



The Cockney Bard: From Bow Bells to Bitterstreet (Hardback)

By Garry Johnson

New Haven Publishing Ltd, United Kingdom, 2016. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 280 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Professor Matthew Worley It's 1981 and Britain is burning. The summer has seen riots break out across the country's inner-cities. Newspapers offer stories of Mob Rule (The Sun) and a War on Police (Daily Mail); roving reporters seek explanation in the permissive whirlwind of the 1960s (Daily Express) or the perennial problem of urban decay. Britain is close to anarchy, the Daily Mirror insists, as it juxtaposes images of burnt-out cars and broken windows with a message to the government: Save Our Cities . The realities that lay behind the media vision were complex. If the 1970s have since become synonymous with acute social tension and political instability, then the 1980s should really fare no better. For all Britain's being reinvented as a financial centre geared towards the interests of the entrepreneur (and the flags that flew for the Falklands War), Margaret Thatcher's premiership was book-ended by recession and disfigured by fierce industrial struggles and social disorder that culminated in the poll tax riots of 1990. Most disastrously, unemployment became...



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