

EDITORIAL

To our surprise the British National Party did not put up a candidate for the County elections in Notts, which rather took the wind out of our proposed campaign work around the election. Having a relatively small number of active members NAFA has been rather left at the gate over campaign work where the BNP are standing, in Cotmanhay in Derbyshire and in two places in Leicestershire, other groups making the running. This has caused some debate in NAFA over tactics - crystallised round the ANL taking young inexperienced people to unknown places without adequate preparation (and then being attacked by the BNP) and that of people in the AFA/Northern Network circuit whose aim is solely to bash fascists as hard as possible. Following a similar discussion at the recent women's conference NAFA will be discussing tactics at its next meeting, contributions welcome.

MAY 5th

Enclosed with this mailing is a leaflet for another joint ANL/NAFA picket of four BNP members coming to court. At the last picket a number of BNP supporters turned up as well, some in paramilitary uniform (which Alan Simpson MP is pursuing with the relevant authorities). Although the BNP were outnumbered and were effectively run out of town we need to ensure that if they attempt a rerun of last time we again have a large number of people at the court to ensure that they are shown that Nottingham does not want fascists here.

SPORTS COLUMN

Our man in the stands reports some good news off the field at Notts. County. Following the appearance of a BNP banner among Notts. supporters at a Southend away match NAFA Notts. supporters have been working on this issue. Notts. County have agreed that they would ensure that there be no recurrence of this. Recently one of those waving the banner was identified as a Notts. County steward, John M. Tyrrell (not sure of spelling) and Notts. immediately sacked him. In a linked development, Colin Mellors, the man NAFA identified as being behind the Nottingham BNP box number, also a Notts. County fan, has agreed to withdraw from the BNP. A number of County supporters have had words with him, and he claimed not to share the BNP's racism supporting them only because of their position on Ireland. We will clearly be monitoring this situation. Now all Notts. need to do is avoid relegation...

BLACK ORCHID

NAFA has been approached by a group of Indian students following one of their number being racially abused and assaulted at the Black Orchid by a bouncer. The bouncer has had a police warning, but there was not enough evidence for prosecution. The Black Orchid is owned by George Akin and stewarding is done by Planwatch UK. We were able to give advice to the students on how to raise the issue and articles are to appear at both Universities papers. The group are now looking to form a wider anti-

racist group among students and are to survey their peers about similar incidents. NAFA is writing to Akins. Watch this space.

#### WOMEN RESISTING RACISM AND FASCISM

The dayschool advertised in the last newsletter was a major success, some 50-60 women attended. A full report will appear in the next newsletter.

#### ARA LAUNCH

The launch of Nottingham Anti-Racist Alliance will be on Saturday 19th June at the Indian Community Centre. The meeting is from 6.00-8.00 followed by a social. The speakers include Bill Morris (General Sec., Transport and General Workers), Piara Khabra (MP for Southall) as well as contributions from NAFA, Alan Simpson, Jewish Socialists' Group and the National Black Caucus. As mentioned before, NAFA hopes that the ARA will compliment our activities and that joint work will be possible.

#### AGM

NAFA's AGM agreed to split the Secretary's job in two, membership being dealt with separately. We also have a revived social group, someone responsible for liaison with outside groups, a publicity person, a convener of the black members group. Each meeting will agree the chair for the next meeting. The first meeting in the month will devote the first hour to a discussion. As we often have (and welcome) non-members at our meetings it was agreed that if we cannot reach the customary consensus that in the rare occasions we need to vote that only NAFA members may do so.

#### NEXT MEETINGS

NAFA meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, at the International Community Centre, Mansfield Road. Next meetings are the 10th and 24th of May.

#### GERMANY CALLING

NAFA's secretary has written a 16 page pamphlet which gives a short history of British fascism, a leaflet advertising it is enclosed. Copies are £1 each, 5 for £3.50. If you wish to buy through NAFA (and give NAFA a cut) return the form to NAFA not Mushroom, or buy at a NAFA stall or meeting!

#### NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to new members. This month however shows a drop in membership to 127, due to those 1992 members not renewing being cut off. Many thanks for the donations to all those who rejoined in the last month.

#### BERNARD MANNING

We have had a positive feedback from the City Council regarding our complaint that the racist Bernard Manning recently appeared at the Royal Centre. A number of organisations complained. We trust he will not be re-booked.