

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BRITISH RADICAL BOOKSHOPS

This is an attempt at a comprehensive bibliography on the history of radical bookshops in Britain, but has extended to the radical book trade in general – at home and to a lesser extent abroad. The list is much more sketchy for the non-UK trade.

With thanks to Ross Bradshaw.

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Articles

- *The Bookseller* 21.1.94 “Fascists attack (**Mushroom**) Bookshop
- *Just (Censored) Books* Editorial in *The Communist* June 1980 (BICO) on the refusal of the Belfast shop, **Just Books**, to stock their material. 1pp
- *Radical Bookshops Directory* in *Ethical Consumer* 142, May/June 2013. 2pp A poor list compared to the 1980s, but it reveals a few new shops and some old names hanging on in there, plus some on-line shops. Part of a longer feature presenting alternatives to Amazon.
- *Bill Butler Another sort of Publisher* in *Frenz* No.28, 26 May 1972 (2 pp). Interview as much about **Unicorn Bookshop** in Brighton that he set up with his partner, as about his publishing. Has photo.

CPGB pamphlets published during wartime which formed internal news review:

- Communist Organisation for Victory* Aug 1942. Literature sales.
- Mobilising the Party for the Second Front* Oct 1942 B Bradley: "District Literature Bulletins are being produced by the majority of Districts".
- Organising to Win the Offensive* Dec 1942. B Bradley has lengthy article on selling lit. in factories, meetings etc.
- Organising for Offensive Action* Feb 1943 Ben Bradley: "A majority of Districts now have full-time District Literature Organisers and the majority of districts have their own bookshops (except Hants & Dorset)."

- e) *Party Organisation - Weapon for Victory* March (?) 1943. Ben Bradley *On the Literature Front*: contains letter on setting up a small shop in Northampton.
- f) *Organise to Mobilise Millions* March 1943, has important article by Ben Bradley looking at bookshops and lit. sales (increased 10 fold from 1940 to 1942: "Special credit is due to Central Books Ltd and those responsible for building a central distributing agency which is comparable to any capitalist concern". There is also a description of lit. selling at a big rally.
- g) *Organising for Victory in 1943* May 1943, has 2 articles incl. an interesting comparison of Lit. sales between CP Districts
- h) *Sharpening Our Weapons* July 1943, has article on National Literature Conference
- i) *Speed the Campaign* Dec 1943, has article on Literature Competition
- j) *Strengthen Our Organisation* Feb 1944, has detailed article on National Literature Competition Results.
- k) *Party Organisation and the Invasion* June 1944, has article on *My Job: How a Literature Secretary Looked at it*.

---- *Party Life* CPGB Has regular articles on literature sales.

- a) Jeffery, Nora *We Could Treble Our Literature Sales in 1963* in Dec 1962 3pp
- b) Hibbin, Eric *New Plans for London Literature Sales* in July/Aug 1963 2pp
- c) Walker, Iris *Experiences of Lit. Sales in the Midlands* in Oct/Nov 1963 2pp

---- *Guardian* no date Booked for *Our Liberties* (Obituary of Giles Bristow (11.8.40-10.93), who ran the independent **Bristow's Paperbacks** in Norwich - sex, drugs, rock'n'roll and politics.)

---- *Guardian* 6.9.1980 (article on radical bookshops).

---- *Our View: the news and current affairs magazine for lesbians and gay men* (June-July 1994) Various article on writing and selling books, including a feature on GMP, and on **Silver Moon**.

---- *Single Step, Lancaster* in *North West History Journal* 47, 2022/3. 1pp.

---- *Socialist Worker* 24 Dec 1977 Feature on books has one page on **Bookmarks**.

---- *Tribune* 7.2.92 "Read a little bad news", on the closure of radical bookshops.

Barker, George *Coming to London* in *The London Magazine* January 1956. Description of **Archer's Bookshop**.

