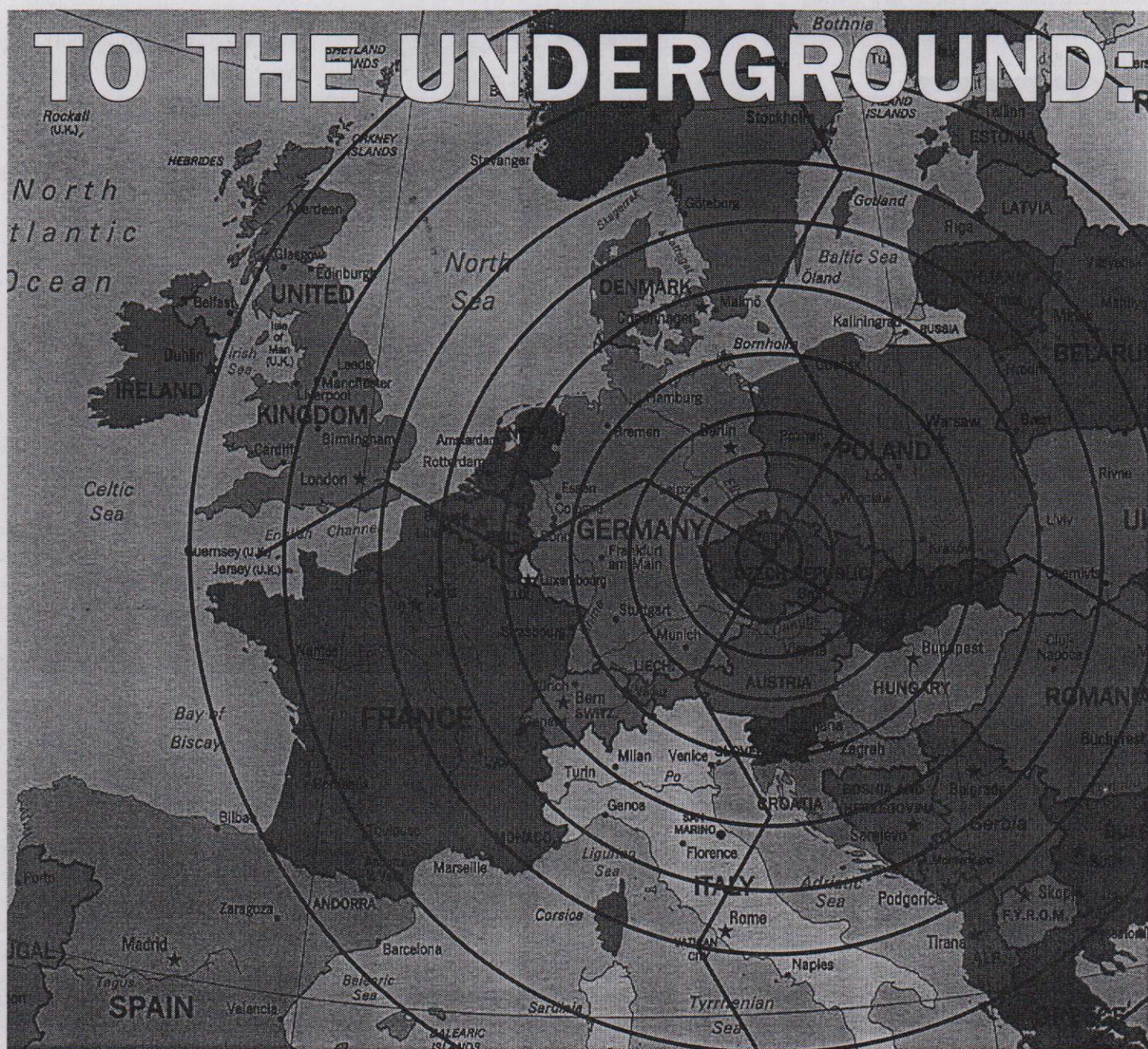


# REVOLUTION

ISSUE 38 • 20p

## PRAGUE CALLING

### TO THE UNDERGROUND



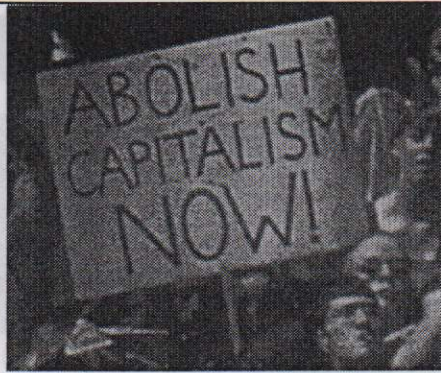
# DESTROY THE IMF!

shut down the IMF meeting in Prague, Sept 23-26

After the fall of the Stalinist regime ten years ago, the workers and youth had massive illusions in "western democracy". This is no longer the case. The introduction of the market economy, via IMF-scheduled shock therapy, has resulted in:

- falling living standards for two-thirds of the people,
- bankruptcy of many industrial enterprises,
- almost destruction of collective agriculture, and
- growth of unemployment from zero to 9%.

