

**HOW MANY MORE  
EDITIONS  
WILL IT  
TAKE?**

CHRYSTAL REACTION

October '89

No 100

## What does TANG stand for?

TANG stands for opposing militarism, specifically but not exclusively by demanding unilateral nuclear disarmament, and by opposing all military alliances based on weapons of mass destruction.

TANG is opposed to the destruction of the environment, seeing the threat from nuclear waste, nuclear power and nuclear weaponry as the greatest single element in that destruction.

TANG opposes imperialism, racialism, and believes that the metropolitan countries which have grown rich at the expense of the underdeveloped world have a moral duty to do more to feed the hungry ; we oppose the exploitation of such countries by companies mining for uranium, and see this as the latest example of imperialist attitudes.

TANG does not believe the Bomb to be an evil in isolation from others ; if there were not great social evils the Bomb could not have been made, as in most countries where it has been made this has been done without the knowledge or consent of the people. It has led to a growth of state power and a loss of liberty.

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### THIS MONTH'S SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTION

- 1) Become a "poster person", see coupon elsewhere.
- 2) Join in the CND national day of action.  
Phone Laurens for details of local activity.
- 3) Make a note of CNDs action line phone number  
01 490 4037  
for the next time a nuclear related news story makes  
you want to take action.

100 TH

# CHAIN REACTION

This is the 100th issue of CHAIN REACTION and is also the 9th birthday of TANG. It was in November 1980 that the first issue came out, marking the formation of the Group.

What started the as a single A4 sheet soon became a double page. Eventually in March 1985 on the 50th issue, the present booklet format was used.

Some excerpts from the first issue:

" Over 50 people met at Malinslee Community Centre to watch a film 'The Threat of Nuclear War' and to discuss a campaign for peace.

An Activity Day was organised later."

## "London Demonstration

About 90 people from Telford went down to London in two coaches for the massive CND demonstration."

Later, in 1981 the film 'The War Game' was shown and debated at Oakengates Town Hall to a packed audience.

The 50th issue highlighted an Easter Demo at Molesworth and the designation of Shropshire as a nuclear free zone by the County Council (following much lobbying by the county's peace groups).

The cost has stayed the same for five years, namely £3 waged and £1.50 unwaged for the ten issues over a year (the back page says how to pay).

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Many things have been achieved over the years. A lot more has yet to be done. TANG needs to help keep the local anti-nuclear voice clear and insistent. Will you help CHAIN REACTION to reach beyond the present and towards its 200th issue?

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# TRY ACTIONLINE

**ACTIONLINE 01 490 4037 • 01 490 4037 • 01 490 4037**

**You have a moment to spare? You have an unexpected hour to spare? The US has done something that has made you mad? The USSR has done something that has made you glad? Or vice versa? At all events, you would like to do something. And how much more effective it would be if other people were doing the same thing. At the same time. Now we have the answer -**

**RING 01 490 4037 CND'S ACTIONLINE 01 490 4037**

**Actionline is a 24-hour telephone number with a recorded message on action you could take over a current situation in the news. Usually the message will suggest that you write a letter; the address and what you could write will be given. It will also give news about any national CND event coming up. In an emergency like Chernobyl or Libya, Actionline will give details of our urgent response.**

**Action line will contain messages about:**

- **A current news item and what you might do about it**
- **Details of any up-coming CND events**
- **In an emergency, details about our urgent response**

**ACTIONLINE WILL START ON SEPTEMBER 18TH**

**If you are interested in any of the above schemes please fill in, tear out and send off this slip to Laurie Gibson (Individual Campaigning) 22-24 Underwood St, London N1 7JG.**

**I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE FOLLOWING SCHEME\***

- **POSTER PEOPLE** I will put up posters three times a year.
- **LEAFLETERS** I will give out 100 leaflets three times a year.
- **BRUCE KENT'S PRESS GANG** Please send me the quarterly bulletin so I can write to the press
- **20-MINUTERS** Please send me the postcards so I can send a regular 20 minute note to my MP who is \_\_\_\_\_

