Primary Social Sources

The Underground and Alternative Press in Britain during 1996

A guide to accompany the microfilm collection



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THE UNDERGROUND AND ALTERNATIVE PRESS IN BRITAIN DURING 1996

A guide to accompany the Primary Source Media microfilm collection

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THE UNDERGROUND AND ALTERNATIVE PRESS IN BRITAIN DURING 1996

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Primary Source Media Ltd 50 Milford Road Reading Berkshire RG1 8LJ England Primary Source Media Inc. 12 Lunar Drive Woodbridge Connecticut 06525 U.S.A.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The Underground and Alternative Press in Britain during 1996 contains material issued during 1996. Back issues needed to complete files are included where possible.

The Participating Groups and their Publications section consists of an alphabetical listing with addresses and descriptions of all groups whose publications are included in this update of the collection. The material printed by each group is listed and filmed chronologically by date of publication or issue number. In order to clarify the status of some groups, we have provided the necessary information here.

The following are no longer published:

Insight Network

The following publications were not available for inclusion in this update:

Achilles Heel

Bad Attitude

Communes Network material: *Diggers and Dreamers* is published every 2 years; the next issue for 1998/99 will be published in autumn 1997

Open Eye Rouge Spirit of the Age Trouble and Strife Turning Point

The following are new inclusions:

Autotoxicity/Communist Headache
The Big Issue
Eco-Vegan
Ethical Consumer Magazine
GenEthics News
Green Events
Green World
SchNEWS, the weekly Direct Action Newsletter
Variant

PARTICIPATING GROUPS AND

THEIR PUBLICATIONS

This list shows all the groups participating in the 1996 update of *The Underground and Alternative Press in Britain*. The year each group formed appears in parentheses (). The year each group began participating in the collection is noted at the end of each description in brackets []. Groups participating for the first time are denoted by an asterisk [*] at the end of the description.

Anarchist Lancaster Bomber (1992-continuing)

Anarchist Lancaster Bomber, BM 1715, London WC1N 3XX

Anarchist Lancaster Bomber is an anarchist magazine produced in the Lancaster area since 1992. The name was chosen because it was obvious and crying out to be done. The title followed on from another anarchist magazine called *The Brighton Bomber*. The Anarchist Lancaster Bomber manifesto can be found in the first issue "Idiotorial" (a revised version of this appeared in issue 2). Other "Bomber" manifestos appear in issues 4 and 5. [1993]

Autotoxicity/Communist Headache (1996-continuing) ATX, P.O. Box 298, Sheffield S10 1YU

Autotoxicity emerged from the Communist Headache publication to cover cultural aspects that were absent in left communist politics. It focuses primarily on music, t.v., literature and urban paraphernalia. It is currently developing a theory of cultural dynamics that takes from Marxism but avoids the stale academia of cultural studies. Its layout and presentation reflects a 'hands-on' 'reclaimed creativity' approach. [*]

Communist Headache exists as a non-sectarian publication produced by an individual with views that reflect the left communist milieu. Primarily it takes a reading of various other political magazines, discussions and real life events and gives me a chance to air my views. Initial concerns were community, work and the workplace, primitivism, the commodity system and the various flaws that appear in left politics. [*]

The Big Issue (1991-continuing)

Fleet House, 57-61 Clerkenwell Road, London EC1M 5NP

The Big Issue magazine is sold on the streets by homeless people and was set up in September 1991 by John Bird and Gordon Roddick as an alternative to begging. It now has over one million readers per week throughout the UK and four regional editions. [*]

Bypass (1994-continuing)

c/o Slab-O-Concrete, P.O. Box 148, Hove, West Sussex BN3 3DQ

"Bypass is a review magazine for zine producing, self-publishers, small press organisations, pamphleteers and outside agitators. Reading it connects you to a whole chunk of the independent, alternative and dissident 'underground'." (Issue 4). [1994]

Casablanca (1991-continuing)

31 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1R 0AT

Billed as a magazine of "High Culture, Low Punches", *Casablanca* features regular news and commentary on politics, social issues and the arts. "The Casablanca collective is a non-hierarchical, non-sexist coalition of individuals, interacting creatively in an oppression-free environment. Casablanca operates an equal opportunities policy and currently has on its payroll some of the most unemployable people in Britain." (Issue 5). [1992]

The Cornish Banner (1975-continuing)

C.N.P. Publications, Trelispen, Gorran, St. Austell, Cornwall

An Baner Kernewek/The Cornish Banner is the quarterly journal of the Cornish Nationalist Party, which works for the rights and interests of Cornwall, the Celtic region in the Southwest peninsula of Great Britain. The CNP aims to achieve regional status for Cornwall within Britain and within Europe. The party encourages the preservation of the Cornish identity, essentially Celtic and based on the surviving Cornish language, and works with ecological groups to conserve the environment. The magazine has features on current events and the political scene in Cornwall, plus the arts, sport, Cornish language and the customary sections devoted to readers' letters, book reviews and community affairs. Its readers are situated not just in Britain, but throughout the western hemisphere. [1987]

