



**A few early showers,
then fine spells.
Northerlies.**

"As a start they could stop beating their wives and kids, get proper, 40-hour-a-week jobs that don't depend on funding from government social agencies, and stop intimidating their neighbours. They could even join social organisations of a different sort, say, the local Rotary club, and give up their spare time to help build facilities for the communities they have, till now, preyed upon." Dominion Post Editorial 30.09.2008

Occupy the World

The one month anniversary of the beginnings Occupy Wall St has passed. A movement that came from such small beginnings has become an international explosion of discontent. Despite all expectations, our movement has held its ground and continues to grow.

It's important to focus on the positives. It is, however, equally important to be aware of other events.

In Oakland, California, the Occupation has been violently broken up by police. Amidst clouds of teargas, masked police officers advanced on the camp swinging their truncheons and evicted the inhabitants with extreme force. They fired projectiles into the unarmed crowd, causing injuries to dozens of protesters. One case, however, stands out from the rest.

Scott Olsen is 24 years old. A former US Marine, he returned from two tours in Iraq without injury and became involved with veterans groups that oppose the war. He now lies in hospital with a fractured skull and swelling to his brain, and all his injuries were received at the hands of the Oakland police force. During the protests he stood face to face with the cops, in his old Marine jacket, and as they bravely attacked unarmed demonstrators with chemical weapons he stood his ground. A policeman shot him in the face at point blank range with a teargas canister.

It gets worse. As he lay unconscious and bleeding on the ground, a small crowd of fellow demonstrators rushed forward through the gas to try and help him. The police had



made no moves to even see if he was still alive. As the crowd crouched by his body and prepared to lift him to safety, a masked cop moved forward out of the ranks and casually tossed a flashbang grenade into their midst. This is not an allegation. This is documented fact. This incident was captured on video and is all over the internet – search “oakland police explosive” on youtube and see for yourself.

The police in Oakland have denied that they used excessive force. They have even denied that they used flashbang grenades, despite widespread eyewitness and video evidence to the contrary. The Mayor has attempted to distance herself from the violence, but nonetheless has given the police action her approval.

Occupy Atlanta and Occupy Chicago have also been violently evicted by police, but despite the usual violence they apparently managed to do it without shooting anyone in

CONT. P4

Crying Wolf and Standing Strong

This week at Occupy Wellington has been full of false leaks about looming evictions. The most publicized of these being the clash of locations between the Occupation and the All Blacks celebratory parade. The Dominion Post website reported that our movement was to be evicted to make way for 50,000 All Blacks fans that were to congregate on the Jack Illot Green. The head of security for Wellington City Council spoke to members of the Occupation about moving the camp to make way for our winning boys in black. Consensus was reached by all Occupiers and it was decided that instead of moving

completely, tents would be shuffled back to make room, as well as occupiers serving free tea and coffee to the masses and hopefully even the players themselves. The councils reply was not what was expected. Instead of letting the Occupiers provide a platform for positive community outreach, they moved the parade! They claimed this was due to the almost violent winds crossing over the green. Too windy for the All Blacks but not for the Occupation. The hospitality team did an amazing job providing free tea and coffee on the day anyway, not to men-

CONT. P7

Occupy Aotearoa

Auckland

Occupy Auckland have come up with an inventive way to take their message to the banks. The 'People's Rag' reports;

"A flash mob of around 20-30 activists descended on the BNZ in Queen St yesterday. They blew clouds of 'financial speculation' and 'housing' bubbles into the air and left as quickly as they had arrived."

The People's Rag is a newly released newsletter that aims to provide 'Community-based news for Occupied Aotea Square'. The first issue came out on Friday the 28th of October, and the plan is to publish daily. The editorial team here at the Occupied Dominion Post are sure we speak for everyone in Occupied Civic Square when we wish them all the best. You can check out the People's Rag at:

<http://occupyauckland.org/sites/default/files/PEOPLESRAG%2028102011%20FULLFINAL.pdf>

Christchurch

Occupy Christchurch is going strong. In their wooded corner of Hadley Park, home to about 40

people every night and many more during the day, they have held workshops on everything from Spanish history to gardening, conservation to capoeira. 150 people took part in their Labour Day march, and an occupier the ODP recently spoke to described the mood as "sometimes tired, always happy".

