

Media for all? The challenge of convergence

Saturday 31 October 2009

School of Pharmacy, Brunswick Square London WC1N 1AX

Keynote speakers

John Nichols, journalist with *The Nation*, one of the founders of the US Free Press Media Reform movement, and co-author with Bob McChesney of the forthcoming book *Saving Journalism: The Soul of Democracy*.

Alexander Stille, author of *The Sack of Rome*, an analysis of Silvio Berlusconi's role in Italian media and politics.

Other speakers include Bob Franklin, Katharine Sarikakis, Andrew Currah, Alison Harcourt, Ray Fitzwalter.

We are witnessing enormous changes in the media, both in the UK and globally:

- Local and regional newspaper groups in the UK are cutting journalists' jobs and closing titles, and newspaper owners are predicting the collapse of the sector.
- ITV, once a profitable and successful commercial broadcaster, announced losses of £2.73 billion for 2008, closed its Yorkshire Television studio and cut 600 jobs.
- The government's Digital Britain report proposes 'top-slicing' the BBC licence fee to fund public service programming beyond the BBC.
- Digital convergence has brought new players into the media market. Google's revenue in the UK was £1.25 billion last year, a staggering \$21 billion worldwide; BSkyB posted annual profits of £780 million in July 2009; and BT's revenue in 2008 was £20 billion.
- Blogs, user-generated content, citizen journalism and internet activism present new democratic alternatives to traditional media.
- Some commentators celebrate the liberating democratic potential of the internet, and welcome what they see as the end of the old Fourth Estate. Are they right?

This timely and important conference will analyse the causes and impact of these changes. It will propose policies designed to protect high-quality, diverse public service programming and to ensure that local and regional media continue to serve their communities. This conference will provide a clear insight into these key media policy issues. Sign up for what we are sure will be a stimulating and informative conference.

Booking Information

Registration from 9.00am. Conference 10.00am-5.00pm

Corporate £150; Not-for-profit and trade union organisations £25; individuals £20;

Concessions: students, unwaged, retired £10.

25% discount for bookings before 15 September

Book online at: <http://www.cpbf.org.uk/mediaforall> or

by post: CPBF, 23 Orford Road, London E17 9NL

Telephone: 0208 521 5932



Shafted: the media, the miners' strike and the aftermath

Reporters who worked for *BBC Radio News* (Nicholas Jones), the *Yorkshire Evening Post* (Peter Lazenby) and *The Times* (Paul Routledge) reflect on reporting the strike.

Shafted: the media, the miners' strike and the aftermath provides fresh perspectives and draws together a range of writers who contribute their different views on media coverage of the strike and its aftermath.

Shafted also places the strike in its political and economic context, and highlights the devastating impact of the pit closure programme on mining communities.

Shafted: the media, the miners' strike and the aftermath

Published by the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom.

on the 25th anniversary of the 1984-85 strike.

Price £9.99

Praise for Shafted

'Each writer offers a different perspective though they all combine under Granville Williams' skilful editing to present an authentic picture of how the British media distorted the truth and became corrupted by, and within, the political culture of

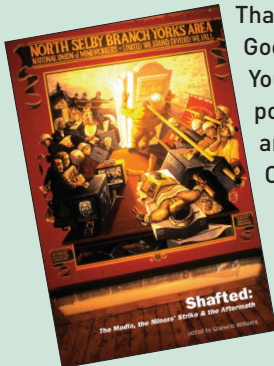
Thatcherism in its most virulent and arrogant period.' Geoffrey Goodman, veteran *Daily Mirror* Industrial Correspondent in *Tribune*.

You can order the book online at: www.cpbf.org.uk/shafted or by

post (£12.50 inc P&P). Please make a cheque payable to 'CPBF'

and send with your name, address and telephone number to

CPBF 23 Orford Road London E17 9NL



PRE-CONFERENCE DEBATE

The miners' strike and politics today

Friday 30 October 7.00pm

The School of Pharmacy

Brunswick Square, London WC1N 1AX

Speakers:

Tony Benn,

Lee Hall (*Billy Elliot, The Pitmen Painters*)

John Nichols (US media activist and journalist on *The Nation*)

Marc Vallee & Paul Lewis

Showing: Ken Loach *Which Side Are You On?*

Admission £5.00

