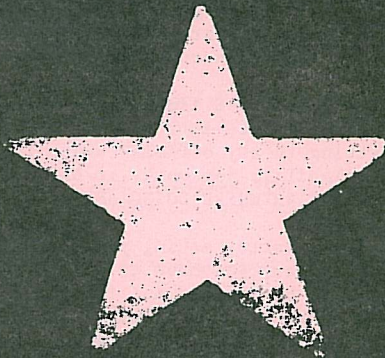


RED  
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FATHER CHRISTMAS TOOK A SHORT CUT

ALONG THE (MUCH IMPROVED) QUEENS ROAD..

♫ TRAFFIC SMELLS, TRAFFIC SMELLS, TRAFFIC ALL THE WAY... ♪

OH WHAT FUN IT IS TO DRIVE ON A THREE LANE URBAN HIGHWAY HEY!

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# RED RAG 4

## ORIGINAL ROCKERS

Christmas Eve, well what a choice.... Studio Magic and a soul sound at Central but Wycombe is where the crowds dem a bubble...at the Roundhouse Luton sound Gemini come play against Fatman hi-fi, whilst just down the road at Wycombe Multiracial London youthman sound Volcano Express entertain. Will there be a road-block in Wycimbe tonight??

Warrior, revealing the Commandments of Dub in St Albans. St ALBANS??? A true, on New Year's Day, and no better greeting. When will Shaka play Boom-Shaka-Laka in Reading again? Friday 2 January at Central we have THE TOTAL OPPOSITE OF SHAKA, deadstock business from David Rodigan. Will he escape alive?? Also on the bill are sounds like Stalingrad, and Macka B from Coventry -the best in the Midlands.

### GREETINGS!!

One love to each and every one in the area, back in tune to the heavyweight sounds like Original Rockers, the best and the rest of soul and reggae music in the Thames Valley area.

Boxing Day in Reading could be cold and miserable...steel band regulars Hurricane Force are at the Paradise 112 London Street. But perhaps Volcano Express and Luton sound Sovereign will nice up the area...maybe Saxon Studio International too???


And there ends the last Original Rockers of 86, the year of the ragamuffin and digital robotic reggaemtical style...

What will 87 bring??..well, check out Papa Levi from long time back..... "When me weak them say that me strong, When me right them say that me wrong- True, me check no politician, No care who win the election....."

Love And Unity.

PS: Fon't forget to tune in to The Rankin Miss P, Radio One 11pm-midnight every Sunday, also Tony Williams, 1-3 pm Sundays on Radio London...

**Dread Broadcast Corp.**  
93.9 FM  
*Tune in if you Rankin'!*



**A dread outta control!**

Give thanks in this time for the man like Freddie McGregor...did you catch him in Reading then?? If not, you only have yourself to blame.... WE DID TELL YOU! Special request to the man like Roger and his spar at the PA controls seen? Nuff man a talk about unity and niceness, dem jus' hypocrites and hooligan...Freddie and the Studio One band were a hard sound to beat.

Good to see Freddie on the Tube on television recently, also man like Sly and Robbie and the Taxi Gang...BAD!

"No baldhead cannot sat upon the Natty Dread /Bandwagon" says Prince Jazzbo, and he should know.....

Settle! Unless some big sound from London City come fe fire up the dancehall, it'll be a cold Christmas in Reading.

Friday 19 Dec there's a 210 party at the Central Club (36/42 London St), with 1234 yes Four Reading sounds inna dub-clash...Raiders Hi-tec, Studio Magic, Sir Graphics, and the Stalingrad Music Machine. Also plenty singers from the Track One Massive-special request to Aqua Levi, seen. Also on the bill.... football, netball, karate, and rugby awards to the best black sportsmen and sportswomen in Reading...a celebration of Reading's talent.

Same night in a THUNDEROUS style, King of the Zulu Tribe JAH SHAKA a go Chant Down Babylon, make it a date and don't be late...Peckham High Street is the place to be on Fridays.

"me seh look out look out, the soldier a come/look out look out, the soldier a come/them a look fe the bad boy who a fire dem gun/an' if you no run, them a shoot you to the ground....."

Saturday 27 Dec at the Paradise there is Eastern Variation, a reggae/soca band from Leicester. Otherwise all is boring until.....

