# Far-right British Movement's Hitler birthday party prompts arrests and weapons seizure in Oldham



## Far-Right Celebration of Adolf Hitler's Birthday Sparks Outrage and Arrests in Oldham

Nine individuals were detained following a shocking celebration of Adolf Hitler’s birthday conducted by members of the far-right British Movement at a pub in Oldham. The event took place on April 23, where attendees reportedly held a gathering at the Duke of Edinburgh pub, unbeknownst to its operators. The group shared images online featuring Nazi memorabilia, including a cake adorned with a swastika, underscoring the alarming presence of extremist ideology in contemporary Britain.

The Duke of Edinburgh pub, part of Craft Union Pubs, expressed its dismay, stating it was “absolutely appalled” by the incident. After becoming aware of the celebration, the establishment promptly contacted the police, alerting them to the potential threat posed by the gathering. This response is particularly significant given the historical context of far-right extremism in the UK.

Greater Manchester Police, taking swift action, executed morning raids across multiple locations, including Rochdale, Bolton, Trafford, Stockport, and Southport. The authorities seized a disturbing cache of weapons, including swords, imitation firearms, a crossbow, and even a suspected grenade. The grenade was later declared safe after examination by the explosive ordnance disposal unit, emphasising the serious nature of the materials in the possession of those arrested.

Police officials have collaborated closely with counter-terrorism units due to the sensitivities surrounding the weapons and the potential for such gatherings to incite violence or hate crimes. Assistant Chief Constable Steph Parker articulated the police's stance: “We must take action when concerns are raised, and where weapons are suspected, to ensure people are free to live without fear of intimidation or harm. Public safety is at the forefront of our investigation,” he added, urging the community to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity.

This occurrence not only highlights a specific incident of far-right extremism but also reflects a troubling trend in the UK and across Europe, where similar celebrations of Nazi ideology have been reported. For instance, a neo-Nazi group in Poland was recently arrested for commemorating Hitler's birthday, while in Austria, individuals faced legal action for laying flowers at his birthplace, intending to pay homage and perform Nazi salutes. Such incidents raise critical questions about the resurgence of far-right movements in various countries and the ongoing need for vigilant policing and community engagement to counteract hate-fuelled ideologies.

With far-right groups increasingly attempting to symbolically reclaim public spaces under the guise of national pride, the need for a proactive response from law enforcement and community leaders becomes imperative. Although such gatherings may appear isolated, they signal broader societal issues that necessitate concerted efforts to foster inclusivity and combat hate.

As the investigation continues, the actions taken by Greater Manchester Police serve as a prime example of the urgent interventions required to combat far-right extremism and ensure safety within communities. The response from local organisations, authorities, and the general public will be essential in addressing the ideologies that underpin such gatherings and preventing future occurrences.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html), [[2]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html), [[2]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html), [[2]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html), [[2]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html), [[2]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html), [[5]](https://www.timesofisrael.com/three-arrested-in-poland-after-far-right-celebration-of-hitlers-birthday/), [[6]](https://apnews.com/article/austria-hitler-birthplace-birthday-braunau-nazi-germans-9175db2ddee362ea1d46b7b03c046666)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html), [[2]](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html)

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## References

* <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
* <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/adolf-hitler-birthday-far-right-oldham-british-movement-b2747111.html> - Nine individuals were arrested after members of the far-right British Movement celebrated Adolf Hitler's birthday at the Duke of Edinburgh pub in Oldham on April 23, 2025. The group posted online images of themselves with Nazi memorabilia, including a swastika cake. The pub, unaware of the event, contacted the police the following day. The pub's operator, Craft Union Pubs, expressed being 'absolutely appalled' by the incident. Greater Manchester Police conducted morning raids, arresting nine men across various locations, and seized weapons such as swords, imitation firearms, a crossbow, and a suspected grenade, which was declared safe after investigation. The police coordinated with counter-terrorism units due to the nature of the materials seized. Assistant Chief Constable Steph Parker emphasized the importance of taking action when concerns are raised and ensuring public safety.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-38583291> - A 21-year-old man from Blackpool was arrested over comments and online posts related to 'right-wing extremism'. The individual allegedly made remarks at a March 2016 event in Blackpool and on social media as part of the National Action group, which was banned as a terrorist organization in December. The group holds anti-Semitic views. The man is suspected of displaying material likely to incite racial hatred and using abusive language. The arrest was made by officers from both Lancashire Police and the North West Counter Terrorism Unit.
* <https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/arrests-white-pride-rally-manchester-8939646> - Police made several arrests as up to 100 neo-Nazi campaigners gathered in Manchester's Piccadilly Gardens to celebrate 'being white'. The protesters marched from a nearby pub to Piccadilly Gardens, displaying National Front and White Pride flags. The event began around 12:30 pm, with one far-right protester arrested by noon after being subdued by officers. The group chanted 'White Pride Worldwide' and 'White Power', while left-wing opponents gathered in response, labeling the protesters as 'racist scum'.
* <https://www.timesofisrael.com/three-arrested-in-poland-after-far-right-celebration-of-hitlers-birthday/> - Three individuals were arrested and charged with propagating fascism after a news program revealed details about a neo-Nazi group in Poland that celebrated Adolf Hitler. The group, Pride and Modernity, was exposed for dressing in Nazi uniforms to commemorate Hitler's 128th birthday. Polish authorities condemned the group's actions, with Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki stating that the state would not tolerate any use of totalitarian symbols and expressing a desire to see the neo-Nazi group banned.
* <https://apnews.com/article/austria-hitler-birthplace-birthday-braunau-nazi-germans-9175db2ddee362ea1d46b7b03c046666> - Four Germans were caught laying white roses in memory of Adolf Hitler at the house where the Nazi dictator was born in Braunau am Inn, Austria, on the anniversary of his birth. One of the individuals gave a Hitler salute while posing for photos. The group was reported to prosecutors on suspicion of violating Austrian laws that ban Nazi symbols. The house, which has been a site for neo-Nazi activities, is being converted into a police station to deter such gatherings.
* <https://www.ksat.com/news/world/2024/04/22/4-germans-caught-marking-hitlers-birthday-outside-nazi-dictators-birthplace-in-austria/> - Four Germans were apprehended for laying white roses at Adolf Hitler's birthplace in Braunau am Inn, Austria, on the anniversary of his birth. One individual performed a Hitler salute while posing for photos. The group was reported to prosecutors for violating Austrian laws that prohibit Nazi symbols. The house is being transformed into a police station to prevent it from becoming a pilgrimage site for neo-Nazis.