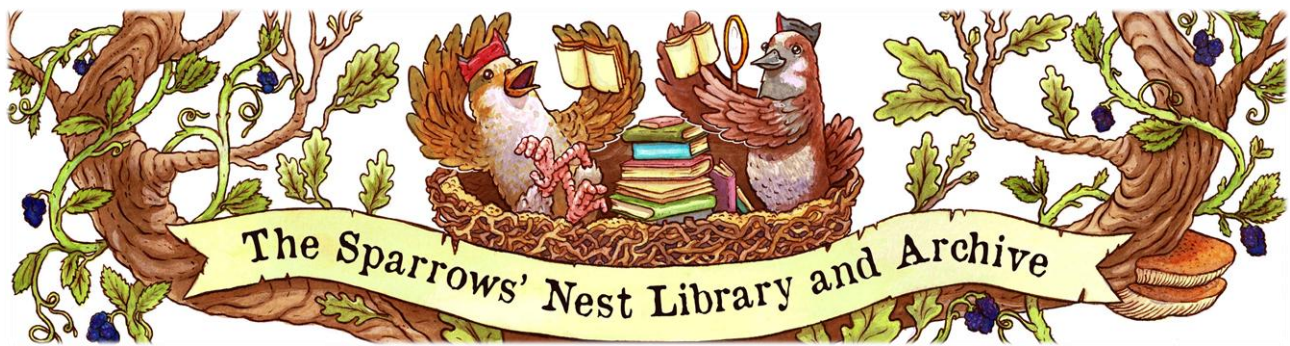




Nottingham, August 2026

The Sparrows' Nest presents:

The Sumac Archive

As part of the Gladstonebury Festival, a [three-day event celebrating Sumac's 25th Anniversary](#), join us on **Sunday 27th Sept from 12.00-2.00pm** and hear about our project curating the incredible archive collected by volunteers at the Rainbow and Sumac Centres.

There will be:

**Zine making,
Displays,
Books for Sale,
Talks, Quiz
and prizes!**

Hope to see you there!

SUMAC CENTRE
245 Gladstone Street, Forest Fields, Nottingham, NG7 6HX

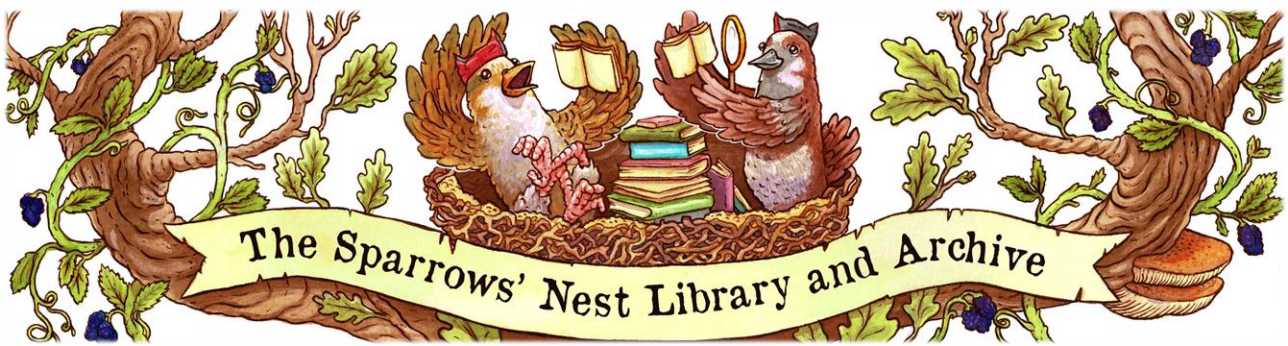
MUSIC ★ FOOD ★ ACTIVISM ★ WORKSHOPS ★ SOLIDARITY