BM Heal, London WC1N 3XX

Eco-Vegan (E-V) is a small bimonthly publication that reports Animal & Earth Liberation Direct Action from around the World. E-V also encourages its readers to support activists imprisoned for Animal/Earth Liberation direct action. Because of its positive reporting of illegal direct action the police have attempted to close down E-V, accusing the E-V Editor of Incitement. However despite this attack on the Freedom of Speech, E-V continues to publish its news. [*]

Ethical Consumer Magazine (1989-continuing)

ECRA Publishing Ltd, Unit 21, 41 Old Birley Street, Manchester M15 5RF

Ethical Consumer Magazine exists to promote human rights, environmental sustainability and animal welfare and believes that ethical purchasers can address these issues. EC Magazine enables purchasers to assert their ethical values by providing information about the companies behind the brand names, the conditions under which products are made, and about the wider impacts of consumption. [*]

Everywoman (1985-continuing)

9 St Alban's Place, London N1 0NX

Everywoman was begun in March 1985 to provide a much needed alternative to the typical woman's magazine. It is a current affairs magazine which focuses on women in industry, politics and education. It promotes equal opportunities for women as a whole and tackles emotive issues such as women's status, working conditions and their role in today's society. It also provides a platform for women's writing and reviews a wide range of contemporary female authors. In its discussion of many serious and far-reaching issues, Everywoman provides a challenging and refreshing perspective that eradicates the stereotypical view of women presented throughout the media. [1987]

GenEthics News (1994-continuing)

22B St Kilda's Road, London N16 5BZ

GenEthics News is an independent bimonthly newsletter covering the ethical, social and environmental issues raised by genetics, from a critical perspective. Each issue has up to date reports on both political and scientific developments, plus provocative features on different aspects of the subject: food, animal welfare, ethics, privacy/genetic discrimination, eugenics etc. 'Totally indispensable in an increasingly important field' (John Vidal, environment editor, The Guardian). [*]

The Globe (1989-continuing)

Published by Red Cabbage Publishings, P.O. Box 519, Sheffield S11 8EQ

The North's Green Guide. Tackles environmental issues, providing a news service and contact point for environmental groups in the North of England. [1991]

Green Anarchist (1984-continuing)

BCM 1715, London WC1N 3XX

The biggest-selling explicitly anarchist paper in UK, Green Anarchist was founded in 1984 to bring together two strands of thought popular in the 1980s protest culture. The first is the Green philosophy concerned with environment, animal rights and opposition to all things nuclear. The second was the anarchism of punks politicised by groups like Crass and the Poison Girls, rejecting all authority, institutions and laws and advocating revolutionary direct action. As a result, it's much closer to the Animal Liberation Front than to the Green Party. Since 1994, Green Anarchist has been key to popularising anarcho-primitivism in the UK. Fredy Perlman and John Zerzan's anti-civilisation critique. It has been a formative influence on Earth First! and DIY culture and has made important interventions in anti-fascist politics. As the only publication in UK comprehensively listing direct actions by animal libbers and ecoteurs. Green Anarchist has been raided over sixty times by Special Branch since 1995. [1984]

Green Events (1996-continuing)

Ground Floor, 93 Fortess Road, London NW5 1AG

Promoting ways to live more consciously and sustainably on this fragile Earth. A monthly newsletter covering and listing alternative activities in the London and the South East. Calendar of events and directory for Environmental, Ecology, Human and Animal Rights, World Peace, Holistic, Human Potential and New Age activities, products and services. [*]

Green Line (March 1982-continuing)

P.O. Box 5, Lostwithiel, Cornwall PL22 0YT

"Green Line had grown from a desire within the Ecology party to see an independently edited and self-financed paper which would serve both the Eco party and the wider green movement with which it is allied." (Issue 1, March 1982). 15 years on, we're still bringing new ideas and campaigns to the attention of our readers, keeping them informed, and putting all the single issues together to provide a comprehensive and holistic green vision of a future society based upon sustainability and co-operation. [1992]

Green World (1993-continuing)

49 York Road, Aldershot, Hampshire GU11 3JQ

Green World is published by the Green Party and distributed to all its members as well as being sold at specialist shops and events. *Green World* aims to highlight environmental and animal rights causes as well as publicise the achievements of the Green Party. [*]

Head (1990-continuing)

BM Uplift, London WC1N 3XX

A fanzine style magazine, *Head* is published by a non-profit collective of "unemployed Heads who don't want to waste their lives in a dead-end system". *Head* seeks to promote "Freedom - Fun - Creativity - Open access for all Heads to get together". [1994]

