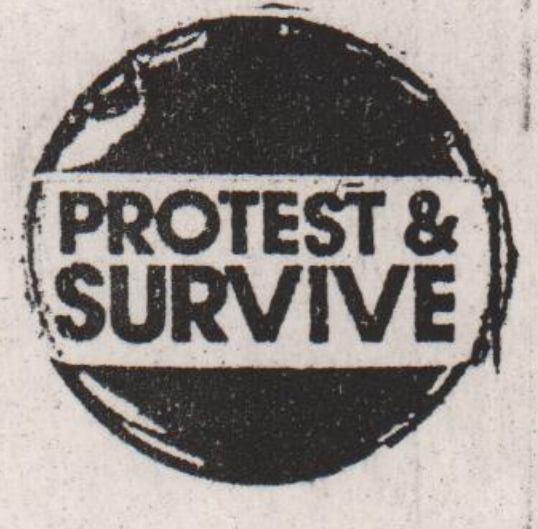
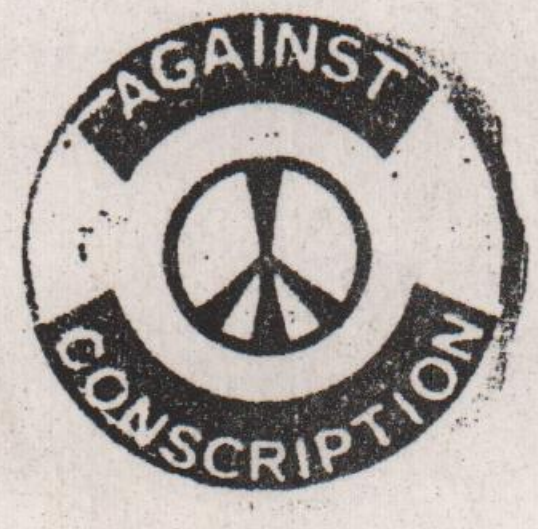


NOTTINGHAM CND

Bulletin

FEBRUARY 1988 20p.



FEBRUARY 17TH. 1988

CND 30 YEARS OLD

ALDERMASTON MEMORIES



I took part in all the early Aldermaston marches after the first two. Twice this involved the whole four days, but usually just the last day. This was because the Woodcraft Folk, the Co-operative movement's organisation for children and young people, held its Annual Convention over Easter. After three days of discussions we packed up to participate in Aldermaston's last day.

The Woodcraft Folk's contribution was very effective. Usually some 300 or more strong, all in the green shirt that is the folk costume and of a variety of ages. On either side of the contingent was a guitarist every few yards, so all could be singing the same song at the same time in the same time. Since singing is such a main part of Woodcraft Folk activities, this was both impressive and enjoyable, no microphones, just human voices and guitars. Folk members are also used to hiking, so the ten mile or so last day's stint was nothing to them.

As well as assisting the whole movement for nuclear disarmament, the Folk usually gained, itself, from taking part. CND supporters found common ground with the WF principles of democracy, co-operation and friendship, both amongst each other and with children and young people of other lands, both east and west.

Folk members took the message of CND abroad. At a children's camp in the German Democratic Republic, there was a lovely open air stage in the woods. Some 1,500 youngsters, about 400 from twenty different countries, the rest German, enjoyed singing, dancing, music and theatre. The chorus of "H-Bombs Thunder" was translated into German by one of our 16 year olds and put on the stage background in huge letters for all to learn and sing.

Apart from the Folk activities, I have many other memories of Aldermaston. One year, my teenage daughter along with other girls marched all 52 miles in bare feet. My son did the whole distance one year, then had to ride home cramped in the back compartment of an estate car. He could hardly move when he arrived home in Nottingham.

A feature I'll never forget was the international aspect, watching banners along the road or coming into Hyde Park, from country after country, people who travelled across the seas to be with us against the bomb.

Canon Collins once called Aldermaston a walking university. One found oneself walking for a period with a wide variety of people, learning from each other. One memory I have is an hour or more alongside Alan Sillitoe.

CND in the sixties had many weaknesses. Some lessons have been valuable for the revival in the eighties. But its experiences are etched in the memories of those who took part.

John Peck

DETAILS OF MEETINGS 1988

Executive Committee Meetings, ie. officers PLUS Neighbourhood Group representatives and Policy Making meetings take place at WEA. To find the right room, go to the main entrance on Shakespeare Street and check the noticeboard. Officers meetings take place at: 15 Robinson Road, Mapperley at 7.30 and at: WEA if at 6.30.

FEBRUARY:

- 3rd. Officers 7.30
- 11th. Policy Making meeting 7.00.
Meir Vanunu 8.00
- 17th. Officers 6.30
Executive Committee 7.30

MARCH:

- 2nd. Officers 7.30
- 16th. Officers 6.30
Executive Committee 7.30

APRIL:

- 6th. Officers 7.30
- 20th. Officers 6.30
Executive Committee 7.30

MAY:

- 4th. Officers 7.30
- 18th. Officers 6.30
Executive Committee 7.30

JUNE:

- 1st. Officers 7.30
- 9th. Policy Making Meeting 7.30
- 15th. Officers 6.30
Executive Committee 7.30

JULY:

- 6th. Officers 7.30
- 20th. Officers 6.30
Executive Committee 7.30

No Meetings in August

SEPTEMBER:

- 7th. Officers 7.30
- 21st. Officers 6.30
Executive Committee 7.30

OCTOBER:

- 5th. Officers 7.30
- 13th. AGM.

**APRIL 4
ALDERMASTON
BE THERE**

EDITORIAL

Before the ink is even dry on Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev's INF Treaty, we learn that NATO is planning to deploy more than twice as many nuclear warheads in Europe as those negotiated away at the Washington summit! (See page 10) It seems we've been lied to, yet again.

It's the Belgrano syndrome.

Maggie Thatcher hasn't the slightest interest in disarmament, even if it 's multilateral.

Our job in NCND is clear. We have to expose the phoney multilateralists for what they are - phoney!

And we have to keep pushing our central basic demand for peace and disarmament.

People must be told what's going on and, if we don't tell them, no-one else will.

The nuclear escalation must be stopped and, if we don't try to stop it, no one else will.

After INF, Nottingham CND is as vital as it ever was.

