



(15p)

8901
c/o Environmental Information Centre
15 Goosegate, Nottingham
Tel Nottm 582561

NOVEMBER BULLETIN

Diary

- Monday 10 Nov 7.30 - Resources & Media Group - Environmental Info Centre
- Tuesday 11 Nov 8.00 - Events Group - Env Info Centre
- Thursday 13 Nov 8.00 - Film, the 'War Game' and discussion on the Christian at war, St James Church Hall, Marshall Hill Drive, Mapperley
- Monday 17 Nov 7.30 - West Bridgford Group, 154A Holme Rd, West Bridgford
- Wednesday 19 Nov 7.30 - Film, the War Game, Haywood Rd, Community Centre, Mapperley
- Thursday 20 Nov - The War Game at Gedling Youth Centre (for time contact Gedling group)
- Friday 21 Nov 7.30 - The War Game + speaker at WEA, Shakespeare St, (20p admission)
- Thursday 20 Nov 8.00 - Neighbourhoods Group meeting - Env Info Centre
- Monday 24 Nov 7.30 - Mapperley Park Group, 16 Carisbrooke Drive
- Tuesday 25 Nov 7.30 - Forest Fields Peace Group, Russell Rd Family Centre (+ film)
- Wednesday 26 Nov 7.30 - The War Game at Sneinton Hermitage Community Centre
- 26 Nov 8.00 - Events Group - Env Info Centre
- Thursday 27 Nov 7.30 - Keyworth & Plumtree Group (1st meeting) 22 Commercial Rd
- 27 Nov 7.30 - War Game at St Johns Church Hall, Masfield Rd (next Carrington lido)
- 27 Nov 8.00 - Beeston Anti-Nuclear Group, Victoria Hall, Dovecote Lane Beeston
- Wednesday 3 Dec 7.30 - Newcomers meeting - Env Info Centre
- Sunday 7 Dec 7.30 - NND Monthly meeting, Friends Meeting House, 25 Clarendon St

