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Anarchists, Hippies and Other Undesirables: Alternative Living, Politics and Optimism 1972-1985

By Dr David White, Mikaya Heart

Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. The book covers a thirteen-year period in the lives of eighteen people from across Britain. Influenced by ideas of alternative living, the counter-culture and socialist/anarchist politics, they put their beliefs into everyday practice through a social experiment in communal, egalitarian living. Although cannabis and hippy trappings of dress and cultural tastes were part of their identity, drug-addled, aimless self-indulgence was not. Determined to be part of wider society, to earn a living, and, most of all, to contribute tangibly to making the world a better place, these pragmatic idealists renovated a run-down terraced street, then created a housing co-operative, a workers co-operative fruit-and-veg business, a cafe, a bookshop and a radical county-wide newspaper. To prevent the demolition of the street where they lived, they took on and defeated the reactionary local Labour council. Some became involved in trade union work and education, others in women's groups, journalism and film-making. Containing contributions from most of those who lived in the Community over that period, the styles vary widely, ranging from political analysis to emotional recollections, moving from the...



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