Bell, Tom *Pioneering Days* 1941 Description of Will McGill and his **Herald League Bookshop** in Glasgow 1914/15 (p266)

Berry, Dave *Radical Book Trade Turns Over a New Leaf* in *New Statesman*

5.7.1985 2pp

- Bradshaw, Ross *Early Closing at **Mushroom Bookshop*** in County Lit No.6, Nottingham County Council Literature Newsletter 1pp
- Bradshaw, Ross *Chapter Adverse (Radical Bookselling & Publishing)* in *Chartist* 112, Nov/Dev 1986 2pp
- Bradshaw, Ross *Radical bookshops: Up from the Ashes?* in *Tribune* 23.11.90
- Burfield, Diana *F R Henderson and the Bomb Shop* in *Bookdealer* 19.8.2004 4pp **Colletts**
- Cacanas, Zoe *Serving the New East Enders* in *Bookseller* 13.10.2000. On **Eastside Bookshop** 2pp
- Cocaign, Ellen *The Left's Bibliophilia in Interwar Britain: Assessing Booksellers' Role in the Battle of Ideas* in *Twentieth Century Communism* No.4, 2012. 13pp A French academic specialising in British left-wing publishing and bookselling provides some interesting comparisons with France and with the mainstream book trade in Britain.
- Cope, Dave *Party Bookshops – Turning Over a New Leaf?* in *Focus*, November 1984 1pp Report of CP Bookshops meeting.
- Derbyshire, Philip *Compendium Bookshop, 1968-2000 - Obituary* in *Radical Philosophy* 105, Jan/Feb 2001 1pp.
- Doherty, Brian *The Revolution in High Lane? Direct Action Community Politics in Manchester in the 1970s* in *NWLH* 7 1980-81 5pp. Brief ref. to Mike Don at **Grassroots** and the question of all-women co-ops).
- Dooley, Pat *Selling Books in Ireland* in *Left Review* June 1936 4pp Humorous account of a radical bookstall at Irish National Teachers' Congress in Killarney. Dooley was a publisher's rep (for L&W?)
- Douglas, H *The Significance of the Peace Library for United Front Literature* in *Inprecorr* June 6 1936 2pp On the new series of CP pamphlets, but covers theory & practice of literature sales; covers "lit. agent", bookshops, LBC. "Even on beaches, at cricket matches, on hikes, these pamphlets can be sold".
- Forder, Robert *Robert Forder of 28 Stonecutter Street, London EC* in *The Journal of Freethought History* Vol. 1 No. 2, 2004. 8pp Author is great grandson of the subject – a key figure in freethought and secular bookselling and publishing in last decade of the 19th century.

- Goodway, David *Charles Lahr: Anarchist, Bookseller, Publisher* in *The London Magazine* June/July 1977
- Gosling, Paul *Closure of **Bookworm** (Derry)* in Co-op News, Feb 2, 2008.
- Harris, Jill & Moorhouse, Paula *News From Nowhere* in *North West History Journal* 47, 2022/3. 3pp.
- Henry, Elaine *Radical Words* in *Scottish Left Review* No.26, Jan/Feb 2005. 2pp
Author worked in **Womanzone** in mid 1980s and set up **Word Power** in 1994.
- Hetherington, Bill; Chester, Gail et al.
Housmans at 60 4pp Supplement in *Peace News*, October 2005. With photos.
- Johnson, Linton Kwesi *John La Rose – Obituary* in *The Guardian* 4.3.06 La Rose was the founder of **New Beacon Books**, the black publishing house and bookshop; he was also the key figure behind the International Book Fair of Radical Black & Third World Books (1982-95).
- La Rose, John Interviewed by E A Markham in *Artrage* No.16, Spring 1987. 2pp. Briefly covers his publishing, bookselling and organising of the International book Fair of Radical, Black & 3rd World Books.
- La Rose, Michael *The Story of New Beacon Books* in Hornsey Historical Society Bulletin 63, 2022. 5pp. Includes list of books published by New Beacon.
- Lennon, Peter *Guardian* 27.8.93 “Final Chapter” on Olive Parsons and the life of the recently deceased **Collets**.
- McAlpine, Joan *Turning Over a Radical New Leaf* in *The Scotsman* 11.11.1991. 1pp On **Clyde Books**, Glasgow.
- Norrie, Ian *The Bookseller* : a series of articles on various cities mentioned radical bookshops. mid 90s?
- Page, Benedicte *The Bookseller* June 1 2001 p.30 Interview with Andy McSmith (ex- **Days of Hope**).
- Pitt, Bob *Compendium’s Closure: No Loss to the Left* in *What Next?* No.18, 2001. (**Compendium Bookshop**).
- Reid, Betty *The James Klugmann Collection of Books, Pamphlets & Ceramics at the MML* in MML Bulletin, 107 Winter 1985/6 3pp