Dunedin

In Dunedin, the Occupation is faced with rather hostile coverage by the Otago Daily Times. Despite not being owned by international news corporations, the ODT is very much a conservative mainstream paper, and its coverage of the movement has been laughable at best. From implying the protesters are unhygienic to terrifying tales of how the camp has become a "hotspot for youths", the ODT has been unrelenting in its campaign against the Occupation. This can only be seen as dangerous – the ground is being prepared for future action against the protest. Already the police have been making their presence felt, visiting the camp on a number of occasions, including most recently on the 28th of October with a paddy wagon.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Occupants, and the "Get a job" ignorants.

I noticed that occupiers seem very keen to announce that you all have jobs or university commitments. Have you considered that this may make people without jobs feel isolated from the group? In this economic climate there is no shame in not having a job. There are 154,000 people unemployed in NZ (June, 2011), but on a search today revealed there are only 14,775 jobs available on seek.co.nz, and 9872 listings for jobs on trademe. There just simply aren't enough jobs for everyone here in NZ. This may be due to sending many jobs overseas such as call-lines and production. It's all good telling people to "Get a job!", as long as you are prepared to answer the question of "What jobs?".

- K.

Dear Editor

A recent (Unoccupied) Dominion Post opinion poll presented readers with the choices of supporting Occupy Wellington, or agreeing that "they need to get jobs." Coupled with generally unsympathetic coverage from the capitalist press, this raised the hackles of some occupiers. At the Occupy Wellington Labour Day march, occupiers carried placard stating "I have a job and an occupation" or "I have two jobs, university and an occupation" - variations on the placard "I lost my job, then I found an occupation."

The Occupy Together movement draws in supporters from diverse backgrounds, with a range of employment situations. Many of the core organisers have other commitments, including work and study. Those with full-time work and families may not have the time or energy for urban camping - so they support the movement by donating food or resources, by organising workshops, by coming to General Assemblies. This movement is a broad church.

More to the point, unemployment is a product of the system Occupy Together collectively challenges. Capitalism requires a reserve army of labour, a pool of unemployed workers to keep the labour market competitive. Under neoliberalism - the late stage of capitalism typified by cuts, privatisations and "free market" reform - structural unemployment is used to keep wages down.

The Alister Barry documentary In A Land of Plenty explores how during neoliberal reform, the Reserve Bank used interest rates as a way of keeping unemployment high - and wages low. Suzanne Snively, member of the Reserve Bank Board of Directors during the crucial reform period of 1985-1992 states:



Bow Down to the Toothbrush - New Paintings by Heleyni Pratley

Opening 6:30pm 01.11.11. Gallery open from 2nd - 6th November between 11am and 7pm

'Bow Down to the Toothbrush' explores the way in which commodities are produced and raised to a level of worship and veneration far beyond any physical properties they might have.

“It was a manageable thing for the Reserve Bank to use employment, and unemployment, as the way to get wages down. It was far easier than any other means of getting inflation down. So they used it.”

By demonising occupiers as unemployed layabouts, the DomPost conveniently misses the point: whether or employed or unemployed, we have valid grievances. Capitalists attack the class as a whole - declining real wages, structural unemployment and benefit cuts are all part of the same package. We must counter these attacks with solidarity, unity and inclusiveness. From factory floors, to desks, to WINZ offices - we are the 99%.

- Ian

Dear Editor,

I find your joke of a movement's claim to represent a majority of the public reprehensible. From simply passing the encampment, it is apparent that the occupation is comprised solely of hippies, homeless vagabonds, and jobless youth with nothing better to do than cause trouble for the decent citizens of Wellington. It seems to me that the dregs of society have all convened in a central location to celebrate the filthy lifestyles, which they share, and erroneously dubbed themselves the “99%”. According to your placards, you even have the audacity to criticize the very system that provides you the right to freely convene in a public space, regardless of your failure to make any meaningful contribution to society. My only hope is that the council does what's right and comes down with a heavy hand against you lunatics. A real kick in the ass is needed to wake you up and make you productive members of society, and transform you from the leeches that you all are.

