

WHEEL OUT YOUR BINS

WHEELED BINS are coming to Nottingham. From September, 10,000 homes in Aspley and Wollaton will have their normal dustbins replaced for a 6 month trial period. If it is successful 80% of the city could be on the new system within 5 years.

Residents will have to wheel the bin to their gate for collection, unless they are disabled. But the day and time of collection will be guaranteed. And the bigger bins mean that garden rubbish will be taken.

It will improve health and safety for workers. And they will get a big increase in wages. But 45 out of 210 jobs could go eventually.

The District Labour Party has said there should be no overall job loss. Environment Committee Chair, John Hartshorne, hopes to achieve this by increasing jobs in other areas such as improving cleansing on estates and flat complexes.



TURNING ON THE HEAT

A RESOURCE PACK about energy issues and heating problems has been produced by the Greater London Council. It is aimed at community groups campaigning for decent houses with decent heating at a reasonable cost.

It also looks at the jobs that could be created by greater public investment in energy conservation and "Combined Heat and Power". Copies are available free to campaigning organisations from: Peta Sissons, Popular Planning Unit, GLC, County Hall, London SE1.

ACUTE HOUSING STRESS

A DIRE picture of housing stress is presented by the East Midlands Housing Association in a consultation document on housing needs and priorities for 1986/87.

"Nottingham will be suffering not only a massive loss of housing stock but also a decline in the rate of renewal through Private Sector Improvement Grants and any funding to housing associations," they say.

"Acute housing stress combined with high unemployment, and a concentration of single parent families, the elderly and large family households (particularly in ethnic minority groups) suffering from low incomes through

from low incomes through

economic and social disadvantage, increases the need for housing associations to maintain their activity if any impact is to be made."

But there is little hope of the government allowing the money needed to tackle these problems.

PITWATCH

PITWATCH is a new national bulletin aiming to report on the latest developments in the miners struggle. It will focus on the Government and National Coal Board as they ram home their "get tough" policy in the wake of the strike.

It is put together by a group of journalists and researchers who are sympathetic to the case of the National Union of Mineworkers and its members.

Five copies or more can be got at 20p each from 9 Poland Street, London W1B 3DG.

CHARTER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

A CHARTER for young people was launched by the Labour Party in June. Copies are 35p from 30 Long Row (411351).



JOBS & INDUSTRY FESTIVAL
OCT 12th, 10.30am-11pm, International Community Centre, Mansfield Road.

Confirmed speakers:
John Prescott MP, Labour spokesperson on employment
Valerie Wise, Chair, GLC Women's Cttee
Anna Whyatt, Asst Director, Leeds Industry & Employment Dept
Mike Ward, Chair, GLC Industry & Employment Cttee

Also invited: Stuart Holland MP, Roy Hattersley MP, Anna Coote (GLC Popular Planning Unit), Brenda Dean (Gen Sec, SOGAT printworkers union)
Also: local bands, theatre groups, beer, etc.
Further details: Peter Totterdill (783417).

ACCOMMODATION WANTED
GAY socialist moving to Notts for 2yr MA (Social work) at the university needs accommodation. If you can help contact: Mike Walsh, 11 Waverley Rd, Redland, Bristol (0272 733783 or 40491).

CITY COUNCIL EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES MEETINGS
(No meetings in August)
Further details: Wendy Young 418571 x 4513.

WOMEN'S SUB-COMMITTEE
4th Mon of month, 7.30pm, Council House. All women welcome. Half hour open discussion at end of meeting.

GAYS AND LESBIANS SUB-COMMITTEE
1st Thurs of month, 7.30pm, Council House. Half hour open discussion at end of meeting.

WOMEN'S OPEN MEETING
2nd Mon, 8pm, different venues. Sep: Hysom Green. All women welcome (except city councillors!).

WOMEN & WORK Discussion Group
2nd Wed, 7.30pm, International Community Centre. Disabled access. All women welcome. (May be changed for Sep).

LESBIANS/GAY MEN MEETINGS
2nd Thurs, 7.30pm, ICC. Women and men meet separately.

MEETINGS WITH DISABLED
Possible meeting in Sep.

CONTRIBUTIONS to ON YER BIKE are welcomed and should be sent to the editor, Nigel Lee, after 25 Aug, at 51 Braidwood Court, Hysom Green (tel 788059) or c/o The Council House (tel 474331 - messages). Please send news, views, details of meetings, etc. Anything will be published, subject to space, if it is of interest to the broad labour movement in Nottingham, and is not sexist, racist, or libellous. All articles must be:

- 1) signed (please give name, address and tel no)
- 2) less than 100 words
- 3) received by the second Monday of the month (Sep 9th). The editor reserves the right to cut any item longer than 100 words. All unsigned items are the responsibility of the editor (please send some stories in - I don't want to write the whole bloody thing myself!).