- Render, Chris & Derbyshire, Phillip (ed.)
The First 25 Years of Compendium Bookshop Aldgate Press
 29pp
- R.E.S.
Eva Reckitt - Obituary in *History Workshop No.2* 2pp
- Ross, Alan
The End: Leicester's Other Bookshop in *Leicester's Other Paper* August/September 1995. 1pp (on the closure of **Blackthorn Books**)
- New Left Review 154*
Faith, Hope and Struggle Short mention of a Jewish religious and Marxist bookshop in Cricklewood.
- Saunders, Simon
Morning Star Nov. 14th, 2009. Whole page article.
- Sissons, R and Kennedy, S
The Bookseller 22.3.80 *The Growth of the New Radicals*.
- Slade, L
How Thames Began in *Lit News* Nov. 1946 On **Thames Books**.
- Vere, Mandy
A History of News from Nowhere, Liverpool's Radical and Community Bookshop in *NWLH* 36, 2011-12 6pp
- Walker, Maggie; Jones, Gay; Devine, Fran; Seccombe, Rick
Grass Roots Books 1971-1990 in *North West History Journal* 47, 2022/3. 9pp. **Grass Roots** in Manchester was the largest radical bookshop in the North West. Illustrated.
- Ward, Colin
New Statesman 13.5.94 *Colin Ward rejoices in the long life of alternative bookshops* '...alternative bookshops are outposts of our kind of civilisation.'
- Ward, David
Shop Raided in Bombs Inquiry in *The Guardian* 30.6.1995. Mainly on **Frontline Books** in Manchester, also raid on **Inner Bookshop**, Oxford, after fire bombings on Isle of Wight by animal rights activists. Police raids targeted the magazine *Green Anarchist*. Similar article in *The Observer* by Michael Durham on 9.7.1995.

Magazines

Alternative Press Index: An Index to Alternative & Radical Publications

Alternative Press Centre, Baltimore. Founded in 1969, originally quarterly, later biannual. International coverage. Large format. Now published on-line.

Books for Progress

Central Books Ltd. Nos. 1 - 35 (July 1950 - Autumn 1958). Initially monthly, by 1951 published quarterly. 4pp printed

review of books, mainly distributed by Central but not exclusively so. Sold at 1d. Replaced by the less ambitious *Book News* which was free. At this time, in 1959, Lawrence & Wishart produced their own 4pp *Review*, also free.

British Alternative Press Index

John Noyce, Publisher, Brighton. (Jan 1976 – 1978?). A5 format.

The Eye

No.1 Sept 1935 to No.8 1937 (Martin Lawrence Ltd). 4pp-8pp newspaper format, with reviews and articles beyond ML and CP's publications. One of the most visually striking magazines ever published by the British Left.

Head and Hands - A Socialist Review of Books Linked to CSE (Conference of Socialist Economists).

Labour Book Service Bulletin

August, October, November (No.10)1940 (Labour Book Service). 20pp

New Anarchist Review

(A Distribution et al.) Issues 5,7, from around 84/85

News From Neasden - A Catalogue of New Radical Publications

No.1 1975 - ? (No.12 1980)

Our Books June 1921

Leonard Parsons Publishers.