ALDERMASTON THE BRAIN BEHIND BRITAIN'S BOMB

Aldermaston is situated in the undulating wooded countryside of Berkshire. It is one of only a handful of its type in the world and contains the most closely guarded secrets of the nuclear powers. As with the other two establishments involved in the production of British nuclear weapons, Burghfield (near by) and Llanishen (near Cardiff), the government tries to keep the work being carried out at Aldermaston out of public debate, through the use of D Notices. D notices have no legal force but are widely respected by the media. Atomic Weapons Establishments (AWE) Aldermaston is officially described as "a self-contained centre for scientific and engineering development of advanced nuclear technology for both defence and civil purposes". First built in 1950, Aldermaston is both a nuclear weapons laboratory and production facility. It designs, develops and tests warheads for:

1. British submarines, like Polaris with its updated, costly and secret Chevaline warheads and Trident.
2. The RAF's nuclear capable aircraft.
3. The Royal Navy's nuclear depth charges.

In addition, it:

4. Manages special collaborative arrangements for nuclear co-operation and transfers of nuclear material with the United States.

The scientists at Aldermaston have a lot of influence within the MoD. They have been an important factor in the government's reluctance to agree a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. David Owen went as far as to say that scientists from Aldermaston together with their US counterparts:

"Were even prepared to undermine the politically agreed negotiating stance: in the U.K., the insubordination reached such a serious level that one official had to be disciplined."

ALDERMASTON'S TRIDENT PROGRAMME

Britain's first nuclear bomb was manufactured in Aldermaston's A1 building which is now being replaced by the new A90 weapons manufacturing complex at an estimated cost of £35,000. The building is a replica of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory in the Unfited States. Los Alamos is on a plateau in the middle.

When completed, the A90 building will consist of four bays. Two of these bays will be used for the making of plutonium billets for Trident warheads and these will be the first to go into production, possibly in Spring/Summer 1988.

The third bay will be used to dismantle obsolete nuclear weapons and to recover plutonium for further use.

The use of the fourth bay is the key motive behind the building of the multi-million pound venture. It will be used to design, develop and manufacture "future" generations of nuclear weapons, hence the name A90 - an Atomic Complex to take us up to the 1990s and beyond.

ACCIDENTS AND HEALTH

There have been many accidents and leaks at Aldermaston, only some of which have been made public. As recently as December 3rd. 1987, the MOD were forced to admit a leak from the 30 year old underground pipe, which discharged contaminated water from Aldermaston into the Thames at Pangbourne. The following is a list of KNOWN accidents to date:

| | | | |
|-----------|--|------|--|
| Dec. '57 | One man died from Lithium burns. | 1978 | Ponchin Inquiry finds 'Plutonium in air commonly exceeding limits'. During the Inquiry 70 workers found to have plutonium in their bodies. |
| 27.1.59 | Leak of radioactivity. | | |
| 16.2.59 | One man injured and two killed in an explosion. | | |
| 17.8.60 | Explosion wrecks £3000 processing plant. | | |
| May '61 | Two scientists contaminated with plutonium. | 1981 | A1 building sealed off due to contamination. |
| 1961 | Trevor Brown tells of 'poor record of safety'. | 1981 | A G.P. in Basingstoke discovered 6 cases of lung cancer in Aldermaston workers all living on the same estate. |
| Late '70s | Ground contamination discovered from leaking drums. | 1984 | 6 workers contaminated when one of the A1 buildings was reopened. |
| July '79 | One man killed in an explosion. | | |
| Feb '78 | Workers boycotted one building because of contamination. | | |
| Aug '78 | 12 workers found to be internally contaminated. | | |

APRIL 4
ALDERMASTON
BE THERE

In December 1985, a YTV documentary, "Inside Britain's Bomb", shocked the residents of Berkshire by revealing evidence for higher than average rates of childhood leukaemia around the nuclear establishments of Aldermaston and Burghfield. The most recent investigation into high incidences of childhood leukaemia in the area was published in October 1987. Conducted by an Imperial Cancer Research Fund team, it shows that local children had a four-fold greater risk of dying from leukaemia than the average. The children at greatest risk are aged 0 to 9 years.

CONTACTS AND RESOURCES

1. There is a women's peace camp held every month at Aldermaston as part of the ongoing Aldermaston Campaign, set up by Greenham women. The Aldermaston Campaign also produce newsletters. They can be contacted by writing to:

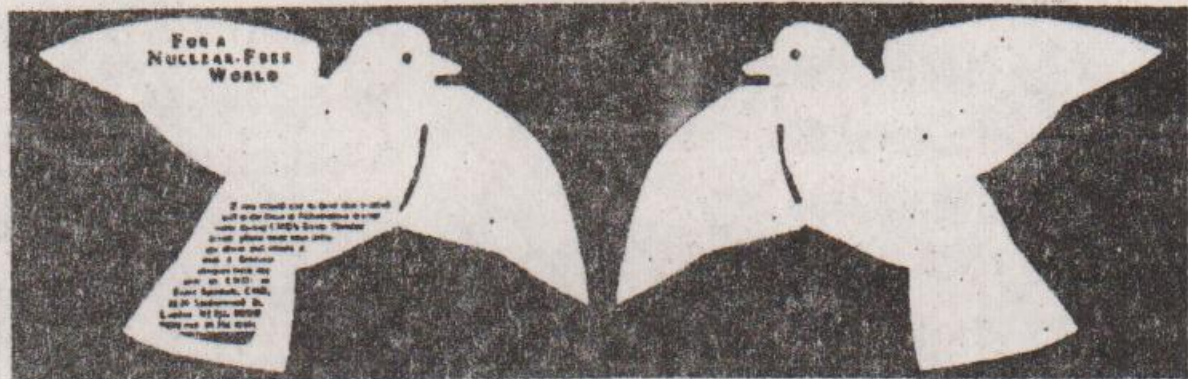
The Aldermaston Campaign,
c/o CND,
22-24 Underwood Street,
London.
N1 7JG

2. For local information about Aldermaston, contact Basingstoke CND by writing to Bob Johnson at 15a The Danes, Goat Lane, Basingstoke.