- Actually have a real job

ED. I find it intriguing that you are angry enough to read this paper, find the contact email in the small print on the last page and then email us your rage, while still clearly missing the point or tone of the previous paper. We have no problem calling a spade a spade, or outing a system that at its core creates and replicates poverty and misery.

Hope you enjoy this issue!

Letters are more than welcome.
 occupiedompost@gmail.com

Whatever People Say We Are, That's What We're Not.

This is the second edition of the Occupied Dominion Post, and it comes out less than a week after the first. We gave away over one thousand copies of the first issue and the PDF has spread all over the internet.

In Wellington and around the world, things are moving fast. In Melbourne, Sydney, Oakland (US) and other cities, police have cracked down hard on the Occupy movements. The authorities appear to believe that the longer these movements are left to their own devices, the more dangerous they get. Perhaps they are right – the question is, dangerous to whom? The justifications used so far by authorities vacillate between an apparent concern for the health and safety of protesters and a general contempt towards freedom of expression. We are to be given a token two to four weeks to exercise our democratic rights, before we go back to being quiet and taking the beating that the recession has doled out to the working poor.

In our last editorial we made reference to the slogan “...this movement has issued no demands. It is not a protest. It's an occupation. Rebellions don't have demands.” People have taken that to mean that we are against any concrete statements or that we are for nothing. That is not the case. The point is that when the media and the politicians say we ‘have no demands’, what really bothers them is that we are not begging the same people who caused the problem to solve it for us. We started this occupation with no policy platforms or impressive powerpoints, because we don't claim to have the answers. What we are seeking to do is ask the questions and start the discussions.

We have done this. It would appear the system has not yet collapsed, but all across Wellington, New Zealand and the world people are talking about us and why we

are here. That is a victory in itself. There has been a discussion led by university academics about the declining role of the University as a centre for critical thinking in society. Many other workshops have been held and many other ideas discussed – permaculture, fractional reserve banking, a critique of using conspiracy theories to explain the problems inherent in capitalism. Arguments are happening, ideas are being developed. We are learning to agree to disagree and still work together towards common goals. Just because you can't see an immediate manifesto doesn't mean we aren't thinking, just because you can't see immediate change doesn't mean things aren't changing. We're thinking bigger than that. We want to make new mistakes, not the same old mistakes that have been made time and time again. We want a new kind of movement to confront new forms of oppression, inequality and injustice – the old movements failed.

We believe the system itself is the problem. This is about more than just bad people doing bad things. Our movement is not about opposing one particular government policy, or one bad employer, or one dodgy bank. If you put your clean clothes in a filthy wardrobe, before long they need a wash. We're here to build a laundry.

If there is to be a fundamental improvement in the way we engage with and relate to each other, it will not be initiated by those at the top. Real change will come through the efforts of those who don't have an investment in the status quo. Real change will come from those of us who have nothing to lose but our chains – our debts, our minimum wage, our lack of a future – together we can make it happen.

-

Alastair and Joel

Occupy the World CONT. P1

the face. Commendable. "They'll be back, and in greater numbers"

The Oakland authorities appear to have underestimated the resolve of the Occupy movement. After 150 protesters were violently evicted, some 3000 people marched to retake the square, and they have vowed to march every day until they are able to rebuild their presence. These do not appear to be empty words – the following resolution was passed at a General Assembly in which 1607 people voted. 1484 voted in favor of the resolution, 77 abstained and 46 voted against.

"We as fellow occupiers of Oscar Grant Plaza propose that on Wednesday November 2, 2011, we liberate Oakland and shut down the 1%.

We propose a city wide general strike and we propose we invite all students

to walk out of school. Instead of workers going to work and students going to school, the people will converge on downtown Oakland to shut down the city.

All banks and corporations should close down for the day or we will march on them.

While we are calling for a general strike, we are also calling for much more. People who organize out of their neighborhoods, schools, community organizations, affinity groups, workplaces and families are encouraged to self organize in a way that allows them to participate in shutting down the city in whatever manner they are comfortable with and capable of.

The whole world is watching Oakland. Let's show them what is possible."