**(Please note that Leafleteers must pay £5 per year to cover the costs. Please make cheques payable to CND Publications Ltd. The other schemes are free but we invite you if you can afford it to make a donation of at least £3 per scheme you join to defray expenses)**

**I enclose £ \_\_\_\_\_ towards the expenses.**

**NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Tel No \_\_\_\_\_**

**ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_**

**POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_**

**(\*Please put a ring round the appropriate scheme)**

**FROM CND**

**SEPTEMBER 89 CAMPAIGN vii**

## Disarming talk

As Cruise missiles begin to leave Britain, it's tempting to conclude "we've won!" Their removal is a small gain - but if vigilance is relaxed it will become a Pyrrhic victory.

The world spends several million dollars a day upon armaments. Britain spends £400 million a year, merely to maintain the existing nuclear arsenal. Trident will cost another £10 billion or so; & of course it is the delivery systems that are dismantled. The uranium/plutonium etc., is recycled. It is likely that Trident will be deployed to be scrapped - bargained away in disarmament talks. But such disarmament does not affect a nation's nuclear capability. Rather, as an obsolete system is rejected, the nuclear powers hone their weaponry to new levels of deadly accuracy.

The nuclear powers will not disarm willingly (except for public relations exercises,) for their nuclear weapons are an essential component of their so-called diplomacy, giving machismo & strength, an ability to strut the world's stage. And the secrecy necessary to protect the systems gives states ample excuse to reduce our rights to know. The bomb, therefore, allows governments to claim they are protecting the nation at home & abroad. Dissidents who claim otherwise - such as the anti-nuclear movement - are "the enemy within".

So what can we do?

We must be realistic rather than pessimistic. The state is not all powerful. For example both the USA & the USSR have discovered that practically nuclear weapons are useless. Retreats from Saigon, Kabul & Central America testify to that. Secondly, public pressure over recent decades has raised awareness & questioned states' arrogance in this matter.

But such activity must continue on both the local and the national scale. The public must know what really is going on; what so-called disarmament actually means, the relationship between the civil & military nuclear sectors, etc.

The anti-nuclear & green movements will continue to do this, but we must not lose the initiative. Within the labour movement there must be pressure on both unions and the Labour Party to retain the unilateralist policy. Multi-lateral disarmament tempers the problem only.

Reasoned argument is essential (& cannot be rejected as an emotional response). What are the alternatives to nuclear expenditure? How can the economy be geared to producing what is needed? Is the only "realistic" alternative increased spending on conventional weapons? & so forth. Local causes - e.g. the transport of nuclear material by rail - will highlight the national questions.

Of course, we cannot uninvent nuclear technology. But, then again, how many steam mills do we see today? So we must not sit back now. There is still a great deal to do. The only certainty is that doing nothing will cost the earth. And, let's not forget, democracy actually means people power!

*Adrian Blow*

## Letter to the editors

*Before the Euro-Elections we asked Graham Bould to write the case for unilateralists to vote Labour in the election and Robert Saunders to do a similar article for voting for the Green Party. We published the only article we received. We are reproducing this letter, which has recently arrived in response to the original article, although it is not the kind of thing we would normally publish.*

*Editors,*

Dear Chain Reaction,

### Vote Green Party - Help Thatcher

No-one should deny the electoral success of the Green Party in recent elections. Robert Saunders has reason to be pleased with his 14% in the Staffordshire & Shropshire constituency. But what exactly did a vote for the Greens mean?

The Green Party may indeed be unique as Robert suggested in his article for TANG. But freshness is not enough after ten years of a right-wing Tory government and a divided opposition. The real issue is how to get Thatcher out. Nothing that the Green Party advocates becomes remotely possible until the removal vans arrive at Number 10, after the Tories are defeated in a General Election. Voting Green has to be seen against that background.