Advice on writing
1) Use short easy words
2) Put your main point first
3) Check your facts
4) Explain any abbreviations

BULK RATES from the above address for 25 copies or more of each issue: 4p per copy for 1 issue, 3p per copy for future issues ordered in advance. Orders must be received, with money, by the third Monday of the month and will be printed by the fourth Monday.

ON YER BIKE is published by Nigel Lee and printed by Nottingham University Students Union Printshop.



No 2 August/September 1985 5p
FOR THE NOTTINGHAM LABOUR MOVEMENT

ON YER BIKE is a monthly information service aimed at members of the labour movement in Nottingham. It is edited independently and is open for anyone to send in news, views, etc. Contributions are particularly welcome from women's,

black, lesbian/gay, disabled and other disadvantaged groups; campaign groups; and from organisations and individuals within the labour movement. For details see back page.

WOMEN AND WORK

A CHARTER for Women and Work was launched by the Labour Party in June as part of the Jobs and Industry Campaign. It aims to:

give every woman the opportunity to work. By changing the nature of work to help achieve equality at home as well as at work. Far reaching changes are proposed in education and training, in childcare provision, and in care of the elderly and disabled.

improve the quality of women's work. By giving equal rights to part time workers. By protecting homeworkers. By encouraging equality for women in trade unions. By outlawing sexual harassment.

improve women's pay, pensions and tax rights.

Copies are 35p from East Midlands Labour Party, 30 Long Row (411351).

APOLOGISE RIDDELL

THE COUNTY Labour Party has called on Fred Riddell, Chair of Education, to apologise to the black community for comments he made on radio in January which the Party says were racist and sexist.

Coun Riddell had blamed the high number of black children suspended from schools on single parent families headed by black women.

However, the Party claims that the problem of suspensions is due to institutionalised racism and sex-

ism within the education system. They have called for an immediate joint inquiry with the black community to investigate racist assumptions within the Education Department. Coun Riddell did not answer a written request from On Yer Bike for him to comment.

NO MORE PRIVATISATION

PLANS for privatisation in the local health service should be delayed for a year to allow present contracts to be monitored before any further decisions are made, the trade unions have told the health authority.

In a report to the June meeting of the authority, they said:

* Hospital Hygiene Services, which won the cleaning contract at Basford Hospital, has run into serious problems elsewhere, including the termination of contracts.

* Although the cleaning contract at University Hospital was won in-house,

EILEEN HEPELL FOR BASFORD

LABOUR candidate Eileen Heppell won the City by-election in Basford on July 11th, a seat previously held by the Tories. This increases the Labour majority on the City Council from 1 to 3. Labour's campaign concentrated on protecting serv-



ices. The Tory campaign, however, was obsessed with attacking the Labour City Council's support for lesbians and gays.

it has meant less staff, reduced hours, bonus payments scrapped and increased work rate.

The union case has been backed by the City Council.

PRIDE 85

PRIDE 85 saw 10,000 lesbians and gays celebrating on 29th June from Hyde Park to Jubilee Gardens where entertainment and events - from Ken Livingstone to the Beverley Sisters - took place till late in the evening.

Two buses took Nottingham celebrants, including members of the new Nottingham Lesbian and Gay Youth Organisation with their enormous red and green banner, specially made for the occasion.

The N.L.G.Y.O. welcomes young people, lesbian gay or bisexual, under the age of 25. They would also appreciate speaking engagements at Young Socialist and other meetings, and can be contacted at Box 11, 118 Mansfield Road.

Richard McCance

51% WOMEN BUS DRIVERS?

AT its May meeting the City Council's Women's Sub-Committee considered the issue of women and transport. The main recommendation was that, as women are a majority of the population, the Transport Department should seek to employ 51% women bus drivers.

The Department was asked to report on how this relatively long term aim

could be put into practice.

At present there are 12 women bus drivers out of a total of 730.

The Department was also asked to look at ways of making buses more accessible to women with push chairs.

Lee Harrison

PEACE QUESTIONNAIRE

OFFICERS who work for the County Council are being asked by their union NALGO to complete a peace questionnaire.

It asks whether they support the Council's Nuclear Free Zone policy, and whether council employees should be compelled to participate in civil defence training/exercises.

