# Nine arrested after neo-Nazi group celebrates Hitler’s birthday in Manchester pub



# Nine Arrested for Celebrating Hitler's Birthday in Manchester Pub

Recently, nine individuals were arrested in connection with a shocking event in an Oldham pub, where members of a far-right group reportedly celebrated Adolf Hitler's birthday. This incident, which occurred at the Duke of Edinburgh pub in Market Street, has sparked considerable outrage and raised serious concerns about the resurgence of neo-Nazi sentiments in the UK.

According to reports, the group known as British Movement North West displayed Nazi flags and cut a cake adorned with a swastika, which they proudly documented through photographs posted online. This blatant display of hate has been condemned by local authorities and community leaders alike. The pub’s owners stated that their staff had been deceived by the group, who allegedly hid their extremist affiliations while using the venue for their gathering. Following the arrests, Greater Manchester Police conducted extensive raids across the region, uncovering weapons and Nazi memorabilia, including swords, a crossbow, imitation firearms, and a suspected grenade. The presence of such dangerous items prompted the involvement of Army bomb disposal experts, highlighting the serious nature of the operations.

Assistant Chief Constable Steph Parker remarked on the unsettling nature of the group's ideology, stating, “This group clearly has a deep fascination with ideas that we know are unsettling for communities across Greater Manchester.” Emphasising the importance of public safety, Parker noted the necessity for police action whenever concerns about racial hatred are raised. While the police maintain that they do not perceive a broader threat to public safety, the event has ignited discussions about the growing visibility of far-right groups in society.

This incident is not an isolated one; similar events have surfaced across Europe, raising alarms about the resurgence of neo-fascism. For instance, in Poland, three members of the neo-Nazi group 'Pride and Modernity' were arrested in 2018 after celebrating Hitler’s birthday with Nazi salutes and the burning of a swastika. The Polish Prime Minister denounced the events, reiterating the country’s intolerance towards Nazi ideologies and symbols. Such actions reflect a broader trend where extremist groups are brazenly expressing themselves, often invoking historical figures like Hitler to rally their followers.

In Australia, a Jewish leader condemned a neo-Nazi birthday celebration for Hitler, characterising it as a “despicable display of Hitler worshipping and depravity.” This incident showcases the growing problem of extremist gatherings, which not only perpetuate hate but also signal an alarming trend in community values. Similarly, in Austria, four Germans faced arrest for laying flowers at Hitler’s birthplace and performing Nazi salutes, further emphasising the cross-border concerns regarding the commemoration of such a controversial figure.

It is clear that the flirtation with neo-Nazi sentiments is not confined to isolated regions or small groups; it is a phenomenon with deep roots that has spread throughout various communities. The response from local authorities and organisations promoting tolerance and understanding is crucial if society is to combat this resurgence effectively. Many community leaders are urging stronger measures to address the burgeoning problem, as sentiments of hate and division threaten to undermine social cohesion.

While the Manchester incident has been met with swift police action, it also serves as a vivid reminder of the need for continued vigilance against far-right extremism. The presence of these ideologies challenges the very fabric of society, which must strive to uphold principles of equality and justice in the face of hate. As communities grapple with these issues, the collective response will ultimately define the path forward in fostering a harmonious society.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c62x21p4v61o)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c62x21p4v61o), [[2]](https://www.newsweek.com/polish-neo-nazis-arrested-hitler-video-788527)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.timesofisrael.com/three-arrested-in-poland-after-far-right-celebration-of-hitlers-birthday/), [[4]](https://www.chaifm.com/2023/04/26/australian-jewish-leader-blasts-hitler-birthday-party-at-family-restaurant/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[5]](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/apr/22/four-germans-hitler-birthday-house-austria), [[6]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/mp-faces-charges-over-nazi-stag-night-6953013.html)
* Paragraph 5 – [[7]](https://www.thejc.com/news/world/catholics-celebrated-hitler-birthday-in-pub-g84uxe6p)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c62x21p4v61o> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.newsweek.com/polish-neo-nazis-arrested-hitler-video-788527> - In January 2018, Polish authorities arrested three members of the neo-Nazi group 'Pride and Modernity' after an undercover investigation revealed footage of them celebrating Adolf Hitler's birthday. The group members were seen performing Nazi salutes and burning a swastika to mark the 128th anniversary of Hitler's birth. The prosecutor general launched an investigation, and the individuals faced charges for propagating fascism, with potential prison sentences of up to two years. Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki condemned the actions, emphasizing Poland's intolerance for Nazi symbols and ideologies.
3. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/three-arrested-in-poland-after-far-right-celebration-of-hitlers-birthday/> - Following an exposé by TVN24 in January 2018, Polish authorities arrested three individuals from the neo-Nazi group 'Pride and Modernity' for celebrating Adolf Hitler's birthday. The group members were filmed wearing Nazi uniforms and performing Nazi salutes. Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki stated that Poland would not tolerate the use of totalitarian symbols and expressed intentions to ban the neo-Nazi group. The Union of Jewish Communities in Poland called for decisive action against such groups to maintain good relations with the Jewish community.
4. <https://www.chaifm.com/2023/04/26/australian-jewish-leader-blasts-hitler-birthday-party-at-family-restaurant/> - In April 2023, an Australian Jewish leader condemned a neo-Nazi group's celebration of Adolf Hitler's birthday at a family restaurant. The group displayed Nazi symbols and made Hitler salutes during the event. The Jewish leader described the incident as a 'despicable display of Hitler worshipping and depravity,' emphasizing that such behavior belongs in Nazi Germany, not in a local restaurant. The leader called for action to address the growth of neo-Nazi groups in the state, highlighting the mounting problem of such groups.
5. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/apr/22/four-germans-hitler-birthday-house-austria> - In April 2024, four Germans were arrested in Austria for marking Adolf Hitler's birthday at his birthplace in Braunau am Inn. The individuals laid white roses at the house and one gave a Hitler salute while posing for photos. Police reported the group to prosecutors on suspicion of violating Austrian laws that ban Nazi symbols. The incident occurred on April 20, the anniversary of Hitler's birth, and led to increased scrutiny of neo-Nazi activities in the region.
6. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/mp-faces-charges-over-nazi-stag-night-6953013.html> - In December 2012, British Conservative MP Aidan Burley faced a criminal investigation in France after attending a stag party in Val Thorens where attendees wore Nazi uniforms, gave Hitler salutes, and toasted the 'ideology and ideas of the Third Reich.' A video of the event was posted online, leading to calls for Burley's removal from the Conservative Party. The French prosecutor initiated an investigation into the incident, with potential charges including 'apologizing for war crimes' and 'wearing the uniform of an organization guilty of crimes against humanity.'
7. <https://www.thejc.com/news/world/catholics-celebrated-hitler-birthday-in-pub-g84uxe6p> - In June 2013, allegations emerged that members of the Würzburg Seminary in Bavaria celebrated Adolf Hitler's birthday at a beer hall on April 20. The seminarians were accused of making racist remarks and jokes on various occasions. The state prosecutor initiated an investigation into the claims. Josef Schuster, vice-chair of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, advised that action be taken, including possible expulsions, to maintain good relations between the seminary and the local Jewish community. The seminarians denied the allegations.