At a time of intense public activism at home and across the globe, explore the varied and fascinating history of public protest in the UK with the ICO's new archive film: *Britain on Film: Protest!* This is a special joint screening between the Salisbury Civic Society and the Bemerton Film Society.

From a 1910 suffragette demonstration in London to striking coal miners in the Rhondda Valley, from female CND protesters spanning the Tamar Bridge to the defeat of fascists at London's Cable Street, this absorbing, illuminating collection examines the nature of protests large and small and for causes regional and national, by participants fighting for suffrage and democracy, against exploitation and inequality, for fair wages and worker's rights, for public safety, freedom and community and in the face of war and oppression.

Sourced from the national and regional archives and newly digitised, *Britain on Film: Protest!* tells a story not just about specific protests and their causes, but about a tumultuous century, the constant presence of public dissent and its dynamic effects as a weapon of change – at a time when raising our voices feels more essential than ever.

UK 1910-1986 - 77 minutes - 12A certificate
Wednesday 16th October 2019
St John's Place, Lower Road, Lower Bemerton
Doors open 18.00
Programme starts 18.30
Entrance £3.00 - all welcome
Wine and other beverages available





Wednesday 16 October 2019







Independent Cinema Office

Britain on film: Protest! - synopsis of the 15 films

Demonstration of Suffragettes - 1910

This was one of the earliest mass marches organised by the suffrage movement.

Welsh Coal Strike Scenes at Aberaman - 1910

The strike begins when the colliery manager withdraws the miners' right to take home firewood - and escalates to include 18 grievances. [Eventually the hardship of the strike took its toll and the miners were forced back to work.]

Hands Off Baby's Milk - 1916

Surrounded by evocative slogans, women hold their crying babies up for the cameras as they protest at high milk prices.

Freedom of the Hills - 1930

A peaceful protest at Winnats Pass in Derbyshire is an important step in the struggle to open up Britain's countryside to the public. [This eventually led to the creation of National Parks in 1951.]

Fascists Defeated at Cable Street - 1936

The Battle of Cable Street sees numerous anti-fascist groups and local residents take to the streets of a predominantly Jewish area in London's East End to resist Oswald Mosley's Black Shirts.

Tenants in Revolt - 1939

These 1930s Eastenders face as much drama as their modern fictional counterparts. The Stepney Tenants' Defence League is an organised response to rising rents and often slum-like conditions.

Road Safety Protest - 1967

The A5 through Brownhills in Staffordshire follows the ancient Roman road known as Watling Street. By 1967 it is carrying so much traffic that parents are demanding a pedestrian crossing that will make the walk to Watling Street Primary school less of a lottery.

Building Workers Demonstration - 1972

Standing near Birmingham's Rotunda building, the statue of King Kong is a short-lived piece of public art that plays an important role in one of the major industrial disputes of the era when two building workers climb it to highlight their struggle for more pay.

Mayday March, Liverpool - 1974

Trade unionists on the march: members of printers', teachers' and student unions take to the streets in Liverpool.

H Block Hunger Strike - 1980

This film was made to be used in the campaign for "political status for Irish prisoners of war", who began a hunger strike in the Maze Prison in October 1980. Watch interviews with former hunger strikers and see Bernadette Devlin addressing a Belfast rally in support.

CND Women's Protest - 1983

This CND demonstration by women at Devonport naval base draws its inspiration from the women of Greenham Common.

Campaign to Organise the General Strike - 1984

Protesters, placards and rousing rhetoric are all on enthusiastic display in this stirring film made by the Workers Revolutionary Film Unit. Striking miners join the annual conference of the Young Socialists in Blackpool.

Keresley – A Village and a Strike - 1985

In December 1984, the divisive miners' strike is splitting communities across the nation. This film features the striking miners of Keresley near Coventry. They have been out for nine months and as Christmas approaches it has become more than a strike over jobs: it is a fight for the roots of Socialism itself.

Gay Rights - 1986

"There can be no Socialism without lesbian and gay liberation" spoke Jo Richardson MP at the 1986 Labour Party Conference. But that depends on where you live. While Harringay in North London is seen as leading the way, Coventry lags behind - even though it has been a centre of dissent and protest since the days of Lady Godiva.

Do Something! - 1970

Grassroots action proves effective as Islington residents fight the council for better housing and facilities for their children. Racial tensions are high in the area and frank interviews with local inhabitants reveal conflicting attitudes to growing integration.