Neighbourhood Groups

4249
t Blvd

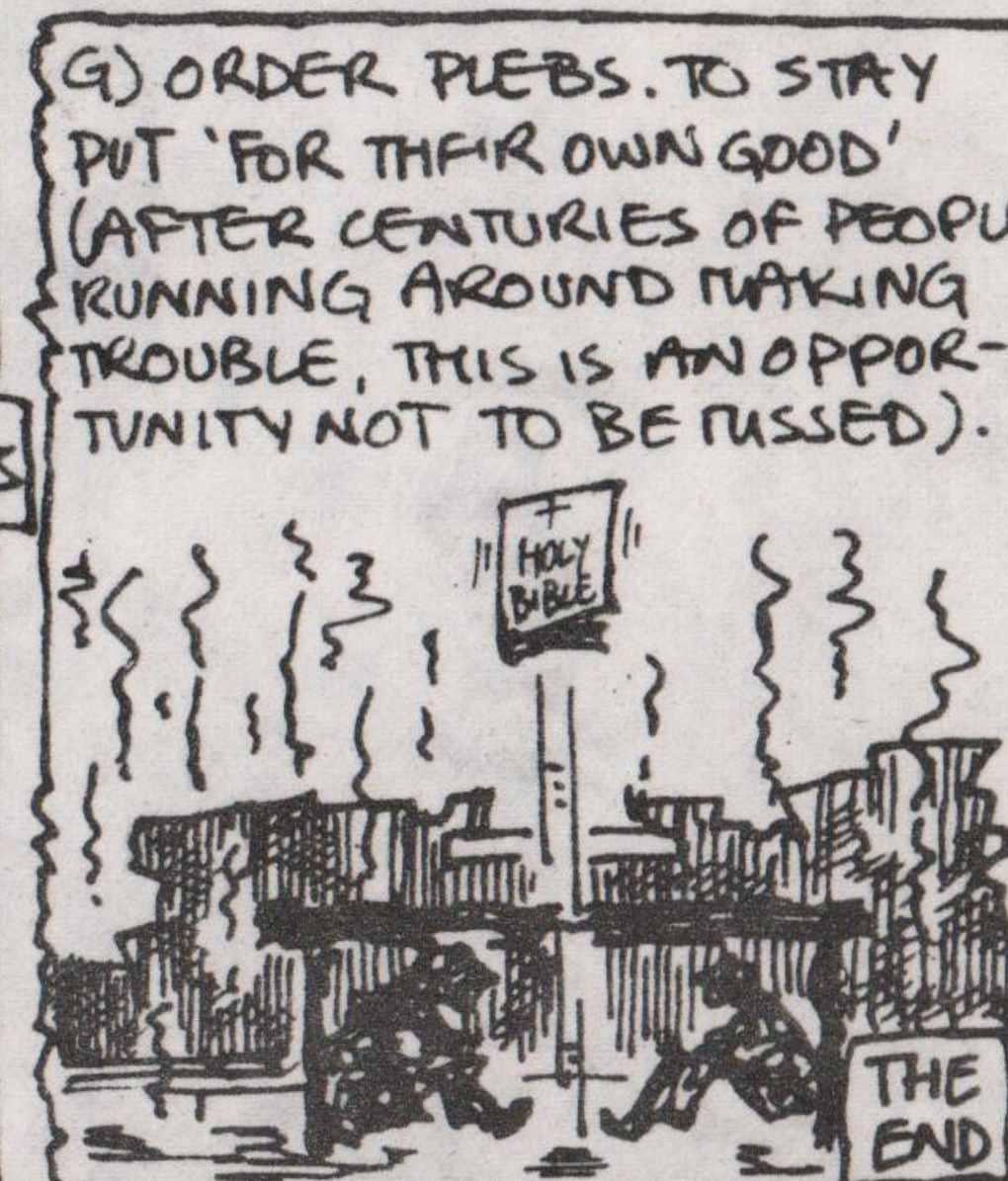
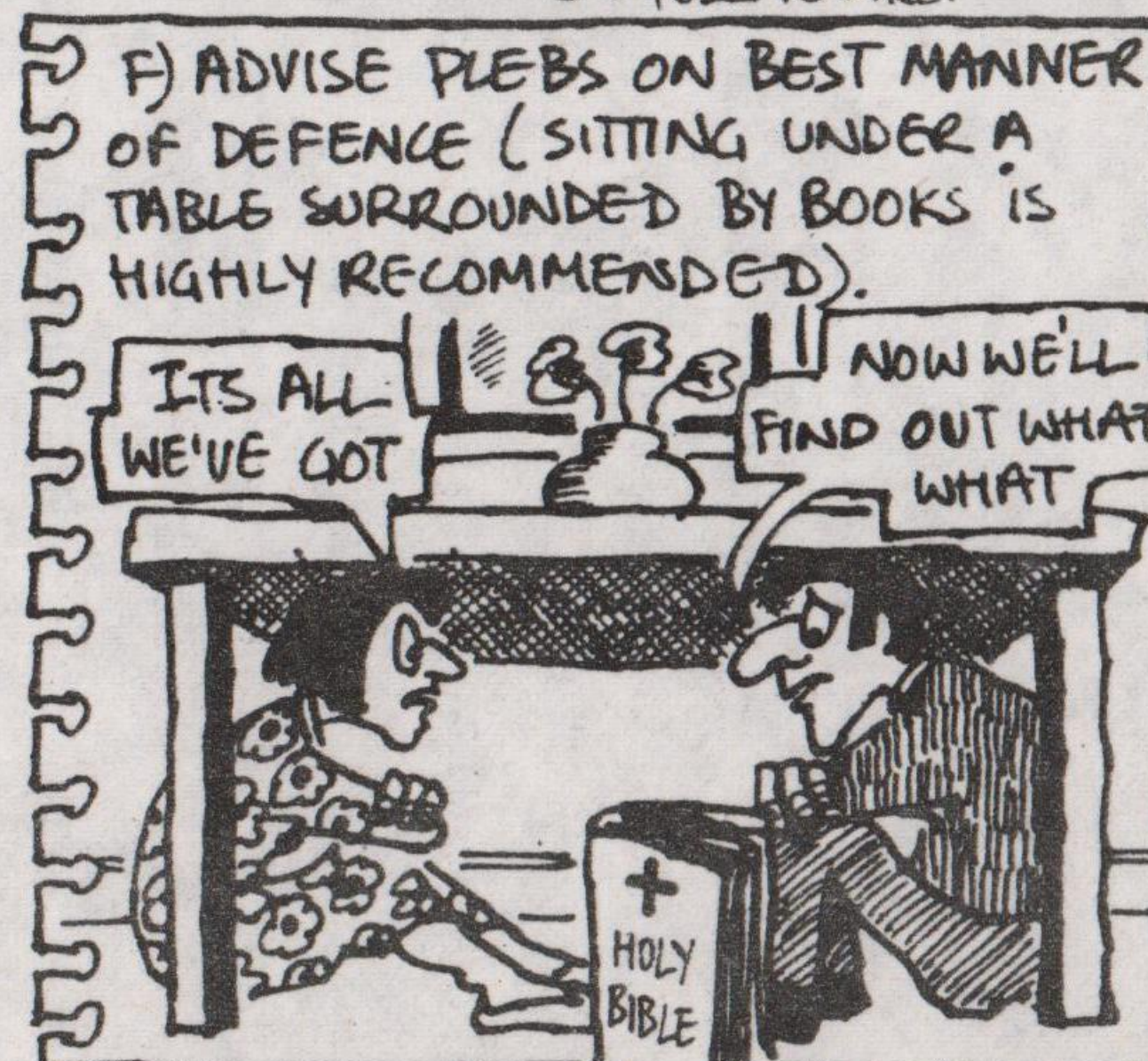
DEADLINE FOR NEXT BULLETIN - WEDNESDAY 10th Dec - material to be handed in at Environmental Information Centre or Mushroom Bookshop
All offers of help typing and distributing this bulletin gratefully received.