Radical Bookseller

No. 1 October 1980 - No.78 Winter 1992. 12-16pp. Editor: Fergus Nicol. Included London Labour Library's listings of radical books. The following issues have a list of radical bookshops: 6 (1981); 17/18 (1982); 34 (1984); 40,41,43 (1985); 49(1986/7); 60 (1988); 61 (1989); 67 (1990); 75 (1991). The following have surveys of Radical Bookshops:?: 34 (1984); 76 (1990).

Tyneside Socialist Centre Bulletin

Every issue I have seen of this Bulletin has an article by Martin Spence or Andy McSmith, on **Days of Hope** which was an integral part of the Centre for several years, even when the Centre had no premises.

Books and Pamphlets

Alternative England and Wales (Nicholas Saunders, 1975) Four page listing, and short mentions of political and alternative bookshops

Directory of Organisations (Agitprop, 1971?)

Federation of Radical Booksellers List of Shops 1987 (FRB,

1987)

The First 25 Years of Compendium Bookshop (Compendium, 1993)

Freedom - a Hundred Years October Freedom Press 1986 88pp
Centenary issue of *Freedom* issued in bound edition.

Gay's The Word Bookshop Raid: The Role of Customs and Excise 2pp in "Policing London: Collected Reports of the GLC Police Committee" 1986. On the 1984 raid.

How to Sell Literature CPGB, 1942 12pp. Detailed description of CP literature distribution network, how to sell at stalls, in factories, how to keep accounts etc. "At the present time a mass pamphlet should have a national sale of 150,000...The bulk of the sale is concentrated in 2-3 weeks".

In The Making: A Directory of Radical Co-operation ITM, 1981 84pp. Far from complete, even in the area of co-ops (e.g. News from Nowhere is not included), but has more details about shops than usual. The shops it covers tend to be part of larger businesses (with cafes; part of community centres etc.) Includes some magazines, distributors, publishers and printers.

Literature as a Political Weapon - A Guide for Committees and Literature Secretaries CPGB 1955 16pp

Making the Connections: Radical Books Today (FRB, 1988). Includes articles and an annotated list of radical shops.

The Other Branch - Our Story 1972-1982 (Other Branch, Leamington Spa 1982). Very good and funny on running a radical bookshop. 36pp

Public Information: A Directory of Information Sources for Trade Unionists and Campaign Groups (London Labour Library, 1979 48pp. Interesting for the range of informal libraries and resource centres that mushroomed in this period. No mention of Trade Union and Unemployed Resource Centres that came shortly afterwards.

Starting a Bookshop: A Handbook on Radical and Community Bookselling (FRB, 1984) 173pp

Tower Hamlets Arts Project: Proposed Development Plan – Draft Comedia, 1969. 100pp

Where is the Other News? The Newstrade and the Radical Press

(Minority Press Group,). Short chapter on the history of radical bookselling.

Inter-Action Inprint 1975 32pp Contains information on **Centerprise**.

Alleyne, Brian W

Radicals Against Race: Black Activism and Cultural Politics Berg, 2002. On **New Beacon** and John la Rose.

Andrew, Margaret

Doing Nothing is Not an Option Krik Krak, 2014. On **Bogle L'Ouverture**.

Baker, Bob & Harvey, Neil (ed.)

Publishing for People and Fighting Censorship (London Labour Library, 1985) Articles plus annotated list of radical bookshops.

Benson, Ernie

To Struggle is to Live (People's Publications, Newcastle 1980) 2nd volume describes his work setting up CP bookshop in Leeds. [p.117+]

Bernard, Oliver

Getting Over It (Peter Owen 1992) Reminiscences of working at Central Books during the war and after - includes description of sex at **Central Books** during fire watching duties in the blitz!

Bornstein, Sam & Richardson, Al

War and the International (Socialist Platform, 1986) Mentions a bookshop on Upper Street, London, run by the Revolutionary Workers League.

Bradley, Sue

The British Book Trade: An Oral History British Library, 2010 328pp. Does include the odd passing reference to radical and feminist bookshops (and publishers); lengthier references to **Collets** by John Prime who was a manager there. The original recordings by Prime and his business partner/wife Maureen Condon, both members of the CPGB, have more extensive information.

