Bernie the Health and Safety-Compliant Brazier Says...



KEEP THE FLAME!

Get this as a PDF: tinyurl.com/KeepFlame

The dispute continues. But the strike period is ending.

We now need to keep up as much momentum and energy as we can without the organising structures and the disorganising weirdness of the picket line.

Our normal lives are back and we're going back to work, which is a blessed relief but will tie up nearly all our time. You know what we're like.

Now (not tomorrow, NOW, Day 14) is the time to talk to your colleagues and plan ahead to face the coming challenges. If we're called back out, we'll be prepared. If we get a settlement, we can carry what we've learnt to places we haven't been.

STAY AGITATED AND CARRY ON

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PICKETING TO BE LEAFLETING

Staff and students want to know. Give people updates on the talks. Details of events. Reassurances about assessment and graduations. Un-reassurances on the state of UUK's governance. Print stuff up for distribution, email your contact lists, and be available to talk.

TEACH-OUTS: GREAT FORMAT, STRIKE OR NOT

I'm not really sure why we weren't just doing this anyway, to be honest. See what you can do with creative teaching formats in off-timetable sessions. Haven't got time to organise anything? Ask the students to give you the benefit of their expertise.

RECRUIT UCU MEMBERS, SUPPORTERS, AND POTENTIAL ORGANISERS

Know the resources: practical basics at **www.ucu.org.uk/join**, personal appeals such as **tinyurl.com/to-non-strikers**, new members' perspectives like **tinyurl.com/first-picket**. Talk freely and fairly about expectations and concerns.

SITTING IN THE SU CAFÉ CHARGING YOUR PHONE AT THE STUDENT BODY'S EXPENSE

This may in itself be enough to resolve the funding crisis in higher education.

WHERE ELSE?

What else could we do with do with what we know how to do now? Can we fight better on casualization, pay gaps, representative governance, workplace health, terrible stupidly-named forks of Oracle PeopleSoft? **#HEreform** is the suggested discussion hashtag.

DO THESE THINGS NOW, FOLKS!

COLLECT NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

of the people you didn't know from two buildings down who are on your wavelength, sharing your platform, minding your laptop bag. Don't assume you'll remember. Don't just be polite. Don't settle for embarrassed half-smiles and nods in six weeks' time. Fix points of contact any way people are comfortable with – email, WhatsApp, Twitter, les messageries Minitel, replica saloon with walls full of Wanted posters, whatever.

FIND OUT WHAT PEOPLE WANT TO DO

Priorities, hopes, fears, new opportunities on the horizon, missed opportunities that might come back round again. See who you can work with on what and why and when.

ORGANISE, SORT OUT, ARCHIVE YOUR STUFF

Have your kit and your words ready in case you need them. File them away if you think you won't. Preserve for posterity. **@stefdickers** of the Bishopsgate Institute is leading an effort to collect placards, leaflets, photos, electronic records and other stuff from the strike, and welcomes your suggestions.

RETURN THAT BATTERY CHARGER

to whoever you borrowed that battery charger from. Come on, let's be having you. You also need to return the tom-toms. And the giant inflatable Lord Adonis.

Image: Robert Lawton, Brazier with grill and pot-rest, 2006. CC-BY-SA 2.5 and yes it does matter, actually.