

**NOT** the bulletin

**of the Kate Sharpley Library**  
**No.1 April 2020**  
**Stay safe, comrades**

**Welcome!** We can't do a bulletin at the moment but just wanted to send out our best wishes. Don't let the microbes or any other enemies of free humanity grind you down.

## **New research: The 1945 split in British anarchism**

We've just put a long piece of research up on our wiki (since it's the sort of thing that may never be 'finished'). 'This chronology is an attempt to get us as close as we can to the sequence of events that led to the 1945 split within the ranks of those British anarchists centered in or around the Anarchist Federation (AF).'

Read the preamble and Chronology at:

<http://katesharpleylibrary.pbworks.com/w/page/139511268/The%201945%20split%20in%20British%20anarchism>

## **New pieces on the Kate Sharpley Library website**

**Prisoner 155: Simón Radowitzky by Agustín Comotto [Book review] by Richard Warren**

'As you sit out your pandemic isolation, pondering on the glaring inefficiencies of the state, the potential of local mutual aid, and the shape of the future, you could do worse than take a bit of inspiration from this impressive tale of one man's resistance, modesty and commitment to justice.'

<https://www.katesharpleylibrary.net/0k6fp1>

**The Life and Universe of anarchist Octavio Alberola [book review] by Xavier Montanyà**

'The use of violence and its shortcomings represent one of the many intriguing topics pondered in this book. Back in Aragon, his father had been against the needless violence of the more radical members of the Durruti Column. His lesson was very clear: "The revolution is not there to wreak vengeance but to set an example." Years later Octavio, together with the young libertarians who reactivated the armed struggle against Franco in the 1960s from within Defensa Interior or The First of May Group, would be very clear about their rejection of violence against the person, except in the case of Franco whose life they would attempt on several occasions.'

<https://www.katesharpleylibrary.net/59zxfn>

**In Memoriam: May 1, U.S.A. [1944]**

'The Communists did to May Day what they did to every other decent working class institution: they exploited it for the sole benefit of the Soviet Union. It is time that we all started anew to build the type of world that the original May Firsters attempted to inaugurate; a world without economic, social or political classes. A truly classless society!' <https://www.katesharpleylibrary.net/n8pmp6>

**Tribunals and Political Objectors by Vernon Richards**

This includes a long extract Albert Meltzer's statement to the tribunal who were about to reject his conscientious objection

'As a believer in anarchism, I want to see a world in which violence, the organised violence of State and warfare, is abolished, and I would only use violence in defence of the revolution. Today I have no desire other than to live in peace: I believe in the old French slogan, "War to the palaces, peace to the cottages." Even if you made me take up arms, you still could not make me alter that policy.'

<https://www.katesharpleylibrary.net/hx3gzf>

## Ebooks

### Christiebooks

Stuart Christie has a very large selection of electronic books

<https://christiebooks.co.uk/product-category/ebooks/>

### AK Press

Have a sale on of their ebook titles (\$1.99 for AK titles). This includes some of the books we have co-published with them:

