IN THIS MONTH’S ISSUE (#47):
- We have news from Australia, Canada, Mexico, Greece, Finland, India, Papua New Guinea and South Africa.
- A new workers solidarity network is forming in Australia - find out more inside.
- Save the climate: burn down capitalism. Some lost children look for real solutions to climate damage and for a true liberation.
- Kronstadt Hangar in France sees some action around breaking down borders; we received a passionate and personal account from our very own UK correspondent.
- We have reviews from the Dead Prez show in Sydney and the 925 workers poetry anthology.

UPCOMING EVENTS:
Jura Books :: 440 Parramatta Rd, Petersham
Feb 27th, 7:30pm: Little lungs (USA) punk show

Black Rose :: 22 Enmore rd, Newtown
Sun 21st February, 2pm: Black and Re(a)d reading group: Border control and resistance
Sun 28th Feb, 7pm: How to Shoot an Elephant - activist doco from Gaza during Operation Cast Lead

Red Rattler :: 6 Faversham St, Marrickville
Sun 28th Feb, 1pm: Little Lungs; Conation; Alphabet Snakes; Thylacine - All Ages
Friday 12th March, 7:30pm: Barons of Tang + Rumpunch + Darth Vagas

Sheila Autonomista festival 2010 ::
Wednesday March 31st - Tuesday April 5th
As this year marks a decade since the release of Dead Prez’s first album, Let’s Get Free—the militant US Hip-Hop duo’s first visit to Sydney last month was well overdue.

At the Street University in Liverpool on the afternoon of their Sydney show, I was hanging out with someone who was almost as nervous about meeting Stic.man and M-1 as she was about saying hi to her high school teacher who introduced her to Dead Prez a few years ago. Her teacher was standing across the room, looking pretty cool in an EZLN t-shirt. To me, this encapsulated something I could totally relate to. We all look up to and respect people in our lives that first invited us to engage with revolutionary politics, those who continue to suggest places to think about our class condition. Stic.man and M-1 (Dead Prez) have been pretty key for many of us who agree that a revolution is a matter of urgency. And, hell yeah it feels good to hear subversive content rhymed with sweet solid beats! Acknowledging these roles also means acknowledging that they come with great expectations, and seeing Dead Prez perform for the first time was kinda daunting in that way, I didn’t want to be disappointed but I knew I’d be uber-critical of everything that they would say.

Stic-man and M-1 took questions from the crowd at the Street University (Radical MCs on tour are often invited to the Street Uni, it’s a great space with seemingly solid community-building politics). It was a mix of mostly kids from around the area and MCs who are active around the Sydney Hip-Hop scene. People were interested in how the duo negotiates their roles as activists and rappers, how they see commercial hip-hop, creative production and the current political climate in the USA. The hour of chatting was fluid and rich. The MCs asked why it was that no women had taken the mic to ask a question, and made it clear that a revolutionary project must be global.

Down at the Gaelic Club a little later on, the Last Kinection supported the show. This trio are black and fierce. Their version of “Still call Australia home” (they change the lyrics) rippled goosebumps across the audience. A timely couple of days before Invasion Day, the song thunders with the strength, resistance and survival of Aboriginal Peoples’ for over 200 years. Also it was cool to see this young Aboriginal trio open for Dead Prez. During Dead Prez’ set one of the blokes involved with Tribal Warrior, a project that is run by Aboriginal people out of Redfern, was invited up on stage.

What had the opportunity to be a spirited performance of radical politics began to air some clichés, both in the misogynistic gesticulations of crotch grabbing references to bitches and babes, and also in the overstated (but somewhat enjoyable) references to hating cops. It really did kill the vibe when stic.man started ranting on about how he likes skinny waists and long legs… as much as I reckon articulating sexual desires is important, but that (oh-so-typical) non-consensual and generalized objectification of women’s bodies definitely ain’t gonna help along any revolutionary process that is anti-patriarchal. Neither is privileging the memory of many black male revolutionaries and ignoring the countless vocal anti-racist women organizers and writers (They mentioned Assata Shakur, after a series of male revo’s). And all my comrades is ready, we just spreadin the seed

“A way of life based off the common need,
And all my comrades is ready, we just spreadin the seed”

– We want freedom

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Brief News

AUSTRALIA - NT
Ampilatwatja walk-off: A house being built at a protest camp against the NT Intervention has been completed. Alyawarr people from Ampilatwatja walked off their community in July 2009, to get away from the discriminatory controls of the NT Intervention and the raw sewage that was flowing on their streets.

