SLAP #9
SQUATTERS OF LONDON ACTION PAPER
NOAH'S ARK SINKS! +
UK NEWS EVENTS
INTERATIONAL NEWS LEGAL SHIT
PLUS RADICAL SQUAT HISTORY MISSED CONNECTIONS
NOAH'S ARK FINALLY SINKS

They came in 2x2, but were evicted all together. After 9 months of benefit fundraisers, queer cabaret, and a defiant refusal to hand back the property to the developers, the animals of Noah's Ark in Deptford have been evicted. Despite a spectacular sliding interior metal barricade and the work of countless volunteers to barricade the property, on Monday June 4th the bailiffs smacked in when someone went out to go the work.

SHUT THE F**K DOOR!

Since the eviction, Lewisham has experienced a sharp increase in activity as the occupants have set out to rehouse themselves, opening multiple buildings in direct response. 3 people were arrested and released from Lewisham Police Station, and 2 more in Limehouse shortly after.

HERE'S TO SARF LONDON'S FINEST VENUE, 2017-18

MUTUAL AID WINS THE DAY - SQUATTERS AND TENANTS UNITE

In May a callout was made by a mother of three living in Walthamstow for help facing off against a potential eviction. Members of the Eviction Resistance Network, a group committed to supporting both squatters and tenants, dropped in over at 7am. Having faced off the council seven times over three years, this warrior woman would’ve seen them off without help, but the ERN are always ready to join in with a ruck with bailiffs. Once the bailiffs and council officials were seen off the war put in touch with other groups that could help her further along her legal case. Another example of the success that can come out of squatters and tenants working together (see Radical Squat History in this issue). Look out for the housing rights groups in your area, and build connections between your squat and local residents. Our struggle is the same, we all want to kill our landlords!

GENETRIFY THIS - STUDENTS OCCUPY IN SOLIDARITY WITH WORKING CLASS

UAL is in partnership with Delaney, an off shore tax-avoiding development company, in proposing a redevelopment plan which displaces the working class, Latin American, and BAME communities of Elephant and Castle.

On May 30th, Stop the Elephant Development, the student wing of the campaign against the Elephant and Castle redevelopment plan, were peacefully demonstrating anddyering at the undergraduate degree show at London College of Communication, University of the Arts London, situated in Elephant and Castle. Fellow students attending the degree show were supportive of the protesters, who were highlighting UAL's complicity in the planned gentrification of Southwark through the university's partnership with Delaney, when security and management staff assaulted students in an attempt to violently suppress their freedom of speech. Students involved in the campaign sat down in a circle and occupied the main entrance of the degree show for a one night sleep-in.
Temporary Autonomous Arts was in May determined to return to its roots as a squatted exhibition. A decrepit long term empty in Bow was transformed into a blank canvas by the TAA mob, who then were boosted after 24 hours notice after a rapid-response possession order requested them to attend High Court in Birmingham. Undeterred, a second building was snatched in North Woolwich and repurposed against the clock. The TAA opened as planned on the Wednesday to a splatter of spoken word, followed up by a blinding cabaret gig featuring public urination, wild drag anarchy from Jizzik Hunt and the body-positive monarchy-bashing of Glittasphyxia.

Saturday things started turning sour with a day of escalating violence and conflict between the squatters and locals over accusations of the graffitiing of a plein'mash shop and breaking by kids into the building culminating with 80 rolled-up cops turning up to face-off against the 60 or so mob holding the courtyard. The gigs were cut short after the cops broke out the Criminal Justice Act and threatened to seize the sound system. Concerned for the safety of the artworks, equipment and liberty of the guests, the TAA crew elected to keep the music off and let the night deflate like a dry fart in a wet paper bag. Opinions are divided, with some people furious that another building in London has been burnt for the sake of an "anarchohipster lollapalooza", and others arguing that the TAA crew made a tactical decision in a tight spot.

THE NIGHT OF SMASHED DOORS

Limehouse continues to be a hot-front of the housing war, with an illegal eviction at 404 Commercial Road in June and the demise of the White Horse squat after 9 months of occupation over the course of 1 night. Squeezed between the City and Canary Wharf, this stretch of London continues to resist against creeping gentrification, maintaining a tradition of self-organized resistance dating back to before the Battle of Cable Street.

NO PASARAN, PUTA POLICIA!

