

MONKEY'S pauper

Summer Edition 2026

Baths Uni's Only Socialist Paper, full of Campus News & Marxist yap



New year, NEW BULU! and BUGP and P&P.

Writer: A.W
Editor: A.W

Given that it's the start of a new academic year, it is no surprise that there has been some major shake-ups in various committees across campus. Bath University Leftist Union (BULU) has seen a practical decapitation, with all but one of their committee members being replaced. Although this is similar to both Bath University Green Party (BUGP) and People&Planet Bath Uni (P&P), BULU will have to work hard to ensure the lineage of experience is effectively passed on as much of the committee lacks experience.

To combat the loss of information in BULU the **MONKEY'S pauper** has been founded to help the build up the network of information between the various groups on Bath University Campus to our wonderful and experienced radical alumni.

Bath University Green Party (BUGP), unlike BULU, does not have such a long history to build from; instead it has to come up with new ideas such as **!Solidarity Night!**

People&Planet Bath Uni's(P&P) new Chair Fletcher.W has described their interpretation of the issue: "The committee may be different, but the cause is very much the same..."

"The University of Bath, as a neoliberal university, will continue to put profit before the will of the students, it is our job in the coming year to show them that this is not a sustainable decision" "we as a student body can create enough pressure to overwhelm the underlying profit incentives, be that through our fossil-free careers campaign or our divest borders campaign [to break] the university's ties with immoral, unethical and destructive corporations"

In order for leftist groups on campus to remain effective, we must continue to build on the activism and community last year under the leadership of the outgoing Chair of P&P Sarah.

Attached for the reader's convenience List of all committee members and the common acronyms used to describe their society/group in no particular order.

Bath University Leftist Union (BULU)
Chair: Samuel Hibbert
Secretary: Rohan Sathyamoorthy
Chancellor: Matthew Ward
Social Media: Adele Tadevosyan
External Representative: Jackson P

Bath University Green Party (BUGP)
Chair: Matthew Ward
Treasurer: Elaeth McCraw
Social Media: Ayda
Events Manager: Evelyn A

People&Planet Bath Uni (P&P)
Chair: Fletcher W
Treasurer: Olivia Warmington
Volunteering: Anna Leaver
Events Coordinator: Anna Leaver
General Committee: Maisie H
General Committee: Sarah Hafner

STudent Action for Refugees Bath (STAR)
Chair: Fedora Mensah
Treasurer: Solomiia Ivanets
General Committee: Sienna Q-M

What force on earth is weaker than the feeble strength of one.

Solidarity Night Event

The first of its kind (at Bath), a night of collaboration and preparation for the most radical campaigns on campus. A must see, **October 9th!**

Each Campaign will present on stage, bring forward challenges they are facing, and collaborate with everyone to solve them.

Attendees are able to directly get involved in the organising of each campaign, and mix with like-minded action focused students. The Night will conclude with a social, with live music from the artist beetlebrain.

The event is hosted by Bath University Green Party and will be the societies first major event.

The current list of campaigns (with associated societies) include:

- Bath Anti-Raids group
- Democratising Campus(BUGP)(BULU)
- Fossil Free Careers(P&P)
- Plant Based University
- Divest Borders/ Opposing the Defence Universities Alliance(P&P)
- Bath Independent Community Education Project

The Greenwashing Menace

Writer: S.M.H. & Alistair McLeod

Editor: A.W

On the 22nd of May, 2026, European countries from Portugal to Czechia were struck by severe heatwaves which are ongoing at time of writing. Temperatures in Europe have soared to over 40 °C, killing over 35,000^[1] people to date. According to Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the *World Health Organisation*, the heatwaves would have been almost impossible if CO₂ levels remained at the pre-industrial average.

Despite this small taste of what a world with a significantly changed climate will bring, large fossil fuel companies have often succeeded in evading responsibility for the ecological harms they have caused, even when in direct violation of the law. For example, between 1964 and 1990 *Texaco* dumped millions of litres of toxic oil waste in Ecuador with little to no consequence.

A key factor in the strategy industrialists use to evade responsibility for climate change is propaganda. To many, the term 'fossil fuel propaganda' may connote ideas of climate change denial and attempts to discredit climate scientists who warn of the harms of climate change. However, this form of direct denialism is relatively rare today. Given that over 70%^[2] of British adults claimed that they were concerned about climate change, the strategy of outright denialism has been rendered an ineffective. It simply doesn't chime with widespread awareness of climate change and accompanying risks.