Cadman, Eileen et al.

Rolling Our Own: Women as Printers, Publishers and Distributors (Minority Press group, 1981). Includes a chapter on sexism in radical bookshops.

Caldwell, John Taylor

With Fate Conspire - Memoirs of a Glasgow Seafarer and Anarchist (Northern Herald Books, 1999) Description of setting up **Strickland Press** - bookshop and publisher in George Street Glasgow in 1939; owned by Guy Aldred's United Socialist Movement, set up with legacy from Sir Walter Strickland. Includes a list of Strickland Press publications.

Carpenter, Maurice

A Rebel in the Thirties (Paperbag Book Club, no date) Includes a long memoir of **Archer's Bookshop** in Parton Street, where

the author worked.

- Chester, Gail *Sex, Race and Class: The Radical, alternative and Minority Book Trade in Britain* in Nash, W; Squires, C; Willison, I R (eds) *The Cambridge History of the Book in Britain Volume VII: The Twentieth Century and Beyond* CUP, 2019
- Chester, Gail & Rigby, Andrew(ed.) *Articles of Peace: Celebrating Fifty Years of Peace News* (Prism, 1986) Includes photograph of **Housmans Bookshop**, 1959.
- Cholmeley, Jane *A Feminist Business in a Capitalist World: Silver Moon Women's Bookshop* 19pp in *Working Women* ed. Nanneke Redclift & M Thea Sinclair (Routledge, 1991).
- Cope, Dave *Central Books - A Brief History, 1939-99* (Central Books, 1999) 80pp Covers the retail and wholesale book businesses of the CPGB.
- Cunningham, Valentine *British Writers of the Thirties* (OUP 1988) p109 for **Central Books** and the **Parton Street Bookshop**.
- Daniel, Charles William *The Centenary of a "Crank" Publisher:* (CW Daniel, 1971). Mentions working with FR Henderson, later of the "**Bomb Shop**".
- Davies, Hyman *Frank Allaun 1913-2002: A Tribute* WCML 2003 37pp. Covers Allaun's time as Manager of **Collets'** in Manchester.
- Downes, Georgeanne et al. *Alternative London* (Otherwise Press, 6th edition, 1982) Includes a two page annotated list of bookshops - alternative, political and "ethnic and overseas".
- Durham, Martin *The Early Years of the CP in Birmingham 1920-1924* chapter of 15pp in "Worlds of Labour: Essays in Birmingham Labour History" ed. A Wright & R Shackleton, Univ. of Birmingham, Dept. of Extramural Studies, 1983. Mentions the **Labour Literature Agency** of 1923.
- Fishman, William *The Streets of East London* (Duckworth, 1979) Includes a photograph of the outside of **Freedom**.
- Fountain, Nigel *Underground: The London Alternative Press 1966-74* (Comedia, 1988). Good material on cultural radical material - **The Paperback Bookshop (Edinburgh)**, **Better Books** and **Indica** (London).

