign of defamation against the leaders of the strike. We have seen an internal e-mail recklessly leaked and posted on 'libcom' with a tirade of slanderous lies against the Secretary of the Cleaners and Allied Grades Branch, a victimised cleaner, and against the London Regional Secretary who is being hounded by a section of the union bureaucrats in retaliation for his role in the IWW. Calls have been issued that the Regional Secretary, who has been at the forefront of the strike at John Lewis, should leave the IWW and join another union. In the same vein, an 'open letter' has been circulated within the IWW with an equally poisonous content.

8. This campaign of vilification is not of a fraternal nature regarding disagreements that can help take the struggle forward – the objective of this campaign can only be destructive and divisive. We recognise that the majority of members of the London GMB and the IWW would in no way condone these attacks given their corrosive nature. However, what we find astounding is that in a traditional union such as RMT such conduct during a strike would be met with a robust response – why is it that in an 'revolutionary industrial union' such behaviour is tolerated?

9. Underlying many of the tensions that have arisen we believe are deeper political disagreements, not only different levels of development in workers self-organisation. Symptomatic was the controversy over our decision to hold a public meeting with RMT and PCS in the House of Commons.

We recognise the equal importance of the struggle in the political field and the economic field to industrial unionism. The British Advocates of Industrial Unionism (BAIU) founded in 1907, who in 1909 decided to constitute themselves as the Industrial Workers of Great Britain, recognised this importance of political action very early in the development of industrial unionism in this country.

10. Shortly preceding the birth of the IWGB in 1909 a minority faction of hubristic anarchists left the BAIU claiming to represent "pure" Industrial Unionism fatuously understood as class-warfare without the "politics". It failed to impact on the Labour Movement. Meanwhile, the IWGB, which grew to ten thousand members, was the most successful experience of industrial unionism in Britain, leading the great struggles at Argyle Motors in Dumbarton and Singers in Glasgow - laying the foundations for the legendary Red Clydeside.

11. Now, as George Barnard Shaw said,

"If history repeats itself, and the unexpected always happens, how incapable must Man be of learning from experience."

Therefore, in the interests of negating Bernard Shaw and enhancing the consciousness and clout of the working class in these portentous times, we hope that you fraternally receive our revolutionary resurrection of the IWGB.

12. The IWGB has been reconstituted on the founding Preamble and Constitution adopted in January 1909, members affiliated to the London Regional Committee have endorsed it democratically. The IWGB looks forward to the wider recomposition of industrial unionism in these islands and will establish fraternal relations with other independent unions. In that spirit and in recognising those principles we share we write to invite BIRA to consider this letter

as an application of the IWGB to become an affiliate organisation and look forward to your response.

Yours in solidarity
CHRIS FORD
Secretary of the IWGB

PUTTING WORKERS FIRST

Industrial Workers of Great Britain

CLEANERS SUCCESS AT JOHN LEWIS HERALDS A REBIRTH OF INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM

The dispute of cleaners at the John Lewis Partnership's flagship at Oxford Street store has ended with significant success for the workers who took strike action in July.

The members of the IWW Cleaners' Branch announced a resounding mandate from its members to take strike action, the strike ballot had an 80% turnout with 90% voting in favour of industrial action.

The cleaners took strike action on 13th July and on 20th July in protest at a planned cuts in jobs and hours, a further strike set for Thursday 26th July as the Olympic Torch passed the store was cancelled following fresh talks with the cleaning contractor ICM (Compass Group) and the facilities company MML hired by John Lewis Partnership.

Our union has reached an agreement with the employers that members have voted to accept that has halted the compulsory cuts in jobs and hours for the cleaners. Chris Ford Secretary of the cleaners union Industrial Workers of Great Britain (IWGB) said:

"First 50% of cleaners hours were to be cut, then nearly a third of the work-force were to be made redundant, now after a courageous struggle not a single cleaner at John Lewis Oxford street will be forced

to loose their job. In an age of austerity this is no small achievement."