<https://www.akpress.org/downloads.html>

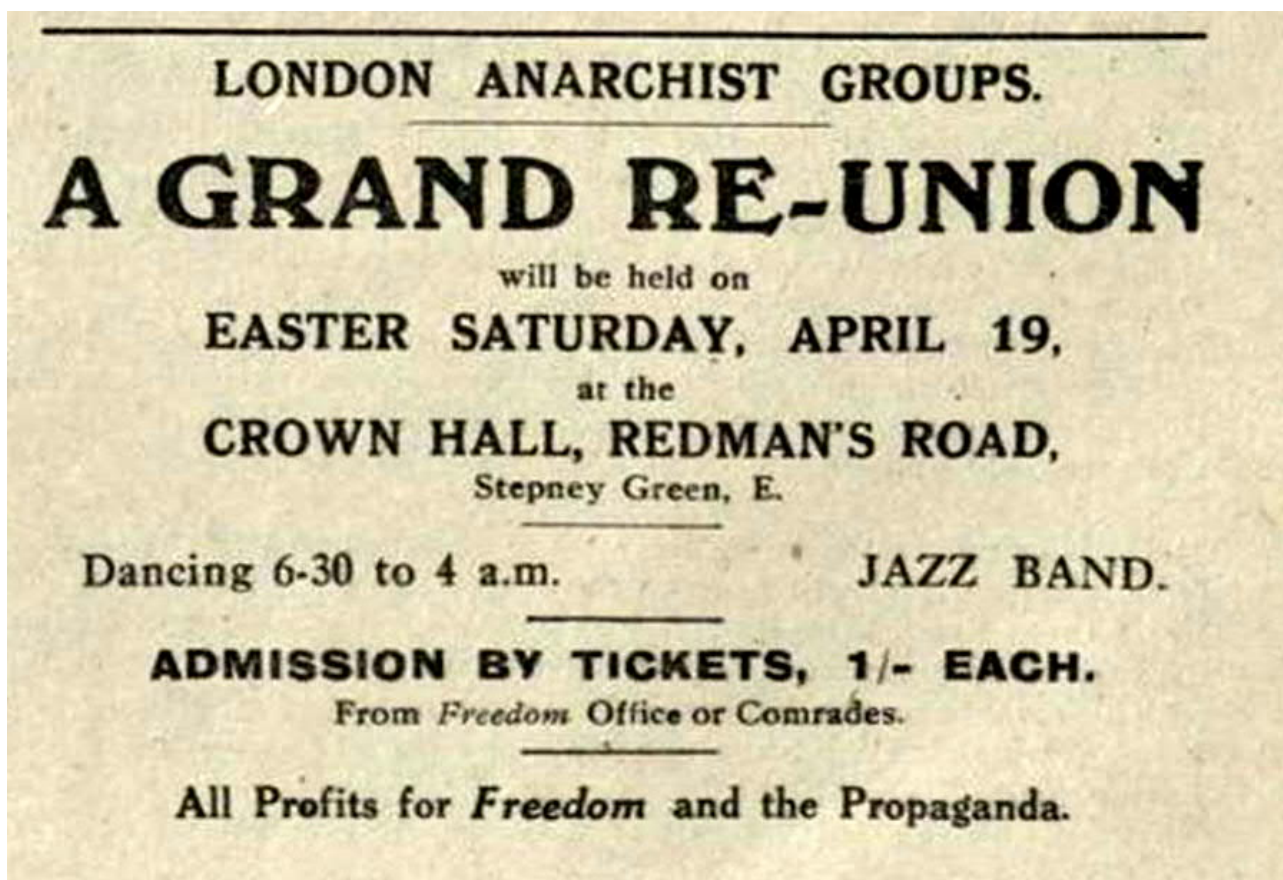
## Tyneside Anarchist Archive get interviewed

“The account of the Chopwell anarchists and their laying of anarchist literature for sale on the grass at the annual Durham Miners Gala in 1913 brings back vivid personal memories from the late 1980’s. This is our history, and this is the purpose of our history, this is our culture, a culture of resistance to the state and its enforced fallacies of indoctrination, control and coercion. And hopefully, this is our future, for the sake of our children or our children’s children, who we may hope can live a life without the destructive nature of capitalism, and a planet recovered from its devastating ravages.”

<https://tynesideanarchistarchive.wordpress.com/2020/04/05/interview/>

They have also provided us with a recording of Tom Brown being interviewed! More on that later.

## Bad days will end (101 years ago)



This comes from the April 1919 issue of *Freedom*, advertising The London Anarchist Groups' Grand Re-Union. Note the jazz band, and the promise that the dancing will go on until 4AM!

<https://freedomnews.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Freedom-1919-04.pdf>

Kate Sharpley Library, April 2020. Visit [www.katesharpleylibrary.net](http://www.katesharpleylibrary.net) – plenty to read on there.