- Fox, R.M. *Stormy Crusade* (Hogarth Press 1938) Description of **Lahr's Bookshop** (pp180-184). Lahr was German anarchist and member of the IWW.
- Gallacher, William *Revolt on the Clyde* L&W (pp 43,51,58, 179-180 - confirm which ed. - 1940?) Descriptions of **Herald League Bookshop** in Glasgow, plus Will McGill selling papers and pamphlets at meetings. "During the Rent Strike always when a case was on the court was crowded with demonstrating workers, with McGill of the Herald League moving among the seats, shouting his periodicals and pamphlets". Also, refers to sales of pamphlets in factories.
- Gollancz, Victor *More for Timothy* (Gollancz, 1953) pp296-298
- Gorman, John *Images of Labour* (Scorpion, 1984) Article about **The Ginger Bookshop**, together with an illustration of the shop frontage and a short article on the Left Book Club, including a photograph of the banner of Carshalton Left Book Club.
- Gosling, Ray *Personal Copy* (Faber, 1980) (p144-145) Has a lovely long piece on **Jordan's International Bookshop** in St Anns, Nottingham - once the main British distributor of Trotskyist books. Gosling initially thought at first it dealt in hard-core porn. He also refers to it in *Anarchy* 38.
- Groves, Reg *The Balham Group: How British Trotskyism Began* (Pluto, 1974) 111pp Nice description of Henderson and his "**Bomb Shop**" on Charing Cross Road (pp45-6).
- Haddow, William Martin *My Seventy Years* (Robert Gibson, Glasgow 1943). The short but very useful piece on the **Reformers Bookstall** and other early socialist bookshops in Glasgow (and publishing) starts on page 54.
- Hannington, Wal *Never On Our Knees* L&W 1967 Describes engineering plant in Slough in October 1919: "Dinner-hour meetings and lectures on trade unionism and socialism became a daily feature and large quantities of socialist literature were sold. In several departments socialist book-clubs were organised in which groups of workers subscribed a shilling a week and drew lots to decide the week in which they would be entitled to receive and own a quantity of new books of their choice". (p66-7)
- Haynes, Jim *Thanks for Coming* (Faber, 1984) Good on The Paperback Bookshop in Edinburgh. Includes a list of shops selling *IT*.
- Hobday, Charles *Edgell Rickword - A Poet at War* Carcanet 1989 See Chapter 15 "Bookselling" for account of Rickword's shops in Deal,

Sandgate, then as manager of **Collet's** in Hampstead in 1954 and manager of second-hand department in Charing Cross Road from c1959 to 1965.

- Hopkins, Kenneth *The Corruption of a Poet* (James Barrie, 1954) Contains an account of Charlie Lahr and the shop and an extract from Hopkin's own (unpublished) novel, *Poor Heretic*, which fictionalises Lahr. Hopkins lived above the shop 1938-9.
- Ingram, Kevin *Rebel: The Short Life of Esmond Romilly* (Weidenfeld & Nicholson, 1985. Good on David Archer's **Parton Street Bookshop**
- Jackson, T A *Solo Trumpet* (L&W 1953) p61. Description of buying shares in C Kerr & Co. and getting cheap books: 'This was launched originally as a co-operative venture: anyone holding a 10 dollar share in the Company could have books at half catalogue prices. A group of us put our shillings together, bought a share, and ordered a batch of books.'
- Kops, Bernard *Shalom Bomb - Scenes from my Life* Oberon 2000 Description of David Archer and his shop p14-16
- Langdon, Julia *Mo Mowlam - The Biography* (Warner Books 2000) Amusing description of her volunteering to work in **Days of Hope** bookshop in Newcastle p113+)
- Lewenstein, Oscar *Kicking Against the Pricks - A Theatre Producer Looks Back* (Nick Hearn, 1994) The well known theatre and film producer worked in **Workers' Bookshop** in Farringdon Road in 1936 for 2 years, dealing with LBC members' queries; manager of this dept. was Nelly Lansbury, George's daughter. (p.54 onwards)
- Lindsay, John *Vicarage Party* Includes an account of Charlie Lahr's Red Lion Street/Square bookshop.
- McShane & Smith *Harry McShane - No Mean Fighter* (Pluto 1978) Some passing refs to Willie McGill, BSP, ILP and CP bookshops.
- Meltzer, Albert *I Couldn't Paint Golden Angels* (AK, 1996). Short pieces on the short-lived **Wooden Shoe** (anarchist) Bookshop and the anarchist **121 Bookshop** on Railton Road.
- Meltzer, Albert *The Anarchists in London 1935-1955* (Cienfuegos, 1976) Short mention of the opening of **Freedom Bookshop** in Red Lion Passage and the (un-named) anarchist bookshop in Glasgow in the 30s.
- Morrison, Sybil *I Renounce War: The Story of the Peace Pledge Union* (Sheppard Press, 1962) Short section on the early years of

Housmans Bookshop.