In addition to defending their jobs, the cleaners at John Lewis turned the situation of cuts around to one where they have secured a 10% pay increase backdated to the start of the contract in March 2012 with increased shift allowances. Hours of work have been re-organised to reduce the excessive shifts of cleaners' and workers, some being available for work during unpaid breaks.

Whilst considering the pay and allowance increases a significant step forward from the £6.08 per-hour cleaners earned the IWGB consider it still a stepping-stone towards the London Living Wage of £8.30 per-hour set by the Greater London Authority. Defending jobs does not mean the Living Wage has ceased to be a key objective. In recent months, the IWGB has increased its membership of cleaners across the John Lewis stores and many workers are looking for real change. Cleaners now know they can win; the IWGB will be holding the John Lewis Partnership and its contractors to account in the coming months with regard to the ongoing discussions to lift the cleaners out of poverty pay.

The John Lewis Partnership and its sub-contractors need to take note of the widespread solidarity the cleaners gained from across the Labour Movement. Steve Hedley, Assistant General Secretary of RMT and Chris Baugh, Assistant General Secretary of the PCS both addressed pickets at John Lewis, Chris said:

"The PCS fully supports the John Lewis workers' demand for the living wage. Employers who sub-contract poverty pay, like the government and John Lewis, need to be both exposed and taken on."

Twenty-four MP's signed an Early Day Motion 301 submitted by John McDonnell MP showing their support for the John Lewis Cleaners, many writing directly to Charlie Mayfield, John Lewis Chairman.

The IWGB extends heartfelt thanks to all the members of the labour movement who gave solidarity to the cleaners and the countless customers of John Lewis who wrote in support of the cleaners struggle.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT
regarding recent developments
surrounding the IWW Cleaners'
Branch



OBU! It has become clear from statements put out by Alberto Durango and Chris Ford that they intend to create a break away organisation from the IWW. This is not only in breach of our constitutional rules and principles, not least the core Industrial Unionist principle of the One Big Union, but also places the workers who leave in a very vulnerable position as they will no longer be afforded the protection which members of the IWW benefit from.

The IWW has committed much time and effort in supporting the cleaners in their struggles, with Fellow Workers from all branches becoming actively involved. The union as a whole has invested a great deal to ensure the success of their campaigns. In light of this unconstitutional break away and formal complaints of alleged irregular, undemocratic and unconstitutional running of the IWW London Regional Committee and IWW Cleaners' Branch lodged against Chris Ford and Alberto Durango, The Britain and Ireland Regional Administration of the IWW feels that there is no alternative but to suspend Chris Ford and Alberto

Durango from their positions within the Union with immediate effect pending further investigation.

The decision about how we as a union approach this however, must be taken by the union as a whole. With this in mind, we will release a further statement announcing the decisions taken at the BIRA Annual Conference to be held (24/25th of August), hosted by Sheffield General Members Branch.

IWW Britain and Ireland Regional Administration
 17.08.2012

Source: iww.org.uk and libcom.org

A few of the Pamphlets Available from Libertarian Communist Literature; see directory pages for contact details

KRISIS: Marx 2000: Price £2.50

KRISIS: Contributions to the Critique of Commodity Society £2.50

Nick Heath: The Third Revolution? Peasant and Worker resistance to the Bolshevik government. £3.00

John Crump: The Thin Red Line: Non Market Socialism in the Twentieth Century: £2.00

Adam Buick and John Crump: The Alternative to Capitalism: £2.50

Dean Nolan and Fred Thompson: Joe Hill: IWW Songwriter: £2.00

From World in Common

For our *From World in Common* section we include this piece posted on Sept 12th. You may not agree with it all, you may not agree with most of it but at the very least it includes much that needs to be discussed and much of it probably applies to the Occupy movement world-wide.

Occupy Wall Street (OWS): Pitfalls for Activists

It's not easy, in between periods of upsurge, when there is not much open struggle going on, to keep a group of activists, inspired by the earlier struggle, together; to agree on a common mission and strategy. I believe there are several pitfalls to avoid.

PITFALLS FOR ACTIVISTS

My anti-virus program spotted the following:

ACTIVITIS: The tendency to focus exclusively on actions, on doing things, impatience with talking, even when clarity is sorely lacking. One of the possible outcomes of this tendency may be charity-work. Not to deny its value, but that's not the function of a political group or movement.

