



**THE BOTTLED WASP
POCKET DIARY 2019**

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"one wing of his faded greenish Havelock thrown back cavalierly over his shoulder ... The old terrorist, raising an uncertain and clawlike hand, gave a swaggering tilt of a black felt sombrero shading the hollows and ridges of his wasted face. An extraordinary expression of underhand malevolence survived in his extinguished eyes." - Joseph Conrad - 'The Secret Agent' (1907)

He's there in the shadows, the anarchist – dressed all in black (or green and black in Conrad's case) and he's hiding something under that coat! What could it be? To the average Victorian it would be a bomb, as the media caricatures then would so malevolently have it. Yet anarchists are everyday folk: your next door neighbour, GP, postwoman, teacher, favourite novelist or artist; and we come in all shapes and sizes and genders, and all the many colours of the rainbow.

In what sadly will be the last ever Bottled Wasp we tackle that myth, one which is still prevalent even today, by proclaiming the rich variety in our pages day by day. Amongst those that featured are a pioneering rational educationalist (Francisco Ferrer); an Austrian psychoanalyst (Otto Gross); a Czech Surrealist (Toyen); one of those honoured as 'Righteous Among the Nations' (Bernard Konrad Świerczyński); a humble railway worker and patriarch of an anarchist dynasty (Emidio Recchioni); a journalist and feminist (Hiratsuka Raichō); and many more.

The Bottled Wasp project is a not-for-profit fundraiser, with all profits from the diaries going to organisations and charities working with prisoners, in particular the Anarchist Black Cross network. And we dedicate this edition to Anna Campbell, our Black Cross comrade killed in Afrin whilst defending the Rojava autonomous region from a Turkish military incursion in March this year.

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