Trade unions have supported the walk-off. Volunteers from the CFMEU, AMWU, AWU, LHMYJ and Unions NT have helped build the house, with donated materials.

The $680 million Intervention housing program (SIHIP) has only just completed two houses in the Wadeye community, who were forced to sign a 99-year lease. Unionists and local Alyawarr workers will build one in two weeks. Despite chronic overcrowding, SIHIP is offering no new houses for Ampilatwatja.

Richard Downs, a spokesman for the Alyawarr said that “Through this Intervention and the new hub towns policy the government is leaving us to rot. This opening will send a strong message that we are here to stay. We must unite, draw a line and say the racism and discrimination must stop.”

Macklin’s new laws will do nothing to stop the suffering at Ampilatwatja. Only one rubbish collection has been done in Ampilatwatja for the past two months. People are being forced to work for the local Shire for their Basics Card. Income Management will remain compulsory for most people. In Alice Springs, the new people brought onto the system will overwhelmingly be Aboriginal.

The house is a symbol of solidarity with the fight against racism and shows what could be possible if communities were empowered and properly resourced. From Stop the Intervention Collective Sydney - stoptheintervention.org

CANADA

Anti-Olympic Resistance in Vancouver, Unceded Coast Salish Territories. Over the past three years, the Olympic Resistance Network has coordinated anti-Olympics efforts in Vancouver and across the country. Due to a growing and vibrant movement to oppose the Olympic Games, VANOC and government officials are no longer able to host large public Olympic events in Vancouver without being shamed.

During the RBC and Coca-Cola sponsored Olympic Torch relay, protesters in over thirty cities, towns, and Indigenous communities brought forward their message of “No Olympics on Stolen Native Land”, “Get your torch off our land, we don’t want your Olympic scam” and “2010 Homes not 2010 Games”. In many instances, activists successfully disrupted the Torch Relay, forcing delays and route cancellations, with at least thirteen arrests.

The Olympic Resistance Network notes: “While Olympic corporate sponsors are getting bailed out, Indigenous lands are being stolen, people are becoming homeless, thousands are losing their jobs and access to public services, the environment is being destroyed, and civil liberties are being eroded with almost a billion dollars sunk into surveillance. This negative Olympic legacy is turning into a growing anti-Olympic legacy.
of resistance across the country."

**CHIAPAS, MEXICO**
The indigenous community of Laguna San Pedro, in the autonomous Zapatista municipality of Ricardo Flores Magon, was evicted and their houses burnt down by Mexican government forces on 22nd January. Residents were forcibly evicted by helicopters, and transferred to the city of Palenque, where they endured “hunger and cold” in insufficient shelters before being assisted by independent organizations. The government’s explicit intention is to “reforest” the area and establish private ecotourism centres in the Montes Azules, within the area of the biosphere reserve. Following the eviction, the state government announced that in coming days they were going to evict the population of six more villages, including 6 de Octubre, another Zapatista community, as well as Nuevo San Gregorio, Rancheria Corozal and Salvador Allende, among others.