SUBSTITUTIONITIS: The tendency of a political minority to do what really can be done only by the people (or the 99%, even though the percentage is exaggerated, or more precisely, the working (and unemployed) population). To take decisions in its place, to undertake actions in its place, to take power in its place. Revolution can only mean something when it engenders a real democracy, based on the involvement of all, to take over society. Short of that, if a third party or a more left-wing Democratic Party takes power in the name of the people, nothing changes. The sheep remain sheep and the wolves remain wolves, promising to be less corrupt than their predecessors. When there is no mass action, the tendency to substitute one's own actions for the lacking collective struggle is fed by the hope that one's example will spur others into action. But that's not how it works. We cannot voluntaristically force events.

IMMEDIATITIS: The understandable desire to see immediate results of our efforts. That may lead to a focus on where immediate change is possible, on small changes (like replacing one politician by another) that have no impact on the big picture. I think Occupy was/is really about the big picture, the larger threat to our future. These three pitfalls easily combine. They may result in either burn-out or recuperation. Burn-out because after months of efforts in scores of actions with little result to show for, some get exhausted and discouraged and give up. Recuperation, because if you want results in the short term, and want to settle for small, symbolic gains, the existing political system is the way to go. When Occupy is absorbed by the system, working for election and trade-union campaigns, the recuperation will be accomplished. So this is connected to another pitfall:

INCREMENTALITIS: The belief that real change is impossible, that the best that can be hoped for are incremental little reforms that go in the right direction. I think this underestimates the potential acceleration of history. The change of the overall context –the deepening crisis of the socio-economic foundations of society and the obstacles it throws up for human survival- can have a profound effect on the collective mindset and open the possibility of real change. Working for incremental change sucks you right back in the system which will change you, not the other way around. It is based on the belief that our problems are caused by bad leaders, so that they will disappear when we get good leaders instead. This underestimates the internal logic of the system, to which all its participants are forced to obey.

ACADEMICISM: discussing for the sake of discussing, with no desire to outreach to other people. The opposite of that is anti-politics, the disdain for discussion as empty talk, a waste of time. **See Activitis.**

INDIVIDUALISM: not feeling any responsibility for the collective. Hopping off and on the fence, withdrawing without any explanation like John D did, or being too focused on one's own specific issues. Of course in this society, nobody can really be immune to that virus; we can only try to be aware of it.

TEACHISM: to see ourselves as teachers, owners of the Truth who need to educate the people. This is not entirely wrong, as we do have insights that we need to communicate. But, first of all, we need to be more humble: there's a lot we need to learn ourselves. We need to listen as well as speak. Secondly, what we're really after, is a different relation between people. There's a split that runs throughout society that's based on a division of labor: bosses and workers, politicians and voters, those who make the rules and give orders and those who follow them, those who get richer and those who become poorer, pastors and flocks, union-bureaucrats and rank&filers, jailers and prisoners, teachers and pupils and so on and so on: this relation, based on power and submission, reproduces itself in countless ways, including in sexual and racial discrimination, and cements the status-quo. Occupy movement arose in opposition to this relation and proposed, in its way, an alternative to it, the hope for real change of the content('` people's needs instead of profit') and the form (direct democracy) of society. So we should not see ourselves as teachers addressing schoolchildren but instead favor collective discussion where it is possible.

COMMISSIONITIS: the tendency to keep a movement alive by creating a multitude of working groups and commissions. Here too, burn-out and recuperation are major risks.

FETISHISM: fetishism means attributing (magical) powers to things that in reality don't have them. People do it all the time, it's deeply engrained. Examples, in the context of our movement, are: - a **Fetishisation** of democracy: thinking that direct democracy is some kind of miracle cure that will put everything right; thinking that it's all about the process (the form) which will make the right content follow automatically; - a **Fetishisation** of the party: the belief that a political party, under the right leadership, will have the magical power to force change. The consequence is that all efforts go to organisation-building which is then done for its own sake; - a **fetishisation** of violence: for instance the belief of black bloc-people that vandalism is a magically powerful message that will raise people's consciousness; - a **Fetishisation** of non-violence: thinking that refusing to use violence in all circumstances,

even for self-defense, will somehow, magically, convince our opponents to disarm.