When the conservative government led by Vaclav Klaus invited the IMF and World Bank to hold their anniversary summit in Prague, their aim was to demonstrate to the financial world the successes of this central European convert to capitalism.



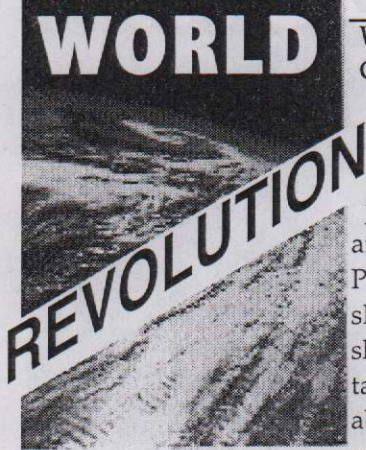
The IMF is now pushing for further "reforms": cuts in education, health and social services, and enforcement of bankruptcy laws leading to mass sackings and factory closures.

The youth are most affected by these policies especially in the poor regions. They suffer the worst levels of unemployment. What jobs there are tend to be badly-paid, non-unionised - like the tourist industry - and

with terrible working conditions, particularly for young women in the large supermarkets like Tesco.

No surprise that the bosses fear protests. Special measures in Prague include 11,000 cops, special security zones and free capacity in hospitals reserved for summit guests. Schools have a week holiday and school kids are encouraged to leave Prague.

Revo is encouraging them to stay and get stuck in, fighting for their future! We are trying to build the biggest alliance possible against the IMF to combat these lies. Already we have won the Czech Communist Party (which has a lot of support among the most militant workers) to call a demo on the 23rd. Revo is arguing for workers - and youth - to support the protests on the 26th as well in order to shut down the IMF!



### WORLD REVOLUTION IS COMING TOGETHER AGAIN!

Revo groups from Sweden, France, Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic and Britain are joining up for the September IMF and World Bank Summit in Prague to take on these loan sharks, Seattle-style. Seattle showed the world it is possible to take on the unelected, unaccountable con artists of international capital and shut down the dirty

deals happening behind closed doors.

The best thing about the Seattle protests last year wasn't just the shutting down of the bankers' conference, good though that was; it was the unity forged on the streets between trade unionists and militant youth. As one steel worker said when he heard about the cops dishing it out to a young animal rights campaigner, "I don't

We want to "Turn Prague into Seattle". We want to turn the anti-capitalist movement towards the working class and make the unions anti-capitalist.

We got a great boost when the Czech Communist trade unions agreed to call a national demo on Saturday, 23 September. These unions have been at the sharp end of the IMF's attacks in the Czech Republic. But they are beginning to fight back after 40 years of Stalinist dictatorship and a further 10 of capitalist exploitation. Earlier this year, for example, miners in northern Bohemia who were facing pit closure went on sit-in strike and saved 450 jobs which the IMF had demanded should go.

Unbelievably, the anarchists in the Czech Republic - and across Europe - have refused to support this demo or help build it because the unions have reformist, Stalinist leaders.

know about you, but I'm going downtown to help those turtles!" This was the 'spirit of Seattle'.

It was repeated in July this year in Millau, France, where 100,000 trade unionists and socialists converged to support 10 farmers who were on trial for smashing up a McDonalds building site.

#### Now it's our turn!

To make Prague into the sweet success that Seattle and Millau were, we must get everyone we meet to Prague for the whole week of activities. Starting with the massive Czech workers demonstration on the 23rd of September, we must be in there to agitate and win workers to support the main action on the 26th. With the Czech workers on our side, we can bring the whole country to a halt and shut down the summit!

Prague will be buzzing with activity. There will be a week long arts and music festival, and a counter-summit (the alternative to the global capitalist agenda). It is THE place to be! Get in touch and book your place!

**Destroy  
the IMF and  
World Bank!  
Turn Prague  
into  
Seattle!**

#### Solidarity or sectarianism?

The anarchists are wrong and their arguments disastrous for the movement. Of course you couldn't have had a joint action with the Czech communists when they were running the country (and crushing the Prague resistance in

1968 with Russian tanks). But things change. Now they're fighting the IMF. Of course they can't be trusted. But the Stalinists lead mass unions. We need to challenge the misleaders and we can't do that by staying at home.