25TH - 27TH SEPTEMBER 2026

GLADSTONEBURY FESTIVAL for more info and tickets www.sumac.org.uk

★ FRIDAY 25 TH ★	★ SATURDAY 26 TH ★	★ SUNDAY 27 TH ★
Vegan Bar Vegan Meal £5 Suggested Donation Good Vibes	EVENING GIG DOORS OPEN: 5:30PM £12 ADVANCE VIA FIXR 18+ ★ NO DOGS FOOD BY VEGGIES AND NOTTINGHAM DINING CO-OP £5 SUGGESTED DONATION	ACOUSTIC COMMUNITY GARDEN PARTY • Free Entry • Donations Welcome • Family Friendly • Well Behaved Dogs on Leads Welcome
DOORS OPEN: 6:00PM £5 SUGGESTED DONATION	19:00 - 19:40 DRIVELHEADS Nottingham (Local Rabble Rousers)	Vegan Brunch 11 til 2pm (£5) Veggies Catering 2pm til 7pm
FOOD BY VEGGIES AND NOTTINGHAM DINING CO-OP	20:00 - 21:00 THE SPORADICS Bournemouth (Sub Punk / Festy Music)	COMMUNITY AND CAMPAIGN STALLS 11am onwards
POETS & PERFORMERS Jimi Strange 19:30 - 19:50 (Rad Folk) Lylisha Tunbridge 19:30 - 19:50 (Poet) Cath Mackie 20:00 - 20:20 (Spikey Folk) Andrew Mzyxox 20:30 - 20:50 (Poet) Noah Drillhead 21:00 - 21:20 (Punk Solo) Bearded Tit 21:30 - 22:00 (Rad Poet)	21:30 - 22:30 ANARCHISTWOOD London (Theatrical Punk Rock)	12:00 - 14:00 The Sparrows' Nest "The Sumac Archive Project" Find out more here https://www.thesparrowsnest.org.uk
♥ 🎵 🎤 🌱	DRESS UP FERAL	ONE MIC STAND (POETS) • Jesse Perrett (Poet) 14:00 - 14:20 • Rachel Joy (Poet) 14:30 - 14:50 • Spoken Goat (Poet) 15:00 - 15:20
		YARD SESSIONS / ACOUSTIC ACTS Pete Skye (Acoustic guitar, DIY tunes) 15:30 - 16:00 Blossom (Folk Singer) 16:10 - 16:40 Paul Carbonele (Punchy political punk) 16:50 - 17:20 Jessi Eastfield (Eastfield Rail Punk) 17:30 - 18:00 Kleener Tantz (Traditional roots) 18:10 - 19:00

♥ COMMUNITY ★ CREATIVITY ★ SOLIDARITY ♥



Sparrow Artwork by Craig Humpston

Dear Friends,



We are sad to announce the death of long-time Nest supporter and collaborator, **Ron Marsden**. Ron was born in 1937 in Lancashire and

passed away peacefully on the 21st August 2026. He had been an anarcho-syndicalist for sixty years, as a member of the Syndicalist Workers Federation, the Direct Action Movement and the Solidarity Federation. Widely travelled (e.g. crossing the Spanish border on a quest to support Stuart Christie just after his arrest in 1964) and well-known, he was a huge influence on the organisations' political direction and on younger anarchists, as well as those of his own generation.

Our thoughts are with his wife Clare Debenham, as well as the Solidarity Federation (itself a valued and long-time donor to the Nest).

We will miss our phone chats with Ron, and our annual cups of tea, enjoyed whenever we drove up to Manchester to collect yet another load of bags, baskets, of tea chests, all filled to the brim with