Why We Occupy, What We Know

by John Bellamy Foster

Occupy Eugene (US) rally, 15 October 2011

We are here as part of the Occupy Wall Street movement, which in a few short weeks has become a global movement in hundreds of cities around the world. We are part of the 99 percent not only in this country but the world.

I have been reading the mainstream, corporate media. I have been listening to the pundits, the power brokers, the politicians. They criticize our movement, saying we don't really know why we are here. They claim that we are simply angry; that all we are is an "emotional outcry." House majority leader Eric Cantor calls us "a growing mob."

Wall Street bankers interviewed by the New York Times say that we are "fringe groups"; that we will "thin out" and disperse when the weather gets colder.

A New York Times article reported yesterday that we were confused "liberal activists" fed up with partisan politics but with no real ideas of your own. An editorial in the same paper said we were just protestors, with no clear demands. We are well meaning, they conceded, but

it is the politicians, not the people in the street, who have the job -- so they say -- of determining the future course of things, not us, not the 99%.

Foreign Affairs magazine, the publication of the Council on Foreign Relations, writes that Occupy Wall Street is critical of Wall Street, but not of capitalism; they say that we do not question the system itself.

They are wrong. We are part of the growing army of the Occupy Wall Street movement worldwide. And we know why we are here.

- We know that U.S. society has become fundamentally unequal. We know, though we may not all know the exact numbers, that the top 1 percent of income recipients receives almost 25 percent of all income in the society (including capital gains), and the top 10 percent receives almost 50 percent.

- We know, though we might not be able to quote the figures precisely, that, between 1950 and 1970, for every additional dollar made by those in the bottom 90 percent of income earners, those in the top one hundredth of one percent received \$162 dollars. But that was back when things were more equal! Between 1990 and 2002, for every added dollar made by those in the bottom 90 percent of the population, those in the top one hundredth of one percent made an additional \$18,000.

- We know about the Forbes 400. That in the United States 400 individuals (a number far less than those here today) own as much wealth as the bottom half of the U.S. population, some 150 million people.

- We know that when it comes to financial wealth (which excludes houses) the top 1 percent of the population in the United States owns four times as much wealth as



**Non-violent
Protesters**
Do not deserve to be
shot.
Rubber bullets are
considered a safe
deterrent. What do you
think?

the bottom 80 percent of the population.

- We know, though we may not know the precise details, that according to an audit by the U.S. General Accounting Office, the Federal Reserve Board provided more than \$16 trillion in financial assistance in the latest financial crisis to the largest corporations in the United States and the world. The rich were bailed out while the majority of the population was made to pay the cost! And you are still paying!

- We know that there is over 9 percent official unemployment in the United States, while the real number of people who want full-time employment and don't have it is around twice that.

- We know that official unemployment for adolescents is 25%; for blacks 16 percent; for Latinos and Latinas 11%. And if you double these numbers you are closer to reality.

- We know that poverty is growing and being "feminized." We know that many people in this country are unfairly branded as "illegal immigrants."

- We know, though we may not realize its full extent, that there are 2.4 billion people globally who, according to the International Labor Organization, are unemployed, underemployed, economically inactive, or engaged in subsistence labor. That 39 percent of the world's workers live on less than \$2 a day.

- We know that multinational corporations exploit the differences in wages between countries, taking advantage of the enormous global reserve army of the unemployed, to generate humongous profits, and to hold down wages worldwide.

- We know that there is no

real economic recovery; that we are in a period of economic stagnation, where only the rich are prospering. That economic growth in the United States has been slowing down in each successive decade since the 1960s and is now virtually stagnant. That the rich are getting bigger slices of a non-growing pie while the slices for almost everyone else are less.

- We know that the planet is being destroyed. That the future of all species and of humanity itself is being cut off. That, as James Hansen, the world's leading climatologist puts it, this is "our last chance to save humanity." And that none of the governments in the rich economies are doing anything at all about it! That oil companies and coal companies are more important to those in power than the planet itself.

- We know that the United States and its allies have been engaged recently in wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Libya. That an intervention is being planned for Iran, and possibly Venezuela. That U.S. military bases dot the entire globe and are increasing in numbers. We know that the United States spends around half a billion dollars officially on the military each year, and in reality a trillion dollars a year.