In Argentina, South Africa and Nigeria general strikes - led by reformists! - have forced their governments to reverse IMF programmes. In Nigeria, they even made the president go on TV and apologise. That's why we want the workers on our side: they can destroy the IMF!

The choice posed in Prague is not between supporting the workers' demo on the 23rd or the anti-capitalist actions on the 26th. We urge everyone to go to both.

The choice is between solidarity or sectarianism. Choose solidarity!

# STRAW & BLAIR GUILTY OF MURDER

By Rosie in Croydon

Death in a 90 degree airtight lorry container. Those 58 people found in Dover paid the consequences of our racist immigration laws with their lives. Before this tragedy on June 19th, the media's attitude to refugees entering "Great" Britain was hardcore. "Aggressive" beggars, "bogus" asylum seekers and "unfit" mothers were highlighted by the media and government for the lack of funds and space in this country. Panic provoking tales of "floods" of refugees threatening "our" job & housing security soon bred the levels of racism needed to enforce new legislation.

But what do strict immigration laws provide us with?

Some argue that controls protect our rights as 'British citizens', ensuring those who are allowed into the UK give more to the economy than they take from it. But most refugees come here because the multinational capitalists have taken more out of foreign economies in the form of super-profits than they have given back in the form of decent wages, working conditions and environmental protection. Talk about double standards!

No. The immigration laws do not benefit the working class and are in place to protect and push forward ruling class interests. The 'them' and 'us' mentality that immigration laws legitimise creates a punchbag for us to hit out at when we should be blaming the problems of society on the real culprits. Refugees are being used as a political scapegoat. Instead of the working class venting their frustrations at the bosses and the exploitative system, the most powerless in society are victimised instead of the most powerful. Housing shortages, benefit cuts, unemployment are signs of a failing system, not a direct effect of increased immigration. People fleeing war, oppression or economic crash are not the enemy. They are "us": people trying to survive in extreme circumstances. Indeed what lengths would you go to for the survival of your family? 58 dead in a lorry container speaks for itself.

Refugees should be defended, and any immigration controls fought against. If big business is free to travel, leaving a trail of unemployment behind it, a person should be free to follow work wherever that work may be. More importantly refugees are created by circumstances. You may think a war zone or a brutal dictatorship in Africa or the Middle East has nothing to do with us here in Britain – until you ask the question, who sold them the weapons? The British arms industry, of course! But like all cowards, the government which grants the export licences for weapons of mass destruction refuses to take responsibility for the consequences. Affluent western countries like Great Britain should be exposed for their role in creating refugee situations.

The national demonstration called on the 24th June to defend asylum seekers successfully brought 8,000 people on to the streets to make a stand against racist legislation and victimisation. This type of action is essential to ensure that all legislation has to face a battle when the government tries to push it through parliament. Divide and rule only works if we accept the divisions created. Racism, sexism, homophobia, etc. distracts our attention from the real division that exists between the classes. Exploitation of our labour unites us all across the world. We should use this unity to protect refugees and demand their rights. **58 dead is a reason to act.**

## Revo pays its respects to the Queen Mum



Hurry up and die, you've lived 100 yrs too long

Every paper has printed souvenir pull-out specials to celebrate the Queen Mother's "glorious 100 years". Why not Revo?

The Queen Mum is a gin sodden, idle parasite who has lived 100 years too long. The only reason she's been kept alive is to try and use her birthday to do a publicity paint job on the dysfunctional family she has spawned – the Windsors.

The Queen Mum is glorified as a great anti-fascist who stood up to Hitler and the Nazis, in the war and when Buckingham Palace was bombed said, "Now I can look the East End in the face."

Wrong and wrong again. She was part of a section of the British establishment which was desperate to appease Hitler. They wanted to share in his carve up of Europe, not fight him over it. She was no anti-fascist. Secondly, she was whisked off to Windsor Castle every night and was never in any danger from the doodlebugs. Pity, because if she had been telling the truth we might not be suffering today's deluge of birthday "celebrations".

The Queen mum has remained a bitter, twisted racist right to the end (please let it be before her birthday). She adored apartheid president PW Botha when he brutally repressed the black majority, and to this day she still hopes that "black" countries will leave the commonwealth. She thinks Jews are "a separate people and a strange people", she hates the French, and thinks the Germans "can't be trusted".

Ironically, of course, the Royal Family is German. We don't trust the racist bunch of scroungers an inch. Revo says, Abolish the monarchy – for a workers' republic now!

Confiscate the obscene wealth of Elizabeth, Philip, Charles and the rest of the Windsors. They should be made to work for a living.