IN THE EVENT OF NUCLEAR ATTACK
A REPORT.
PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE
FEB 1980
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONARY
NOT WITH A PENNY



D) START THE WAR DIARY (THIS IS AN IDEAL OPPORTUNITY FOR EX-MINISTERS TO WRITE THEIR MEMOIRS)...

31 MON	Answered question in House....
1 TUE NO!
2 WED	Visited constituency - got lost.
3 THUR	Found constituency - collected cheque - left.
4 FRI	Ignored question in House - got pissed.
5 SAT	Strange thing today BOMB DROPPED
	AAH!



THIS MAY SOUND ABSURD, BUT THE FACT IS THAT THE AUTHORITIES ARE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE LOSS OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT THAN WITH THE REAL PROBLEMS OF GETTING MEDICAL, WATER AND FOOD SUPPLIES TO THE VICTIMS. (FORGET ABOUT NOT BEING INVOLVED)

NOTTINGHAM FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT NOTES

Our office is one room at the Environmental Information Centre, 15 Gcoosegate Tel: 582561. There you will be able to get material such as posters, leaflets petitions, badges etc as well as have a look at the library of information. The Info Centre is staffed by 2 people who are very involved in the campaign but they've got lots of other things to do as well and at the moment we take advantage of them a bit. So if other people who are free during the day could spend some time there it would be good - even an hour would be appreciated. At the very least could all groups ensure that the workers there are kept informed of whats happening, get copies of leaflets etc.

An NND Touring Caravan ?

Several people, quite independently, have come up with the idea of using a caravan to stage a mobile exhibition to tour shopping centres and also the rural area around Nottingham. SO IF ANYBODY HAS GOT A CARAVAN GCING SPARE COULD WE HAVE IT PLEASE. Or else could anybody with ideas of how to get one free/cheap please contact the office.

NND on Video ?

The Environmental Information Centre are shortly acquiring a video record & playback unit. We are sure we can copy all the recent important programmes on the arms race etc and these can then be seen at the shop or at neighbourhood group meetings for a small fee,

SLOGANS

On the CND Demonstration there were some really good slogans - like 'Once you've seen one nuclear war you've seen them all' and an enormous banner saying "Historians for the Right to Work - we demand a continuous supply of history"

Have you got a good slogan - Write it on a wall quick.

Protest and Survive

Penguin have bought out a new version of this. It includes EP.Tmopson's original pamphlet of the same name as well as a series of essays by other writers on disarmament. The book includes an excellent essay (very encouraging) by the chairperson of CND - Bruse Kent, about campaigning, as well as a very frightening article by Henry Nash who used to work for the US Department of "Defence" in selecting targets for nuclear attack. Essential reading - £1.50 - Mushroom.

The War Game

Our own copy is now being shown regularly and has already got bookings into the New Year. Posters to advertise the film, with blank bits to fill in time/place - will soon be ready and an advertising leaflet is being prepared. Its available at a flexible rate but we'd suggest: £20 institutions with money

£10 standard fee for neighbourhood Groups
(take a collection to pay for it)

Less - for any really small/hard up group

If you are using the film at a public meeting don't forget to pick up petitions leaflets, badges etc from the office and Mushroom Bookshop will provide books & pamphlets sale or return.

AND PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING IT BACK ON TIME - ONE GROUP DIDN'T AND IT PREVENTED ANOTHER SHOWING - if that keeps happening we'll have to start charging a deposit conditional on it coming back on time.

Also in the next END national bulletin there will be a major article by Peter Watkins, who made the film for the BBC, about the film and the present controversy about whether the BBC should show it ,on TV (its always been banned up till now)

NND POLICY

NND IS OPPOSED TO ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS, EAST OR WEST, WE WANT BRITAIN TO RENOUNCE POSSESSION OF SUCH WEAPONS AND TO CLOSE ALL NUCLEAR BASES, WE SEE A NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE BRITAIN AS AN ESSENTIAL STEP TOWARDS A NUCLE/AR WEAPONS FREE EUROPE AND WORLD AND THE END OF NUCLEAR ALLIANCES. THE ONLY DEFENCE AGAINST NUCLEAR WAR IS NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT.

FEEL OUR STRENGTH

For the 900 or so people who went from Nottingham by charter train and coaches to attend the CND March and Rally in London on 26th October, it was an exhausting but a confidence-building day. The Nottingham group was one of the biggest among the 75,000 or more people who joined the March; probably only the media men on their platforms and rooftops were able to get a view of the whole event.

If there is one over-riding message to bring back from London, it is surely Edward Thompson's. He repeated four times: "Fell your strength! Feel your strength!" We grow stronger, nationally and locally, and our message is received sympathetically by increasing numbers of people. The media, particularly national TV, local radio and Nottingham News, provide us with many opportunities to put our case, and individual journalists are adopting a truly conscientious approach to coverage of our activities. To all these we say thanks.