I may forget some. But I want to end with a positive statement. What can a movement, or rather, a circle of activists remaining from the last movement and longing for the next one, accomplish? The Occupy movement was the result of the ruling class (not just in the US but worldwide) pushing us down, impoverishing us to keep capital profitable. Occupy was pushing back, that was what was seen elsewhere, that's why it became so popular. Now things are relatively calm. In part because of the election season. Now is not the time to launch another harsh attack on the common people in this country. But I bet you the next president will do so, whoever wins. The pressure will again increase, and with it, a heady mix of anger and fear and hope...who knows what it will produce? I think it will again create a massive desire to push back. Maybe that movement will go further than OWS. We can't know. But I think that we should use this lull to prepare ourselves, so that we can make a meaningful contribution to that next wave. In that wave, the same questions will arise as did in OWS. How did we get in this mess? How can it be fixed? What's the alternative? What unites us is the desire for a society based on people's needs and on real democracy, not the sham that we live in today. Now we have to say what that means.

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<http://fischerzed.wordpress.com/2012/08/05/pitfalls-for-activists/>

<http://www.spacesofhope.org/2012/09/pitfalls-for-activists.html>

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Democracy as we know it.

"The US political system is broken, in large part due to millions of dollars that corporations pour into political campaigns and lobbyists. By far **the single worst offender is the US Chamber of Commerce** - a massive corporate lobbying firm masquerading as a trade association. It's planning to **spend more than \$50 million in the closely contested election this year** in order to pack the US government with politicians who fight for increased corporate power at the expense of the rest of us." us@sumofus.org .

Anti State, Non Market Sector Groups

worldsocialistmovement/SPGB:

worldsocialism.org/spgb: Postal address: 52
Clapham High Street London SW4 7UN.
Email spgb@worldsocialim.org

Promotional Material for the World Socialist Movement

Tee-shirts Blue with a polar bear and "*If You Were a Polar Bear, You'd be a Socialist*, **Yellow**, with blue and green globe and "*The World is a Common Treasury for All*". **Sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL State size when ordering. £7.00 Plus postage and packaging. (P&P).**

Mugs: Standard size, red and white. On the front, "*Only Sheep Need Leaders*" and on the reverse side, "*Famine? War? Pollution? Capitalism is the Problem, World Socialism is the Solution*" **£5 Plus P&P.**

Pens: blue and white with blue ink; "*Only Sheep Need Leaders*" and a sheep. **Red and white** with blue ink with "*Workers of the World Unite*" **Black** with black ink, "*Only Sheep Need Leaders*" and a sheep. **50p each Plus P&P.**

Baseball Caps: Navy blue with embroidered "*World Socialist Movement*". **£7 each plus P&P.**

Balloons: different colours with "*World Socialist Movement*". **15p each plus P&P.**

All items carry the WSM website address. Cheques and Postal Orders made payable to SPGB SW Regional Branch. Also available, a SPGB enamelled badge, "*The World for the Workers*". £10.
For further details on all items contact Veronica at veronica.clanchy@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01202 569826

Issue 22 of the World Socialist Review: Publication of World Socialist Party US. "*Socialists take a look at Obama*" *Is Obama a socialist? He does not regard himself as one. Neither do we. This issue of World Socialist Review examines Obama's outlook and life story, his packaging as a politician, and his policy in such areas as healthcare, the economy and the environment. It also places Obama in the context of world capitalism and the American political system.*"

Also available "*Role Modeling Socialist Behaviour: The Life and Letters of Isaac Rab*". There is a review of this book in the World Socialist Review 22 and further details can be obtained by contacting the address below.

World Socialist Party US (WSPUS) website wspus.org Postal address: World Socialist Party, Box 440247, Boston, MA 02144.

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Visit <http://Stephenshenfield.net> contains all issues of The Libertarian Communist and a host of useful articles for the ASNM sector.

