

27/10/17 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press release: Spycops Plaques Project launch

This Friday, 27th October, sees the official launch of the new Spycops Plaques Project.

This project is about marking some of the places where #spycops operated in the past, with a specially designed plaque being installed at locations across London.

The undercover officers whose work is commemorated by these plaques are mostly from two secretive police units: the Special Demonstration Squad (SDS), which was part of Special Branch and operated from 1968-2008 and the National Public Order Intelligence Unit (NPOIU), which was created in March 1999 and took over the SDS role.

The groups that these officers targeted included trade unionists, environmentalists, anti-nuclear and peace activists, the movement against apartheid, people fighting for human and animal rights, against testing cosmetics on animals, and even families whose campaigning was in response to their loved ones' deaths in custody.

Housmans bookshop has been home to many such groups since it opened in 1959 – providing meeting and office space for a wide range of campaigns – for example the McLibel Support Group, Peace News, London Animal Action etc. Plenty of evidence has emerged to prove that these groups were infiltrated by both police officers and corporate spies.

Join us at Housmans, 5 Caledonian Road, Kings Cross N1 at 7.30pm this Friday, 27th October, to see the plaque being unveiled.

There will then be an opportunity to hear first-hand accounts from members of those groups, and others who were personally affected by these abusive police units.

Although the Metropolitan Police have apologised (and paid out compensation) for the actions of these officers, to the women who were deceived into intimate relationships with them, they have refused to answer any questions or provide any information to them.

It is only due to the persistence and research skills of some of those who were targeted that we have any details at all. The Police are now doing their best to prevent the Government's own Public Inquiry into Undercover Policing from getting to the truth of what went on.

For more information, quotes and photographs for publication,

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