There is an urgency about our campaign. Our lives are now in the hands of an American President whose hawkish views formed a main plank for his election campaign. Yet these are early days; we have a very long, hard slog ahead. It will take years, at least 3 or 4, perhaps 6 or 7, before the last nuclear warhead is removed from British soil or dismantled. So we need more immediate objectives - the stopping of Cruise and cancellation of Trident - but, even if we fail to achieve these, we must be prepared to redouble our efforts.

This will be a gruelling campaign; it will tax our energy, resources and morale. We shall win only if we commit ourselves fully to it, and to each other.

Yes, we must feel our growing strength; bask for a bit in the euphoria of the 26th. Then, we must grow stronger, and direct that strength along paths that are likely to lead us in fruitful directions. We need a clearer focus on our potential role; we need a well thought-out campaign strategy which deals with questions such as:

- Which individuals, groups and organisations:
 - are our allies
 - are sympathetic but as yet inactive
 - are potentially sympathetic but as yet uninformed/uncertain/silent on the issue
 - are unconvinced
 - are likely to oppose us ?
- How do we approach these groups locally, regionally, nationally, internationally ?
- Groups such as ward/constituency parties
 - MPs and councillors
 - churches
 - trades unions
 - professional associations
 - tenants and residents associations
 - schools and colleges
 - Rotary clubs; men's working clubs, W.I's
 - the Government
 - the Military ..?

We need a campaign strategy - one that makes sense, provides us with a programme of action and encourages initiatives. Let's get moving on this at our December monthly meeting.

DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

This will be held at 7.30pm on Sunday 7th December at the Friends Meeting House, 25 Clarendon Street.

Since the November meeting was taken up almost entirely by reports from sub-groups, leaving hardly any time for discussion, may I suggest that we plan

the December meeting along the following lines:

- begin promptly at 7.30 pm
- use the period 7.30 to 9.00 to discuss CAMPAIGN STRATEGY
- take a break 9.00 to 9.15
- take reports and news from 9.15 to 9.45
- end at 9.45.
- a blackboard will be provided on which people are invited to write information on coming events, meetings, etc, so that these can be notes by others during the break and need not be announced.

Please regard the Bulletin and blackboard as the principal means of conveying diary information. Would sub-groups please try to fix dates of next meetings so that people (especially newcomers) can be informed of them via the blackboard at each monthly meeting.

We must free up the meetings for proper discussion.

Tony Claydon

NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

About 90 people attended the meeting which, as mentioned above, was largely taken up by reports, leaving little time for discussion. People were appointed to the following positions:

- Co-chairpersons: Paula Masterman & Tony Claydon
- Co-secretaries: Ann Kestenbaum & Alan Simpson
- Co-treasurers: Bernard Leeser & Denise Swain.

CND Annual Conference

George Box and Andrew Garvin are to be our delegates at the Conference. Others wishing to go may act as observers.

Suggestions for campaign and other activities

During the short time that was available for discussion on this topic, the following ideas were put forward:

- Christmas NND Social (let's enjoy ourselves!)
- Christmas NND Children's Party
- Christmas torchlight parade (singing anti-nuclear carols; any songwriters or composers/instrumentalists among us ?), partly to raise funds
- Fund-raising through concerts of all sorts (not just pop)
- Big public event in the Spring (theatre, music, films, bookstalls, talks, visual displays, national speakers, including one from Eastern Europe
- Poland? - to bring out the European dimension to the campaign)
- Seek commitment from City/County Council to declare its area a 'peace zone' (as has Sheffield) opposed to Cruise & Trident
- Invite churches to combine in an anti-nuclear Christian event at Christmas.

More general ideas included: Regional co-ordination & action (e.g. contributing to non-London demo's); Discussing within NND our attitudes towards Eastern Europe; Holding NND Days in neighbourhoods (i.e. we all converge on Sneinton...); Using civil defence as a platform to introduce the wider issues that confront us.

But above all else lets hang on to 2 features of our activity so far:

1. The need to aim for Mass involvement - we need to get thousands involved in our local activity, not just the hundreds who are already
2. That our activities be ENJOYABLE - too often protesters are trapped in the role of being against something. Lets also assert what we are for, the kind of ways of relating that we want - our use of street theatre, the presence of kids on the Peace Train, the social side of many of the neighbourhood groups are all pointers in the right direction

REPORTS FROM THE GROUPS

Sherwood Neighbourhood Group

The group has an active core of 12 people with support from 25 others, and is growing all the time. We have decided to leaflet and then petition the area bounded by Mansfield Rd, Hucknall Rd and Haydn Rd with the aim of getting more active support and also (we hope) of increasing public awareness. We are also asking every person who shows interest to put an NND poster in their window.

The group is arranging a showing of the War Game in St John's Church Hall, Carrington on Nov 27th at 7.30. For further details and dates of next meeting phone Celia Lacey 604986.