- We know that we live in a plutocracy rather than a democracy, where money outvotes public opinion at every point in the political process.

- We know that unions are in the defensive in this country. That they have been smashed by unfair legislation. That they are struggling to find a way to fight back.

- We know that our elementary and secondary education system in the United States is being privatized and destroyed.

- We know that we have by far the highest rate of incarceration in the world.

- We know that all of this is related to the system of economic power, to a society that believes in the Wall Street principle, "greed is good," the signature of capitalism.

- We know that we are the necessary, the last defense of humanity. That you are the world's 99%. That we will not "thin out" when the weather gets bad. That we are not a mob. That we are the earth, we are democracy, we are the future. The world has been occupied too long by a tiny minority. It is time for the people to reoccupy it. To take it back.

In 2009, I participated in a discussion about the global financial crisis on Democracy Now! I said then that we were in a period of long-term economic stagnation (of which the financial crisis was simply a symptom). The closest historical precedent was the Great Depression. I pointed out that it took about four years after the 1929 stock market crash before there was a revolt in the United States in the 1930s -- what we know as the Great Revolt from Below -- which resulted in the industrial union movement, the rise of the CIO, and the second New Deal. The revolt didn't come in earnest until a year or more after the economic recovery had started in 1933, when people suddenly realized that the recovery was false.

I said that a similar Great Revolt from Below was likely in the United States today, given a deep and lasting economic stagnation. But that we might have to wait three or four years, just as in the Great Depression, for it to get off the ground, and for the people to ignite. That, just as in the Great Depression,

the revolt would not materialize until people had learned that the promise of economic recovery was false, that they had been lied to and systematically robbed. Occupy Wall Street, Occupy Eugene, Occupy the United States is the Great Revolt from Below in our time.

But what we are witnessing this time is the growth of something much larger still. In a matter of a few weeks we have watched the emergence of an Occupy the World movement. Everywhere people are uniting in struggle. When I was in Australia at the beginning of October, when this all was getting started, radical activists were absolutely glued to the events in Occupy Wall Street -- even before it was being reported by the mainstream media in this country. Why? Australia is on the other side of the globe. Why should they care about a resistance movement in New York?

The reason is that we in the United States live in "Fortress America," the heart of a world empire. Revolts are not supposed to happen here! If a break in the wall appears, if massive protests occur, here, "Inside the Monster," as José Martí called it, the whole world is suddenly uplifted and encouraged to resist. Because then they know that the empire is crumbling. Our struggles here are opening up space for resistance for all the people of the world.

What does occupy mean? Why is an occupation so important? Why is this movement so different? It is because it means we are not going away. We will not disperse. We will remain. We will win. The world requires it.

Thank you.

Iceland's On-going Revolution

by Deena StrykerFollow

<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2011/08/01/1001662/-Iceland's-On-going-Revolution>

An Italian radio program's story about Iceland's on-going revolution is a stunning example of how little our media tells us about the rest of the world. Americans may remember that at the start of the 2008 financial crisis, Iceland literally went bankrupt. The reasons were mentioned only in passing, and since then, this little-known member of the European Union fell back into oblivion.

As one European country after another fails or risks failing, imperiling the Euro, with repercussions for the entire world, the last thing the powers that be want is for Iceland to become an example. Here's why:

Five years of a pure neo-liberal regime had made Iceland, (population 320 thousand, no army), one of the richest countries in the world. In 2003 all the country's banks were privatized, and in an effort to attract foreign investors, they offered on-line banking whose minimal costs allowed them to offer relatively high rates of return. The accounts, called IceSave, attracted many English and Dutch small investors. But as investments grew, so did the banks' foreign debt. In 2003 Iceland's debt was equal to 200 times its GNP, but in 2007, it was 900 percent. The 2008 world financial crisis was the coup de grace. The three main Icelandic banks, Landbanki, Kaupthing and Glitnir, went belly up and were nationalized, while the Kroner lost 85% of its value with respect to the Euro. At the end of the year Iceland declared bankruptcy.

Contrary to what could be

expected, the crisis resulted in Icelanders recovering their sovereign rights, through a process of direct participatory democracy that eventually led to a new Constitution. But only after much pain.