# THE IMF IS MUR

**By Andy in Peckham** The IMF is coming under fire across the world for its role as a battering ram to break down all obstacles to the multinational corporations doing business in the Third World.

The Third World debt has become the focal issue in this rising wave of protest. The debt now stands at \$2.2 trillion. It represents a massive transfer of wealth from the pockets of the poorest people in the world to the coffers of the bankers of the West – up to 1993 the poorest of the Third World countries had handed over \$14 trillion!

By the time you've read this far 13 children will have died due to the debt – 19 million a year. It has crushed the Third World for two decades leaving Africa worse off than it was 40 years ago. Despite the politicians promising relief for a decade, the debt is still rising.

But to make things worse the IMF uses the debt to force austerity programs on the Third World that starve the poor of jobs, pay, food, education and healthcare while opening their economies up to the multinationals and banks. The policy can

be summed up as, "Pay us off, and in exchange we'll buy you up."

The IMF will "help" bankrupt countries with their immediate payments – if they do what it says. Most countries have no alternative – the West controls all the capital needed to develop. When the banks won't lend anymore, the IMF steps in as their vicious debt collection agency, with every Third World country as its "customer".

## Jubilee 2000

But they're getting nervous. Jubilee 2000, the global anti-debt campaign, has 17 million signatures on its petition. Now it has called on the Western governments to stop taking debt payments from the poorest countries immediately and to cancel 100% of their debt this year. They've launched an e-mail petition of the next G7 meeting to create a "virtual" human chain around the world, with Bono and the Smashing Pumpkins backing it.

Jubilee 2000 is based on the Christian churches. They pre-

## CAPITALISM TURNS DISEASE INTO EPIDEMIC

Picture this scenario: you live in a country facing an AIDS epidemic which is killing millions of people. Modern drugs could tackle the problem but your country is being squeezed dry by large multi-national corporations.

You could be imagining one of the many African countries. The effects of debt, over-priced drugs, cultural disbelief, and crippling trade restrictions have all lead to an AIDS epidemic.

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is a virus believed to result from being infected with HIV, which is a sexually transmitted disease.

Although, as yet, there is no cure for AIDS and nearly all who have it eventually die, the time between catching it and actually dying can be drastically stretched with modern drugs.

This is where the foul structure of capitalism comes in to play. Since western drug companies 'discovered' the drugs, they own the patents. Other companies are not allowed to reproduce the drugs at lower prices so as to be affordable to poverty-stricken people. In effect the capitalist drug companies are not only profiting out of the AIDS epidemic, but are putting profits before the lives of people.

In the 'civilised' western countries the

percentage of people with AIDS is only 0.23%, but in third world Botswana 35% are infected! This cripples the economy two-fold. Firstly the country spends more on medication instead of essentials like food; secondly seriously ill people can't work and therefore the economy suffers. It is a vicious cycle: ill, can't work fi can't work, no money fi no money, can't buy drugs fi can't buy drugs even more ill >. Without modern drugs the life expectancy of a sufferer of HIV is about 10 years of gradual weakening. But with even the least expensive drugs the tiredness and pain can be taken away and people can live for an extra 30 years. On top of this it is often the case that the culture and traditions of a particular society leads to a denial of the actual problem. President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa has said that it was not HIV but poverty that caused AIDS. This in a way is true, since if people were richer, they might be able to afford sanitation, clean water and treatments. But AIDS is often thought of as a "gay disease". Since sexuality is still a taboo subject in many African countries, AIDS is often pushed under the carpet alongside homosexuality: "We're not gay, therefore we don't have AIDS." This can

## By Danny in West Ham

only be resolved by education, which in turn costs money. Free contraception would enable people to practice safe sex. But among the most powerful organisations is the church – campaigns like Jubilee 2000 are founded on Christian beliefs. Yet the Church is vehemently against contraception and sex education. It is implied that people should just not have sex full stop, which people are never going to do.

The AIDS epidemic comes as a result of the exploitation of the third world by western capitalists and multinational companies who overprice their drugs. It is also a result of poor educational facilities and a culture of disbelief. The church, with its homophobic anti-sex claptrap, should have no role in education, which would open the way to comprehensive material teaching of the facts. Finally unless the debt is dropped, then the killing will continue. The AIDS epidemic is not a "natural" disaster; it is a capitalist disaster. Which means one good thing – we can stop it



# DERING AFRICA

fer Third World politicians as their allies, despite the fact that these corrupt fat cats built up the debt and implemented the cuts packages in the first place. Their methods of "struggle" are also inadequate: email chains are just the global equivalent of writing a letter to your MP. They'll end up in the same place: the recycle bin.