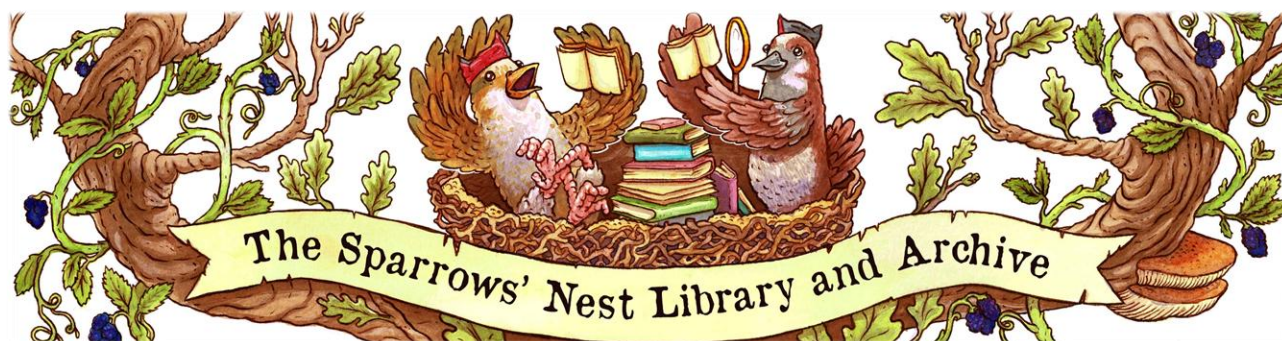
amazing materials from his house. We will fondly remember him humming to himself as he helped dragging bag after bag towards the van, which always turned out to be filled with incredible treasures from all over the world (and lots of drawings of Blasphemouse, Ron's cartoon creation!).

Ron was at all times kind, generous and supportive to us, and it was a true pleasure to have known him. His legacy will not only be the memories many of us have of him, but also his collection of materials, [many of which we have the great pleasure of looking after](#).

He was also a catalyst of putting us in touch with others of his generation and getting the SolFed's extensive archive to us, not least featuring the SWF's archive from the 1940s to the 1960s, comprising some 1,100 documents, including extensive [correspondence with comrades in 25 different countries](#).

Ron's trust in us, especially in the early days of the Nest, was absolutely crucial for us to be able to develop into a serious archive, and working and hanging out with him was a true privilege.

August's **Document of the Month** exemplifies the anarcho-syndicalist tradition in Britain. [Education Worker](#) was produced by the Solidarity Federation by workers in ALL areas of education. One of the key features of anarcho-syndicalist unions is ignoring the elitist stratification of workers within one industry, a characteristic of the traditional trade union set-up. As such, [this issue](#) focusses on higher education and features articles by



cleaners, lecturers and students. It would be too obvious to say that they were facing remarkably similar challenges in the early 2000s* as they do now, e.g. cuts, privatisation, fees and casualisation. In reality, anyone working or studying in the sector will recognise this period as just the beginning of the decimation of the HE sector, which seems to have completely lost any ethical compass.

A cause dear to the hearts of class-struggle anarchists such as Ron, was of course the 1984-85 Miners' Strike. A new project run by Lewis Mates, a friend of the Nest, addresses the role of anarchists within it as miners and as part of the networks of supporters. Part of the evidence is being drawn from oral history interviews and questionnaires. If you would like to take part in *Anarchism and the British Miners' Strike, 1984-1985*, please contact: lewis.mates@durham.ac.uk

Coming up you can also see us at the **Nottingham Green Festival** in the Arboretum on Sunday 13th September. We'll be filling the traditional Ex Libris slot and selling quality second-hand books on Green, History, Arts and Social Justice related themes to raise money for our work.

And finally, don't miss **this brilliant-sounding exhibition of photographs by another frequent Nest collaborator Alan Lodge**, aka **Tash**. Tash was a member of a travelling community and witness to

the development and persecution of associated subcultures. **Common Grounds: Counter Culture and Confrontation since 1976** documents travelling communities, free festivals, rave culture, environmental campaigns, and anti-war protests. The exhibition is on at Bonington Gallery from 25th September to 12th December.

See you at the launch on Thursday 24th Sept., 6.00-8.00pm!

We are completely self-funded, so please donate if you can.

Thank you once again for your support!

Bank name	Unity Trust Bank
Recipient	The Sparrows Nest Library and Archive
Sort code	60-83-01
Account	20379287



Contact Us & Join the mailing list

info@thesparrowsnest.org.uk

<https://thesparrowsnest.org.uk>

Don't forget to consider us if you have radical materials you would like to donate to an archive. Because...

Archiving is Activism!

* If anyone out there can help us date it more accurately, please do. As archivists say when they have to date items purely from content: !x@x\$^!