

APRIL 1982

# CHAIR PEACE

No 17

## Peace Week

**4th-10th April**

Palm Sunday is the first day of Peace Week April 4th - April 10th. It is an important occasion when people all over the country will be expressing their desire for disarmament. Easter traditionally is remembered as a time of sacrifice when Christians of all denominations concentrate and remember the sacrifice which Jesus made.

In order to avoid the course which is leading us towards ultimate destruction we must also be prepared to change our lives to provide prosperity and peace for all mankind.

For those who wish to help during Peace Week here are a few suggestions;

1. Leaflet on Saturday 3rd April 10.30 in the Square Wellington
2. Attend the meeting "Defence or Development" (speaker, film and discussion) ST Leonards Church, Malinslee April 7th Wednesday 7.30.
3. Birmingham rally 10th April begins at Milk St at 12.00 noon, and ends with a rally in Chamberlain Square. (speakers, floats, costumes, bands etc.)
4. Display a poster

## Nuclear Free Zone Campaign

County Councillors will on May 1st discuss the possibility of declaring Shropshire a Nuclear Free Zone. Before that date we need to show our support for those councillors who are in favour of the resolution and actively campaign to persuade others. This must be done during April and could take the form of any of the following;

1. Letters to councillors
2. Write to the press
3. Visit or phone your councillor
4. Display a poster (available from David Smith)
5. Join the lobby outside the Shirehall on May 1st.

Don't leave it to someone else!

## Nuclear Free Day-School

Saturday 24th April just one week before the full County Council meeting we have arranged a day school at Madeley Peoples Centre. Several Councillors will be attending and though the agenda has not yet been finalised one speaker has agreed to speak;

Councillor Ian Lane, West Midlands County Council.

There will be an opportunity to discuss future plan of activities for the Shropshire Peace Groups. Please come along.

Disarm for Development. Mass lobby for Survival Tuesday 27th April, House of Commons 2 - 10 pm.



# Greenham Common Report

On March 21st a number of people from TANG went to the festival of life at Greenham Common Air Base. The festival, which centred on the bases six gates was pleasantly informal, with varied entertainments from bands, artists and street theatre groups. The police presence was small and very low key. Many people spent their time walking along the perimeter and seeing the large scale building work being done in the preparation for the missiles. The new buildings are surrounded by a massive cordon of high barbed wire topped fences which is still being added to.

Crowds gathered around the Main Gate, where women who were later to take part in blockading the base, stood in the gateway singing, while television cameras and a few bemused police also looked on. As the afternoon went on the gates were decorated with flowers and posters.

In the evening a 24 hour non-violent blockade of all six gates started. The women who blocked the gates agreed to let ambulances, school buses and security vehicles through. However when a convoy of building contractors lorries tried to get through an emergency gate women lay down in their path, and there were 34 arrests. All those arrested were granted unconditional bail.

The lorries got through. There is a case for more sustained direct action with much larger numbers involved to obstruct the building of the missile base. We hope the events of March 21st - 22nd are just the start.

**Telford Anti Nuclear Group**  
Secretary - David Smith  
23 Telford Rd. Dawley.

# World Disarmament Petition

All petition collectors please send in the forms to Peter Nias or to their local petition organiser by the 23rd April as they have to be sent to London by the end of April. Continue collecting signatures, especially during Peace Week. One final effort for the UN Disarmament Session in June.

## Green Peace

The meeting jointly organised by TANG and the Ecology Party is taking place later in April or early May. A speaker from Green CND is invited and the details will be available as soon as possible. There is also a possibility of a visiting member of the German Green Party speaking to the group either on the same occasion or on a second date in May.

## Diary

- 3rd April ... 10.30 - 12.00 Leafletting for Peace week. The Square Wellington.
- 6th April ... 1.30 - 3.00 WEA course Hollinswood Community Centre talk on Nuclear Disarmament
- 7th April ... Defence or Development? Public meeting. Film, speaker and discussion 7.30 ST Leonards Church Malinslee
- 8th April ... TANG business meeting. 7.30 Dawley Information Centre
- 10th April ... Regional demonstration B'ham
- 22nd April ... Chain Reaction. 7.30 Dawley Information Centre
- 24th April ... Dayschool on Nuclear Free Zones 10.30 - 4.30 Madeley Peoples' Centre, High St Madeley
- 1st May ... Lobby of County Council meeting (vote on Nuclear Free Zone) Shirehall, Shrewsbury