Jubilee 2000 argues for reforms it thinks will be accepted by the banks and politicians of the West. So they call for 100% debt relief – but only for the poorest countries while the rest of the Third World goes on paying and swallowing the bitter pill of austerity programs.

*But the G7 leaders don't even want to do that. They promised \$100 million debt relief at their meeting last year...and not one penny has been paid yet. They say they will cancel the debts of the poorest countries...but only if they implement the IMF's austerity programs successfully for a year! This is just spin-doctoring, continuing to put the squeeze on ALL the Third World, including the poorest, while announcing radical sounding promises that come to nothing.*

## Workers rock the IMF

But the Jubilee 2000 campaign is not the only struggle against the debt. There exists a fighting Third World working class that you won't see on the Six O'Clock News. In India 20 million went on strike against the IMF's demands in May. The biggest general strike in Argentina in 20 years was directed against IMF-imposed cuts in government spending and 15% pay cut. In South Africa four million workers came out against the mass unemployment caused by the neo-liberal policies of the IMF. And in Nigeria in June a five-day general strike shut down many cities with occupations and barricades, and stopped fuel price hikes that the IMF had dictated to the government!

This Third World revolt is scaring the big Western powers. The respectable leaders of Jubilee 2000 will never support a workers' solution to the debt crisis, despite its good work in raising the issues of global injustice. But we in Revo will. So, come and join us in Prague!

## ZIMBABWE

# WORKERS DEFY MUGABE'S THUGS

The Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) can be proud of the 57 seats won during Zimbabwe's election in June in the face of massive intimidation. 32 of its most prominent candidates and supporters were murdered and hundreds of workers and peasants beaten by ruling party Zanu-PF thugs. The MDC managed to persuade thousands of workers to vote against Mugabe, the man that has ruled for the past twenty years through violence and greed and whose regime has brought 50% unemployment and 60% inflation.

The trade unionist roots of the MDC are key in explaining its success, especially in Harare and Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's two biggest cities, where MDC candidates swept up all 27 seats. The Zimbabwean working class had already shown courage and determination last year, during three successful strikes led by the Zimbabwean TUC against price hikes. Workers had to fight the brutal police, armed with the latest weapons from Britain – which condemned the Zanu-PF violence as soon as white farmers were targeted, but refused to stop selling Mugabe weapons a year

ago when black Africans were the only victims.

Contrary to the success in the cities, the MDC lost the election in rural areas. Here Zanu-PF won by promising an end to the 'white colonial power'. In rural areas the issues are different from those of inflation and unemployment.



4,400 white farmers own the 11 million hectares of fertile land while one million Zimbabwean farmers are forced to share 16 million hectares of the most drought prone land. For the last 20 years Zanu-PF has done nothing about this apart from resettling a few politicians and close friends of the president.

Mugabe is not interested in the land-

less farmers. He did not suddenly wake up and think, 'What an injustice, let's kick them out'. He simply did it in view of the elections. This plan allowed Mugabe to split the population, by targeting and isolating the rural areas whilst terrorising the opposition members in order to get the rural vote.

Unfortunately, the MDC has a political programme based on the needs of the white commercial (i.e. capitalist) farmers, the IMF and the World Bank, rather than the needs of the poor peasants. In fact, rich white farmers – who never lifted a finger for the black population for a hundred years and still treat their workers like second class citizens – hijacked the new trade union party in the rural areas. Similarly, the IMF and the World Bank will demand lower wages, more job cuts and worse health and education services.

No, if the MDC is to become a real party of the workers and poor peasants, it should support a land revolution and link it to a fight in the cities against all cuts, whether imposed by the IMF or Zanu-PF.

# WILL THE WORKERS RISE AGAIN?

By Tom in Sheffield

Where does real power lie in our society? You could say it rests in parliament, behind the closed doors of multinational corporations' boardrooms or in the corridors of the IMF and the World Bank. Or maybe in the capitalist state - the unelected and unaccountable judges, army officers and police chiefs? But there is a force which has even more power. A massive force without which nothing would function. This force is the working class.

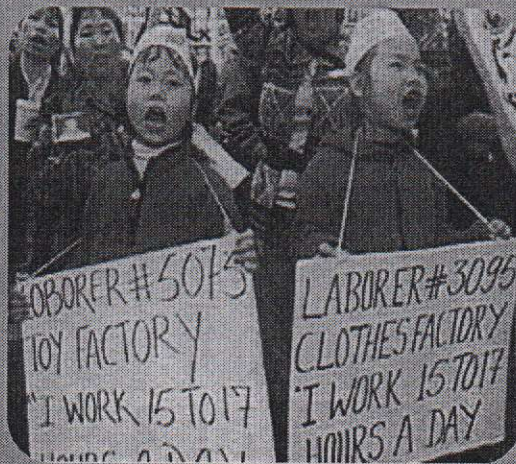
The bosses think they have power over their workers, but who drives the trains which get them to their meetings, who operates their internet connects for their video-conferences, who runs the power stations which power their offices?