Geir Haarde, the Prime Minister of a Social Democratic coalition government, negotiated a two million one hundred thousand dollar loan, to which the Nordic countries added another two and a half million. But the foreign financial community pressured Iceland to impose drastic measures. The FMI and the European Union wanted to take over its debt, claiming this was the only way for the country to pay back Holland and Great Britain, who had promised to reimburse their citizens.

Protests and riots continued, eventually forcing the government to resign. Elections were brought forward to April 2009, resulting in a left-wing coalition which condemned the neoliberal economic system, but immediately gave in to its demands that Iceland pay off a total of three and a half million Euros. This required each Icelandic citizen to pay 100 Euros a month (or about \$130) for fifteen years, at 5.5% interest, to pay off a debt incurred by private parties vis a vis other private parties. It was the straw that broke the reindeer's back.

What happened next was extraordinary. The belief that citizens had to pay for the mistakes of a financial monopoly, that an entire nation must be taxed to pay off private debts was shattered, transforming the relationship between citi-

zens and their political institutions and eventually driving Iceland's leaders to the side of their constituents. The Head of State, Olafur Ragnar Grimsson, refused to ratify the law that would have made Iceland's citizens responsible for its bankers' debts, and accepted calls for a referendum.

Of course the international community only increased the pressure on Iceland. Great Britain and Holland threatened dire reprisals that would isolate the country. As Icelanders went to vote, foreign bankers threatened to block any aid from the IMF. The British government threatened to freeze Icelandic savings and checking accounts. As Grimsson said: "We were told that if we refused the international community's conditions, we would become the Cuba of the North. But if we had accepted, we would have become the Haiti of the North." (How many times have I written that when Cubans see the dire state of their neighbor, Haiti, they count themselves lucky.)

In the March 2010 referendum, 93% voted against repayment of the debt. The IMF immediately froze its loan. But the revolution (though not televised in the United States), would not be intimidated. With the support of a furious citizenry, the government launched civil and penal investigations into those responsible for the financial crisis. Interpol put out an international arrest warrant for the ex-president of Kaupthing, Sigurdur Einarsson, as the other bankers implicated in the crash fled the country.

But Icelanders didn't stop there: they decided to draft a new constitution that would free the country from the exaggerated power of international finance and virtual money.

(The one in use had been written when Iceland gained its independence from Denmark, in 1918, the only difference with the Danish constitution being that the word 'president' replaced the word 'king'.)

To write the new constitution, the people of Iceland elected twenty-five citizens from among 522 adults not belonging to any political party but recommended by at least thirty citizens. This document was not the work of a handful of politicians, but was written on the internet. The constituent's meetings are streamed on-line, and citizens can send their comments and suggestions, witnessing the document as it takes shape. The constitution that eventually emerges from this participatory democratic process will be submitted to parliament for approval after the next elections.

Some readers will remember that Iceland's ninth century agrarian collapse was featured in Jared Diamond's book by the same name. Today, that country is recovering from its financial collapse in ways just the opposite of those generally considered unavoidable, as confirmed yesterday by the new head of the IMF, Christine Lagarde to Fareed Zakaria. The people of Greece have been told that the privatization of their public sector is the only solution. And those of Italy, Spain and Portugal are facing the same threat.

They should look to Iceland. Refusing to bow to foreign interests, that small country stated loud and clear that the people are sovereign.

That's why it is not in the news anymore.

On Monday, Something Changed...

Until Monday, Occupy Wellington was in a state I'd describe as urban hunter gathering. We were building the structures and experiences needed to run a long-term occupation. What people were saying during that first week, was that there was not enough time to talk politics after all the necessary jobs were done.

The reality within the camp is of people (on the whole) new to politics and new to occupations, so a period of time, gaining skills and experience from those about who did have them already, was part of the process.

It's hard to see things building to the point where suddenly things move up a gear or two, but that was going on throughout the week. Engaging in group discussions and building a level of trust and respect for each other. Spreading the word out, leading and taking part in workshops.

The challenge for the Occupy movement is to be relevant to those outside the actual occupation itself. We need to make it a place that people feel the need to come to.