**GREECE**
Athens, 6th February: A racist demo against immigration, called by the Secret Services-controlled pro-junta weekly paper Stohos, various ultra-Orthodox Christian groups as well as other fascist groups was thwarted by a massive counter-demo of anarchists and antifascists.
The fascists planned to start their march from the academic asylum of Propylea - the place where all leftist and anarchist protests start, and an important symbol. The provocation prompted an occupation of the Rectorial Headquarters of Athens University, behind the Propylea. In its announcement the assembly formed in the building declared: “Today, 5th of February, anarchists, anti-authoritarians and anti-fascists chose to keep the university administration building at Propylea open, as a space of mutual coordination and struggle. Our aim is the molding of ideas and counter-information ahead of tomorrow’s anti-fascist gathering... [a] gathering juxtaposing the solidarity of the oppressed to the statist and para-statist pogroms against migrants. We stand hostile against institutionalised racism, as expressed via the citizenship bill, as well as those who with their misanthropic calls aim for the physical extermination of the migrants.
As the state targets spaces of resistance overall, the fascists attempt to invade a space which has come, through tough struggles, to belong to the world of freedom and resistance. We do not intend to surrender a single square meter to the state and its para-statists.”

By Saturday noon the anti-fascist counter-demo was numbering almost 2,000. With such an overwhelming presence, the fascists did not dare appear in Propylea but rather opted to move their bigotry to their usual gathering place, besides the Old Parliament, in Kolokotronis Square.
In a clear response to the fascist main anti-immigration slogan “You do not become a greek - you are born a greek”, the main banner of the counter-demo was “You are not born a wanker [malakas], you become a wanker”.

**FINLAND**
More than half of Finland’s economy was

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**Leftover thoughts on Punk and Anarchy**
*A response to Leftover Crack review from Mutiny Zine issue #45*

I remember once reading in a mainstream newspaper a number of years ago an article about Björk. It said that if Radiohead were musicians pretending to artists, then Björk is an artist pretending to be a musician. As far as punk bands go, Crass were anarchists pretending to be punk, and Leftover Crack are a punk band pretending to be anarchists.

I think it is a mistake to look at punk bands for an anarchists perspective. Punk is basically about high energy and antagonism. Leftover Crack’s album – “Fuck World Trade” starts off by announcing that they’ve come straight out of rehab, they take credit for the Columbine school massacre and the fall of the twin towers. The first song attacks the the easy target of popular music, the second song discourages childbirth. The following songs discuss fictitious plans to burn prisons and assassinate magistrates, celebrate 911 and mention more fictitious pans to save up money to bomb the stock exchange. Then there are some songs about how miserable life is and how suicide is a great idea. They attack Christians and promote the idea that kids should kill other kids and teachers at school, get a drug habit and hop trains.

Another song about the ills of the world trade machinery and USA foreign policy and recalling state violence against activists in past decades. The album finishes off with an instrumental that is long enough to allow the listener to read a diatribe summary explaining why world trade is bad.

Leftover Crack may be more intelligent than earlier bands by some of the same members The Exploited or Chaotic Discord, but don’t listen to them with hope that you’ll be hearing Noam Chomsky style intelligent engagements.

With a few exceptions – Punk bands are not anarchists... even if they resemble something similar. ‘Nihilists’ would be a better description of many punk bands. If I went to see Leftover Crack... I’m not going to expect a non-violent and sensitive musical display by anarchist intellectuals – rather I’ll expect a drug and alcohol fueled, visual and audible nihilist assault.

Listen to Crass for anarchism. Listen to Chaotic Discord for chaos. Listen to Leftover Crack for a messy-medium somewhere in-between.

*by Dank Jimmy Exile*
brought to a standstill on Tuesday 2 February by a wildcat strike by 1000 stevedores in seven ports. About half of all goods transported in Finland pass through the ports of Helsinki and Kotka, the ports affected by Tuesday’s strikes include Turku, Uusikaupunki, Hanko, Kokkola and Naantali. 

INDIA
On Friday, January 29, 16 year old Zahid Farooq was killed when a tear gas canister fired by Indian Police struck him in the head. Police said 35 security officers and 15 protesters were injured in Wednesday’s clashes. Protests have been held in Kashmir, Srinagar, and stone-throwing forces over Farooq’s death have spread to other towns in the region, including Shoggap, Pulwama and Baramulla.

