

# Grafter.

Brutal People. Real Opinion.



***Greetings***

from

***GrayAfter***  
***magazine***

The title 'GrayAfter magazine' is presented in a stylized, multi-layered font. The word 'GrayAfter' is in a large, light blue, cursive-like font with a drop shadow. Each letter of 'GrayAfter' contains a different photograph: 'G' shows a close-up of a dog's face; 'r' shows a textured surface; 'a' shows a building facade; 'y' shows a landscape with a utility pole; 'A' shows a tree; 'f' shows a man in a white jacket; 't' shows a woman's face; 'e' shows a blue sign with the text 'DO NOT OBSTRUCT'; and 'r' shows a tree. Below this, the word 'magazine' is written in a smaller, red, cursive font.

A list of everyone who has contributed to this magazine.

**Editor-in-chief**  
Colleen Considine

**Writer & photographer**  
Valeria Wiwinus

**Poet**  
Lee Nelson

**Writer & photographer**  
Kerry Harrison

**Poet**  
Jasmine Miller-Sauchella

**Photographer**  
Alex Amorós

**Writer & Photographer**  
Adam Savva

**Photographer and cover photo**  
Sam Wainwright

**Writer**  
Natalie Mitchell

**Photographer**  
Sebastian Garrway

**Photographer**  
Michelle Sank

**Writer & Photographer**  
Steve Murphy

**Writer & Photographer**  
Blair Kemp

A shoutout to some supporters and  
previous contributors of Grafter...

Mike McNally.

Mark O'Connor.

Paul Tierney.

Urjuan Toosy

Nick Maroudias.

Dave Kotula.

Andy Chesham.

Martin Burke.

Robert Shrimpsley.

Mark Powell.

Batov Records.

Safe Suburban Home.

Monstera Canteen.

Esther Jacob.

Joey Birch.

Caleb Martin.

Rob Bremmer.

Stefan Byrom.

Natasha Bains.

Ella Potter.

Superlove.

The Early Mornings.

Kimber Music.

Cowgirl.

Sea Records.

Stuck Sunsets.

Pool Sharks.

Soul Boy Shoeshine.

Regressive Left.

Sarah Vista.

Nakisha Freddie-Esnard.

Michelle Muldoon.

Fins N Tins.

Documenting Britain.

Chloe Juno.

Chris Henley.

JW Paris.

Skinner Brothers.

The Strange Days.

Ali McQueen.

Bloggers records

Sweat of the Gods.

David Collyer.

Ace Cafe.

Bolt London.

Boyds of Bedford.

Olivia Kellerman

Tom Kelly.

Gisela Szlatoszlavek.

Craig Szlatoszlavek.

Michelle Sank.

David Gilbert Wright.

Martin Salter.

Stefan Byrom.

Midlight.

Harrison Jones.

Steven Reeves.

Morgan Musselle.

Caravan Guys.

Abby Athena.

And to everyone who has read or  
bought Grafter issue 1.

Cheers!

# Editor's letter.

Colleen Considine.

Last year, I set out to make a magazine that I felt represented me and who I was. The final result not only did that but it also represented a whole lot of people who go unrecognised. It has also made me pursue an area I didn't think my career would let me do, peel away at the taboo topic of Britain's class issue. Grafters is the one-woman band powerhouse magazine that isn't going anywhere.

Doing this means a lot of people have to be on-board. And going into the community of photographers, writers and other creatives, they have certainly been on board. Since creating Issue 1 I have wanted to create a platform that showcases everyone worth showing. And that is a whole bunch of people.

Issue 1 looked at Luton and Ireland. People in towns, counties and cities deemed crap by outsiders of those towns and what they had to say. A series I called, 'Crap Places' after growing-up reading the descriptions given to my hometown of Luton by local and national papers. Touching the surface on societal issues that matter.

As it was created in lockdown, there were things missed. Throughout Grafters' time and without another print magazine, I've been hard at work on the website. For the first digital magazine, I've looked at photographers, homelessness, subcultures, places, people. And all the in-betweens. It had to be different from the print magazine. So this time, there's no 'Crap Places' series. There are no interviews and it's all about the author's personal stories. I've had some amazing people reach-out and contribute in whatever way they

can. Independent publications voice some amazing creatives. Yet, there's a community of people who still go unnoticed. It's something that you have to constantly work at, gaining support from the masses. I wouldn't replace being an independent for anything. You get to know people and how they feel about ideas or issues. I felt frustrated with the lack of support for writers, those full of ideas and bursting with confidence for change. Yet, never really having a platform. That's why I decided to create an inclusive magazine. A variety of topics surrounding Britain today. Where no idea is a bad idea, it may just need help. It's great having an opinion, but if you don't have the guts to put it out there, stick your work and your story out there, then what's the point!?