Beeston Anti Nuclear Group

The next meeting of BANG will be on Thursday, 27th November, at the Victoria Hall, Dovecote Lane Beeston, at 8.00, to discuss arrangements for showing the War Game in December. We have also invited Beeston's Conservative MP, Jim Lestor to explain himself away at a public meeting, sometime in the New Year.

Lenton Neighbourhood Group

This meets socially and to discuss future plans on Thursdays (evening) at the 17/21st Lancers Pub - upstairs in the partitioned section.

Keyworth and Plumtree Group

Has just been established. If anyone is interested in planning action in this area they will be welcome at the first meeting of the group on Thursday 27th November at 7.30pm at 22 Commercial Rd, Keyworth.

Contact Audrey or Tony Latham Plumtree 4249

Nottingham University for Nuclear Disarmament

There is now a flourishing group at the University (50+ members) and an ambitious programme of events has been drawn up. Staff and students are involved and the group meets every Tuesday, 1pm, Fine Arts Lecture Theatre, Portland Building. It can also be contacted using the address: N.U.N.D. Portland Building.

Nottingham Safe Energy Group

This group would like to initiate discussion about the connections between nuclear weapons and the civil nuclear power programme. We would be pleased to hear from Neighbourhood Groups who would like someone to come and talk about the subject to them. The N.S.E.G. can be contacted through the Environmental Information Centre Tel: 582561. - next meeting 8pm - Thursday 13th Nov at Info Centre

A copy of a leaflet they have produced about future waste dumping south of Nottingham is included later.

Media & Resources Group

Has just had a very fruitful meeting with some local journalists. Its next tasks

- organising workshops for answering 'difficult' questions and views encountered by campaigners (including some simulation phone ins.)
- to revise and add to the factsheets, turning them into a short booklet for national sale.
- a series of information cards or such like for use in schools (we need school teachers to join us to help in this)
- also we are discussing the preparation of an NND Exhibition.

ALL NEWCOMERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN US. Contact Paula Masterman (Tel 9585-481) Jon Morris (784870) or Pat Lloyd (222890)

NB ALL PRESS RELEASES SHOULD BE SEEN BY THIS GROUP TO ENSURE THEIR CONSISTENCY WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH N.N.D POLICY. Also the group has been asked to keep a list of people willing to be interviewed on local radio etc as our reps.

Arnold Neighbourhood Group

A new group is just starting - contact Fay Riley, 62 Killisick Rd, Arnold

Forest Field Peace Group

40 people attended our first public meeting and our group continues to meet regularly. We're investigating, and are probably going to do, some outdoor speaking at the Hyson Green Shopping centre on Saturday mornings. We are also showing the War Game on 25th November, for which we are leafletting Forest Fields and Hyson Green since there isn't as yet a Hyson Green group, though two of our group live there. On the 18th October we leafletted the Forest Park & Ride and have covered more than half of Forest Fields area with door to door petitioning, mostly with a good response. We've met the local liberal party and would like to meet more groups in the area to discuss disarmament. Lastly we've produced our own Forest Fields Peace Group badge and we've made a large banner which we took to the CND demonstration in London. Meetings are fortnightly from Nov 9th (Sunday) at Francis Hanna's house, 91 Beaconsfield Rd at 8.00

Events Group

This is the group which does the coordinating of the city wide (or beyond) events - and very overworked it is too (WE NEED MORE PEOPLE !) - our next meetings are on Tuesday 11th Nov and Wednesday 26th Nov, both at 8.00 at the Environmental Information Centre. Amongst our work so far has been the fundraising folk concert which raised over £200, the picket of 70 people of the County Council Civil Defence meeting (reported later in bulletin); the Oct 18th Day of Action where most of the main roads into the city were picketed by Neighbourhood Groups holding large slogans and 20,000 leaflets were handed out in the City Centre - not to mention the hordes of people who visited our exhibition and stall (which sold over £60 worth of badges and publications) and the 1600 who signed the CND petition. And we haven't even mentioned the organisation of the 650 seat train to the Demonstration yet.

Earlier in this bulletin there's lots of ideas for future events - we'd like to do most if not all of them - so if you've got spare time on your hands and fancy yourself as an organiser then join the Events Group.

Newcomers Meeting

The purpose of this meeting is to let people new to NND know what's going on, how NND works and sketch in some of the background to disarmament work. Also its to give new people a chance to meet together, discuss why they've got involved and to make suggestions as to how NND could improve its campaigning - because when you think about it - that's where the crunch really lies - how to win over others. Next meeting - 7.30 Wednesday 3rd December - Environmental Factshop.