A worker has to earn a living by selling her or his labour power to the capitalists. The worker adds value to the raw materials in the workplace by turning them into a finished product. This is just as true for a service worker as it is for a factory worker: the BigMac, Cola and fries are worth more cooked, poured and served. But the worker will always only get a fraction of the extra value that they have added to the product, the rest is profit for the boss.

This is capitalist exploitation. The bosses are effectively stealing from the workers. It also explains why New Labour's talk about "partnership" is nonsense. Decent pay and conditions must mean lower profits; extra profits can only come from making workers work harder, faster and for less money.

The working class could easily survive without capitalism, but capitalism would die without the working class.

Workers are organised into trade unions to fight for and defend their rights and conditions. Because of this, the capitalists are scared of organised workers. Strikes - whether they are over pay and conditions or to stop job cuts - force bosses to listen and try to end the strike as quickly as possible.



## Report on the Peugeot strike in Coventry

After nearly 10 months wrangling over new working hours, Peugeot workers in Coventry are ready to take strike action.

Shocked bosses and union leaders are bracing themselves after workers rejected Peugeot's plan to alter shift patterns meaning they would spend even less time with their families. The bosses' scheme is a slap in the face to workers who produce the 206 model. Jackie Cole, the wife of a worker at the Ryton plant said her husband took the weekend shift to help look after the couple's three children while she works. She said, "They say they are reducing hours but he would be working four days

which is an extra day. They don't give recognition to people who have been there a long time and have built it up to what it is. They do nearly 12 hour shifts and don't get a decent break and my husband comes home and is nearly dead."

Despite the betrayal of trade union leaders who backed the bosses' plans, the Peugeot workers have voted for one day strike action on July 27 and July 30 before an indefinite stoppage from August 21.

The situation at the Ryton plant highlights the crisis rocking the car industry in Britain after the Rover sell-off and the planned closure of Ford Dagenham. Workers who have slogged their guts out to fill the pockets of fat cat corporate executives are now sacrificed in the

The trade unions use strikes and solidarity - but they are controlled by bureaucrats who would prefer to compromise with the bosses (i.e. let them off the hook). Strikers, their families and communities must ensure that they control their own strikes if they are not to be sold out.

But even the most democratic unions can only take on a section of the bosses. In crises - when the workers and the bosses are in a life-or-death struggle - the capitalists will not give up their wealth and power without a fight. So we need to defend our picket lines and demonstrations against the police and the army. Democratic councils of action, based on delegates elected from workplaces, council estates and schools, overcome the

divisions between workers and bring in the unemployed and the youth.

These councils may begin as organisations to co-ordinate strikes and actions, but can easily grow into an alternative source of power, taking more power away from the capitalists. In Russia in 1917 workers' council and workers' guards organised an uprising and took power.

Why did workers' councils go on to overthrow capitalism in 1917, but never since? Because there was a revolutionary workers' party raising the slogan, "All power to the workers' councils!" We need a new revolutionary workers' party now.

Will workers' power lead to a new ruling class? No. The workers are the vast majority. Who would they exploit? A tiny handful of ex-capitalist parasites?

For the first time ever, a revolution will not lead to new forms of exploitation. The working class has to create a classless socialist society, where everything is planned for the needs of the majority and not the greed of a tiny minority of parasites. Then and only then can we stop acting as "classes" and start living as truly free individuals.

Will workers' power lead to a new ruling class? No. The workers are the vast majority. Who would they exploit? A tiny handful of ex-capitalist parasites?

squeeze to make even more profit. Ryton is the only car factory in Europe to operate 7 days a week and the new unsociable shift patterns mean they will have even less time away from the plant.

Revo sends its support to the Peugeot workers in their struggle for decent hours. Occupy the factory. Force the trade union bureaucrats to back your actions.

At the time of writing these union leaders have called for a second ballot on strike action despite the clear majority vote. We urge Peugeot workers to reject any management or union ploys to sell out their fight. As one worker said, "We seem to be giving up an awful lot and they seem to be giving up very little. Enough is enough!"

# Never mind the bollocks, here's Glastonbury .....Or is it just a pile of bollocks?



by Ayesha in Lewisham

Despite a promising start, the 'Glastonbury experience' took a nosedive. Apart from having my dope stolen from someone posing as a security guard, me and my group of friends had our tents raided (while we were still in them!) the first night. So much for festival spirit! But what the hell, shit happens, we were unlucky...But then so were thousands of other festival goers: there was a massive crime wave and 10,000 people reported tent crimes! We happened to be unlucky the second night as the bastards who raided our tents the night before ransacked my tent again. But the third night was the worst, as the same group of men came into our tent enclosure to threaten violence, as well as shouting sexist and racist abuse.