Take a look at Andy Cox's website which looks at how socialism might be developed: <http://socialistmatters.webs.com/>.

World In Common:

www.worldincommon.org

Email worldincommon@yahoo.com

www.Libcom.org;

Red and Black Notes

You can obtain some RBN items from libcom.org as listed above. If you want to know more than read issue 6 Of The Libertarian Communist and the article by Neil Fettes pp.4-7
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Red Anarchist Action Network (RAAN)

www.redanarchist.org

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Anarchist Federation: www.afed.org.uk: Postal Address BM Arnafed, London WC1N 3XX. Email info@afed.org.uk

The Commune

For workers' self management and communism from below. Website: thecomune.co.uk
Postal address: The Commune, Freedom book shop, 84b Whitechapel High Street, London E17QX

Comrades may be interested in the following links:

For Libertarian Communists in Russia and Belarus: <http://wiki.avtonom.org/index.php>

“Eretik” (Heretic) is a left communist journal in Russian and English that appears both on the net and in print. This is produced by a group in Moldova.

See: <http://eretic-samizdat.blogspot.com/2012/immunity-of-rich-and-powerful.html>

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A couple of places to purchase Literature and help support the ASNM sector.

“There is an Alternative!”

STIMULANTS: A collection of material highlighting an opposition to the Mantra that “There Is No Alternative” to how we live today. Journals, Pamphlets, Books, DVDs and Cds etc available www.radicalbooks.co.uk

Libertarian Communist Literature has a selection of pamphlets and journals related to the anti state, non Market sector. Journals Include: **Black flag, Aufheben, Socialist Standard, Organise** and others. We have a variety of pamphlets and a few books.

If you are interested please contact the postal or email address on Page 2 with your details, (please note the changed email address libcom.bulletin@yahoo.co.uk) This list is also included in our blog which can be found at <http://lib-com.blogspot.com/> This also includes issues 1 to 18 of The Libertarian Communist. The Libertarian Communist can also be found at www.scribd.com and <http://stephenshenfield.net>

Worth taking a look at

Institute for Anarchist Studies, the similar but separate, Anarchist Studies Journal and Anarchy Archives.

See also the Socialist Labour Party of America (www.slp.org), and the Marxist Internet Archive Library

Direct Action Industrial Unions

Solidarity Federation. www.solfed.org.uk or PO Box 29, South West P D.O Manchester M15 5HW Email: solfed@solfed.org.uk

Industrial Workers of the World: www.iww.org Or P/O Box 7593, Glasgow, G42 2EX Email: rocsec@iww.org.uk.

Workers International Industrial Union. www.wiiu.org or www.deleonism.org/wiiu.htm see the article on Industrial Unionism in issue 9

The following groups although not strictly defined as anti state, non market, are worth taking a look at

International Libertarian Socialist Alliance: Formerly called the World Libertarian Socialist Network

An excellent resource for groups who come under the heading of Libertarian Socialism many of which come within the remit of the anti state, non market sector www.libertyandsocialism.org

Radical History Network of North London.

For details contact Alan Woodward on 020 8800 1046 or RaHN at alan@petew.org.uk Email: radicalhistorynetwork@googlemail.com

The following publications have recently been brought to our attention.

Mayday. Issue 6, Winter 2010 stated: “Mayday is an attempt to learn from critical Marxists, Anarchism, and to criticise the Ultra leftist streak which taints some anarchism. It is not often that anarchism is criticised from within, but Mayday has done just that, identifying an anarchist inability to think political growth and work with other groups who are not like them.”

Cl@ss War Classix.. “is a new initiative to reproduce seminal publications of the class war , and by doing so e.g. with new introductions, or previously unavailable texts, providing up to the date political commentary.” Class.war.classix@googlemail.com

For details of both of these contact : Trevor Bark, 18 Walker Drive, Bishops Auckland, Co Durham, DL14 6QW or email dr_trevorbark@fastmail.net or visit : <http://workingclassbookfair.vpweb.com>

Last but not least: North East Anarchists at WWW.neanarchists.com