SOUTH AFRICA
On the 20th of January, at the Two Rivers and Bokoni Platinum Mines (Lyndenburg, Mpumalanga province), about 150 workers went on strike, demanding their overtime payments, which had not been paid for December, and they wanted a racist manager to be fired. The occupations, which were organised by the Independent Workers Union of South Africa, were launched independently of the workers’ unions, in an attempt to avoid the police’s forced evictions. The miners met with police on Wednesday, February 3, 2021, and were shot and killed, with some reports suggesting that as many as 18 people were killed. The deaths have sparked further protests and demonstrations across South Africa, with many calling for an end to police violence and human rights abuses.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA
PNG Police evicted families at gunpoint and burned down approximately 300 homes of people in the Porgera Gold Mine area. Many residents reported that they had no time to leave the mining area under an agreement that was signed in 2019. The Porgera Joint Venture, which is 35% owned by the Porgera Gold Mine, and 35% owned by Barrick Gold Corporation, is facing ongoing human rights abuses.

CAPITALISM & THE ENVIRONMENT
Capital constantly searches for new ways to increase productivity by intensifying the workday and by exploiting the environment. This not only means consuming the environment, but also consuming the workers, as they are the only thing that can increase productivity. The problem is not humanity’s relationship with ecology, but rather humanity’s relationship with itself. Our minds and bodies are not separate from the world, but are interconnected. We need to find ways to live in harmony with the natural world and find new ways to live a dignified and just life.

ECONOMIC THEORIES
In post-1970’s Australia, we have been offered a high credit, high consumption, high work deal - one based on the economic theories often referred to as neoliberalism. This toxic, tedious lifestyle has reaped a host of problems, including environmental degradation, social inequality, and economic instability. The result is a society that is increasingly divided and disconnected from the natural world.

POLITICAL ACTION
Political action is required - but not as we know it. It takes the collective practice of coming together, critiquing the existing social order and envisioning other possibilities. It takes the power of the people to change the world and create a future that is truly sustainable. Let’s create Communism!

- By some last children of the metropolis!
Want to stop Global Warming?

Burn down Capitalism!

They tell us, “everyone must do their part,” if we want to save our beautiful model of civilization. We have to consume a little less in order to produce organically in order to go on consuming. This is the logic of world-historical reification. This is how they would like us to participate in the great industrial changes of this century. And all we have to do is ask ourselves who are the very same ones who will get us out of it - The Invisible Committee

The most important thing about Copenhagen was this: in the end, we were not even allowed to demand buying, except in the form that has been institutionalized by the current global climate system. The debate about emissions targets, forms of cap-and-trade, renewable technology, industrial destruction is a direct by-product of capitalism’s endless drive to accumulate more value. Capital the be-all and end-all that finds its form in money, for surplus value, profit. This kernel of Capital’s rationality, which finds its form in the idea of destruction, is massively transformed the world and its people. All other forms of society have been demolished and incorporated, all forms of natural abundance and human creativity creating alternate worlds and means of social relations.

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Energy plays a key role in this, as it does in any union, political party, group or ideology. We do not have any interest in seeking office within trade unions or engaging in political lobbying or parliamentary activity. We communicate by email, mobile phone, printed material and by face to face contacts. We do not belong to any union, political party, group or ideology. We do not have any interest in seeking office within trade unions or engaging in political lobbying or parliamentary activity. We communicate by email, mobile phone, printed material and by face to face contacts. We do not belong to any union, political party, group or ideology. We do not have any interest in seeking office within trade unions or engaging in political lobbying or parliamentary activity. We communicate by email, mobile phone, printed material and by face to face contacts.
the border, working together, were able to overcome a police barrier was a really incredible moment. And, most of all, it was actual direct action that achieved something practical. About 100 people had somewhere to sleep that night (the night shelter was closed), and people got to hang out and drink tea and talk and sleep in past 10am – if only for one night.