New Years Eve when king champion sound UNITY, with Ribs at the Controls, fire up in Wycombe., with MC's like Ruddy Ranking, Demon Rockers, Kenny Knots, Specky Ranks, Flinty Ranks and the Unity Crew. In the blue corner, Reading bubblers Raiders Hi-Tec.....keep on dubbing..... meanwhile you can give greetings to 87 in Reading either at the Paradise (Hot Tempa, soul/funk), or at the Central, where Sir Graphics and Solid Soul play a benefit dance for the Sickle Cell Anaemia Campaign.

Forward and away forward into the month of Naptali, with Jah Shaka, The

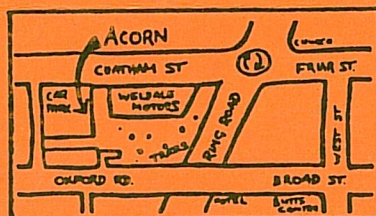


HALF PINT pic. David Corio



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Reading's radical community bookshop. Huge range of books, magazines, cards, pamphlets, posters. Also secondhand. Books ordered, bookstalls supplied. Printing, photocopying, electrostencils, badge making, free noticeboard.



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# MUSIC FOR FOLK

The festive season is upon us. A week of Xmas Parties, then nothing, then a pretence at normality, whatever that is. What are these strange rituals?

- Thurs 18:** Maidenhead Folk Club's X.P. at The Rose, King St, M'head.
- Fri 19:** Comrades Club (Above BSM? Oxford Rd) will this be festive too?
- Sat 20:** Bracknell (South Hill Park's Cellar Bar) X.P. with Spring Chickens, a wacky trio of a woman & 2 men, guitar, percussion and vocals.
- Oxford Ceilidh (at West Oxford Community Centre, Binsey Lane, Oxford), with the Dorset style Mellstock Band. Also punch and mince pies.
- Sun 21:** More mince pies! Free ones, & some of these will be vegan, right? To be found at the George Hotel, Back Bar, along with a disreputable bunch referred to as "Mark T and Friends".

the action seems to start again with **Sat 3 Jan:** Bracknell; a "Come-all-ye", a round the room sing with Bracknell folk club.

**Sun 4:** Readifolk (at the George, Broad St) with Bent Penny, stylish local duo

Farnham Maltings: The Kipper Family (no, not the Copper family, it's a skit, see?) Traditional singing "at its most suspect". From Trunch. With Rory McLeod, footstomping harmonica/voice/guitar and songs of power and passion.

The maltings isn't hard to find and it could be an ace night out. 8pm.

**Sun 18:** Readifolk. This time they will turn up! Another go at having The Oyster Band in town (they'll be knackered, mind; see above). They are good, tho'. Funky folk, worthwhile songs, polish, verve, shall I use up more of my new adjectives? I mean nouns. Anyway, go early.

Can I stop now please? Those amongst you with extra special taste will mourn with me the temporary abeyance, I mean non-happening, of the Oxford acoustic music club. Building repairs or some such. News will be relayed as & when.

Forthcomings include Blowzabella at Bracknell Jan 31 (Except they're also listed as playing somewhere else that night so hang in there; the truth will out for next ish). Solstice greetings to all. It must be obvious that I do this for fun, but I hope, humbly, that you enjoy the results. And the music.

Info, feedback, to the Folkey bit, Box (NOT PO BOX) 79, 17, Chatham St, or ring Liz 53437

- Mon 5:** Nettlebed; Bob & Gill Berry (Trad harmony duo)
- Tues 6:** Fleet (Fox & Hounds, Crookham Rd, Fleet) a Night of "Rough Music" ("when anything goes") Oh yeah?
- Turks Bottom at the Bistro.
- Wed 7:** Eversley Cross but I dunno what. Your compiler admits defeat in contacting Fleet and Eversley for the time being. Tel: 95/516408 and 933/33193 respectively.

**Thurs 8:** Maidenhead Singers' night.

The return of the Pressgang Club at the Cap & Gown, Kings Rd. They'll be having 4 pre-booked floorsingers to kick off each gig, then 2 main acts from about 9.30. £1 before 9pm, £1.50 after. Bar extension till one, music probably stops around 11.15pm. This week they've got Andy Hepburn of the soppy love songs, Ministry of Humour, lyrical, left and up-to-the-minute, and themselves. Sensitive eardrums beware.

