

**October**  
**1936-2011**

**“They did not pass”**

**They shall  
not pass!**

**Cable Street** **75**  
**Street**

**MARCH & RALLY**  
**2nd OCTOBER**

## Cable Street anniversary weekend events organised by the Cable Street Group and produced by Alternative Arts

### WILTON'S MUSIC HALL

1 Graces Alley E1 8JB

**2nd October**

**12 noon - 6pm Admission FREE**

**STALLS** all along Graces Alley by campaigning groups, local organisations and supporters with street theatre and music.

**12 noon - 10pm**

#### **PROTEST & SURVIVE**

Exhibition specially commissioned by the Cable Street Group with photography documenting the actual Battle of Cable Street on 4 October 1936, posters from the Spanish Civil War, images recording the past 25 years of protest against racial discrimination by Phil Maxwell.

**1pm**

#### **GRAND UNION YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF EAST LONDON**

Specially commissioned concert by a group of 30 diverse talented young musicians under the leadership of Tony Haynes, director of the Grand Union Orchestra.  
[www.grandunionyouth.org.uk](http://www.grandunionyouth.org.uk)

**3pm**

#### **BOOK LAUNCH** and Reception

Five Leaves is publishing or republishing five books to celebrate the 75th Anniversary.

#### ● **THE BATTLE OF CABLE STREET**

Originally published by The Cable Street Group as a pamphlet, now being published as a small book.

#### ● **OCTOBER DAY**

A reprint of a long-forgotten novel by Frank Griffin, with a new introduction by Andy Croft, an expert on the literature of the period.

● **STREET OF TALL PEOPLE** by Alan Gibbons, a re-issue of the children's book aimed at 10-13 year olds.

#### ● **BATTLE FOR THE EAST END**

David Rosenberg's new book on Jewish responses to homegrown fascism in the 1930s.

#### ● **EVERYTHING HAPPENS IN CABLE STREET**

A new title by local author Roger Mills bringing the history of Cable Street up to date.

There will be readings and signings followed by a panel discussion about literature of the 1930s and beyond.

All the books will be on sale directly from the publisher and the authors present will be available to sign copies.

**4pm**

#### **REBELS IN THE 1930s – working class writers**

A panel discussion chaired by Ross Bradshaw of Five Leaves Publishing.

**7pm**

#### **SUNDAY NIGHT AT WILTON'S MUSIC HALL**

The Cable Street Group proudly presents *'They Shall Not Pass'*.

A star spangled evening presenting a great variety of performers with poets, singers, choirs, comics and bands including Billy Bragg, Shappi Khorsandi, Mike Rosen, Ninia Benjamin, Raised Voices and The Men They Couldn't Hang (acoustic). <http://www.battleofcablestreet.org.uk>

**Tuesday 4 October**

**7.30pm**

#### **FROM CABLE STREET TO BRICK LANE**

Special Preview of a new film made by Phil Maxwell and Hazuan Hashim [www.cablestreettobricklane.co.uk](http://www.cablestreettobricklane.co.uk)



**MARCH &  
RALLY  
SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER**



Contact us: [info@cablestreet75.org.uk](mailto:info@cablestreet75.org.uk)

[facebook.com/cablestreet75](https://www.facebook.com/cablestreet75)

<https://twitter.com/cablestreet75>

<http://cablestreet75.org.uk>

## The Battle of Cable Street

The fascists provoked many clashes in the 1930s, but the high point of the struggle against them took place in the East End of London on 4 October 1936 and became known as the Battle of Cable Street.

The British fascists – like their mentors in Nazi Germany – told people that the reason for unemployment, poor housing and other problems was because of the Jews.

Mosley assembled his fascists, dressed in their sinister blackshirt military uniform, in order to march through the Jewish district of the East End. He wanted to divide the population on ethnic lines.

When Mosley made his call for the fascists to march, the East End was on tenterhooks. The establishment political parties, newspapers and religious organisations told people to stay at home and not make trouble. But, communists, socialists, trade unionists, First World War veterans' organisations, and many other organisations with popular local support called for a mass mobilisation.