There was something quite different in the air about this year's festival. Everything that happened to us goes against the anti-racist and anti-institutionalist attitude that Glastonbury was set up around, i.e. the festival originally being non-profit.

Has Glastonbury lost its political edge as the definitive festival of anti-capitalistic youth culture? Sure, the profit that Michael Eavis would make goes to Greenpeace, which is all very honourable, but that doesn't stop Glastonbury being a money machine churning over thousands of pounds to the organisers, sponsors and least of all bands, which ultimately reflects the price of the ticket. Also the massive presence of corporation labels (i.e. the 'Orange' tent, and the 'Virgin' chill out room) obliterates the inception of Glastonbury being an anti-establishment festival, a forum for people promoting alternative lifestyles. It is a typical case of youth culture being bought, packaged and sold back to the youth.

I still can't help feeling that Glastonbury has lost its momentum. While it's good to attract a larger number of people from all different backgrounds, it has lost itself in trying to accommodate the needs of the organisers who maximise on profit at the expense of the festival. Basically the festival has widened its scale, but hasn't widened its socio-political agenda.

The price of the tickets certainly doesn't reflect what a working class person can afford, pushing a lot of festival goers to climb the fence, leaving us vulnerable to being exploited by the security guards. Yet the people who have paid to get in are offered pathetic security in return for their money, as tent crimes were rife in every camping field.

Glastonbury needs to go back to its roots and become a festival for the people and not for the capitalists. No wonder this thing called festival spirit is struggling hard to survive.



Dear REVO:

I have now served half of my sentence at Highpoint Prison which has confirmed what I knew about the justice system. The prison population is overwhelmingly working class and many of the friends I have made here are from the most socially

deprived sectors of the community. They have been criminalised by a society which values wealth and social power above all else and where the poor are meant to stay in their ghettos and know their place.

Meanwhile the bosses and bankers of this world are allowed to get away scott-free with closing down factories and workplaces, throwing millions on to the scrapheap, and with continually destroying our planet in their mad rush for profits. These are the real criminals, who are protected by their friends in government, are responsible for the greatest polarisation between rich and poor that this world has ever seen.

I have seen in prison how the poisonous racism and vile homophobia around issues like the asylum seekers and Section 28 which is pushed by the politicians and the press can shape peoples opinions. But I have also seen that when challenged these same people are prepared to listen to reasoned arguments and explanations because they have a deep underlying distrust of those in power.

The level of support I've received from friends, communists,

socialists, anarchists and just ordinary individuals has been overwhelming and a great source of comfort and also inspiration. What fills me with the greatest optimism at the moment is the growing worldwide anti-capitalist movement, and in particular, the mass demonstrations planned for

the World Bank/IMF summit in Prague. An increasingly radicalised youth movement and a reawakening workers movement can bring Prague to a standstill if it acts in unison, just as it did in Seattle last November.

I think we should fight to give the whole movement a revolutionary lead between now and September. Unfortunately, I will not be able to be there but I believe this is a unique opportunity to build a movement on an international scale which can wrest control of the world from the rich parasites and profiteers. Let's Turn Prague Into Seattle.

Revolutionary Greetings,  
Kuldip

P.S. Write to me: Kuldip Bajwa, DN 7230, HMP Highpoint, Stradishall, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 9YG

# WORLD REVOLUTION

<http://destroyimf.org/revo>

REVO in CZECH REPUBLIC  
c/o SOP  
PO Box 63  
162 01 Praha 616  
e-mail: pv.sop@post.cz

13091 Berlin  
e-mail: am@arcormail.de

REVO in AUSTRALIA  
c/o PO Box 4  
Armadale North  
Victoria 3143  
e-mail: wpa@bigpond.com

REVO in FRANCE  
c/o PO Ageca Serv Dom  
177 rue de Charonne  
75011 PARIS

REVO in NEW ZEALAND  
PO Box 6203  
Auckland  
e-mail: wpnz@xtra.com

REVO in AUSTRIA  
Postfach 265  
1140 Wien  
tel: 0676/406 83 14

REVO in GERMANY  
c/o Postfach 146

REVO in SWEDEN  
c/o Box 20 081  
104 60 Stockholm



COMING SOON  
TO A GALAXY  
NEAR YOU

## REVOLUTION means:

a revolutionary youth organisation that unites all those opposed to capitalism and the misery, alienation, war and environmental destruction it creates  
**fighting the oppression** the racism, sexism and homophobia that the system produces  
**ending the rule of the bosses** their corporations banks and states, organising ourselves to fight back and overthrow their domination of society  
**internationalism not nationalism** Solidarity with workers & youth around the world, & liberating the Third World!  
**direct action** is the way to win our struggles and reclaim our organisations- trade unions, student unions- from the bureaucrats

- I want to subscribe for a year (£2)
- I want to join
- No thanks I'm going to be a stockbroker

Name: .....