Campaigning Against Militarism

The Peace Pledge Union is holding a conference in Nottingham on the above. ITs' to be held on the weekend 29/30th November at the Crescent Family Centre, Waterloo Rd, Forest Fields. The main themes and workshops at the conference are: militarism and repression; the growth of militarism and the nation state, militarism and the 3rd world, women and the military and campaigning. There's a social on the Saturday night (NND people welcome) and a creche throughout the weekend (but please inform in advance if kids are coming). The cost for the weekend is low and will involve food. The Conference is open to anybody but it helps if you book in advance - further details from Ross at Mushroom Bookshop, Heathcote St Tel: 582506. Also if anybody can provide accommodation for out of town people contact Ross

Trade Union/Workplace Group

Some of us feel that its important that NND organises in trade unions and workplaces as well as neighbourhoods. So we put out a Questionnaire on the Peace Train about this and got replies from about 100 people who were interested in the idea and wanted to be put in touch with other interested people in their union/workplace. Interest seemed particularly strong in the public sector unions eg NUT, NALGO NUPE. We've decided to put out the same questionnaire at a meeting addressed by Tony Benn in Nottingham, where we assume there will be quite a few people sympathetic to nuclear disarmament. Anybody who is interested in developing trade union/workplace groups - could they contact John Waller, 4 Mount Hooton off Forest Road East.

NND Booklet on Anti-Nuclear War

The Nottingham local publishing group, "Your Own Stuff" Press, wants to link up with NND to produce a booklet (inc artwork, stories, poems, tape recorded thoughts arguments etc) based on peoples fears about, and imaginative visions of the future - in an attempt to stir up peoples blankness about a possible nuclear holocaust. It plans to draw upon thoughts and feelings of ordinary people in Nottingham, and childrens work in Nottingham schools. If you'd like to help in any way, contact: David Jackson, 13 Mona Rd, West Bridgford Tel 866015

Tape & Slide Show

On the Peace Train some people from the Arts & Craft Centre made a tape and slide show from interviews with people. This is now available for neighbourhood groups from Arts & Craft Centre, Gregory Boulevard, Hyson Green Tel: 782463 - charge negotiable. It might be shown at the next general meeting.

Neighbourhood Groups

Every 2/3 weeks there is a meeting of representatives from Neighbourhood Groups to discuss experiences, swap ideas etc. The next one will be at 8pm - Thursday 20th November - Environmental Info Centre. This will mainly be discussing the idea of a travelling roadshow to tour round Nottingham - Exhibition, street theatre, leafletting etc. So could all neighbourhood groups try to get a rep along to it.

The ACTION NOTES they produced a couple of months ago are going to be reprinted and improved upon - for further details contact Alan Simpson Tel: 53355

The Royal Air Force in Nottingham

On Wed 22nd October a so-called 'presentation' took place in Nottingham by the Royal Air Force Presentation Team. Some 400 were present, with the establishment strogly represented - civic dignatories, plain clothes police, a number of councillors, mainly Tory etc. It was one of a series being presented on a lavish scale to selected audiences throughout the country with free drinks and food.

There was a series of films designed to show the Soviet Union with military power vastly greater than NATO and ready to attack W. Europe in general and Britain in particular. The main speaker - Group Captain Evans, said that military strategy was based on 4 D's - Deterrence, Defence, Detente & Disarmament - and then put all his emphasis on the first two. He put the case for Cruise missiles and massive defence spending and the whole atmosphere was one of almost Goebbels type propoganda. 3 speakers (Ann Kestentbaum, John Peck, & Chris Preston) objected to the character of the presentation and got barracked by a section of the audience, but with a ripple of applause too.

NND needs to be prepared for any such future events - if anybody hears anything please inform the office,

Home Defence

Home defence has arrived in Nottingham - there are now 2 companies advertising about the production of nuclear shelters. They are Home Defence Construction Company, 161 Mansfield Rd, Nottingham Tel 413911 Fega Werk Zurich, Nuclear Shelter Specialist Hamlieth Ltd, 114 Alfreton Rd 785173

The shelters range in price from £4000 to £18,000 - a lot of money to spend burying yourself in the ground. We don't expect any NND members to be potential customers but it might be an idea to pretend to be just to waste their time.

Police Crack down at Torness

Last May anti nuclear power protesters from various parts of Britain attempted to occupy the site of a proposed nuclear power station at Torness, East Scotland. Over 500 police combined to arrest 27 protesters for two days. Two of those have just appeared in court - one being fined £50, the other was cleared. 4 more are due to appear on 20th November in Haddington. Anybody interested in supporting them contact Jonathan Walsh, 75 North Road, W. Bridgford.

Nuclear power protesters today Nuclear missile protesters tomorrow ?

County Council Protest

A lobby of almost 100 people gathered outside County Hall on Friday 31st October. They were protesting that civil defence preparations for a nuclear war were wasteful, useless and diversionary; such measures serving only to increase the likelihood of nuclear war by encouraging a wider public acceptance of its inevitability and by putting across the myth that there would be vast numbers of us who would survive.

A delegation from this lobby met Cllrs Carey and Collin (Chairman and Vice Chairman of the County Council's Public Protection Committee) and Mr Tinsley the Emergency Planning Officer. The main demands were of 2 sorts:

- a) An abandonment of the council's "bunkers" and a withdrawal of all support for related military/para-military activity within the county.
- b) An opening up of public information about the local impact of and response to a nuclear attack.

