

## **BRISTOL ANARCHIST BOOKFAIR 12/9/09**

### **WORKSHOP & MEETING PROGRAMME**

All start and end promptly on the hour unless stated.

**ROOM 1** – ground floor:

#### **11 – 12: From Peterloo to Captain Swing: Victims or Insurgents?**

By Roger – Bristol Radical History Group

A BRHG talk on the hidden history of struggle in the 19th century. It focuses on how and why major struggles have been ignored or distorted by the left as well as the right.

#### **12 – 1: Can't Pay, Won't Pay – Cancel all debt**

by East Bristol Debtors Alliance & Bath Activist Network (Debtors Alliance Division)

An introduction to the work of EBDA and BAN, who will present the idea that all personal debt in the UK should be immediately cancelled, followed by an open debate.

#### **1 – 2: Towards an anarchist parenting network**

by Kebele Family Group

A discussion to consider the dilemmas of anarchist parenting - an opportunity to meet with other anarchist parents, identify issues and come up with ways we can support one another. If there is interest; aim to establish an anarchist parenting network. The group will be facilitated but please come willing to participate with your dilemmas, ideas, and resources.

#### **2 – 3: Rethinking education**

by Alice – Trapeze Collective

How does education fit in to our work for radical social change? Can we work within the educational system as well as outside of it? And if so how can we build networks for popular education in Bristol and beyond? Including information about new resource sharing website/book project.

#### **3 – 4: Anarchist movement conference 09 discussion**

by some Bristol anarchists

After a 9 year break this conference brought together around 200 people from across the country and diverse sections of anarchist practice. What key themes ran through the event? Just a talking shop - or necessary encounter if anarchism is to grow? ...and what about the masked anarchy-feminist intervention in the final session?

#### **4 – 5: The disabled people's liberation movement – free our people!**

by DAN/SWARM

An introduction to the Disabled People's Liberation Movement (including the Independent Living Movement) and its relationship to other minority liberation movements, and other radical social movements, discussing the Social Model of Disability and what it can contribute to a revolutionary libertarian socialism.

#### **5 – 6: Taking on the military industrial complex**

by Bristol EDO Decommissioners / Smash EDO

Smash EDO and Decommissioners combine to give an interactive workshop on anti-militarism, the Smash EDO campaign, direct action and how to win the argument for taming the military-industrial complex.

## **ROOM 2** – first floor

### **11.30 – 1: The tyranny of patriarchy in the struggle against the patriarchal economy**

by The Laboratory of Futurefull Acts & The Mad Hatters

Interactive workshop to create a space in which women, men and children can come together with the objective of trying to find ways to begin to practically and personally deconstruct and heal the problems of patriarchy in our own lives and networks. We believe that without this position of integrity we have no hope of confronting or changing social injustice on a wider scale. Come and join us. Feel free to step outside if you want to.

We define patriarchy as a social hierarchy, in which men have higher status and more privilege than women and children (class and colour must not be forgotten). This hierarchy of economic patriarchy operates through the status interaction (ALL interactions) between people and groups with the internalised behaviour patterns appropriate to their rank and roles in this system. These they act out unthinkingly, generation after generation in the home, the street, the school, the workplace, governmentally and across borders. This social policing of self and others in this destructive manner leads to social inequality and mass psychological damage in children, men and women and creates a culture of disempowerment and fear which upholds the control of the ruling classes.

#### **1 – 2: Workplace struggles**

by a National Shop Stewards Network (NSSN) activist

An introduction to the role & activities of the NSSN, a look at workplace struggles, and the role of trade unions today.

#### **2 – 3: Dave Douglass – Geordies wa mental / Wheels still in spin**

by Dave Douglass, NUM activist & member of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)

Discussing his memoirs ‘Geordies Wa Mental’, this is a rare and not to be missed opportunity to hear Dave Douglass speak in the West Country. Dave came to attention as a NUM delegate through his celebrated pamphlet Come and Wet this Truncheon, a first-hand exposé of police violence during the 1984-85 Miners’ Strike. He later famously appeared as a representative for Class War on Channel 4’s Living with the Enemy during which he lived, and ‘exchanged opinions’ with, Tory peer Lord Rowallan. Never far from controversy, Dave has more recently put the case for coal to climate-change campaigners. An entertaining talk guaranteed!

#### **3 – 4: Social crime – who makes the law, and who is it for?**

by Steve Mills – union activist and Bristol Radical Historian

A talk followed by discussion, about the history of crime and the formation of the British legal system. Taking in social crime, the moral economy, smuggling, poaching, shoplifting and riots!

#### **4 – 5: Will China save the world economy?**

By Will Brown – world economy group

A talk about the progress of the economic crisis and the critical role China is playing in changing the world economy – from shutting down the Internet to factory bosses being beaten to death. With handouts and discussion.

#### **5 – 6: The spirit of utopia today**

by The Commune

With an environmental crisis, continuing poverty, recession & war, and the seeming collapse of alternatives to capitalism, we are living in dystopian times. This talk & discussion will explore the meaning of utopianism today and its importance for recovering our humanity in opposition to its systematic abuse for profit and power.