Address: .....

Phone: .....

Send it in: REVO, BCM 7750, London WC1N 3XX

or Email: REVO@workerspower.com  
or visit our website: [www.workerspower.com/revo](http://www.workerspower.com/revo)

When the government announced a radical change in British licensing laws to 24hr opening by next year, it was music to my ears. At last, the archaic practice of throwing everyone out onto the streets at 11pm will be a thing of the past.

Europe has always had this policy and all the figures show they have less problems with binge drinking and anti-social drunkenness. The present system sets its self up for these problems. Firstly,

you rush in the pints as the clock ticks towards closing time, rather than relax and chat until you fancy rolling home. Secondly, if you throw everyone out onto the streets pissed at the same time there is always the likelihood that tensions may break out, especially when public transport is so shit so you have to wait around for hours to get home.

The present licensing laws are a hang-over from the First World War when the bosses required that munitions workers get back to the factories in the afternoon. So does this mean that New Labour doesn't feel the need to police our social lives anymore?

It seems not. Alongside the relaxation of drinking laws comes a barrage of repressive measures designed to tar-

So a 16-year-old is found drunk and incapable what's so unusual about that, nothing, but if it's the Prime Minister's son it's very embarrassing. Of course he had an immediate fine, or did he? It seems in the rush to make sure he was all right they completely forgot to fine him, how surprising. Didn't Euan's own father say that any one found being drunk and anything in public must be fined? Hmm, did that happen to Euan, no, can't say I'm surprised either. It seems that if you have the right social status (rich) you can get away with murder (I'm serious). Straw, Blunkett and Blair all condemn raving, partying, drinking and general having fun, but when one of their own fall foul of the law it's considered natural and all right for a young man (a 16 year old) to go out for a good time. Condemning having fun isn't that so New Labour. by James in Stratford

get young peoples' right to socialise. The latest Home Office figures show that there has been a 15% increase in violent crime in the last year and Jack Straw is arguing that drunken and 'yobbish' behaviour is reason for this increase. They are proposing:

- The introduction of a 'proof of age' ID scheme
- A clamp down on underage drinking

## Fancy a drink?

- Police powers to close down 'rowdy pubs'.
- Forging tighter relationships between hospitals' accident departments and the police.

This legislation is not about tackling anti-social crime or about helping young people who find themselves 'in a state' on Saturday night. It's about increasing state surveillance of young people and criminalising them.

However that doesn't mean that we shouldn't recognise that there is a problem with alcohol misuse amongst young people. UK teenagers come at the top of international league for binge drinking, drunkenness and alcohol related problems. But if young people think

that they are likely to be arrested if they turn up to Accident and Emergency (A&E) then they won't turn up. The possible implications are obvious.

The solution to drunkenness and anti-social behaviour is not to give more powers to the police but to fight for progressive education and health information so that young people are informed about the consequences of drinking alcohol. We need the support of the community, not a criminal record. That is why we should

demand that nurses and doctors refuse to co-operate with police surveillance of young people admitted to A&E

The introduction of more relaxed licensing laws may go some way to undermining the violence that breaks out at closing time, but in reality this violence has more to do with the frustration and alienation that so many of us feel. Unemployment, poverty, boredom - these are the things that breed anti-social behaviour. The more control we have over our lives, the less likely we are to take out our frustration through the bottle. And part of that control means dealing with anti-social behaviour ourselves collectively, not handing the power of persecution over to the police.

by Kirstie in Battersea



Euan Blair has a go!

Recently Mr Blair has been trying to steer course of zero tolerance in areas like crime. The spin that it has been given implies that it being put in place to stop football hooligans from rioting in other countries. However, with the rise in anti-capitalist sentiments and the internationalist theme of these demonstrations, the looseness of the legislation could easily make it applicable to people intending to join foreign demonstrations. The proposed legislation would give police the power to confiscate people passports on the suspicion that they may intend to cause disruption else where in the world, and the power to detail people without seeking a banning order. Although Mr Straw had to dilute the bill to get it through parliament, the government's intent to restrict peoples civil rights was still there. This sort of legislation would make it possible for the police to stop demonstrators from travelling to Prague in September to stop the IMF meeting.

by Danny in West Ham