



Quick! Pretend you're a panda.

CULLING ME SOFTLY

ANIMAL ACTIVISTS GEAR UP TO CONFRONT BADGER CULL AFTER LEGAL CHALLENGE FAILS

"I think the most interesting observation was made to me by a senior politician who said "fine John we accept your science but we have to offer the farmers a carrot. And the only carrot we can possibly give them is culling badgers" Professor John Bourne, Chair of the Independent Scientific Group on Bovine TB

Animal rights activists are preparing to take to the fields as the last ditch attempt to have the DEFRA sponsored badger cull stopped in the courts was thrown out. The collapse of the Badger Trust's legal initiative means that pilot culling schemes in Somerset and Gloucestershire will now begin, possibly as early as the end of this month.

The government's case is based on the dubious idea that culling badgers will reduce the spread of Bovine TB. This is widely regarded as a sop thrown to the farming industry to cover up the real reasons for the spread of livestock diseases – intensive farming practices.

Those with no faith in the legal systems ability to protect what is effectively the Britain's answer to the Panda have been getting ready for direct action. One website www.badger-killers.co.uk has already been the subject of an injunction after publishing details of farmers involved in the culling as well as photos of the rural retreat of Owen Paterson, the new environment secretary, who is moving the cull forward with all guns blazing. That website doesn't tell you anything anymore but mirror sites – apparently hosted offshore – have sprung up.

Anti-cull activists have started a night patrol programme saying "If you can commit to coming to one of the cull zones for a 6 hour patrol (typically 6pm until midnight) three times during the cull then we would only need another 69 people like you to keep a ten person patrol in a zone EVERY NIGHT. With high visibility jackets, 1,000,000 candle power torches, megaphones, video cameras and a serious attitude, we can stop this cull, please contact your local Animal Rights group or Hunt Saboteurs group; there will be people in those groups who will share your passion

to stop this cull."

There are even rumours of free parties inside the Gloucestershire culling zones, nothing to do with the animal activists of course but they are planning to have their largest Night Patrol on September 29th – a full moon.

FAILED THREATS

AS FASCISTS PLAN TO ATTACK AN ANARCHIST SOCIAL CENTRE AT SOME POINT IN THE FUTURE (OR POSSIBLY THE PAST).

The least organised fascists in the world are planning to attack our local anarchist theme pub, The Cowley Club.

During the riots last year Lynn Saddington (Brighton based far right loon) decided to attack people leaving the Cowley. Despite the fact that nothing much was happening south of Croydon, Lynn had deduced that those dastardly "lefties and liberals" were clearly orchestrating the sporadic violence. Unfortunately our hero also announced her cunning plan on Facebook, declaring "*AND TO ALL THE OLD BILL WATCHING THIS I dont give a fuck you stop them or we will!!!*". Unsurprisingly the cops intercepted Lynn's vigilante mob before they got anywhere near their intended target and told them to piss off out of town, which they did.

Following on from this year's piss poor showing at March for England, Casuals United announced they would "peacefully counter" an antifascist benefit at the Cowley. As a result café volunteers had to put up with a few deluded idiots calling to threaten them and (bizarrely) play the national anthem down the phone. Again the intended disruption came to nowt, primarily due the perceived linearity of time as the gig in question happened a year before the Casuals had decided to go.

BILL (FACEBOOK) POSTERS WILL BE PROSECUTED

On Friday 7th September, undeterred by these pathetic failures, Bill Baker (leader

The militant tendency of course already have their grilled-up black Landy ready to roll, but this time they're likely to be joined by a broad alliance of the concerned. The nation's favourite uncle David Attenborough has spoken out against the cull as has Brian May (an astrophysicist out of the Freddie Mercury band).

The method of culling has yet to be decided but it is likely to be a mixture of trapping and shooting – both practices that have been successfully disrupted in the past.

of lunatic fringe English Nationalist Alliance) took to Facebook to announce a "surprise" visit to the Cowley Club. Billy adds that he's going to give antifa "a few slaps" and also implies a bit of arson for good measure. In the meantime Bill has his best brains looking in to who runs the "collectively owned and run" social club. Our money's on this guy - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry_Cowley

Bill was also the mastermind behind an "infiltration" of Smash EDO's Hammertime demo in October 2010. His foot soldiers received a short education in hard left politics but he never made it himself as apparently his car broke down in Pease Pottage.

EAST 17 REUNION

The majority of the English Defence League (EDL) are currently more concerned with how to regroup following their humiliation in Walthamstow. Their next demonstration is Walsall on Saturday 29th September with the leadership keen for a huge fascist turnout to reverse their downward spiral. Obviously lacking in any new ideas, EDL leader 'Tommy Robinson' has announced that they will then return to Walthamstow on 27th October. We don't really understand the reasons for a second suicide march, but we're looking forward to watching it.

PARTY & PROTEST

For events listings updated weekly see www.schnews.org.uk/pap

BYPASS OPERATION

The ongoing saga of the Bexhill-Hastings link road rumbles on this month.

A similar scheme was shelved in the mid-nighties at the height of road protest chic. The project was then resurrected (see SchNEWS 288) before being killed once more (SchNEWS 313) in 2001, with the then transport minister John Spellar pointing out that the proposals would cause environmental damage and “did not build a convincing regeneration case”. The plans were looked at, but ultimately not enacted, yet again in 2004.