The next day police reinforced the border – now it was made up of tooled-up riot cops and vans parked across the road - and wouldn’t let anyone in except journalists and residents. They did let people out and many people without papers left to go to get lunch. I, stupidly, left to get toilet paper, and got stuck outside (and threw the toilet paper across cop lines.) So I got stuck outside and could only watch while a cop pepper-sprayed a teenage migrant who was trying to peer past a van down the street; and then watch more riot police vans than could actually fit in the street drive in and disembark so many riot cops they only just fit in the street. The cops parked buses to block sight of the hanger door from outside the cordon, and they also stopped letting media through the cordon.

My friend who was inside said there were about a dozen activists with papers and about 30 or 40 without papers inside. The police said they would let people leave. The people without papers chose to leave, but a few said that they wanted to stay in solidarity with the other activists, who had to work very hard to convince them to leave, with the knowledge that the consequences would probably be far more severe anyone without papers. Then the police smashed through the glass door and pushed the people inside up against the wall while they ransacked the place looking for migrants, then bundled them into vans and took them to the police station. Which was just down the block.

Everyone was released after having their details taken. Access to the hanger was barred to everyone after that, though we were allowed in briefly to collect our stuff later that evening.

On Monday I showed my passport and hopped on the ferry, and after an hour and a half spent sitting around drinking beer and eating cheese, I was in the UK. This is the border that all the people we’d met had put their lives on hold and risked their lives trying to cross. So, yeah, things are fucking unfair.

People continue to gather in Calais to try to cross the border, and to come to show solidarity with those trying to cross. There are various legal things going on at the moment about getting the building back, because it’s a rented space, and about the legality of the raid. For more information see http://calaisimigrantsolidarity.wordpress.com/
Kronstadt Hangar - Sans Papiers

Calais is the major port between mainland Europe and the UK and it’s a major bottleneck for migrants without papers (Sans-papiers) who’ve made it all the way to Europe from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Sudan or wherever else and are trying to get to the UK. There used to be a Red Cross-run shelter, but it was shut down a few years ago when the British government put pressure on the French government to shut it down because they saw it as encouraging migrants to come to the UK “illegally.”

So at the moment there are about 350 people sleeping rough around Calais - either in squats, in camps, or in the streets. They are regularly arrested and often beaten by police (with or without also being arrested), and their self-organized spaces are targeted and destroyed. One of the main jungles - a camp that had corner shops, a mosque, etc, all built in the woods in an industrial area - was “cleared” a few months ago. Just before the recent cold snap police went through one of the main squats, known as Africa House, arrested everyone and held them for a few hours while they went through the building and took all of the blankets, all of the cooking stuff, everything.

The local government is obliged under French law to provide shelter for people if the temperature drops below zero for a certain number of days, so there’s a gymnasium that has been opened and closed over the past couple of weeks. However many people choose not to sleep there – partly out of fear of police, partly because it’s just a hall for sleeping in and doesn’t offer any of the autonomy that some of the other spaces, as precarious as they are, offer.

No Borders, in collaboration with a French group called SOS Sans-papiers, rented a warehouse in Calais, and called for people to come and help turn it into an open space. The plan was to open it as a horizontally organized space for Sans-papiers and people with papers to meet and work and organize together and have classes and so on, and also just to be a place for people to be during the day (the night-shelter, even when it’s open, kicks everyone out at 10am and the days are bloody cold too.) It was never really decided whether anyone from No Borders was going to tell anyone to leave if they wanted to stay.

This plan had got a lot of press before it was even open and was politically attacked - various arms of the British and French states said they couldn’t tolerate the opening of a “new Sangatte” (Sangatte being the Red Cross-run shelter that was shut down a few years ago). Despite this, the police did not make their lives difficult for the people who worked on the building, and everyone who was involved in pushing through it and everyone who worked at the warehouse and turned it into an open space participated freely and contributed to the process of making it happen.

After this the police made their lines surrounding the building more solid and everyone who came to help - volunteers from broken homes, a group of former police officers, and others - managed to push the police inside and then around the place, and the building, and the police and everyone who was involved in the process of turning it into an open space.

The fact that people from both sides of