3. For further information on the Namibian Connection contact Campaign Against Namibian Uranium Contracts, P.O. Box 16, London. NW5 2LW

NCND COACH DETAILS FOR APRIL 4TH. DEMO: —————

- 6.30 a.m., coach leaving Retford, calling at Worksop, Manfield (7.00 a.m.), Ravenshead, Hucknall & Bulwell on the way to the city centre (8.00).
Telephone Barbara (625198) or Jane (626887) or details.
- 7.00 a.m., coach leaving Newark, calling at Bingham, Radcliffe-on-Trent, West Bridgford, on the way to the city centre (8.00).
Telephone Charles (0636) 812827 for details.
- Tickets £5.50 waged, £3.50 unwaged, available from CND office, Rainbow Centre, Mushroom, Ouroboros and Hiziki.
Forest Fields Peace Group are organising their own coach - contact Pete 625198.



Please try and get people who are unable to come to Aldermaston to return doves so that they can be placed on the wire fencing - plus a small donation if they want.

- Time-table for April 4th.
8.00 a.m. coaches leave Salutation Inn, Maid Marion Way.
12.00 noon. arrive Aldermaston.
2.00 p.m. Embrace the Base.
3.30 p.m. Demo finishes.
BRING MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS —————

FOCUS ON TRIDENT

by Jeremy Jago

On Wednesday 27 January, a workshop was held at WEA attended by local group representatives. It was led by Laurie Gibson, National CND's Group Development Worker, who discussed two campaigns of the first half of the year. Both are devoted to Trident - the first is the encirclement of the Atomic Weapons "Research" Establishment at Aldermaston on Easter Monday.

This year just happens to be the 30th anniversary of the original Aldermaston Marches. But, as Laurie emphasised, the occasion isn't exactly nostalgic as the establishment is being expanded as a factory for Trident warheads.

Beginning on Good Friday, there will be "star marches" from various points in the country, strictly for hardened walking types. (See p.) No more than a few thousand are officially expected, since there are no resources for accommodation and the organisers don't want to invite comparison with the sixties. This sounds defeatist but it places the emphasis where it should be - the demo at the base itself - numbers here are crucial at the 2 pm zero hour. The action peaks amid music and noise with a continuous linked human chain around the perimeter. Speakers and musicians will move along on trucks. Coaches bearing the majority of participants will arrive at noon and will be directed to specific areas. There is to be no fence-cutting (too much plutonium about) - strictly decoration, including dove emblems sponsored by anyone able only to be there in spirit. Government order forbids photography and even (shock, horror) sketching.

If the day is considered newsworthy at all, those comparisons with the sixties will get made anyway. It's up to the membership to create a solid chain.

The second item discussed was a nationwide campaign. The last week in May is Disarm the Seas Week, in which the anti-Trident case is put forward by CND, Greenpeace and others, including the international group North Atlantic Network. Local groups are urged to help by distributing a leaflet. The groans are deafening, but this one is ingeniously designed to avoid the boredom of previous leaflets. It is "brief enough to be read on the way to the wastebin" and has a bold, stark design, its few words all in large type. As expected, there's a coupon at the bottom, but with a difference - it doesn't ask you to join! This is to avoid challenging, confusing and alienating the reader who merely has to agree we should stop Trident to get an information pack - whether or not they actually asked for one. But... we get their name and address too, sent from National HQ. A crafty approach to the problem of public ignorance - like "What's Trident?"

To target a million homes this way would cost us over £6,000, so the actual campaign can be run in parallel with one or more newspaper panel adverts, using the same design. Laurie Gibson also suggested combining a "delivery volunteer recruiting drive" with a "make a lapsed member feel guilty" campaign. Picture the scene on hundreds of vaguely familiar doorsteps "I wonder if you'd be prepared to help us by delivering these new leaflets? Oh, and ... by the way ... "

CONTROVERSY

OPEN LETTER TO NCND

When Geoff Young asked me if I was interested in writing something for this bulletin, he gave me the last couple of issues to look through, partly so that I might respond to the "Which Way Forward" debate and to catch up with what were the current issues amongst CND activists. The concern about the falling membership is obviously a financial worry, but what else does it mean?... the lost potential of more activists, broader democratic structures, more control? I think not, for many of those thousands of members during the height of CND's impact were paying conscience money, a token. Yes, their consciences were stirred occasionally, enough to turn out in dramatic numbers on those wonderful marches; but now, they look back fondly at those days from the comfort of their armchairs and are content to leave disarmament to the "expert" negotiators ...WHY? Because CND failed them as it is failing now to make links between what else is happening in the world around us, the economic and political roots of systems that insist that nuclear weapons are a necessary evil; leaving people in a condition of nascent consciousness.

Happily, there are many who for complex reasons were profoundly changed (with consciousness heightened to a state of perpetual anguish, only occasionally experiencing that utter paralysis of hesitation).

My experience of getting involved in CND is shared by others. After agonising over the dismal prospect of nurturing a young life under the suicidal shadow of a mushroom cloud, I did have a child and the urgency to make the world a better place launched me into the nearest CND group, literally turning up to a meeting in the local town hall one wet autumn evening and becoming chair-person by the end of the year. My enthusiasm was fuelled by desperation and I saw no problems. Certainly at first I didn't even see the connections between this crusade for a peaceful world and the cuts at the school where I worked which meant we couldn't have all the books we needed. I was that naive! This is not the time to detail the process that followed, becoming aware - and anyway it's a phenomenon which is well-known and shared by many of you out there.

Being active in CND was a major step along the road to political understanding, as long as other things were happening, too; the whole self-education process required to be effective within that local group, the contact with political activists who had made the connections. I started reading Marx and became aware of other people's struggles all within the same context of a crazy capitalist system that puts profit before people.

**APRIL 4
ALDERMASTON
BE THERE**

I left CND before it began to feel stale, the marches, the meetings, the sit-ins, the NVDA, the petitions only seemed to push the arguments "so far" and happened increasingly as part of an atmosphere of moral do-gooding. Too many of the people I sat next to on the coach, in the meeting, on the demo, were people with whom I had nothing in common. I felt uncomfortable coming into contact with people from well-off backgrounds who, it seemed, hadn't anything to lose, who weren't putting themselves on the line because they could always "go back to mummy and daddy". They didn't share the conviction of a collective striving for a socialist society along with the awful responsibilities that commits us to. These were people who weren't interested in the harassment of Afro-Caribbean, Asian and Irish people, they didn't seem to mind the hardship of the miners' families in their courageous struggle to protect jobs, they weren't interested in the homeless, in hospital cuts, education cuts.