LIZARDS WED, LACKEYS POP INTO SQUATS

A week before the hostile takeover by beloved orange lizard Nazi Prince and a Hollywood starlet that had been arranged to seal an unholy alliance between the United Snakes and the 51st State, undercover police were sent to knock on the doors of squats across London to determine whether there were plans to disrupt the royal wedding. As if we'd bloody well tell if there were. They sent undercover police to at least two squats in East and South London, and sent the anti-terror squad along with riot police to the Noah's Ark, notorious for having about as much anti-monarchy propaganda on the outside of the building as humanly possible. "No sir, we definitely don't want to sterilise and/or execute the royal family, what gave you that idea?" The police didn't take as heavy-handed approach as they did in 2010 when they raided 5 squats in the lead-up to Harry's older brother William's wedding, but it was certainly a reminder that the authorities do keep tabs on who's living where, and that they still consider squatters a threat.

Image courtesy of Royal Shift
Kurdistan Place - In Memory of Anna Campbell

Many of you scumbags may have associated with Anna/Daisy in the squats of London, Brighton, and Bristol. Some of her friends decided to open a squat in solidarity with the Kurdish struggle in Anna's memory, and named it Kurdistan Place in honour of Palestine Place, the political squat Anna opened 6 years ago. Here's what they had to say about it:

"Anarchists, squatters, Kurdish youth, students, workers and ex-workers coalesced to crack the Church of England-owned building. We opened officially to the public on Saturday the 26th of May with a lively and surprisingly police-less demo from the BBC HQ. The demo was greeted with a beautiful banner drop, one which had an amazing painting of Sakineh Aslaniz. KP was a welcoming space and anyone interested could get involved whatever their capacity. There was a constant flow of delicious food and tea. It was a dry space to match Kurdish Revolutionary principles and hosted events from Kombucha brewing, antifascism, anarchist action networks, kurdish folk dancing, and more. KP's short stay at Portsea Mews was cut shorter by the monied Church on the 30th of May. They might have taken the building, but Kurdistan Place lives on!"

Long live Kurdistan Place, long live Anna Campbell!

TALES FROM HER MAJESTY'S PLEASURE.... A TRUE STORY

A long long, damn long journey lasting five months. A journey of two squatters that on a cold and rainy night who have been stopped and arrested in the middle of the street, driven to a police station and sent to Her Majesty's Prison. One had been locked for 115 fucking days, the other 47 and on curfew the rest of the time, charged with burglary and a carrying kitchen knife, still stinking of onions and bacon. The police had no evidence, neither the CPS, they went naked before the Crown Court. We could mention the stuttering of the prosecution lawyer when the judge started questioning the bullshit charges, and the evident lack of evidence. Or how the copper on the stand, lied three times, just to remind us how cowardly cops are. Screw you, screw!

Last but not least the outcome: NOT GUILTY. Thank you to Madame Justice and the cherry on the fucking cake, the apology from the Crown Court Judge for how they dealt with the whole case. "When it come to Uk police, it's hard to know where incompetence ends and malice starts."
The Angel Vaults, a lovely decrepit pub within spitting distance of Liverpool's docks, has not been without its challenges. A month into occupation and we are still without electricity or hot water, the students in posh flats across the road still look at our building with disgust, and everybody still rinses my ha'penny (bloody pirates).

But we have persisted and, a month on, we the occupiers of Liverpool's newest squat have won two important victories. The first came at the end of an hour long court session, where the judge struck out the Claimant's request for an IPO. Not one to give up, the next morning he decided to give us a rude awakening, which led to our second victory, a successful resistance to an illegal eviction attempt. It woke most of us up better than coffee ever can.

Now the squat is preparing for war. Our banners are being painted, our barricades built, and our message is clear:

**THE ANGEL VAULTS IS HERE TO STAY!**

Photos courtesy of Todd Buddy

**RED AND BLACK BETHNAL GREEN**

A walking tour checking off notable stops down Brick Lane runs into two hooded subversives throwing red paint over a billboard advertisement. 'Quick', they say, 'we just heard there are immigration raids happening on Whitechapel High Street.' In the distance the thud of a soundsystem can be heard as a parade sets off from Cambridge Heath station. A crowd faces off with a couple of police officers in front of an empty office block with a large banner hanging from its roof emblazoned with the words 'Welcome to a liberated Bethnal Green'...

*It's true, the London anarchist bookfair is dead*, killed by TERFS. It's gonna feel weird to have nothing to do in early October, even weirder knowing that this year there's no opportunity to meet old comrades, make new ones and plot to create the fully automated/primitive/syndicalist/communist/individualist utopia we all desire in the depths of our sticky, cynical hearts. Well... we don't need some oldies in a bookfair collective to make things happen for us, we can do it ourselves! Look out for further updates in later SLAPS on how you can help. And in the meantime, clear ur diaries for October 13th/14th and meet us in a liberated Bethnal Green, for subverting/street parties/rad history/squats/festivals/protests/trouble and much much more.

