

# ANTI-FASCIST ACTION

## A BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

1985 - 1997

### 1985

#### **Sunday 28th July 1985:**

Anti-Fascist Action formed as 250 attend conference at Conway Hall, London. Founding statement declares "We see the need to oppose racism and fascism, physically on the streets and ideologically". Fascists attempt to ambush stewards group at Kings Cross station and end-up fleeing the scene.

#### **Sunday 10th November 1985:**

100 AFA members take over NF assembly point for Remembrance day march at Bressendon Place, Victoria, London, causing them much confusion and embarrassment.

### 1986

#### **July 1986:**

AFA completely smashes NF march at Bury St. Edmunds. This leads directly to the fragmentation of the NF.

#### **Sunday 9th November 1986:**

AFA organises the biggest anti-fascist demonstration since the 1970's when 2,000 people march to the cenotaph and lay wreaths on behalf of past and present victims of fascism. Later a fascist bonehead colour-party are decimated by AFA stewards in a Kings Cross fast food restaurant.

### 1987

#### **Saturday 31st January 1987:**

Fascists who attack Bloody Sunday Demo in Sheffield are repulsed and then chased by AFA stewards. A number of stewards are arrested by police.

#### **Saturday 21st February 1987:**

AFA successfully disrupts NF (Flag Group) election meeting in Greenwich.

### 1988

#### **Tuesday 4th October 1988:**

Cable Street Beat organises it's first event, a sold-out gig at the Electric Ballroom, Camden to celebrate the Anniversary of the Battle of Cable St. *The Men They Couldn't Hang* headline. Speakers include a Cable St. veteran.

#### **Friday 11th November 1988:**

AFA stewards repel a fascist/loyalist attack on a TOM public meeting at Conway Hall, Central London, featuring Bernadette McAliskey. Leading members of the BNP leadership are hospitalised.

### 1989

#### **Saturday 21st January 1989:**

AFA organises a picket of Merc M, Ganton St, W1, which sells B&H merchandise. In the evening the Angelic Upstarts & Blaggers play a trouble-free CSB gig in the Sir George Robey, Finsbury Park.

#### **Saturday 27th May 1989:**

AFA smash B&H 'Main Event'. Cutdown bookshop attacked.

### 1990

#### **Saturday 21st April 1990:**

BNP contingent on the way to their election meeting at Weaver's Field School, Bethnal Green, East London, infiltrated and attacked by AFA members.

#### **Monday 18th September 1990:**

After a week-long trial at Wood Green Crown Court, London, 3 members of AFA are found guilty of violent disorder and grievous bodily harm with intent. They are jailed for a total of 11 years. The charges arose from an attack on a prominent fascist organiser, Nicci Crane after a Bloody Sunday commemoration in Kilburn.

#### **Sunday 5th October 1990:**

AFA take over BNP paper sale pitch at Brick Lane, E.London. BNP launch attack and four AFA members and three BNP are arrested and charged.

### 1991

#### **Saturday 25th May 1991:**

BNP announce intention to march in Thamesmead and counter-demonstration is called. Early in the day AFA clashes

with BM members in Abbey Arms pub, Abbey wood, and inflict a number of serious injuries. Later the organisers of the counter-demo break an agreement made with AFA and march away from BNP demo. AFA members manage to launch a small number of missiles into BNP march.  
In the evening, AFA members take over Kensington Library, W.London, booked for a fascist rally. A number of injuries are inflicted on fascists both inside and outside the hall. A number of anti-fascists are later arrested and serious charges follow.

**Sunday 8th September 1991:**

CSB/AFA organises first 'Unity Carnival' on Hackney Downs, London. 10,000 attend.

**Sunday 10th November 1991:**

AFA draws 3,500-4,000 to their National Demonstration through Bethnal Green, E.London, on Remembrance Day. The demonstration is called to draw attention to race attacks in the area.

**1992**

**Saturday 28th March 1992:**

AFA members take over usual selling pitch of BNP/NF in Bermondsey, S.London. NF who show-up are quickly dealt with. Camera crew records the event for FT programme.

**Monday 18th May 1992:**

AFA's Open Space programme 'Fighting Talk' is screened on BBC2 and provokes rabid reviews the next day by the *Daily Mail*.

**Thursday 23rd July 1992:**

Crown Court trial relating to incidents at Kensington Library (25.5.91) of AFA activist Gary O'Shea and *Searchlight* editor Gerry Gable collapses.

**Saturday 12th September 1992:**

Battle of Waterloo.

**Saturday 24th October 1992:**

AFA organises opposition to the BNP's first public redirection point to their annual rally in Euston, London. Despite a huge police presence throughout the day, AFA still manages to score a couple of hits.

**1993**

**Tuesday 2nd March 1993:**

Number of AFA members arrested under the PTA. London AFA organiser later charged and convicted of serious offences related to IRA activity.

**Saturday 16th October 1993:**

Unity demo turns into riot when demonstrators are prevented by police from marching to the BNP HQ. Meanwhile AFA members attempt to confront C18 at Abbey Wood who are protected by police. On the same day a small march by ARA takes place in Central London.

**1994**

**Saturday 15th January 1994:**

In a replay of Waterloo, AFA are only narrowly prevented from hitting C18 security at the Little Driver pub, Bow Rd, E.London. Later AFA members attack B&H supporters fleeing the scene of an aborted gig in Waterloo.

**Saturday 4th June 1994:**

BNP call a national mobilisation for Dagenham, E.London in support of election work. AFA calls counter-demo and are corralled by police all day. Later AFA stewards confront fascist boneheads in Carnaby St, central London. This is recorded on film and later used as part of a TV documentary.

**1996**

**Saturday 27th April 1996:**

AFA members successfully breach intense police activity to attack C18/Loyalist elements at the White Hart pub in Central London, who are gathering for an Orange Order parade.

**Friday 4th October 1996:**

AFA holds successful rally to commemorate the Battle of Cable St. and the Spanish Civil War, under the theme of 'Militant anti-fascism, the tradition lives on!'

**1997**

**Monday 25th August 1997:**

Three Danish neo-nazis go on trial in Copenhagen accused of making and posting letter-bombs. Targets include AFA.