- Fri 9:** Comrades Club? Why not.
  - Sat 10:** Bracknell: Maggie Holland & Dave Parry (which South Hill Park can't spell). Dynamic isn't in it; lots of energy, varied songs and nifty instrumental work. I'm still not quite sure about this particular set-up, but their harmonies are just brilliant. Get them to do the Lazarus song if you go and you'll see what I mean.
  - Sun 11:** Readifolk Singers' night.
  - Sat 10:** Backtrack a minute; there's also Eddie Walker doing country blues and ragtime at the Eldon Arms in Eldon Terrace.
  - Sun 11:** Out of town snippet time; Whipper-snapper are playing at Bourne End. Details 0327/61785/61570.
  - Mon 12:** Nettlebed: Bill Zorn of the Arizona Smoke Revue. Guitar and banjo. Something of a mega-star, they tell me.
  - Tues 13:** Activity at the Turks Bottom and Fleet.
  - Wed 14:** Ditto at Eversley.
  - Thurs 15:** Maidenhead: Jones & co.
- Pressgang: Terry Clark (what a voice, eh?) and someone as yet unconfirmed.



The musical menu may include bazouki and vocals and assorted percussion and clarinet and bombarde and saxophone and maybe pipes? melodeon? dulcimer? who knows? Free to Readifolk Club members.

- Mon 22:** Nettlebed (at the Bull, High St, N'bed) X.P. with Nettlebed Mummies.
- Tues 23:** Turk's Bottom at the Bistro, London Rd. Or will they be overcome with festivities? Will we?
- Wed 24:** Eversley Folk Club's X.P. (at the Toad & Stumps, Eversley Cross).

.....days (and days) of quaint folk rituals like watching the richest woman in the world on telly and pulling bits of paper apart and eating more than some people ever imagine (would they want to?), or even doing nice things to counteract seasonal cynicism,.....

**Sat 17:** Bracknell: Now this really isn't my end of things, so I'll just quote South Hill Park's blurb, OK? Mrs Aokroyd & Les Barker "...if you like an evening of hilariously funny poems and having your ankles bitten this is for you. The best six-legged duo in the business!" (The only.....????) There's a dog fits into this somewhere. Don't ask me.

Another out of town snippet. "The Hottest ceilidh in town" (ie London) with the Oyster Band And Tiger Moth, augmented by Mustaphas and Mekons and a very special surprise guest who's probably Billy Bragg at my guess but I could be wrong (it does happen). At the Town & Country Club, 9 - 17 Highgate Rd, Kentish Town, London NW5 7.30 to very late. Tickets from FMS PO BOX 73 Farnham Surrey for £5 + SAE. All profits are going to Anti-Apartheid.

## SANTA'S YULE TIDE LOG.











VOTE LABOUR... PROSPECT PARK  
AND STILL DIE HORRIBLY HOSPITAL SALE

Dear Rag,

Last week the Labour Party revealed it's patriotic 'defence plans, in which, as a sop to the CNDers, it half heartedly opposed nuclear NATO warmongering and called for lots more 'conventional' NATO warmongering instead. Nuclear weapons are a no no but 'conventional' ways of killing people are OK. The party's special TV broadcast began by telling us British servicemen were the finest in the world. They proved how 'fine' they were at Bloody Sunday, for instance, when they gunned down 13 unarmed civilians during a civil rights march, but of course that is precisely the point! Because the £10 billion that Labour doesn't want to spend on Trident and that they might have spent on welfare isn't going to be spent by Labour on tanks, armoured cars and lead bullets for nothing. Don't be fooled into thinking all this £10 billion of new hardware will be hanging around idle in the West German countryside, waiting for the Russians to invade (they won't). It will be hanging around here available for use against pickets, demonstrators and rioters on the streets of our towns and cities, backing up the war of brutalisation against us already being conducted right now by the police (and Labour wants more POLICE too!).

The likes of CND (Changing Nothing for Decades) have lead people into a trap by convincing them that 'nuclear disarmament' in isolation is the issue, when in fact on it's own it is a virtual non-issue: A lead bullet can kill you just as dead as an atom bomb. There are enough lead bullets in the world to kill us all and unlike nuclear weapons, they are actually being used to kill people everyday around the world in Northern Ireland, in Nicaragua, in South Africa and so on. There isn't going to be a nuclear war; it is simply not in the economic interests of either superpower to have one! It would cause too much damage to the land, capital and resources they would seek to gain control of. We should not allow the fear of a doomsday, which is nothing but bluff, demoralise us into accepting sacrifices and suffering any government may want to impose (welfare cutbacks, restrictions on freedom, conventional war etc.) because "at least they are more bearable than a nuclear inferno". Depressing ourselves worrying about a nuclear nightmare that isn't going to happen distracts us from the real material struggles going on everyday: fighting the Police State, fighting inequality and discrimination etc.