So few people within CND were putting those arguments and those who were, were accused of frightening away potential members! People who wanted to get rid of the bomb were voting Liberal/SDP and then the real trauma occurred when the movement put its faith in the ability of the Labour Party to set the non-nuclear agenda, just when the Labour Party, too, was re-asserting its role as the caring managers of the capitalist-economic system.

People both in and out of CND are currently being seduced by the oily mouthed negotiators in military/political power; who make disarmament so complex, ponderous and jargon-riddled that no ordinary person can understand, when the issues are simple.

CND should be making them simple - self-education is the word and the world on our terms. An unequal society needs weaponry; a country that has to oppress other countries to survive economically needs the threat of weaponry; a government needing to stir up jingoistic fervour needs the might of weaponry, a political system that wishes to maintain control, divides people by class, race and gender, and puts the production of arms before people's basic needs.

CND should stop worrying about playing the numbers game; the pages of this bulletin should be filled with information on the issues that highlight the political interests of a "civilized" country that maintains huge stocks of disgusting weapons, completely distorting the economy; fewer articles on what all the hardworking activists are up to, and, please - no more letters like this!

DIANE BAILEY



TALKS TESTS TREATIES TRIDENT

AND

PLAIN OLD-FASHIONED SLEIGHT OF HAND

A run down on what happened in January
by
Tony Claydon.

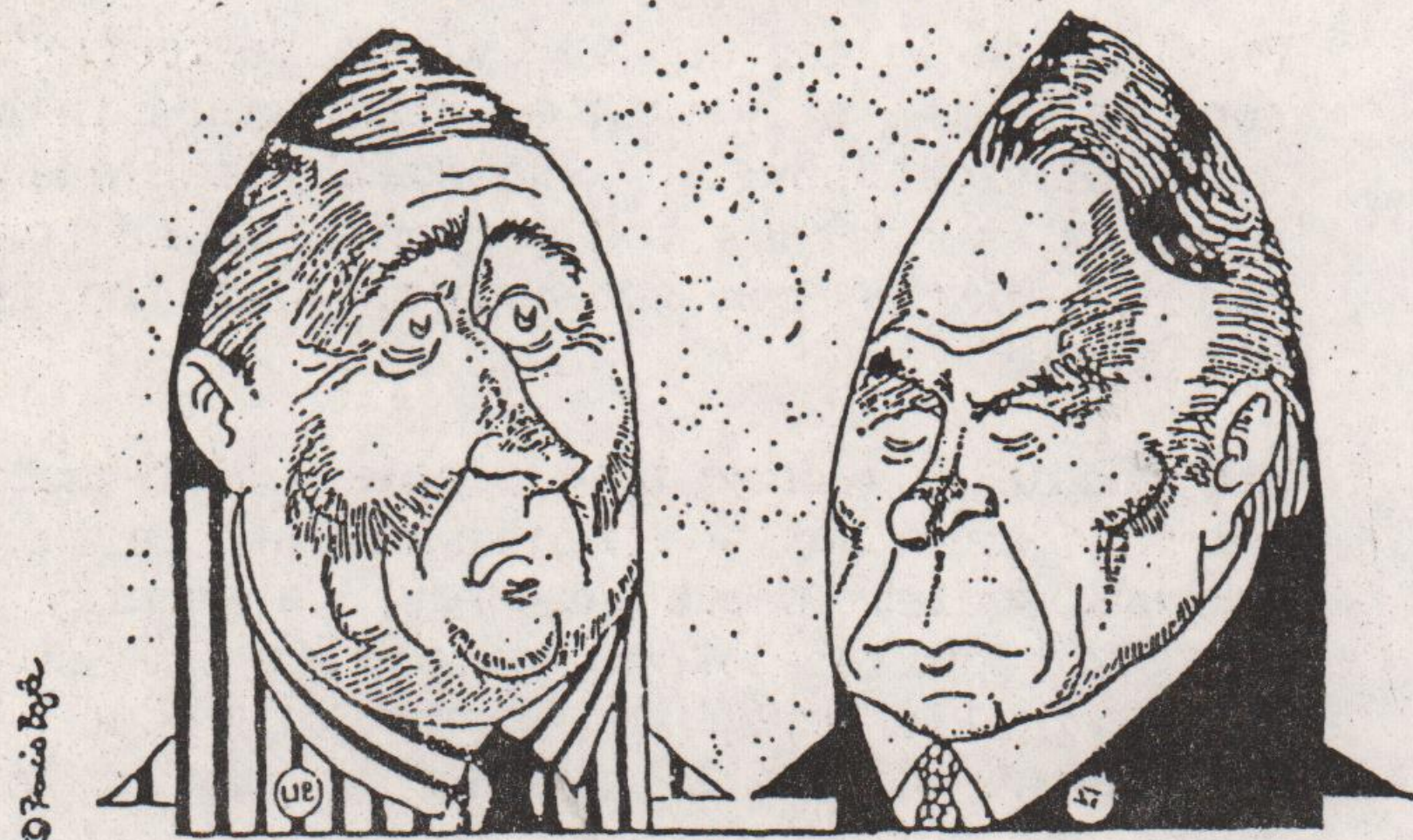
14th US and Soviet negotiators begin talks on cuts in strategic nuclear arsenals (the big ones). They are under pressure to draft a treaty for the hoped-for Reagan-Gorbachev summit in the summer. Cuts of 50% are proposed which would leave each side with only 6,000 warheads each. What a sacrifice!

An MX missile malfunctions on test (not for the first time and not for the last).

The Bonn Government shuts down West Germany's biggest nuclear company (called Nukem) amid suspicions that it had shipped black market nuclear material to Pakistan and Libya.

15th Soviet negotiations in Geneva waste no time in tying any prospective treaty on strategic weapons to curbs on the development of space weapons. The US are not amused.

OBSOLETE WAR HEADS.



17th The second draft of the ill-fated SDP/Liberal policy document emerges following a rapid rethink and burning of midnight oil. The policy decision on nuclear weapons is postponed.

18th The European Commission is to investigate the plan of the Central Electricity Generating Board to shut off the coolant fans at Trawsfynydd nuclear power station "as a safety test". It transpires that similar tests have been held at two other stations. They weren't exactly carried out in secret; it's just that no-one was told.

