

Boycotting the World Cup!!

Okay so the cowgirls had their quarterly general meeting last night and we discussed boycotting the World Cup because of the atrocious human rights track record in Qatar.

There has been a lot of publicity recently about a number of French cities boycotting showing it in public places for this reason.

Some key points from the media -

In 2021 the guardian reported 6500 international workers have died since construction began. This is disputed but is probably far more likely than the 36 reported by Qatar government.

The migrant workers are typically from India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. They have huge of cases of non payment of wages, horrendous living conditions, people having their passports removed and being trapped in contracts and unable to leave.

Despite numerous promises from the government in Qatar, recent reports show little has changed.

We know this is not the first World Cup to have such controversy but the general feeling was we can't continue to support this blindly while doing nothing.

We discussed a number of ways we could support a boycott

- Fully boycotting watching any World Cup games and instead raising awareness by leaflet dropping outside pubs showing the games.
- We don't want The Plough to lose out financially at a time when costs are rising so significantly so we also discussed asking the pub the raise money during matches. Either adding 50p to a pint or taking donations. This money would then be donated to organisations supporting workers in Qatar
- Clearly there are a lot of different opinions in this club and some people won't want to boycott the games so asking club members to "donate" to watch the matches.

Finally, we discussed that if we do make a stand against this World Cup then what does that mean for the future. How could we be consistent with future football events. Or even football clubs that backed by Qatar and/or countries with similar track records. This is a future conversation we'd need to have.

All of your thoughts and views would be very welcome!

Thanks, Soooooz – Email me: scruffylittlevera@hotmail.co.uk