

Chain Reaction

N° 32

AUGUST '83 NEWSLETTER OF THE TELFORD ANTI NUCLEAR GROUPS

No More Nagasaki's!

The world's arsenal of immensely powerful nuclear weapons is capable of erasing several times the whole of mankind. The danger of a technical or supervisory miss leading to an accidental ignition of a nuclear war is a strong reality. Is mankind entering the road of self destruction? Time is pressing. People of goodwill from all over the world should lend ears to the voice of Nagasaki open their eyes to wisdom and stand up with actions and efficient means to stop the proliferation of nuclear arms and make a reality the total ban on wars. Not only the descendants of the ones who experienced the atomic bomb - the citizens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki but all our countrymen and moreover all mankind should advance in all strength on the way to complete this task, for the realisation of true peace we must go beyond countries borders, beyond beliefs and faiths in all out co-operation.

city of Nagasaki
peace declaration
August 9 1980

We cannot ignore this call to action we must with great urgency demand the abolition of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction through unilateral disarmament. The horrific destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki resulted in the deaths of over three hundred and seventy eight thousand men women and children; the next war could result in the death of the planet.

T.A.N.G. local contacts

- David Smith 23 Telford Road, Dawley.
Laurens Otter, College Farm House, Mill Lane
WELLINGTON. 54728.
Barbara Lamplugh 35 Simpsons Lane,
BROSELEY. 88 2225.
Peter Nias 48 Victoria Road, MADELEY. 587532
Cary Robinson, SHIFNAL. 461120.

Wellington Anti-Nuclear Group.

<u>host/chair person</u>	<u>temporary secretary</u>
Mary Brickett, 130 Watling St., Wellington,	Cherie Spiteri, 160 Millstream Way, Leegomery, (te.: 52433)

It is intended to start canvassing in September; anyone prepared to canvass streets please contact Laura Horton (3601) for introductory leaflets (if wanted) & notify her which streets they are doing.

The barbecue (to raise funds for TANG) is on the 3rd. September, at College Farm Ho., Mill Lane, Wellington; any bookings/offers to help please contact Cherie & Joe Spiteri.

Elsewhere in Chain Reaction there will be details of a joint TANG-organised meeting on the asbestos from Donnington, naturally, since the asbestos mainly affects the North Telford area, so will the meeting be in this part.

The next WANG meeting is on the 17th of August at 130 Watling St., 7.30.

Cherie has kindly taken over as secretary as my (Upper Heyford) case comes up on the 22nd. August so I may not be around.

Laurens.

Fast for peace

Members of T.A.N.G. will be taking part in a four-day fast in support of similar actions being held throughout the world to commemorate the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 38 years ago.

The Telford fast is being held outside the main gate of the army ordnance depot at Donnington from the 6th-9th August.

We hope as many members as possible will support us either by joining us for the four day fast and vigil or just part of the four days.

If you can support us in any way, please contact Mark Stokes at 16 Telford Road, Dawley, Teresa Fletcher 507197 or any of the contacts on this newsletter.

Letter - Freeze debate

Many of us CND-ers in the Labour Party secretly wonder whether the Labour Party's uncompromising attitude to nuclear weapons in the general election manifesto was going to do us much good in the election and now we are quite certain that it didn't! Before my non-Labour colleagues in CND reach for their daggers let me hasten to say that I have no doubt at all about the moral rightness of the Labour Party's uncompromising stand. As an old Socialist campaigner, however, I have long learned that there isn't an over-abundance of high morality in politics, a depressing lack of it amongst the electorate and none at all in the media!

Unfortunate though it is, one has to compromise to get any where. Quintus Fabius Cunctator 2,200 yrs ago taught us the reality of wearing down a superior enemy gradually. The enemy of CND is a great deal more powerful than Hannibal's wandering army and its constituents of ignorance, the Establishment, the Government and almost all the media make a formidable enemy indeed.

To compromise does not necessarily mean to be dishonest with oneself. The end of CND is the total abnegation of nuclear weapons, a position on which, as far as I am aware, we all agree. However to put, shall we say, 70% of our effort initially into pressing for a freeze on nuclear weapons might advance our position considerably. There are some indications that this is being realised. I hope so: if it is indeed so it will do much to help us impress ourselves on the media-fed public.

Dennis Mason.

T.A.N.G. Diary of coming events

- 31st July, 3pm- meeting to plan the Peace Fast and camp. Dawley Info Centre.
- 6th-9th August- Fast for peace, camping outside C.O.D. Donnington.
- 16th August, 7.30- TANG business meeting Dawley Info Centre.
- 17th August, 7.30- W.A.N.G. meeting, 130 Watling Street.
- 30th August, 7.30- Chain Reaction meeting. Dawley Info Centre.
- 1st September, 8pm- Broseley CND meeting Duke of York.
- 3rd September, Barbeque. College Farm House, Mill Lane, Wellington.
- 20th September, 7.30- Christian Peace Forum, Methodist Church, New Street, Wellington.

Telford Christian Peace Forum

The Peace Forum meets at

The Methodist Church, New St., Wellington on the last Tuesday of each month at 7.30 PM. (but see note below)

The Forum is an Ecumenical group which provides an opportunity for Christians to meet for prayer and serious discussion about peace.

Some who attend are out & out pacifists, some are against the use of nuclear weapons, others are not sure where they stand, but all are concerned about the acceleration of the arms' race; & believe that war, class-war, racial persecution & antagonism, dictatorship & oppression are anti-social elements which frustrate our entrance into God's Kingdom; & together are seeking ways to eradicate such from our society.

You are more than welcome to join them.

Joint convenors:

Rev. Rex Hallam Rev. Roger Hill
Minister New St., Vicar Malinslee.

N.B. There will be no meeting in August & for September only the meeting will not be on the last Tuesday, but instead on Tuesday the 20th. Sept. at the usual time, - 7.30.

TANG Discussion on the Future

The 'where do we go from here' special TANG meeting last month attracted 20 people. Reports from TANG, Broseley and Wellington groups formed the basis of discussion.

It was generally agreed that nuclear disarmament will not be forgotten about merely because of one election. In any case, the issue is much more important than party political differences.

Nevertheless, we will have to work harder to try to clear the undoubted confusion that people have about nuclear arms and civil defence.

The Wellington group thought that there should be more emphasis on increasing the number of local groups in the area. It was agreed to try to form additional groups in Dawley, Madeley, Trench/Donnington and perhaps elsewhere too.

It was recognised that not everyone against nuclear weapons wanted to join a group, but that at least a local forum would be a point of reference for many.

One specific proposal was to have a well publicised coach tour of the potential nuclear targets and bunkers in Shropshire and the Wrekin during the autumn.