

Chavs, Scavs & Hijabs



Owen Jones author of *Chavs - The Demonisation of the Working Class*, will be joined by lead singer of The Farm and editor of *The End*, Peter Hooton, Phil Thornton *Casuals*, and Sanum Ghafoor blame the muslims to look at the politics of media representation.

From the Romany for youth, Chav is now an epithet to denote someone who is 'Council Housed and Violent'. Yet, it is more than that and represents both the burgeoning divide in Britain, which for many is regarded as the norm, and a complex web of perceptions, media driven representations, and an innate snobbery that gives licence for a level of discrimination already outlawed against other communities within the UK. Alongside the rise of the Chav as a term of abuse, is the rise in demonising whole sections of the Muslim community, with the Burka, and even the Hijab, represented as an image of fear rather than religious belief or cultural preference. And in Liverpool, well, the attitude of *The Sun* towards the fans at Hillsborough is just one more example, alongside 'self-pity city', following the death of James Bulger, of how Liverpool has been misrepresented in the media.

Owen Jones is a self-described 'lefty' and 'former flunky for unions and Labour MPs'. His writings have appeared in many newspapers and magazines, including the *Guardian*, the *New Statesman*, the *Morning Star* and *Labourlist*. He is best know for being the author of *'Chavs - the Demonization of the Working Class* (Verso, 2011). He regularly appears on BBC *Newsnight* and most other news and comment items on TV and Radio.

He blogs at: www.owenjones.org

Peter Hooton is a founder of cult football fanzine *The End*, and lead singer with Liverpool band *The Farm*. He is on the committee for 'Spirit of Shankly', the fan-based organisation that played a key role in ousting Texan millionaires Hicks and Gillette from Liverpool Football Club and is currently touring with 'Justice Tonight', featuring former Clash guitarist and B.A.D frontman, Mick Jones and Pete Wyllie, raising awareness in the campaign for justice for the victims of Hillsborough.

<http://the-end-fanzine.blogspot.co.uk/>

Phil Thornton is the author of *'Casuals; football, fighting & fashion - the story of a terrace cult'* and has written on aspects of urban sub-cultures for a wide range of magazines, fanzines and websites over the past 25 years. Phil has been an active supporter of *WoW* since the festival began and edits the *Swine Magazine* blog

www.swinemagazine.wordpress.com

Sanum Ghafoor is a 19 year old university student from Luton, notorious for starting the sarcastic worldwide trending topic #blamethemuslims in the wake of the Anders Breivik massacre. Sanum has since been featured on global television network Al-Jazeera, and in the mainstream press including The Washington Post and CNN.



Venue: The Black-E, 1 Great George Street, L1 5EW (next to the Chinese arch)

29 May 2012 7:00 pm

Tickets are available from
The Unity Theatre box office,
1 Hope Place,
L1 9BG
Tel: 0844 873 2888 or to buy online click on the link below

Buy tickets Cost: £6.00/£4.0 GBP

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