19th Robert MacLennan, SDP leader, says the merged SDP/Liberal Party will deploy Trident. Now you see it, now you don't.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze warns NATO countries not to strengthen their nuclear forces in the period pending the outcome of negotiations. Eduard has a crystal ball (see 24th and 27th).

22nd Maggie calls for a shift in arms cuts away from nuclear to chemical and conventional.

24th It is reported that the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate are likely to give the green light for the test at Trawsfynydd power station, scheduled for 12th Feb (one week after Red Nose Day). This is hardly surprising since it seems the N.I.I. suggested the experiment in the first place.

The Observer reports that NATO intends to deploy at least 5 twice as many nuclear warheads in Europe as were negotiated away in the INF Treaty. (Now you see them, now you don't, now you do.)

25th A two year delay is announced in building a complex to produce the nuclear warhead for Trident. Rumours abound that the first sub, due for service in 1994, will be equipped with Shredded Wheat instead.

27th Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe informs House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee that NATO's nuclear weapons remaining in Europe after the INF Treaty need to be "modernized". For "modernized" read "at least doubled" (or "trebled" or "quadrupled" or ...)

200 or 300 club?

If you have a share in the CND 200 Club, you probably know of the plan to launch the larger 300 Club from the first of January.

The 300 Club needed to sell an additional 25 new shares to cover the increased prize money being offered. (We hoped to sell about 50 new shares.) To date, 23 new shares have been sold. By retaining the 200 Club format, NCND benefits by an extra £23 per month, as opposed to being worse off if we introduce the new 300 Club format, as planned.

For these reasons, we want to continue the 200 Club into the new year and review its expansion should its membership increase. We hope you feel this is acceptable, especially those new people who bought a share in the proposed 300 Club.

The winners of the January draw are:

- | | | |
|-----|-----|----------------------|
| (1) | £50 | Allan Reynolds (19) |
| (2) | £10 | A. Hewson (171) |
| (3) | £5 | Karen Winfield (121) |

Looking forward to your future support.

THE NCND FUND RAISING GROUP

MORDECAI VANUNU: TRAITOR OR HERO?

Mordecai Vanunu is on trial for his life in Israel. He is a serious young man from a large and devout Jewish family which emigrated to the "promised land" from Morocco. What is his crime? What is it that led the Israeli Government to return him forcibly to Israel, lock him for months in solitary confinement in a small cell, where he is subject to unrelenting 24 hour a day camera surveillance? And why have such farcically elaborate arrangements been made to prevent him communicating one word to the outside world in transit to or at his trial? Perhaps his captors are afraid that he will be recognised as a conscientious man who tells the truth rather than as the traitor that they want to brand him.

It cannot be that they are seriously concerned about "security", for the facts in Vanunu's possession have already been told to the world. His testimony was published in the Sunday Times in October 1986. It revealed what had before been only suspected: that Israel has, for many years, been constructing a frightful nuclear weapons capability. Vanunu was able to demonstrate the reality of the Dimona "experimental" out of his observations while working there as a technician. His testimony, illustrated by diagrams and photographs, has proved absolutely convincing to experts who have examined them.

By the time the Sunday Times had satisfied themselves of the validity of the story that Vanunu had to tell, he had already disappeared - lured from London to Rome, drugged and smuggled onto a boat where he was taken, in chains, by a devious route to Israel. This act was highly illegal and unusual, even for such a self-righteous regime and its unscrupulous agents the Mossad; although the Italian Government has been strangely sluggish in protesting about or even probing this gross violation of its sovereign rights.

Why did the Israelis react so severely? After all, most nuclear powers wish their potential enemies to know they hold nuclear weapons so that they will be "deterred" from aggressive acts. But, of course, these nuclear weapons infringe the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and are a severe embarrassment to their principal allies in the United States, which has attempted to play down early evidence of a combined nuclear test carried out by Israel and South Africa at sea in 1979. Furthermore, serious questions have now been raised in countries like Norway, which supplied heavy water strictly for peaceful purposes.

It is true that Israel herself has not signed the NPT, but her representatives in the United Nations and elsewhere have regularly asserted that their country will not be the first to introduce nuclear weapons into the Middle East, while constantly calling for a nuclear-free zone in the region. Vanunu has exposed this as so much cant and hypocrisy.

It has to be said that the immediate result of this expose has been to decrease the pressures for Arab States to acquire nuclear capability themselves, in self-defence. So, while we rightly



celebrate the limited cut-back in land-based Euro-missiles embodied in the recent INF agreement of Reagan and Gorbachev, we have this dangerous development in the most conflict-ridden area in the world to remind us that the nuclear conflict could still so easily spill back into Europe and engulf the world.

While the Israeli Government attempts to silence and condemn Vanunu, many have been heartened by his courageous act, made only after much soul-searching and hesitations and at great personal cost. He has won the annual award of the Right Livelihood Foundation, his brother Meir has recently received the Danish Peace Prize on his behalf; the Russell Foundation's nomination of Vanunu for the Nobel Peace Prize has received widespread support from Members of Parliament and others.

By recognising Vanunu's inspiring example and in organising solidarity with him, we can help prevent the peoples of the world from sinking into complacency, apathy or despair in the face of those who would destroy rather than yield a centimetre to those they perceive to be their enemies.

Ken Fleet.



HI, WE'RE FROM THE TELEPHONE CUMPNEY
AN' WE WANNA...AH...CHECK YER PHONE.



SPYCATCHERS!

Regular bulletin readers may remember the account in the November 1987 bulletin of a trip to Gutersloh, Beeston's German twin-town, by Jill Robson and John Cromby of Beeston Anti-Nuclear Group. The bulletin account was memorable because of a typographical error, which gave the impression that our hosts in the German peace movement spent an evening insulting Jill and me in their native language.

Our main purpose for being in Gutersloh was to take part in the Olaf Palme Peace March, a trans-European demonstration in support of the Swedish Prime Minister's call for a nuclear weapon-free corridor to be created between Eastern and Western Europe. However, during our stay we had time for sight-seeing and, of course, we took some holiday snaps, too.

