

INSULATE BRITAIN - NOTES

Slide 3

Ghandi – The Salt March in 1930. A campaign to break the British Salt Laws, which taxed salt, and more importantly to oppose British rule of India. The 24-day march lasted from 12 March to 5 April, 1930 and spanned 240 miles, beginning with Ghandi and 78 of his followers and led to large scale civil disobedience by millions of Indians.

Rosa Parks – arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama on 1 December, 1955. This led to the Montgomery bus boycott and to the eventual integration of seating on public buses in Alabama in December 1956.

The Greensboro sit-ins, February 1960. Four black college students began sitting at the lunch counter in the Woolworth department store in Greensboro and then refusing to leave until they were served. In 25 July, 1960, after making huge losses, the store manager asked four black employees to take off their uniforms and be served at the lunch counter, thus ending the policy of segregation in the store.

Occupy Wall Street movement, September 2011, was a protest movement against economic inequality that began in Zucotti Park in NYC's Wall Street financial district. It gave birth to a global Occupy movement and the concept of the super-rich 1% who have more influence the rest of the world ("We are the 99%!"). They used consensus based decision making and non-violent direct action in the form of occupying public spaces, banks, corporate headquarters, board meetings and other sites of power.

Slide 4

Reclaim the Streets (1991) is a collective with the ideal of shared ownership of public spaces. It's a resistance movement to the dominance of corporate forces in globalization with its DNA coming from anti-road protesters. It was formed by several members of **Earth First!** in London in the Autumn of 1991. Earth First! was a radical environmental advocacy group founded in 1980 in south-western USA.

Slide 5

Greta Tintin Eleonora Ernman Thunberg (born 3 January, 2003) began her *Skolstrejk för klimatet* (School Strike for Climate) by holding up a board outside the Swedish Parliament in August 2018. She is now a figure of global importance who spoke to a large crowd in Glasgow on 5 November, 2021 during COP26 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p7OMEjZMZDs>

Vanessa Nakate (born 15 November, 1996) is a Ugandan climate justice activist who grew up in Kampala and, inspired by Greta Thunberg similarly to many other young activists, began a solitary strike outside the Parliament of Uganda in December 2018 after

becoming concerned by the change in the climate in her country. She founded Youth for Future Africa and the Rise Up movement.

Nicola Sturgeon is the First Minister of Scotland, which is hosting COP26 in Glasgow from 31 October to 12 November, 2021.

Slide 6

Extinction Rebellion (XR) is a global environmental movement whose stated aim is to use non-violent civil disobedience to compel governments to take action to avoid tipping points in the climate system. It was established in the UK in May 2018 by 11 environmental activists. Website: <https://rebellion.global/>

Slide 7

Insulate Britain began a series of protest involving obstructing traffic on major roads and motorways in the UK on 13 September 2021. The group was formed by people involved in XR and their main demand is that the UK government insulate all social housing by 2025 and retrofit all homes with insulation by 2030.

YT video of Wandsworth Bridge action:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0PnL2C8RGeA>

Guardian science podcast:

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/audio/2021/oct/21/who-are-insulate-britain-and-what-do-they-want>

Website: <https://www.insulatebritain.com/>

Slide 8

Definition of non-violent direct action (Albert Einstein Institution):

<https://www.aeinstein.org/nonviolentaction/what-is-nonviolent-action/>

Slide 9

COP26 is the 26th Conference to the Parties for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. It is being held in the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow, Scotland.

Website: <https://ukcop26.org/>