Democratic Socialists are instinctively sympathetic to many of the causes newly taken up by the Green Party. An unregulated free market economy is by definition inimical to environmental protection. The Labour Party has an active environmental lobby and Green issues are firmly on the agenda in the new policy review. Most importantly, we also know that no other party has the faintest chance of forming a non-Tory Government.

The effect of voting Green in Shropshire & Staffordshire in June was to re-elect a Tory M.E.P. While Labour won the European elections hands down, the message of the local result is clear - voting Green under the present electoral system can help Mrs Thatcher. If politics is about hard choices - and it is - then those tempted to vote Green should think hard about the consequences in a range of marginal Labour/Tory seats across the country, come the next General Election. Has the grisly memory of Warren Hawksley faded already? The desperate need is to get Thatcher out and replace her with a Left Government. All things then become possible.

.....continued

Only Labour will bring Water and other basic resources back under community control. Only Labour will force the polluters to pay the price of a cleaner environment; only Labour will co-operate with European and other governments to combat acid rain, CFC production and other threats to the planet.

In the wake of the Euro elections, I am not expecting the Greens & other non-socialists to abandon their beliefs; though there is ecological common ground between all those who reject the madness of the Thatcherite market, I simply point out that voting for purity in politics often means voting for impotence in practice.

There is no doubt that Mrs Thatcher would love you to vote Green in Labour areas. The question every 'friend of the earth' must answer is:- How sincerely do you want to defeat Thatcher? This is the question the Green Party would rather no-one asked.

*Phil Davis*

## **CHAIN REACTION CONTRIBUTIONS**

Please send or give your letters or articles , in whatever form, to any of the following:

Tot Dawes,	6 Myford Cottages ,	Horsehay.	Tel: 507040
Peter Nias,	48 Victoria Road,	Madeley .	Tel: 587532
Laurens Otter,	College Farm House,	Mill Lane,	
	Wellington.		Tel: 641852

**Deadline for the next issue: 4th October**

# SPECIAL MEETING

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BRUCE WYLIE  
Speaking to  
a  
Joint Meeting  
of  
TELFORD ANTI NUCLEAR GROUP  
and  
TELFORD CENTRAL AMERICA  
GROUP

Saturday October 21st  
Fighting Cocks, Oakengates  
7.45 for 8.00 pm

Bruce Wylie of Oxfam has recently returned from Nicaragua. He will be speaking of his experiences in that country, especially highlighting the environmental issues.

Bar meals, including vegetarian ones, will be available.

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The TANG Bar-b-Que on 2nd Sept raised £40  
Many thanks to all who contributed.



## *Labour and Trident*

Readers of *Chain Reaction* will no doubt be only too aware that we thought that Kinnock's proposals to abandon unilateralism to be no surprise and to be surrendering a logical peace policy for an untenable case.

Readers will also have noted that Kinnock is now attacking the government because the new model Trident is not ready, a lot of money is being lost on it, and the old model is already decaying; he says that this leaves the country unprotected.

When Kinnock took his present position there were members of the peace movement - & good members at that - who thought that this was a mere adaption to make vote-getting more easy and that there was no change in substance. We disagreed.

The present position proves our case. Unilateralists have always argued that the argumenbt that nuclear weapons are either a defence or a deterrent is nonsensical. On the contrary they can only exist in a situation where the state is busy looking for a bogeyman threat; they themselves, by posing a threat to others, give a reality to the bogeyman, and this makes war more likely and imperils everyone.

That was a position that even when nominally unilateralist the Labour Party refused to argue, (so that during the last election the party began to advocate an increase in conventional arms, a policy which pandered to the Cold War ideology which underpins nuclear policies.) So it seemed obvious to us that when the nominal commitment was dropped that was in order to move further away from a peace policy.

That is what has happened. Kinnock is now belabouring Thatcher not for being a militarist but for being an inefficient one. While we hold no brief for inefficient militarists (Ramsay Macdonald, Balfour, Chamberlain for instance) we are certainly not prepared to consider such inefficiency a major issue.