There was a lot to photograph. Gutersloh is home to Britain's biggest RAF base east of the Rhine, but the area also has a number of smaller and less strategically-important military sites: munitions dumps, barracks, vehicles stores, etc. With the help of our German friends, we did a "tour of inspection", completely unaware that we, too, were being watched...

"Dear Jill, dear John,

21.12.87.

When you left Gutersloh in September, we promised you to write soon. However - it has last some times, till we've found together to write this letter. But we had a lot of trouble with the police.

Four weeks after you had left, Eckhard was rang up by the political police. They wanted to know something about the fotos taken from his car at Sept. 17th. The British Secret Service had ordered informations about the owner of the car

he hadn't taken the fotos and that same British peace-friends had been at Gutersloh.

We received this letter from our friends in Gutersloh a few weeks ago. Eckhard, who drove us around the area in his car, is a key figure in the Gutersloh peace movement. We were not challenged at any time whilst we drove around the area nor did we notice ourselves being watched or followed. However, the military installations we visited were all surrounded by chain-link fence (like Chilwell), so it would have been relatively easy for the MoD police to "spy" on us from a distance with binoculars.

So - Jill and I are earmarked now as international spies. But what of the photographs? Well, I'm embarrassed to say that I made a bit of a mess with them. Getting the exposure correct has never been my forte, especially when I'm under pressure. The negatives of all the "sensitive" photos were greatly under-exposed and so never got printed. Or so the photo lab told me....

JOHN CROMBY

Dear Friends,

Despite the recent agreement between the governments of the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. on nuclear missiles, the nuclear arms race continues as fast as ever. In the U.S., Katya Komisaruk was recently sentenced to five years in prison plus \$500,000 in "restitution" for her attempt to halt the madness by damaging the Trident 11 guidance system (NAVSTAR) at the U.S. air force base - prejudiced by the U.S. policy of pursuing a weapons system totally designed for first strike use in that the missile guidance system will be so accurate that the Russian missile silos can be destroyed thereby preventing retaliation. What price deterrence now?

Katya's defence, based on the Nuremberg Principles and also International law, was not only disallowed but was also denied even its utterance in court, thereby leaving her totally at the mercy of the prosecution. As she herself stated at the end of her final, and very eloquent, statement to the court, "...And yet I was hoping, Your Honor, even though our silence implied that this was a fair trial, that you would look down and see that you and everyone here have been stripped of justice. Your robes and bench are transparent, Your Honor. They cannot cover up injustice. They can only hide it for a while."

Please send letters of support, and cash, to;

White Rose Support Collective,
1716 Felton Street,
San Francisco,
CA 94134
U.S.A.

Thanks,

BILL HAINES



8

LETTERS ARE WELCOME

NOTTINGHAM CND UPDATE

"Fifteen hundred peace protestors have gathered in Nottingham to mark the signing of the INF Treaty". Or at least that's how RADIO NOTTINGHAM reported the candle-lit Rally and March near the Forest, on the day Reagan and Gorbachev finalised the arms deal. In fact, the real figure was fifteen, but the message had been garbled somewhere between their roving reporter and the studio. Numbers steadily swelled to a respectable 60 or so. Our banners asked drivers to "HOOT IF YOU SUPPORT US" and hundreds did just that. Our opponents didn't seem to have much to shout about. "Go back to Russia" would sound rather lame, though we did get one "Bring back the bomb".

A short and rather dignified candle-lit march ended with a bonfire, lit at precisely the time that Ron and Mikhail signed on the dotted line, along with beacons all over the country and, indeed, the continent. A large and scary-looking rocket/firework refused to go off as required. Perhaps it was trying to tell us something about the Deal.

Later that week, The Listergate Stall was surrounded by huge posters of both Dealers shaking hands, superimposed with our demand, "NOW, LET'S SCRAP THE LOT". One of the posters was transformed into a fiant Christmas Card and signed by over 200 passers-by (some of whom told us they had come specifically to add their voice to the campaign. A great number of shoppers came to discuss the significance and implications of the INF deal and an enormous amount of good old-fashioned street campaigning was done.

The giant Card was taken to the Conservative Party HQ in Sherwood on the Monday azfter the stall. Local press hacks had by this time lost interest in the story and so didn't turn up to cover the event. Unfortunately, there were no Tory MPs or officials there either, so a rather bemused cleaner graciously accepted the card, though it wasn't entirely clear if he was from the Tory HQ or the Restaurant next door.

The Lister Gate Stall did very good trade over the run-up to Christmas. Altogether £600 was raised in two weeks. This makes the developments with regard to our licence from the City Council all the more sad. A low-key and measured campaign of letter-writing, petitioning and lobbying was undertaken. The sub-committee decided to reduce the number of times NCND could have a trading licence from weekly to 4-times-a-year. We can, however, take an information stall out whenever we like. Various Neighbourhood Groups have applied for licences, but, at the time of writing, no decision has been made. Given the previous Conservative (and police) hostility to any stall - assuming our application is successful - the campaign paid off.

**APRIL 4
ALDERMASTON
BE THERE**



On the fund-raising front, the last few months have been very lucrative. The Craft Fair, held at the Congregational Hall in Castle Gate made a profit for NCND of about £140. Sixteen stalls took part and most did a good deal of business, NCND's stall taking over £60. Our PARIS IN THE SPRING raffle was finally drawn and profits from this venture are getting on for £1,000. This was an outstanding success, with one third of all tickets printed being actually sold. Well done to everyone who forced them on their reluctant friends and relations. The 200 Club is back to being called the 200 Club again, after a brief period of being called the 300 Club. Apparently, market confidence in these gilt-edged stocks and shares was hindered by a general melt-down of liquidities and a free-fall of assets, bonds and unit-trusts. Nevertheless, the Club has 189 members now and makes £1,500 a year for the campaign! All we can say is BE PART OF IT and turn CND into a real share-owning democracy.

It takes either an incredible degree of commitment to NCND or an incredible aversion to Christmas to go out and campaign for us on Christmas Eve. That's exactly what three of our members did this year. They organised the release of about 100 balloons, tied with stars and doves of peace and, in the short time they were at Lister Gate, helped the stall take £30.

Meanwhile, plans are afoot for the coming year's peace work and a group of ten people have already started sorting out Peace Festival 88. They held their first meeting in January and are committed to seeing this important event in our calendar go ahead.