The main response of the cllrs. related to the 2nd of these. They were keen that an opening up of civil defence information should take place. They agreed to County Council involvement in a public debate on the relevance of civil defence measures in the event of attack.. They even agreed to consider the council sponsoring such a debate. They also agreed to provide information about the council's civil defence plans - which unfortunately may not reveal very much.

There was an obvious enormous gap in what they knew and what the Emergency Planning Officer knew. The Cllrs knew nothing about the results of Operation Square Leg (the governments recent mock nuclear attack exercise) in which 2 nuclear bombs were expected to have been dropped on Nottingham.The number of deaths, the conditions of survivors, the rationing of food and water and medical supplies, the internment of "dissenters" from government/military policy (ie us lot) all of this was obviously completely new to them.

On the other hand the E.P.O. clearly knew quite a lot about what went on but was unwilling to discuss any of it on the grounds that the information was "restricted". The Cllrs ended up asking us for information about the defence exercise !

The most ominous aspect of this was the extent to which such planning had clearly by-passed the channels of democratic accountability. The exclusion of the press and public from the day's briefing seminar was merely an extension and confirmation of this. Even so its unlikely councillors were told anything more revealing than the price of the governments 'Protect and Survive' booklet.

Councillors can (and ought to) be asked to inform their electorate what went on at this meeting. More substantially however - they need to be pursued on their offer to take part in any open public debate locally in order to press home a realisation that a focus on such civil defence spending is a cruel con upon the general public - the main purpose of which is to take us one step nearer a nuclear war rather than reducing its likelihood.

NOTTINGHAM FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT - MEMBERSHIP

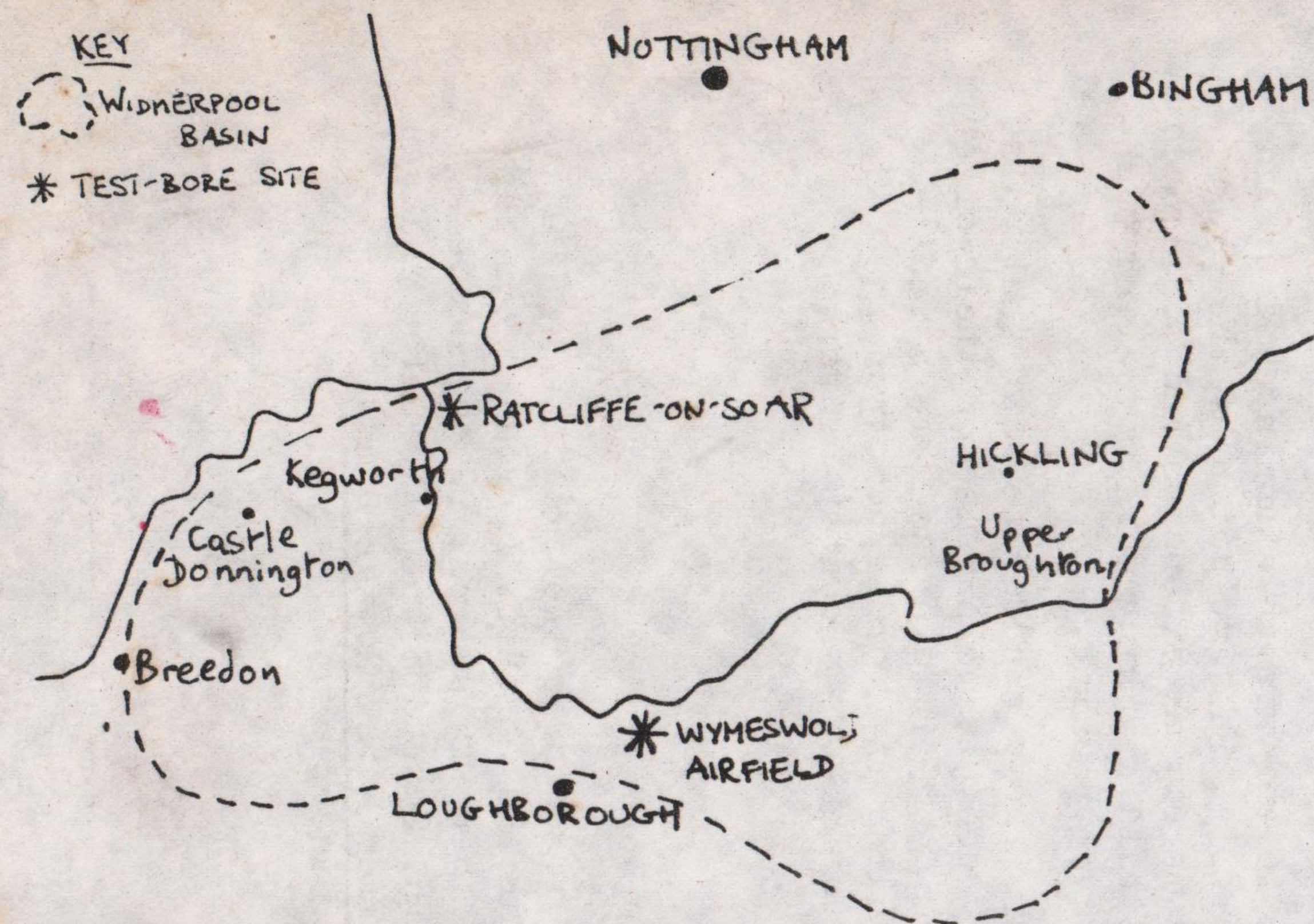
All members of NND get this monthly bulletin delivered to their door - by GPO or neighbourhood contact. They pay £2 a year for the benefit. If you are one of the people who has bought a copy in a shop etc then why not pay £2 to become a Member of NND and make sure you get the bulletin. Tear off the slip below and send it to Susannah White, 9 Tavistock Drive, Mapperley Park, Nottingham
Cheques made payable to Nottingham for Nuclear Disarmament