- Mullen, Sally *The Bristol Socialist Society in Bristol's Other History* (Bristol Broadides 1984). Brief mention of **Jack Flynn's** shop – **The Bomb Shop** (p42)
- Norrie, Ian *A Hampstead Memoir: High Hill Bookshop 1957-1988* (High Hill Press, 1989). Short mentions of **Collets**.
- Noyce, John (ed.) *Alternative Bookshops: A List* (John Noyce Publisher) Published annually in late 1970s.
- Owens, Joe *Action! Race War to Door Wars* p.o.d. 2007 302pp Liverpool NF and BNP activist and street fighter. Includes description of his trial for attempted break in at **Progressive Books** and attack on **News from Nowhere**.
- Pollitt, Harry *Books and Pamphlets - How to Sell Them* CPGB 1938 40pp
- Pye, Dennis *Fellowship is Life* (Clarion Publishing, 1995) Material on Clarion vans.
- Ray, Rob *A Beautiful Idea: History of the Freedom Press Anarchists* Freedom Press, 2018 Mostly on publishing and magazines, but does have references to the bookshop, in the same premises.
- Saville, John *Reckitt, Eva Collet in Dictionary of Labour Biography Vol. 9.* Macmillan 1993 5pp On the founder of **Collets**.
- Sayle, Alexei *Stalin Ate My Homework* Sceptre, 2010. Memoirs of his youth, with brief but hilarious description of the pro-Chinese **Bellman Bookshop** in London (p289-290).
- Schling, Rosa *The Lime Green Mystery: an Oral History of the Centreprise Co-operative* On the Record, 2017. Covers all aspects of the business - publishing, café, classes - as well as the bookshop. Well illustrated.
- Schling, Rosa (ed.); Rosen, Michael (Foreword) *A Bookshop For All: Conversations with Newham's Readers and Writers* On the Record, 2022 95pp. On the Newham Bookshop. Based on interviews with shop workers, customers and local authors.
- Snape, Robert *Radical Readers and Public Libraries* Public Libraries Research Group 1988
- Thacker, Joy *Whiteway Colony: The Social History of a Tolstoyan Community*

(self-published, 1993) has some interesting references to **Freedom** during near death experience.

Thompson, Glenn

Bringing Books to People- How to Set Up a Community Bookshop On **Centerprise**.

Todd, Nigel

In Excited Times Bewick Press, 1995. Has superb photograph of the **Workers' Bookshop** on Westgate Road, Newcastle.

Tuckett, Angela

The People's Theatre in Bristol, 1930-45 (Our History Pamphlet 72, 1979) p3. Refers to **Flynn's Bombshop** in the Horsefair, Bristol - debates in back room.

Vere, Mandy

4 page Interview in *Northern ReSisters: Conversations with Radical Women* ed. Bernadette Hyland, Mary Quaile Club 2005.

White, S; Harris, R; Beezmohun, S

A Meeting of the Continents: The International Book Fair of Radical Black and Third World Books Revisited New Beacon Books & George Padmore Institute, 2005

Fiction, Poetry and Drama

?

The Chronicles of the Bomb Shop Touchstone Tales The Worker Press, Huddersfield, nd (c1900?) 60pp. Humorous account of fictional newsagents/bookshop, its Irish owner and the variety of Fabians, Anarchists, Secularists, "ILPeers, SDPeers, IWWeers" who frequent it and debate in it.

Belbin, David

Black and Blue Scholastic, 1995. Crime novel for young adults, based on the Nazi raid on Mushroom Bookshop in Nottingham in 1994 (Chapter 1), and various incidents surrounding the raid. Ross Bradshaw appears as a thinly disguised chief steward on an anti-fascist demonstration.

Hensher, Philip

The Emperor Waltz Fourth Estate, 2014. 615pp. Based on **Gay's the Word**.

Kaye-Smith, Sheila

Tambourine, Trumpet, Drum Cassell, 1943. References to 'the Bomb Shop crowd' which includes.... (Thanks to George Simmers for the reference).

Kops, Bernard

Barricades in West Hampstead Hearing Eye, 1988. The poem "Whatever Happened to Isaac Babel" concludes with reference to **Better Books**.