Finally, some of the work of NCND has been going on as usual in the background of the campaign. To highlight just one aspect of that, the Membership Team report a worrying situation as far as our members are concerned. Over the last six months and, despite all their best efforts, the Membership Team report 90 renewals and 49 new members (a total of 139) against 281 lapsed members. That's a loss of 142 members in six months. The Team say they are planning a membership drive soon, but it is clear that it is the responsibility of all of us who are part of this campaign to keep hold of the members we have and draw in new members we have not yet got.

It would be a pity to end on a sad note, and, as the greatest part of this report shows, Nottingham CND still has a lot of life in it. There's everything still to work for. It's up to us to keep it going.

Nuclear update will wipe out arms cuts

NIGEL HAWKES ■ Diplomatic Editor

NATO plans to deploy at least twice as many new nuclear warheads in Europe as those negotiated away in the INF agreement signed in Washington last month by President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachov.

The British Government has consistently denied that any decision has been taken to deploy the new systems, but information from the US and the Netherlands suggests otherwise. There is likely to be a political row over the new deployments when Defence Secretary George Younger faces Parliamentary questions on Tuesday.

The issue may also prove divisive at next month's Nato summit in Brussels, since the West German government opposes parts of the plan.

The new deployments are likely to be much larger than previously published figures have suggested. While they will not violate the INF treaty, they will enable Nato to hit exactly the same targets as the cruise and Pershing-2 missiles which are due to be removed.

The new deployments, which Nato refers to as a modernisation programme, are listed in a report by the British American Security Information Council due to be published

this week. The report suggests the Nato nuclear armoury by the mid-1990s could include 1,300 air-launched cruise missiles, 600 ground-launched ballistic or cruise missiles, and 400 nuclear artillery shells to be fired from 155mm guns. These would all be new weapons systems which are already under development.

The total number of new warheads, at 2,300, would exceed by a factor of two or three the warheads which Nato will destroy as a result of the INF treaty. Yet, because of retirements of old and obsolete systems, Nato could still claim that its total number of nuclear warheads in Europe was being reduced.

The decision to modernise Nato's weapons was taken at a meeting of the Nato Nuclear

Planning Group in Montebello in October 1983. In response to Parliamentary questions, the Government has consistently denied that any such decisions were reached at Montebello, though both American and Dutch sources give a different version of events.

In a letter to Labour MP Robert Wareing dated 26 March 1985, Lord Trefgarne, a Junior Defence Minister, said 'no specific proposals of any sort have yet been made to Alliance ministers' about Nato's nuclear stockpile. However, since the election last year, ministers have taken a wholly different tack. In Parliament on 10 November last year, George Younger referred to 'the decisions taken four years ago at Montebello for the modernisation and bringing up to date of the existing nuclear weapons that are part of the West's armoury against attack. That process is only part completed. It must be completed as soon as possible.'

In spite of all the ministerial evasions, the shape of Nato's future nuclear armoury is becoming clear. It will involve at least four new weapons systems:

■ Air-launched cruise missiles, to be carried by Nato's nuclear-strike aircraft, of which 650 are deployed in Europe. Each aircraft could carry two. Several different types of ALCM are under development.

■ Short-range ground-launched systems, with ranges of less than 312 miles, so as to fall under the limits set by the INF treaty. These could be launched from the Multiple Launch Rocket System, a tracked vehicle with the capacity to launch nuclear or conventional rockets.

■ New artillery shells, for both 155mm and 8-inch (203mm) guns. Two hundred new 8-inch shells, with the capacity to be upgraded to neutron-bomb weapons, have already been deployed, though Britain has opted out of the programme. However, Britain will have the new 155mm nuclear shells, due to come into production this year. In addition, it is expected that when the US Navy equips a wide variety of surface ships and submarines with long-range cruise missiles, a proportion will be earmarked for the Atlantic theatre.

Nato's New Nuclear Weapons, 2; from the British American Security Council, 33 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HQ.



Younger: 'Soon'

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Doug Scott on winning the recent City Council bye-election in Aspley. Doug will add to the number of CND supporters on the Council.

Join us

Yes, I want to help. Here is my subscription to Nottingham CND

☐ adult £3.75 ☐ household £4.50 ☐ unwaged £1.50 ☐ group affiliations £5 to 50

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Please make cheques payable to NCND and return to:

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APRIL 4
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THIRTY YEARS AGO

Thirty years ago, at the birth of CND, when the Dandy and Beano were 20 years old, so was I. My only knowledge of the nuclear issue was having seen magnificent photos of nuclear explosions in the National Geographic Magazine and then, in 1957, a photograph of the Direct Action March from Aldermaston to London, showing girls in black tights dancing near the Albert Memorial - or so I remember it.

Having been asked to recall memories of my association with CND, a series of loosely connected experiences spring to mind. I've forgotten more than I can remember, but here are a few thoughts.

Cuba Crisis Week, October 1962 saw my first connection. I went to a CND meeting in Wellingborough, addressed by, amongst others, Peter Price, then East Midlands Regional Organiser for the Committee of 100 (later, and now, sadly late, a close friend). One other speaker, from Leicester University, opened his remarks with the thought that we all might be dead within the week - and we certainly believed this possible! However, the ships sailed towards each other, phones rang and were answered, the ships sailed back and the Cuba Crisis faded.

At Easter 1963, as Secretary of Nottingham CND, I went on the Aldermaston March, taking a copy of the RSG pamphlet which exposed the existence of Regional Seats of Government and particularly, Warren Row, close to the march route. On first reading this, I found it completely incredible, but on hearing that people in possession of it were being arrested at the overnight stop in Reading, I pushed it firmly to the bottom of my sleeping bag in the marquee in King's Meadow, together with money collected for the coach fare from Nottingham. The hiding place was safe and so was I. During that march I experienced for the first time the camaraderie of complete strangers. This was the early 60s when casual acquaintance in life outside CND was far from casual. I remember the awesome silence of the march as it reached Whitehall. Some marches later, George Clark tried in vain to quell the noise of those who thought it a redundant sentimental touch.