Hundreds of thousands of people took to the East End streets barricading them with anything they could find to stop the police clearing a path for the fascists. Tram drivers stopped their vehicles in the middle of the street and abandoned them so that police horses could not get through to clear the way.

With the main route through the East End blocked, Mosley's last chance would have been to take his thugs through Cable Street. But as soon as the police cleared the first anti-fascist barricade they found another, and then another. In the meantime, every conceivable unwanted household object rained from the windows of the properties onto the hapless police officers below.

Irish dockers and Jewish tailors fought side by side to stop the police clearing a route. Instead of dividing local people Mosley's provocation had united them.

The police were outfought and could not clear a route through Cable Street. There was nowhere left for the fascists to go now but to march out of the area. The fascists were sent packing and Cable Street forever became associated with a great victory for Britain's anti-fascist forces.

## Cable Street 1936! Brick Lane 1978!

The East End of London has a long history of immigration into the area. Each new wave has had to deal with the problems of being seen as newcomers by the established population.

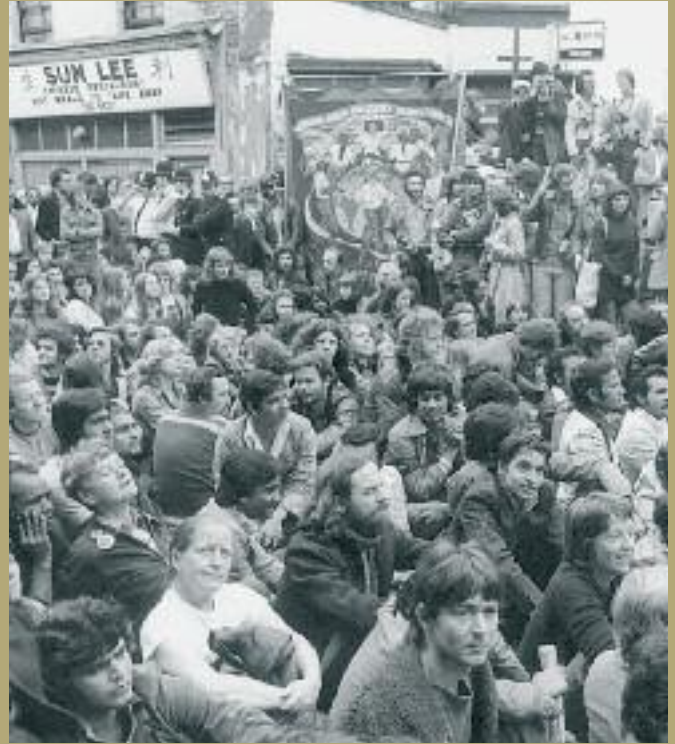
In the 1970s the Bengali community became targeted by Oswald Mosley's heirs, now in the National Front (NF), just as the Jewish people in the area had been targeted decades earlier.

It was in the East End at the beginning of the 1970s that the term "Paki-Bashing" was first used, when racist skinheads emerged in the area.

The NF came to sell their papers in Brick Lane and rampaging gangs of youths carried out racist attacks on anybody that wasn't white.

But the Bengali community, particularly through newly formed youth organisations, organised robust communal defence, just as the Jews had done in the 1930s.

With allies in the trade union movement the local community drove the NF paper sellers out of Brick Lane and the racists off of the streets.



Sit down protest against NF paper sellers in Brick Lane

## Remember Altab Ali

With the vicious racist attacks in the 1970s, carried out against the Bengali population, inevitably came murders.

One of those murdered was Altab Ali, a 25-year-old clothing worker from Sylhet. He was stabbed in a racist attack on Adler Street, near St Mary's Park, off of the Whitechapel Road, on his way home from work on 4 May 1978.

The local community swore that his death would not be in vain and in its wake a significant anti-racist movement was built in the East End. That movement turned the tide against racism in the area.

In 1998 St Mary's Park was renamed Altab Ali Park in his memory. The entrance to the park has an archway that stands as a memorial to the victims of racist attacks.



