

Summer 2005 newsletter

unite against fascism



Unite against the bombings and unite to stop the BNP

A week on from the bombings our thoughts remain with everyone who was injured, or lost loved ones. We must remain united and stand side by side against the attacks on us.

The reception that Iqbal Sacranie, Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Britain, received at the Trafalgar Square vigil, showed how we are also united against the attacks on Muslims and other ethnic minority communities, who have been targeted since 07 July.

Since the terrorist attacks a small minority has been using these appalling events to stir up hatred and target various ethnic and faith communities, particularly the Muslim community. There have been over 300 incidents reported by the police including the murder of a Pakistani man in Nottingham on Sunday, attacks on mosques in Tower Hamlets, Merton, Telford, Leeds, Bristol, Gloucester and Birkenhead; on a Sikh Temple in Kent, and on the Pakistan Consulate in Bradford.

As Ken Livingstone said "we must remember that those terrorist

attacks were not aimed at the mighty and powerful they were aimed at ordinary, working-class Londoners, black and white, Muslim and Christian, Hindu and Jew, young and old. It was an indiscriminate attempt to slaughter, irrespective of any considerations for age, for class, for religion, or whatever."

'the BNP failed in their attempt to exploit the bombings'

The bombings have also been used by extreme right organisations to whip up racism and stir up hatred. Less than 48 hours after the attacks the British National Party (BNP) used the bombings — including a picture of the wreckage of the exploded bus — in a leaflet distributed in the Becontree ward by-election in Barking. This was an insult to those killed and injured.

However the BNP failed in their attempt to exploit the bombings

to further their extreme political agenda, as voters in Becontree resoundingly rejected the BNP. The vast majority of people are appalled and disgusted with the BNP. UAF distributed a leaflet condemning the BNP for doing this and urged people to use their vote to stop the BNP. Labour won the seat with a massive 60% of the vote and the BNP came second with only 19%.

There is a reason why Londoners responded in a united way against the bombings and rejected the BNP in Becontree. Londoners say that one of the things they value most about London is its diversity and multiculturalism. Whereas in the whole of England and Wales, since 2000, racist attacks have increased by 9%, in London racist attacks have decreased by a staggering 34%.

We should remember that the previous terrorist attacks on London were carried out by nazi nail bomber David Copeland, a former BNP member.

It is crucial that we all stand united against the attacks on London and any attempts to divide our communities through vicious racism.

5 reasons to join Unite Against Fascism:

1. **Unite Against Fascism is a national campaign against fascist organisations like the British National Party and the National Front.**
2. **Since the bombings both the BNP, NF and other extreme right groups have been stirring up racism, division and hatred in our communities.**
3. **The BNP is attempting to make a major breakthrough into national politics. They received the highest ever vote for a fascist organisation at the general election and are now calling themselves "Britain's fourth party"**
4. **The BNP only just missed getting elected to the London Assembly and the European Parliament in 2004.**
5. **The BNP has 21 local councillors in Britain and racist attacks increase in the areas they target.**



unite against fascism

Please return this form to

Unite Against Fascism, PO Box 36871, London WC1X 9XT

Minimum membership fees

Standard £10 per year, **concessions** £3 per year

Organisations local £20, regional/national unfunded £40, national trade unions and other national organisations under 100,000 members £100, over 100,000 members £200

Name

Organisation

Address

Postcode

Phone

E-mail

I am paying by [please tick box]

- cheque for £10 (standard)
 cheque for higher amount [please specify amount]
 cheque for £3 (concessions)
 standing order

Make cheques payable to Unite Against Fascism

Signed **Date** __/__/__

Standing order mandate (please give as generously as you can)

Filling this out will enable us to set up a monthly standing order with your bank. Standing orders can be cancelled at any time simply by informing your bank.

I wish to pay Unite Against Fascism by standing order [please tick]
£2 £5 £10 £15 £20 £_____
per month

Monthly payments. First payment to be made on __/__/__

Bank name

Bank address

Bank postcode

Account holder's name

Account number Sort code __/__/__

Please pay HSBC Bank plc, King's Cross, 31 Euston Road, London NW1 2ST; account name Unite Against Fascism, sort code 40-04-07, account number 51336460, for the credit of Unite Against Fascism, the sum of the value indicated above

Signed **Date** __/__/__