

MINUTES of Red Rag Collective meeting Sunday 13th March

Present were: Chris(tine), Chris(topher), Cliff, Kevin, Luke, Clive, Liz, Nick, James, Jez, Steve Tame, Ali.

Distribution: ~~xxx~~ Fruits of Clive's labours on the mailing list should appear soon. Kevin to be initiated into updating the computer (to make Chris' expertise dispensable). (Both have happened! JM)

Residents' & Community Assocs: List provided by Lesley. James to produce a letter encouraging them to use and take the Rag. (But this hasn't happened yet - JM)

Outlets: Several new ones found in Cemetery Junction, Newtown, Wokingham Rd, Erleigh Rd, Whitley St (mainly by James). (NB most of these don't want to be listed in the Rag). Everyone exhorted to ask their local news- shops & take-aways if they'd take some, or ask for a copy to make them want to take some.

Money: Financial situation apparently healthy, tho' Sue wasn't there so no details. Jumble sale raised £58, to be split with Peace Week. Chris suggested a fixed reserve be kept each issue; production groups should at any rate keep long term financial considerations in mind... People who spend lots of money on e.g. photo-reduction should ask for it back; Lesley asks for money for sending the postals as and when she wants to.

May Day (i.e. 30 April): Theme this year is Democratic Liberties or Defence of Unions or Unemployment or, anyway we supposed we want a stall. They're £7.50: suggestion that in return for spare jumble and free publicity and helping distribute draw tickets we ought to get one free. Chris seemed to think she could swing it.

Cartoons: criticisms of recent 'WIMP's plus appeal for better in future.

Eco Action Projects: Suggestion from Steve of Reading FoE that Red Rag as a "community newspaper" could be a model for these. Whatever they are!

Production teams: are somewhat fluid at the moment. An ad hoc team for the next issue; then team 2, then team 1, then another scratch effort for "May Day" to get it out a day early. Quite a few people not firmly attached to a production group but producing none the less.

Paxford: Account of inconclusive attempts by "er, Mr Jones" to contact the Collective about front page of the current issue. The importance of being a cave. Reminder that the Rag is "printed by members of the Red Rag Collective". Addresses of collective members should not be printed in issues with anything very contentious without asking of their mind.

Next meeting: Sunday April 30<sup>th</sup>, 4pm, 24 Norwood Road.

James