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Name _____

Tel: _____

Address _____



NUCLEAR WASTE HERE?

This area is one which the Atomic Energy Authority might use to get rid of its radioactive waste.

Every nuclear power plant produces highly toxic radioactive wastes. So with the Government's intention to expand the nuclear power programme, building at least 12 new power stations, waste disposal has become an urgent problem. In 1979, the Government announced plans to do test-drills in fifteen areas in the British Isles, one of them the Widmerpool basin, covering large areas of South Notts and Leicestershire.

In January 1980, the Dept. of the Environment stated that Widmerpool would be one of the first four sites to be investigated, and surface reconnaissance began. In October 1980 two applications for planning permission to drill test-bores were made in this area, one to Rushcliffe Borough Council for a site by Ratcliffe power station, and one to Charnwood Borough Council for a site at Wymeswold airfield.

RADIOACTIVE WASTE is produced when spent fuel rods from nuclear reactors are stripped and dissolved in acid at Windscale reprocessing plant. It contains radioactive elements some of which are very penetrating but short-lived, and some which do not penetrate very far, but which, if ingested or inhaled, remain deadly for thousands of years (eg plutonium and americium.) This waste is currently being stored at Windscale in big tanks—one of which has a leak which no-one can stop.

No satisfactory way has been found of isolating the waste for the thousands of years some of the radioactive elements remain deadly. Methods previously thought 'safe' (eg dumping on the sea-bed) have not worked.

DISPOSAL PROBLEMS

The idea currently being considered is to solidify the waste into glass blocks and bury it under land or the sea-bed. It must be buried in a geologically stable area in rock that will keep the waste away from water so that the radiation cannot be carried into the water supply.

Three types of rock are being considered, granite, salt and clay.

GRANITE is a very hard rock which will not easily dissolve in water.

CLAY does not allow much movement of water.

SALT on the other hand dissolves very easily, so that anywhere there are salt deposits must be free from water or the salt would have dissolved long ago.

POSSIBLE DUMPING SITES

GRANITE is found in SW England and much of Scotland but there are frequently faults which would let water in, and the act of drilling could cause cracks. The recent earthquake in South Scotland casts further doubt on the suitability of that area. **SALT** is found around Cheshire but the deposits are not very thick and it is unlikely they could be suitable for nuclear waste disposal.

CLAY is found around the Vale of Belvoir and in SE England. It is unlikely that the densely populated SE would be considered. So the Widmerpool Basin is a likely choice.

THE DANGERS

Even in small amounts radiation can cause cancer and genetic defects. The *immediate* danger is in transporting the waste when an accident or derailment could cause a leak. Security would call for armed nuclear guards, and could include measures such as phone-tapping (See the Flowers Report). The *long-term* danger is of radiation reaching the water supply or agricultural land.

THE WIDMERPOOL BASIN

is a basin of clay running south-east from around Derby to beyond Melton. On top of it lie the Upper Coal Measures and the Bunter sandstone (which carries part of Notts. water supply). The dumping proposal concerns the deep clay formation, and only part of that area. Test-bores will give information about the whole area, and do not necessarily correspond to the exact location of possible disposal sites.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

The Borough Councils may decide for themselves or pass the matter on to the County Council. *If planning permission is given* for the test-drilling, it is very likely that this area will end up a nuclear dump, since it is the only suitable clay region in this country. In other areas, strong opposition, including harassment of the survey work, has prevented a planning application being made. So the government will be looking not only for a geologically suitable site but also for a politically compliant area. **We must make sure that whichever Council decides, a firm 'no' is given.**

If planning permission is refused, the government-appointed body in charge of research the Natural Environment Research Council, will probably appeal, and there will be a public enquiry. So we have a long fight ahead of us.

WHAT TO DO

Write immediately to Rushcliffe or Charnwood Borough Councils objecting to the proposed test-bores, and get any groups you are involved in, your friends, family and work-mates to do the same.

Come and help plan other activities to publicise the danger and oppose it.

Contact:

NOTTINGHAM SAFE ENERGY GROUP
ENVIRONMENTAL FACT SHOP
GOOSEGATE, NOTTINGHAM
tel 54405 582561