*Laurens Otter*

## T.A.N.G. LIBRARY

Not all Chain Reaction readers may be aware that T.A.N.G. has a number of books available for loan, quite free of charge! They are kept at 16 Linley Drive, Stirchley where the business meetings are held but can be borrowed at any time for the asking.

Below is a selection of the titles on offer. More info. from Barbara Lamplugh on Telford 598452.

Alternative Defence Commission: Defence without the Bomb  
CND Publications: Beyond the Grapevine: A Campaigner's guide  
to using the media.

Campbell, Duncan: War Plan U.K.

Cannell, W. & Chudleigh, R. : The P.W.R. Decision

Dando, M. & Rogers, P.: The Death of Deterrence

Garrison, Jim: From Hiroshima to Harrisburg

Jones, Lynne (Ed.): Keeping the Peace

Radical Statistics Nuclear Disarmament Group: The Nuclear  
Numbers Game

Reeve, G. & Smith, J.: Offence of the Realm

Rogers, P.: A Guide to Britain's Nuclear Weapons

Schell, Jonathan: The Fate of the Earth

Smith, G.: Death of a Rose-Grower

Thompson, E.P.: Double Exposure

Save these books from gathering dust on the shelves!

An ideal way to spend those long winter evenings.

# A LOCAL WAR ON WANT GROUP FOR TELFORD

Famines, floods, hurricanes and other 'Acts of God' wreak havoc amongst the poor and disadvantaged all round the world.

There are very many groups which will have the begging bowl out and which will be tugging at your heart strings for every new crisis. Essential work as everyone recognises that the starving must be fed.

War on Want is not the only one to find that crisis intervention, however meritorious and well-intentioned, must be for a very limited time. Many other groups besides War on Want can compare the results of substantial damage done by flood or hurricane in wealthy and well-ordered societies with the results of the same natural disasters among the poor and disadvantaged - floods in Florida and Bangladesh, a hurricane in southern England and Nicaragua - and find that the problems are rooted in poverty.

Amongst all the agencies that recognise that poverty is the problem and development the answer, War on Want stands out in the recognition that poverty all round the world is rooted in the acts and attitudes of humans, in recognising that the fight against poverty and for development must always have a political basis.

In long term development projects in 37 countries round the world War on Want finds that the bulk of humanity has intense pride and determination, little docility and fatalism- their drive and strength demands our solidarity. The support of the ordinary people in Britain is expressed through War on Want as much by educational projects in this country as by the necessary and continuous fundraising.

We in Telford can join the campaign against world poverty through the recently formed War on Want group.

Contact Russell Gibb, 41 Coalport Road, Telford TF8 7HN. Phone Telford 680154.

# WHITE POPPIES FOR PEACE



Sunday 12th November is Remembrance Day, a time to remember

- the dead of all wars
- the forgotten victims; refugees, disabled, widows, orphans
- those dying and suffering in current wars
- Britain's prominent role in the world's arms trade

## A TIME FOR PEACE

— to reaffirm our commitment to work throughout the year for a world without war.

To wear a white poppy is to question the concept of militarism, and how we remember and honour those who died in the wars of this century: civilians as well as combatants: foes as well as friends.

TANG has a supply of white poppies, available from Barbara Lamplugh, 16 Linley Drive, Stirchley (Tel. Telford 598452).

To be sure of getting yours, order early. The poppies are 30p. each.

# GREENPEACE, THE BOMB & NUCLEAR POWER

Many people read about the sinking of the Greenpeace flagship

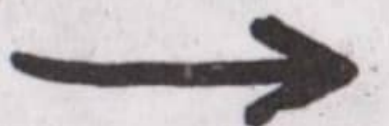
'Rainbow Warrior' but few knew the background of unrest in the Pacific that resulted in this disastrous outburst of French aggression.

For many years the Pacific atoll of Moruroa had been the subject of international protest against the underground testing of close to 100m atomic bombs. Greenpeace activists were constantly in the forefront during the testing and caused the French acute discomfort and embarrassment. Many Greenpeace activists were assaulted during their peaceful direct action. Unfortunately for the French government, many of these assaults were captured on film resulting in further loss of face. The French ministry of defence made an ill-advised decision to sink the cause of their discomfort and in doing so murdered photographer Fernando Pereira and gave Greenpeace some of the best publicity to be had.