Modern corporations, instead of denying the severity of climate change, engage in the practice of 'greenwashing'. Greenwashing is the media strategy where companies highlight the pro-environmental actions they take and ignore the much bigger harms they cause. A classic example of greenwashing is a heavily advertised algal bio-fuel programme run by *ExxonMobil* in 2009. In their adverts, *ExxonMobil* made bold claims that sustainable algal bio-fuels were the future for the company, allowing them to leave their oil-stained past behind. In truth, the project received less than 2% of the company's total R&D spending, before ultimately being cancelled in 2023.^[3]

Fossil fuel companies spend billions of pounds each year on advertising, sponsorship, and public relations. But, greenwashing is not simply about protecting their reputation. It is also about recruiting the next generation of employees. Graduate schemes and careers fairs often present fossil fuel companies as leaders in the energy transition, highlighting investments in renewable energy or carbon capture while failing to mention that the vast majority of their revenue and investment continues to come from fossil fuel extraction. Students are left with an incomplete picture of the true environmental impact of these organisations.

Fossil Free Careers is about refusing to let the fossil fuel industry define what a "good career" looks like. Universities should be preparing students to solve the climate crisis, not acting as recruitment pipelines for the companies accelerating it. Despite Bath University's claims that students want oil, gas, mining and weapons companies at careers fairs, only 17%^[4] of Gen Z Brits want jobs in oil and gas sector.

People and Planet challenges the normalisation of fossil fuel, mining and arms companies in university spaces and advocate for careers that put people and the planet before corporate profit. Climate justice cannot be separated from social justice: from communities displaced by extraction to workers exploited in global supply chains, the transition must be just. That means demanding greater transparency from employers, questioning whose interests' careers fairs serve, and supporting pathways into work that genuinely contributes to a better future. This campaign is a fight against the neoliberal system and universities' role within it. We ask universities to return to their role as challengers of social injustice, shifting away from the managerial and neoliberal perspectives which have come to the fore over recent years.

If you want to make a difference on this, and work at the intersection of climate and social justice, join *People and Planet Bath* (P&P) in our Fossil Free Careers campaign.

Profit should not be the purpose of Bath university.

PS: at the end of this issue of the MONKEY'S pauper we have attached some sources to go along with this article, Enjoy!

The Defence University Alliance

Writer: S.M.H
Editor: A.W

Universities should be places where knowledge is used to improve lives.

Instead, partnerships such as the *Defence University Alliance* (DUA) are linking higher education ever more closely to an industry whose profits depend on the production and sale of weapons. While these partnerships are marketed as opportunities for innovation, they raise fundamental questions about the role universities should play in society.

The *Defence University Alliance* is not simply a collection of graduate opportunities for students who like to build bombs. It impacts the future of our university, the DUA embeds defence companies into university life through allowing arms companies to lie to students at Careers fairs, the Shifting of Research priorities, and the continued building up and intertwining of arms and academia through networking events.

This invasion normalises the arms industry, presenting killing as just another career path rather than inviting students to question the ethical implications of the products these companies develop and sell. Universities should encourage critical thinking, yet these partnerships often frame military technology as an unquestionable good and ignore the humanitarian consequences flowing directly from the arms trade.

As universities face growing financial pressures, external funding increasingly influences which projects receive investment. Defence funding can shift talented researchers and public resources towards furthering militarisation, while areas such as climate adaptation, public health, humanitarian aid and conflict prevention compete for limited support.

Publicly funded research should serve the public interest, not the commercial interests of arms manufacturers.

There is also a question of accountability. Many of the companies involved in the defence sector are directly involved in supporting governments accused of serious human rights abuses. Campaigners argue that universities should carefully consider whether partnering with these companies is consistent with their own commitments to human rights, equality and social responsibility.

If *Bath University* expects students to swear to uphold ethical standards in their work, they should apply the same standards to the organisations our university actively promotes.

The *Defence Universities Alliance* is a weapon in the war to shape the future of higher education. We believe strongly that universities should invest in research and careers that build peace, tackle inequality and address the climate crisis, rather than strengthening industries whose business depends on continuing conflict and intervention overseas.

On July 13th, The University of Bath Joined the DUA. Without student consultation or support...

~~Money must not any longer be the great god, Money is but part of the Earth~~

Editor's note

Editor: A.W

Welp! Thanks for reading this issue of the *MONKEY'S pauper*. It was an absolute pleasure working with the various writers of the articles as a part of this issue!

If you want to contribute in any way in the future, writing, editing, collating, interviewing, we'd love to work together to make the next article even better. Contact would best be done through BULU@bath.ac.uk
Hopefully next-time there'll be pictures!

As promised in 'The Greenwashing Menace', here is a QR code that links the 4 sources used, sorry the format isn't in Harvard Bath!



Anyway, thought I'd shout out BATH CROW, they've been hard at work trying to make the left in Bath more interconnected (good luck!). Check out @Bath_Crow or www.bathcrow.org, the calendar is to die for.

Final comments: I'd love to know what you thought of this, I assume you'd like more pictures, maybe we can slip a coupon in to keep it interesting? Just send your thoughts to wherever you found this article, I will see it.
-A.W