Every time the spectre of the road has loomed into sight an effective counter mobilisation has swung into action, as was the case in March of this year when George Gideon Osborne managed to scrape together £56 million to wreck the Sussex countryside. The Combe Haven Defenders will be holding a camp on the proposed route 29th-30th September. Walks to the mystery site will be setting off from Bexhill station and Crowhurst station at 11am and 12pm respectively on 29th.

Camp highlights include films, workshops and celebrity activist John Stewart talking about how much better the 90s were. Drugs and alcohol won't be allowed on site so for anyone looking to recreate the full protest site experience SchNEWS recommends getting tanked up beforehand, shouting over everyone else, refusing to help others then randomly punching someone before being off-sited.

*For more info see:

combehavendefenders.wordpress.com
email: combehavendefenders@gmail.com
or call: 07926 423 033

SQUATTING FIGHTBACK

In case you hadn't noticed, residential squatting is now a criminal offence. But wait, before you dash in to hang up yer crowbar – there is hope yet.

The law has more holes than your average American ambassador and it'll be a good year before we know exactly how it's going to be interpreted and enforced. And helping in the fight against Section 144 of the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act (LASPO) is the recently formed Squatters' Legal Network.

Currently in the process of collating the effects of the law so far, the Network is aiming to provide legal advice and support prior to, during and after any evictions or attempted evictions. To that end they have an emergency phone number, an email address, a website, a Twitter presence and a band of eager activists – they're also keen for more bods to get involved.

*For more info

see: <https://network23.org/squatterslegal-network> or call 07925 769858

BUBBLE TROUBLE

On Saturday 8th around ten activists picketed the recently opened SodaStream shop in Brighton. They were there as part of the global campaign for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions aimed at ending Israel's oppression of the Palestinians by a campaign of targeted economic isolation. SodaStream operate a plant in Israeli Occupied Palestinian territory, despite its illegality under international law. The company is keen to push their dubious eco credentials - which is why they've chosen Green Brighton as a location for their first shop in the UK. They only have a six month lease, so it is not expected that their presence will last long. The company have been expecting a campaign against them and this was demonstrated by the fact that they had pre-prepared their own leaflets to obfuscate any claims made against them.

During the two hours some people crawled out of the woodwork to defend the company. This unwholesome bunch included three Christian Zionists who claimed to live above the shop and complained about the megaphone, although their problem wasn't the megaphone's volume, so much the anti-Zionist messages that came out of it that upset them. Another hung around phoning his mates who kept turning up and making threatening noises without actually seeming to know any thing about Israel or Palestine (when quizzed they were clueless about the finer details of both the Sykes-Pycott Agreement and the Wye River Accords). The whole thing clearly seemed to be orchestrated and they all said they'd be back. with reinforcements next week.

These demos will continue every Saturday at 1pm at the Old Post Office near Waitrose on Western Road.

PARTY & PROTEST

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DOING A RUNNYMEDE

A partial legal victory is being celebrated around the campfires at Runnymede tonight. The case related to the handful of occupants who make up the Diggers 2012 community, who are holding the land under the banner “*We: peaceful people, declare our intention to go and cultivate the disused land of this island; to build dwellings and live together in common by the sweat of our brows.*”

They've been there since June, building a wattle and daub hut, doing green woodwork and generally 'making the wastelands grow'. The situation is slightly complicated as they're simultaneously occupying sites owned by the National Trust and a body weirdly identifying itself as 'Oracle Runnymede' – this has given them a certain amount of leeway as over the last

few months they've been able to engage in a series of deft Dukes of Hazzard style manoeuvres – evading justice by continual crossing of the county line.

However it looked like the game was up this Thursday as in Slough County Court the National Trust were seeking a blanket anti-trespass injunction on 200 acres of land surrounding the Magna Carta monument. Crucially as well being taken out against three named individuals the injunction was aimed at 'persons unknown' i.e. you and me and would have allowed the National Trust to use 'reasonable force' to remove trespassers. It was also accompanied by a possession order. The judge granted the possession order – but as one Runnymede camper told us “We took the last of the tents down on Saturday anyway so it was a moot point”. However he struck out the 'persons unknown' clause and didn't grant an interim injunction leaving Phoenix, James and Simon to fight their case in five weeks time.

One of the occupiers told SchNEWS “The National Trust is gearing itself up for the 800 year anniversary of the Magna Carta – they want a high profile event and have got the Queen on board. They're petrified that the rabble are going to turn up”

The Runnymede crew are determined to stay in place and welcome all visitors.

*For more <http://diggers2012.wordpress.com/>

...and finally...

To combat the onslaught of attacks on US/NATO soldiers in Afghanistan by their supposed allies, the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police, Afghan Defense Ministry officials have published pamphlets about Western culture, optimistically hoping that all that 'green on blue' gunfire (35 attacks last year – 45 this year and counting) is just the result of cross-cultural misunderstanding.

As the guide helpfully points out, “Even minor cultural differences can create misunderstandings and rows... If you or your coalition partner gets angry, stay away from each other until the situation becomes normal... Coalition troops may ask about the women in your family. Do not take offence, they just want friendly relations with you.”

Helpfully the guide points out a few no no's for G.Is trying to get home in one piece - like putting your boots on the table, blowing your nose, or sticking your middle finger up (yes, you – you goddam cracker) but runs shy of pointing some of the more obvious faux pas committed by the occupation and has nothing to say about how 150,000 troops occupying the country for 11 years, the killing of tens of thousands of civilians and the propping up of Hamid Karzai's notoriously corrupt government might just contribute to a less than total sense of concord with their American guests.

Disclaimer

SchNEWS reminds all readers the badger cull is a black & white issue. Honest!

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