If it is a choice between spending £10 billion on Trident which won't be used and £10 billion on repression equipment; guns, bullets, truncheons, gas... which is being used against us everyday I would rather they wasted the money on Trident. Paul \* Petard

Thames Valley Anarchists

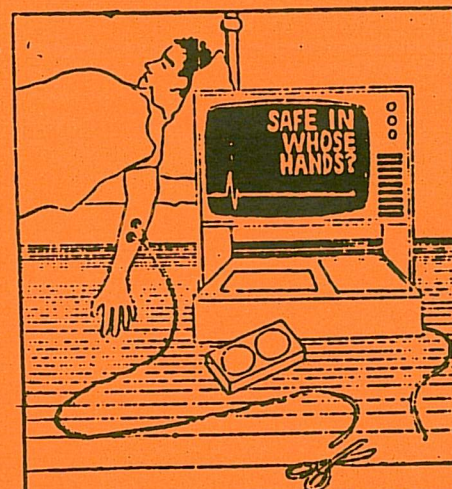
The West Berkshire Health Authority has proposed that when the present geriatric patients are transferred from Prospect Park Hospital in Autumn 1987, that the hospital be closed and the site, with the exception of the staff residential accommodation be sold with the proceeds used to support the Health Authority's capital developments programme.

In September 1985 the Community Health Council agreed to the transfer of geriatric patient services from

Prospect Park to Battle Hospital. However, the CHC also stressed the importance of retaining the Prospect Park site for use by elderly mentally infirm patients from Fairmile Hospital. Prospect Park is an outstanding site with excellent physical surroundings and good access to all facilities including transport. The sale of Prospect Park would incur the massive cost of replacing such a site for future health service developments, bearing in mind the congestion of both the Royal Berks and Battle Hospitals.

The Health Authority originally agreed that the site should be retained for the elderly mentally infirm, but the Regional Health Authority was intent on selling it.

Fairmile Hospital is also scheduled for closure and it's services to be transferred before 1994. However, the Health Authority considers it cannot justify replacing Fairmile with the Prospect Park site since this would mean the latter remaining empty for



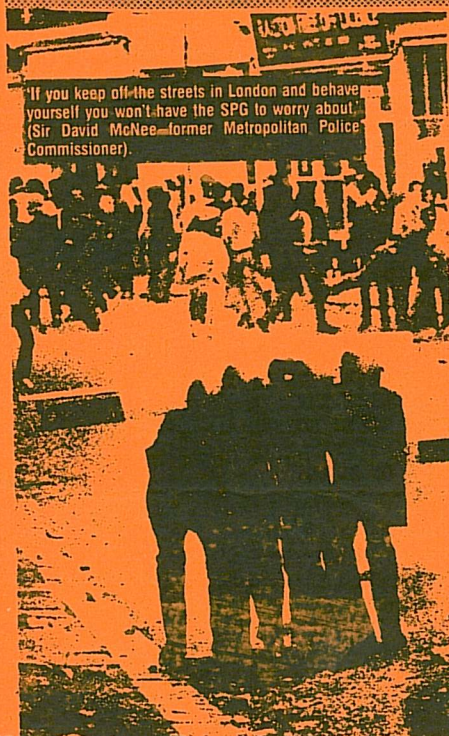
SAVE PROSPECT PARK

some years. The need to replace Fairmile is not considered sufficiently important to displace other projects and consequently Prospect Park is to be sold.

The Community Health Council have been invited to comment on the proposal by 25 February 1987.

The CHC will be holding a public meeting at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 20 Jan 1987 in the CHC offices at 10 Gun St.

For further information or a copy of the official consultation paper: CONTACT:CHC, 10 Gun Street, Reading Telephone:595678



PUBLIC ORDER BILL

FROM THE BEGINNING OF NEXT YEAR THE PUBLIC ORDER BILL WILL BECOME LAW. THE NEW LAWS WILL MAKE DEMONSTRATING WITHOUT POLICE PERMISSION A CRIMINAL OFFENCE SUBJECT TO A £400 FINE OR THREE MONTHS IN PRISON.