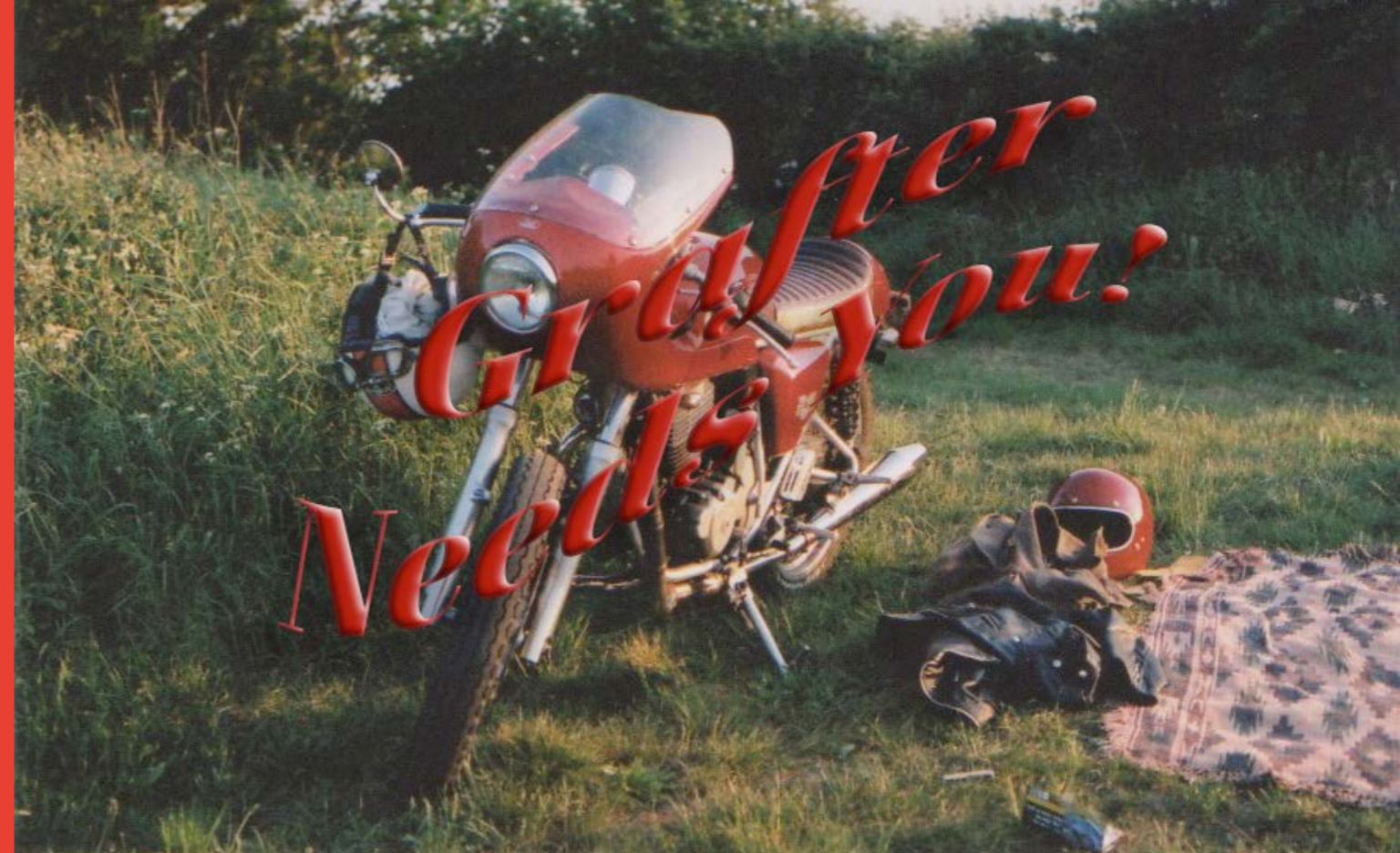
There are places in this country that I don't even know exist. People I can't believe are real. Stories that are just waiting to be put in print. And creatives who never stop. And on the other side of those stories are lives that have been affected. People's jobs that were once there are now gone. A pretty turbulent year, the last thing anyone wants is a further discussion about Covid. What we do need to discuss is the things that have happened because of Covid. The people who have changed. Those whose lives have been damaged. Things that have been made even more prominent than before. Homelessness that we simply don't speak about. Families who have to rely on food banks. We need to ask serious questions and answer them.

There are loads of great journalists pushing boundaries. And loads aren't all on the same level of understanding. Which is fine. However, what's not fine

is pretending to understand. Throwing out an article surrounding poverty here and there but nothing with solutions. Or simply just causing an argument for the sake of disruption. Understanding people, how lives are being affected is different. You can't truly understand what's happening in Britain until you listen. Taking one side and not listening to the whole picture. We have reached a breaking point in the media. Where we need to actively think of solutions. Don't leave the answer up to someone else. We can't just avoid the opposing argument because it doesn't fit with our own. Because we won't understand completely what we have to change. If you avoid something because it is painful being heard. You then don't see the problem. And because of this, we will never understand how to make things better.

As well as all the serious stuff, Grafters is a pretty fun publication. I love photography. So, I showcase loads of photographers. Those of all backgrounds, nationalities and ages. I love art, so I promote artists from the past and those who are bubbling on the scene. A big music buff, whenever a band comes along, better believe there's going to be a review. Passionate about the obscure. Obscure music. Obscure photos. Obscure people. Obscure art. Anything or anyone a little bit different. So, if you like anything that you see or read, feel free to drop Grafters a line or share some content. And, make sure you support indies. To keep writing and keep content flowing independents must be supported.

Enjoy,  
Colleen.



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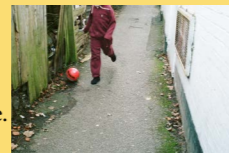
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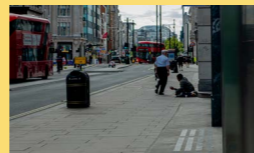
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