Ley, James

Love Song to Lavender Menace Oberon, 2017 88pp. The first play about a British radical bookshop. Set on the night that Lavender Menace closed in Edinburgh in 1987.

- Miner, Valerie *Movement* Methuen, 1982 pp.76-89 Short story called "Cooperative" on a fictional radical publisher which set up a women's bookshop.
- Mitford, Nancy *The Pursuit of Love* Fictional account of left bookshop in 1930s.
- Morley, Iris *Nothing But Propaganda* Peter Davies, 1946. Depiction of working in a CP Bookshop during the war.
- Pritchard, Sarah *When Women Fly* Hidden Voice Publishing, 2019. Contains *Grass Roots* – a poem about the Manchester shop.
- Richardson, Christopher *A City of Light: Socialism, Chartism and Co-operation – Nottingham 1844* Loaf on a Stick Press 2013 For Susannah Wright's **Republican and Freethought bookshop** in Nottingham, 1826.
- Tressell, Robert *The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists* Granada, 1978 pb Description of Socialist van in Chapter 43 and sale of pamphlets p 429.
- Welsh, Irvine *Marabou Stork Nightmares* Jonathan Cape, 1995. p.254 Reference to 'a radical bookshop in Manchester' (**Frontline**) where Welsh buys a copy of an American book that had been banned in England. (Thanks to Rick Seccombe who worked there and ordered copies of the book from the US – but who doesn't remember Welsh buying the book!).

Foreign Radical Shops, Publishers, Publications and Libraries - a small selection

- *Directory of Bookshops in Russia* Flegon Press 1965 20pp
- *Feminist Bookstore News* San Francisco. Bi-monthly. c1977-? (still going in 1993). c80pp Cody, Pat & Fred *Cody's Books - The Life & Times of a Berkeley Bookstore, 1956-1977* Chronicle Books 1992 206pp
- *New Pages* USA
- Bardouillet, Marie-Christine *La Librairie du Travail* (Francois Maspero, 1977) 177pp In French. Syndicalist publishing project that lasted from 1917 to 1939. Briefly linked to CP before reverting to syndicalism and Trotskyism. The project also included attempts at book-club and distribution network among militants.
- Bouju, Marie-Cécile *Lire en Communiste: Les Maisons d'Édition du Parti Communiste Français, 1920-1968* Presses Universitaires de

Rennes 2010 360pp. Detailed historical study of the publishing houses, and distribution networks, of the French Communist Party.

- Calleson, Gerd *The Labour Movement Library and Archive (ABA) in Copenhagen* (in *Socialism and Democracy*, 6/88; 7pp).
- Cody, Pat and Fred *The Life and Times of Cody's Books: A Berkeley Bookstore 1956-1977* (Chronicle, 1992). A U.S. political bookshop.
- Conlin, Joseph R *The American Radical Press, 1890-1960* 2 vols (Greenwood Press 1974)
- Conlin, Joseph R *"The Comrade": An Introduction and Appraisal* (in *Labor History*, Spring 1971) 4pp On the Socialist Party of America's literary journal, 1901-5.
- Davis, Joshua Clark *Forgotten World of Communist Bookstores* in *Jacobin* website [The Forgotten World of Communist Bookstores \(jacobinmag.com\)](http://jacobinmag.com)
- Duram, James C *The Labor Union Journals and the Constitutional Issues of the New Deal* in *Labor History*, Spring 1974 23pp
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Abbreviations

APCF	Anti-Parliamentary Communist Federation
CPGB	Communist Party of Great Britain
CUP	Cambridge University Press
DW	Daily Worker

FRB	Federation of Radical Booksellers
ILP	Independent Labour Party
IMG	International Marxist Group
IS	International Socialists
LLW	Lansbury's Labour Weekly
NWLH	North West Labour History Society Bulletin
RB	Radical Bookseller
SWP	Socialist Workers' Party
WCML	Working Class Movement Library
WRP	Workers' Revolutionary Party