THE MARCH AGAINST THE PUBLIC ORDER BILL WILL START AT 12 AM FROM CLOCK TOWER PLACE, LONDON N7 (CALEDONIAN RD TUBE) ON 3 JANUARY 1987

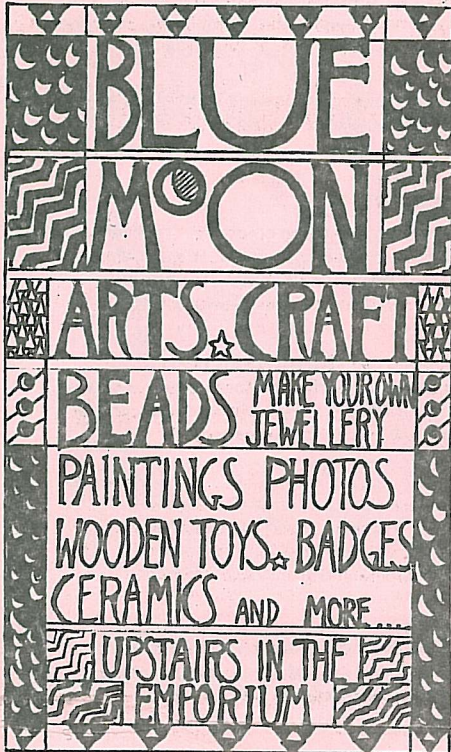
IF THERE IS ONE DEMONSTRATION YOU GO ON NEXT YEAR MAKE IT THIS ONE



# JOBCLUB

## GET A JOB OR ELSE

The more successful Jobclub is seen to be, the more it will feature in the second phase of measures to hassle the long-term unemployed (perhaps including people who have been signing on for a mere 6 months). This means that April 1987 could see thousands of people being put through weeks of



The Nazis used to say 'Arbeit macht frei'.. Work makes you free. There's little difference between this and the 'JobClub'- one of the eight options for people who have been signing on for a year or more.

These options are forced on you by the Job Centre when you go there for a compulsory Restart interview. Oh, there is a 9th option - the one the government wants you to take- and that's not turning up. Your benefit will then be suspended immediately. Yep, NO MONEY.

So, Jobclub- and the seven other options aren't really choices. Jobclub is especially dodgy;

\*It offers free phones, office equipment, stationery and stamps to 'members', which they use to chase up TEN job leads per day.

\*There's no room in it for people who don't really want 40 Hour/week wage slavery as a way of life.

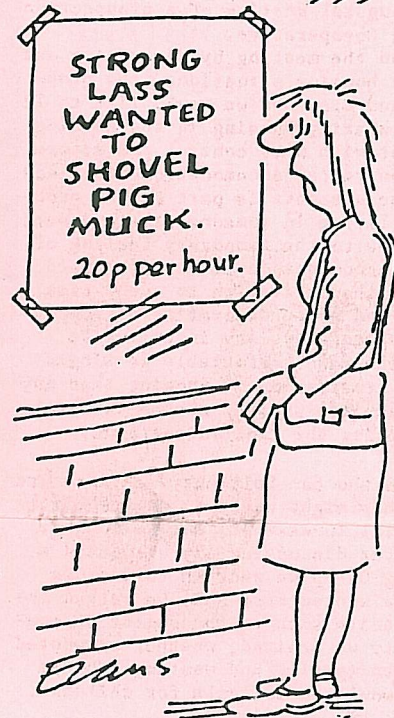
\*It uses crude but powerful group pressure to make you feel useless if you don't get a job when someone else in your Jobclub does. Lucky winners get 3 foot by 2 foot congratulations notices about them on the wall.

\*You're expected to make applications until you do get a job: for someone with few qualifications this means phoning up anyone who wants a toilet attendant until you're hired as such at a crappy wage.

\*Many of the much advertised resources-free stamps, stationery, help with applications are available through the weekly 'drop-in' sessions attached to the one-week 'Restart course' (one of the eight options). If you do want this sort of help, it's available in a much less fascist, much less guilt-tripping format.

If you go on Jobclub and get a job- bully for you- if that's what you want. But every 'success' for Jobclub boosts the statistics and makes it more likely that more Jobclubs -Group Therapy by Thatcherite careerists- will be set up. Indeed, last week the TVS 'employment action line' revealed that the target is 1000 Jobclubs by June 1987 ie. by the General Election...

### J(O)B C E N T R E



hell on a Jobclub, desperately applying for jobs which just are not there in our present economic state. So, they either take shitty jobs which pay less than the dole, or they stand a fair chance of feeling completely worthless by the end of it. Sounds awful? Sounds just like what the Manpower Services Commission, Jobcentres and Government want from Jobclub and similar measures.

REFUSE JOBCLUB. If you want dole, not work, at the Restart interview say you're fully available for work but need to make a few decisions.

INSIST ON GOING ON THE RESTART COURSE ( only one week long)

Billy Whizz

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