## Supporters include

Southern & Eastern Region TUC  
Hope Not Hate  
UNITE  
RMT  
ASLEF  
Altab Ali Memorial Foundation  
Searchlight Educational Trust  
Bangladesh Youth Union  
Jewish Socialists' Group  
International Brigades Memorial Trust  
Brent Trades Council  
London Anti-Racist Alliance  
Communist Party of Britain  
Young Communist League  
Cities of London and Westminster  
Trades Council  
NUT Islington Teachers' Association  
Greater London Association of  
Trades Councils  
UNISON Greater London Region

NUT East London Teachers' Association  
Philosophy Football  
National Clarion Cycle Club  
Socialist History Society  
Greater London Pensioners Association  
Connolly Association  
Bangladesh Welfare Association  
Swadhinata Trust  
Nirmul Committee  
Bangladesh Udichi Shilpi Gosthi  
United Platform Against Racism  
& Fascism  
Morning Star  
Five Leaves Publications  
Jewish Labour Movement  
Lambeth Trades Council  
Harrow Trades Council  
Ealing Trades Council  
CWU London Region  
Croydon Trades Council  
London Co-operative Party  
Harlow TUC



# MARCH & RALLY

## SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER

### Assemble:

11.30am Aldgate East (junction of Braham Street and Lemman Street)

Nearest tube: Aldgate East

### Rally:

1.00pm St George-in-the-East Gardens (off Cable Street)

On 4 October 1936 London's East End took to the streets to stop Oswald Mosley's fascist Blackshirts from marching through its then largely Jewish districts.

Communists, socialists and trade unionists led one of the largest – and most successful – mobilisations of Britain's working class ever to have taken place.

The fascists came to the area to divide Jews and non-Jews but were faced with a community that united against the threat. Come and join the march and rally to remember that historic victory and to send a powerful message of unity against today's forces of fascism, racism and antisemitism.

ওরা পেরতে পারেনি!

ক্যাবল স্ট্রীট যুদ্ধের ৭৫তম বার্ষিকী

রবিবার ২ অক্টোবর ২০১১

মিছিল ও সমাবেশ

জমায়ত ও মিছিল শুরু: সকাল সাড়ে ১১টা। অল্ডগেইট ইস্ট

(ব্রাহাম ও লেমান স্ট্রীট এর সংযোগস্থল)

সমাবেশ: দুপুর ১টা। সেন্ট জর্জেস্ ইন দি ইস্ট পার্ক (ক্যাবল স্ট্রীট)

৪ঠা অক্টোবর ১৯৩৬ সাল। সেদিন লন্ডনের পুরো ইস্ট এন্ড সে সময়ের ইহুদি অধ্যুষিত এলাকায় পথে নেমে এসেছিল অসংখ্য মোসলের ব্ল্যাকশার্ট ফাসিস্টদের মিছিল ঠেকাতে।

এটি ছিল লন্ডনের ইস্ট এন্ড এ কমিউনিস্ট, সমাজতন্ত্রী ও ট্রেড ইউনিয়নিস্টদের নেতৃত্বে সংগঠিত বৃটেনের শ্রমিক শ্রেণীর সর্বকালের সর্ববৃহৎ গন জমায়ত।

ফাসিস্টরা এই এলাকায় এসেছিল, ইহুদি ও যারা ইহুদি নয় তাদের মধ্যে বিভেদ ও বিদ্বেষ সৃষ্টি করার জন্য। কিন্তু সম্মিলিত জনগনের প্রতিরোধের মুখে তারা বার্ষ হয়ে ফিরে যায়।

আসুন, সকলে মিলে মিছিল ও সমাবেশ করে সেই ঐতিহাসিক বিজয়কে স্মরণ করি এবং আজকের ফাসিস্ট, কর্তাবাদী ও এন্টি-সেমিটিস্টদের কানে আমাদের সম্মিলিত ঐক্যের শক্তিশালী আওয়াজ পৌঁছে দেই।