15th - 14th of OCTOBER LET'S F**K SHIT UP
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Tales From Her Majesty's Pleasure... A True Story

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Last but not least the outcome: NOT GUILTY. Thank you to Madame Justice and the cherry on the fucking cake, the apology from the Crown Court Judge for how they dealt with the whole case. "When it comes to UK police, it's hard to know where incompetence ends and malice starts."
Squatters beware - there have been multiple cases in the last few weeks of people being arrested for burglary when squatting a place (see the article about the squatters keep for months on remand in prison). With that in mind the Advisory Service for Squatters would like to remind people a few things to keep them safe if faced with arrest.

1. **No comment** - You might be able to explain your situation to the police, but in 99% of cases what you say to them will not get you out of the cells any faster, and can be used to incriminate you or any other people arrested. If you go to court it can all be used against you, especially if you’re caught fibbing to the rozzers. Say “no comment” to any questions the police ask you and keep you and your crew safe.

2. **Have a bail address** - someone who doesn't mind telling the police that you stay with them sometimes, and that you can possibly stay with for a bit if the police do put any bail conditions on you. You don't want to give them an excuse to keep you in prison.

3. **Know a legal firm to call** - don’t in any circumstances take the duty solicitor provided by the police. Remember the name of one of the solicitor firms on the BUST card, available at all good anarchist social centres, and refuse to have an interview until your lawyers are called.

Good luck out there! Feed The Pigeon!

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RIP LDMG

Raise a can for LDMG who are shutting down after 24 years of vital but under appreciated court support. LDMG has supported thousands of people, including many squatters, and their loss is a huge blow to the anarchist movement. The full story of LDMG's dissolution is sad, and is to do with the fallout of the SHAR-WOLF (hallowed be her name). We at SLAP agree with the good members of LDMG who think anyone who requests support in the face of state violence should be provided it and disagree with the bad members who think we should indulge their bigoted friends cheering on prosecution and imprisonment.

So, what now? Unfortunately although LDMG is dead, the court system continues. Tory attacks on legal aid and further cuts to the criminal 'justice' system means that people are getting less professional help and facing longer delays - which means we're gonna need a fucktonne more court support. There are rumbles of a new court support super squad getting together shortly, keep an eye out on NELSN or on FREEDOMNEWS for more information on how you can help. In the meantime get in touch with GBC for any legal queries or requests for support.

**GBCLegal@riseup.net**

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@GBCLegal
Pullens Estate in Walworth started to be demolished by Southwark Council in the late 70s, but a campaign by the tenants put a halt to the ongoing destruction and as a result many flats lay empty. Echoing the more recent Aylesbury Occupation in the same borough, squatters formed alliances with the tenants and moved in. Radical workshops, free festivals, and community cases opened up and continued for years, despite violent attacks from fascist groups. A group called the Squatters Network of Walworth (SNOW) built tenant-squatters solidarity across the borough. The council attempted over the years to evict the squats, but faced resistance and were largely unsuccessful.

On June the 10th, 1986, the council arrived at Pullens Estate with large numbers of bailiffs backed by shitloads of riot pigs. The resistance though consisted of over 200 squatters and supporters, all of whom were ready for the fight. Barricades in place, flour and paint were splattered across the faces of the cops and bailiffs, and running battles took place all day as the bailiffs struggled to evict 16 of the occupied flats. However the squatters reopened 19 more flats the very same day!

The council were forced to admit that they were wasting public time and money in trying to evict what was a widely-supported occupation, and in the end worked to fix the buildings as per the resident's requests, rather than pursuing demolition plans. People were given tenancies and others employed to actually do the work on plumbing and heating. Started in one of the squatted houses and alive to this very day, every squatter should have heard of, if not visited, the 56a Infoshop and Fareshares Co-op at 56a Crampton Street. Providing a food co-op, bike workshops, and anarchist library, it has endured (although it is now owned). Go check it out if you haven't already, and remember the value of resistance!

### Events

**Practical Squatters Evenings**
1st & 3rd Tuesday - December
2nd & 4th Tuesday - 56a Infoshop

**Food Not Bombs**
1st & 5th Saturday
Seven Sisters Tube

24 June
Jewdas Film Club
Common House

29 June
May Day Rooms Summer Social
May Day Rooms

30 June
Punk 4 Homeless
Sumac Centre, Notts.

28, 23 July
BHAM Squatter Support
Hydra Bookshop, Bristol

7 July
Dreaming of Life Film Screening
Common House

13 July
Protest Trump
Portland Place

14 July
Oppose #FreeTommy
Central London

15-20 August
Earth First! Gathering
Sussex

29 June
Beautiful Anarchism: Geography Talk
LARC

27 July
Feminist Fightback Film Club
Common House