Howl, Magazine of the Hunt Saboteurs Association (1980-continuing)

PO Box 2786, Brighton BN2 2AX

Magazine highlighting the movement against Bloodsports and animal cruelty. In early issues used quote from St. Francis of Assisi to describe their views "Not to hurt our humble brethren is our first duty to them, but to stop there is not enough. We have a higher mission - to be of service to them whenever they require it." [1991]

Outright Scotland material, including their newsletter *Shout* 58a Broughton Street, Edinburgh EH1 3SA

"Outright's long-term mission is to become an influential part of Scottish civil society with our rights enshrined in the Scottish Constitution.

There are many misunderstandings about what gay people want. Our task is to represent your needs across the whole range of institutions: law, church, civil and military, medical, employment, artistic, education, and in the family." [1995]

Private Eye (October 1961-continuing)

Mortimer House, 230-236 Lavender Hill, London SW11 1LE

Born in the satire boom of the early sixties, *Private Eye* is an independent journal of Anti-Establishment commentary and humour. *Private Eye's* savagely acidic political comment and investigation into areas deliberately neglected by Fleet Street, plus its involvement in high-profile litigation, meant that in the magazine's first 20 years the main distributors, W.H. Smith and John Menzies refused to handle it. *Private Eye* has sustained its infamous image through the impetus of its editors, Richard Ingrams and, since 1986, Ian Hislop (of *Have I got News for You*) and through uncompromising investigative journalism from key contributors such as International Socialist Paul Foot. [1972]

Rustic Rub (1993-continuing)

Woodman's Press, 14 Hillfield, Selby, North Yorkshire YO8 0ND

A very thorough poetry and arts publication which contains poems, interviews, art and listings. [1994]

SchNEWS (1995-continuing)

c/o On-the-Fiddle, P.O. Box 2600, Brighton, West Sussex BN2 2DX

SchNEWS is the weekly direct action newsheet written by activists rather than academics and out of touch journalists. It encourages people to get off their bums and change things and has covered everything from the Criminal Justice Act to Newbury to football to asylum seekers. It's free, has no advertising and no compromise and tries not to rant. [*]

Newsletter of the Society for Environmental Therapy 521 Foxhall Rd, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 8LW

The Society for Environmental Therapy is an international scientific society dedicated to promoting awareness of environmental causes of disease and low-technology, drug-free methods of disease prevention and treatment. [*]

Tears in the Fence (1984-continuing)

38 Hod View, Stourpaine, Nr. Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 8TN

Tears in the Fence is a magazine of poetry, fiction, reviews and articles. It has a conservation section which seeks to develop concepts of conservation and ecology. "There is a natural bond between all who care for our ecology and all who care for our language." (Neil Philip). [1991]

Variant (1984-continuing)

1A Shamrock Street, Glasgow G4 9JZ

Variant is a magazine of cross-currents in culture; this includes subjects as diverse as video, television and film, new art initiatives, performances, cultural and media studies, philosophy, critical thinking, popular culture and social movements. In its broadest sense, *Variant* aims to look at the function of art and ideas in contemporary society. [*]

Viz (1979-continuing)

Viz Comic, First Floor, 17 Portland Terrace, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE2 1QQ

The comic that once described itself as Britain's "shoddiest periodical" was set up in Newcastle in 1979 by two brothers, Chris and Simon Donald. Viz is aimed at an older audience and thrives on its irreverent, off-beat and often lavatorial humour. It has established a set of characters who appear regularly, whilst it also parodies popular features of other contemporary papers and magazines and provides satirical observations on current affairs. Initially, only 12 issues were produced over 6 years, but when Virgin became the publishers in 1985, Viz was produced on a bi-monthly basis. In 1987, John Brown bought the rights to the magazine and set up his own publishing company to publish Viz and other magazines, the Donald Brothers still edit and produce the comic, with several assistants. From its small beginnings, Viz has become widely read throughout the country. [1987]

When Saturday Comes (1987-continuing)

Fourth Floor, 2 Pear Tree Court, London EC1R 0DS

When Saturday Comes has developed from a photocopied fanzine to being Britain's best selling independent football monthly. Its

objective is to treat the serious and not so serious aspects of the game in both a critical and humorous manner. The magazine aims to counterbalance the popular media attitudes to the game which are often characterised by patronising and sensationalist reporting. It is the voice of the average football fan and hopes to provide a more positive forum for fans' experiences. From humour, delight, disappointment to, following the Hillsborough disaster in April 1989, despair.

If you want to read the definitive article on anything from Subbuteo to life in the Beazers Home League; or from the current progress of women's football to the merits of all seater stadiums, look no further. [1988]

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