In autumn 1963, the NATO exercise FALLEX 62, whose results were too devastating to be publicised freely, was simulated in various parts of the country, including Nottingham, by a CND exercise, FALLEX 63. We rented an empty office near Mount Street bus station, from which many members and supporters campaigned, dropping leaflets through the doors of the citizens of Nottingham, giving them day to day details of their status, dead or alive, damage to their houses through fire, blast, the effects of radiation on the environment, until

Nottingham was completely devastated. We were warned that vulnerable members of society might be offended or scared by this information (which was, of course, why FALLEX 62 was kept so quiet!) A lasting memory, almost at the end of this campaign, was of a man who hid his face, would not give his name, who pushed £20 into my hand as a donation to CND just outside the FALLEX 63 office one dark night.

It may have been during FALLEX 63 that I was part of a three-woman delegation to see Alderman Mitson (who had a small factory making delicious chocolates in Lenton) with reference to Civil Defence. His stance on the purity of local water following a nuclear attack was interesting. His view was that any radiation would be filtered through the bunter sandstone. We had visions of the subsoil of the county acting like a giant tea strainer!

The membership, or rather the number of people we contacted through the monthly newsletter, hovered around 1,000. In the mid-sixties, the realisation that the level of commitment and interest of these people varied tremendously led us to apply the Reading Plan (pioneered by Reading CND) to ascertain the true level of support. Questionnaires were sent to the 1,000. The success (?) of this venture led to the almost literal decimation of the membership.

Shortly afterwards, I handed over the large green box in which all Nottingham CND records were left to the new secretary, or secretaries, as two women took on the job. I felt like saying, as had been said to me previously, "What's it like taking office in a dying organisation?"

Gradually I drifted away from the meetings held at the Friends' Meeting House, the demonstrations on the Market Square when the loudspeaker systems we rigged up to attract the attention of the general public were ripped out with monotonous regularity by the local constabulary, the marches and the jumble sale and all that held CND together.

More recently, I remember joining the massive march in 1981, when everybody who had been, or felt they had been, anybody in the previous hey-days met up again in Hyde Park, heralding the new revival of CND. Intermittent involvement includes visiting Greenham, on one occasion out of guilt, at being on the return journey from a month's camping holiday in France, trying to purge that guilt by donating most of what was left in my pocket to women who had stuck it out through winter and summer, harassment and ridicule as well as the obviously happy, constructive and successful aspects of their long campaign.

However, I will, I really will, renew my membership. The motivation? Partly pressure from current members, partly conscience at having been aloof for so long, partly the knowledge that CND is still a necessary thorn in the military/political/establishment flesh, with or without the INF Treaty and party gratitude to all the splendid people I met years ago, some of whom are still close friends.

NCND OFFICE
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 BULWELL/BESTON

BURTON JOYCE
 CITY CENTRE
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 LENTON/DUNKIRK
 MANSFIELD
 MAPPERLEY
 MAPPERLEY PARK
 MEADOWS
 RADCLIFFE-on-AVE
 RALEIGH STREET
 ALL SAINTS
 RAVENSHEAD
 SHERWOOD/CARLTON
 STAPLEFORD
 SNEINTON/BAKEDON
 TRENT POLY CENTRE
 WEST BRIDGFORD
 WOLLATON
 YOUTH CND

BEESTON MUMS
 BULLETIN
 CHRISTIAN CND
 LABOUR CND
 MEDICAL CAMPAIGN
 MEMBERSHIP
 NALGO WORKPLACE
 PEACE GROUP
 NAT COUNCIL
 RAINBOW CENTRE
 SAFE ENERGY
 TRADES UNION
 WOMEN FOR PEACE

**APRIL 4
 ALDERMASTON
 BE THERE**

CND - THIRTY YEARS.

This issue of the Bulletin coincides with the 30th anniversary of the founding of Nottingham CND. Many of our members weren't even alive in 1958, others have stayed with us through all the ebbs and flows. This year our main focus returns to Aldermaston and it's a good time to look back on our history a bit. We're running a few articles over the next issues - not so much to wallow in nostalgia for the sake of it, but to, we suppose, get a sense of place. The articles will not be straight forward history, but reflect the feelings of members as they took part and show what CND means and meant to them. Further contributions are welcome.

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Deadline for March Bulletin:

February 15th.

BULWELL CND INVITES YOU TO

**hear
 ALAN
 SIMPSON**

outspoken Labour County Councillor

BEYOND NUKES AND NIGHTMARES -
 DEFENCE POLICIES AFTER THE SUMMIT

7.30 p.m. Thursday 25th Feb.
 Bulwell Library (Highbury Rd.)

Alan is always worth listening
 to for his challenging ideas.

RAFFLE RESULTS:

| Name | Ticket | Prize |
|----------------|--------|--------------------------|
| Ms. Hurst | 4482 | Weekend for Two in Paris |
| S. Fenn | 4756 | £20 framed print |
| Dave watson | 8015 | £20 Gift Voucher |
| Stapleford CND | 5573 | Hilda Murrell book |
| Tim Alkington | 9616 | Two LP records |
| Ms.N.Baker | 114 | £10 cycle voucher |
| Dave Pratt | 1671 | £10 Record token |
| Piler Ellis | 8843 | £10 Book voucher |
| Frances Matten | 9597 | Veggie tokens |
| Jane Simpson | 2586 | Junior microscope |
| Bev Norris | 3401 | Films & use of darkroom |
| Ms.A.Walker | 1683 | Years Sanity Sub. |
| Dave Dickinson | 2849 | Meal for Two |
| Ms.Hull | 1150 | Nicaraguan artwork |
| Anna Marsh | 7774 | £5 Food voucher |
| J.Hamilton | 345 | £5 Food voucher |
| Cath Wakeman | 2421 | Headed Notepaper |
| G.F.Robson | 8036 | Stationery |
| Frank Noonon | 296 | Bottle of Wine |
| Jane Chaplin | 2106 | 3 City Lights Tickets. |

Well, I hope you were one of the lucky people who won one of the prizes in the NCND "Paris in the Spring" Raffle. For NCND, the raffle must be considered a well worthwhile event, bringing in over £800 to our campaigning funds.

For this success, we must send out a special thank-you to those local organisations who donated all the prizes with an extra-special thank you to Progressive Tours, in London, who donated the 1st prize. Also, we must not forget all the energy given by so many NCND members who went out selling raffle tickets throughout the autumn months.

To those people who didn't win anything (including me!), better luck next time.

Many thanks,

John Mitchell for NCND.