The original Saturday protest was disorganised and lost. There was no plan, there was no structure in place to make anything happen or provide any leadership/focus.

By the following Saturday the morning meeting had about forty people present to discuss the day ahead. Within the group itself there was a hesitancy to go on a march, worrying about dissipating or losing energy from the camp itself. It was agreed to hold the discussion within the wider General Assembly at one pm that afternoon.

By one pm, there a couple of hundred people milling about. The General Assembly was called and slowly everyone took their places about the natural grassy bowl in the Jack Ilott Green. Slowly it dawned on us that there were too many people in one place for anyone to be heard, so out came the human microphone. The idea



It was at this point that the four year old girl came forward

stems in part from the experience of Occupied Wall Street, where because of the ban on megaphones etc the speaker speaks a short sentence which is then said by everyone sur-



Deciding where to go on Courtney Place

rounding the speaker until it spreads out the farthest reaches of the crowd. Not having a

megaphone, it seemed the best way to get everyone heard. In practice it was much more effective than a megaphone, spreading quickly and efficiently about the crowd, disrupted much less by wind than a megaphone.

The discussion moved backwards and forwards around what to do, until a four year old girl moved into the middle of the circle and suggested a

Crying Wolf and Standing Strong CONT. P1

tion the face painting and general enthusiasm around camp.

Another eviction rumour was propelled by location of Capital E's Halloween festivities. They have had the entire Civic Square booked for the party on Monday and thus locations again were clashing. Again we were told there was possibility of eviction, and again these rumours ended up working in our favour. Members of the occupation went and spoke to Capital E who had no problem with the movement or their presence. It was again decided at the General Assembly that the tents would be shuffled and the occupants would get involved in the festivities!

There have been no more warnings of eviction thus far, so feel free to come down and visit, if not join in the occupation yourself. You know where we will be!

and the initial attempts to gain an eight hour working day. A short note from Mary, 72 from Carterton was read out to the march, saying that although she had never smoked marijuana or been on the dole, she considered herself to be part of the 99% and if she wasn't housebound she'd be done in the occupation.

Marching along Courtney Place, the human mic was used to keep everyone together and quickly and loudly make clear what the march was about, it also proved useful for safely crossing busy intersections.

Making our way through Courtney Place to the waterfront then back to Civic Square was an empowering experience. We came back with more people than when we left - a sign of things to come?

et Fountain, Mark Derby from the Labour History Project, spoke about Samuel Parnell,

For more information:

Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/occupywgtn>
 coactivate.org/projects/occupywellington
 twitter.com/#!/OccupyWelly
 occupy.wellington@gmail.com
 occupieddompost@gmail.com

How to help this newspaper get to Issue #3:

We are a group of dedicated volunteers, working hard to make a quality newspaper.

However it costs money to print, so every donation is appreciated. If you like what you read, think about donating some money into

Kiwibank: 38-9010-0533100-01

OCCUPY - Feel free to join in.

SPREAD THE WORD - People want to know about this.

DONATE - If you can't be here in person, help us out with money or goods

FOLLOW THE OCCUPATION - We're present on a number of media

EDUCATE YOURSELF - Read up and learn about why this movement has exploded around the world

Occupation Profile:

Robert von Garrett

It took me hours to sit down with Robert, he had been running around doing hospitality all day but finally managed to give a moment to chat. Robert is 28 and has been a huge part of the occupation since its Wellington establishment on the 15th of October. He has worked as hospitality facilitator for most of that time and is an incredibly dedicated member of the movement. As part of the Occupy community he is irreplaceable; not only at ensuring that things are running smoothly around home camp but also at keeping up every ones morale with his energy and enthusiasm.



Roberts reason for being here is more introspective than others I have spoken to. He is occupying because he is dissatisfied at the way the world has turned out and has been realising the necessity for change for a long time. He sees the need for political and economic reforms which benefit the 99%. But this is not the only facet of his reasoning. He has also turned his gaze inwards. He has become aware that all people hold some of the negative attributes of the 1% inside themselves and believes it is not until we change our inward selves that outward change can be achieved.

5			8	3			1
	2			1			9
		4		2		8	
1							3
	5	6		7		1	8
2							5
		5		3		6	
	7			8			2
3			9	1			7