The French are now leaving Moruroa and are moving their operations to Fangataufa, another atoll in the same chain. Moruroa is left a shell and is in danger of disintegration which would leak vast amounts of radioactive material into the atmosphere. Fangataufa is smaller than Moruroa. How long before it too starts to disintegrate and then where next for France?

Greenpeace has campaigned for over a decade against nuclear power, stating many times its conviction that nuclear power is bad for the environment and bad for mankind.

Greenpeace have commissioned independent scientific studies on the hazards of nuclear power, have lobbied international commissions which regulate



# GREENPEACE (CONT.)

pollution, have and are opposing plans for new nuclear power stations and are constantly engaged in direct action to raise public awareness on this issue. After its celebration tour of the ports the Rainbow Warrior headed up to Sellafield to monitor dumping and to block the pipelines which discharge into the sea.

Greenpeace demands a safe shutdown of all nuclear plants, that plans for future stations should be halted, that nuclear plants under construction should be converted to less harmful energy production and that a combination of measures designed to increase efficiency, reduce consumption and promote 'clean' renewable energy sources should replace the obviously small contribution of nuclear power.

Jacqui Darbyshire Telford 660486  
Greenpeace area co-ordinator.

## POSTER PEOPLE

POSTER  
Advertising in the press or on billboards is enormously expensive and we cannot afford to do much of it. But there are many wonderful 'advertising sites' which don't cost a penny: the windows of our members' houses. Not everyone's house is suitable for a poster. Also some members have access to church or trade union noticeboards or to windows of the local wholefood shop. Here is our scheme to use this potential. Send back the slip below and we will enrol you as a posterperson. Three times a year we will send you an A3 size poster for you to display. The scheme is free! However, if you can afford it, we ask for a donation of about £3 to cover costs. One slip returned to us, three posters to put up a year: no effort, no hassle but how effective! Passers-by will get the message and realise that there is still a peace movement which is not going away.

PEOPLE

## DIARY

Telford Greenpeace meetings: contact Jacqui Darbyshire, 34 Majestic Way, Aqueduct, Telford 660486 for dates and places.

- Wed 4th Oct Chain Reaction Meeting  
7.30 pm 6 Myford Cottages Horsehay
- Sat 7th Oct **Rev. Michael Taylor, Director Christain Aid**  
pm/even Your World, God's Kingdom  
Dawley Christain Centre . Details:  
Rev. Philip Smith, Meeting Point House
- Sat 7th Oct Telford Central American Group, talk/slide  
8.00 pm show, 1 Cound Close, Dothill, Wellington.  
Speaker Annabel Cook, on human rights and  
the current situation in El Salvador. Buffet  
supper (food recommended), financial  
donations welcome, Tel: Telford 641104
- Wed 18th Oct TANG Business Meeting  
7.30 pm 16 Linley Drive, Stichley Park.  
**ALL VERY WELCOME**
- Sat 21st Oct **CND National Day of Action**  
a.m./p.m. Phone Laurens (641852) for details.
- Sat 21st Oct **Bruce Wylie of Oxfam. Fighting Cocks,**  
7.45 pm Oakengates, see elsewhere in this issue.
- Wed 1st Nov Chain Reaction Meeting, As 4th Oct.
- Sat 4th Nov **TANG Bonfire**  
6.30 pm 48 Victoria Rd, Madeley  
Please bring fireworks and/or a donation.
- Prior Warning:  
Weds 8th Nov **TANG AGM**  
7.45 Training Room, Meeting Point House.
- 17th-19th Nov **CND Annual Conference**  
City University, London

WHAT

ARE

YOU

DOING

ABOUT

NUCLEAR

BATMAN

AGAINST  
THE  
BOMB

WEAPONS

(Join Tang. 16th)