It also asks if the trend of cuts in the public sector and increases in defence spending should continue. And members will be asked if they agree with NALGO's affiliation to CND.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

THREE new Equal Opportunities officers have just been appointed by the City Council.

Shahid Sharif should start in July to work on race issues.

Jo Fraser and Ben Benson will job-share the Gays and Lesbians post and should start in August.

It is also hoped to appoint a Training Officer to start in September.

To contact these officers tel 418571.

SOCIAL SERVICES THREATENED

IF Government plans to privatise Social Services go ahead, there will be tens of thousands of redundancies, Notts NALGO delegate Mike Scott told their national conference.

He was moving an emergency resolution in response to reports of government plans to hand over the caring services to charities and private businesses.

Fifteen of Britain's largest charities have already joined to fight the proposals.

Mike's call met with unanimous support from the local government officers delegates.



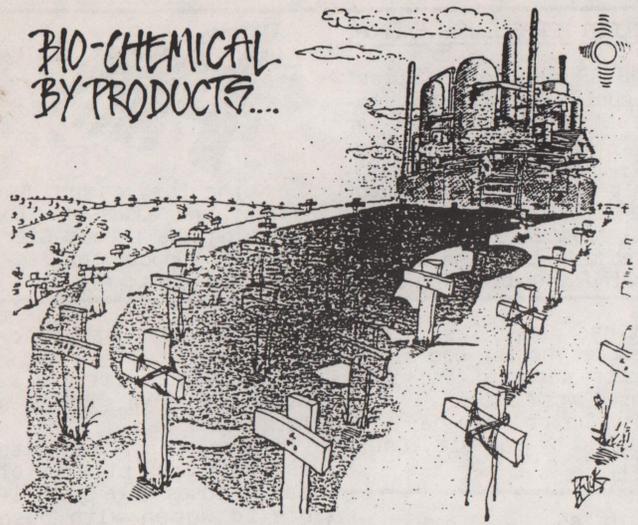
nationalist community through various events organized in conjunction with Sinn Fein; and there will be sections consisting of delegates from the labour movement, black

groups, women's groups, peace groups, gay and lesbian groups and Irish organizations.

If you want to see for yourself the R.U.C., Britain's armed police force in Ireland, and the British Army, originators of many of the tactics used against the miners, please write as soon as possible to: Troops Out Movement Delegation Organising Committee, PO Box 353, London NW5 4NH.

Ian Juniper

BIO-CHEMICAL BY PRODUCTS...



GIVE BHOPAL TO THE WORKERS

A DELEGATION of trade unionists from the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal, India, visited Nottingham in July.

They are campaigning against the closure of the plant following the serious gas leak last December. They want Union Carbide to hand over the plant to the workers and give a lump sum for investment in alternative socially useful production which would provide more jobs for the surrounding community.

Send letters opposing the closure and supporting the union's plan to: Union Carbide HQ, Sheffield S1 3AE. Further details from 54 Ayres St, London SE1 (01-403 7550).

areas there already are of unmet need.

It also wants the Units to initiate ways for local community groups to set the agenda themselves for future council discussions and actions.

Community groups won't rally round defending local bureaucrats but will fight alongside councils interested in, and reacting to, their needs and concerns.

Members of community groups (e.g. black groups, sports clubs, tenants groups, women's groups, etc, etc) who want to find out more, contact Sally or Tina on 410437 or Carryn on 476714.

Sally Morawetz
(personal capacity)

ECONOMIC STRATEGIES GROUP

THE Labour Party Economic Strategies Group was launched nationally on June 29th as a vehicle for involving a wide range of Labour Party members in debating and developing our economic policy.

Organisation is to be on a highly decentralised basis, and an active section is already operating in the Nottingham area. We are not aiming to attract only professional economists, but anybody interested in exploring the consequences of economic policy for local people.

Our next meeting will be held at: **Unity House, Fernel St, Loughborough at 7.30pm, Mon Aug 5th** when Pat Quinn (East Midlands TUC) will be discussing the implications of the Regional TUC's report on the East Midlands economy. For further information/transport arrangements contact: **Peter Totterdill**

31 Cromwell St
tel 412334(w) or 783417(h)

INNER AREA DEPRIVATION

NOTTINGHAM is the eighth most disadvantaged area outside London, according to two different studies carried out by government departments. And when special weight was given to social factors only Liverpool, Manchester, Leicester and 12 London Boroughs were found to be worse than Nottingham.

These facts are contained in the 1985 Inner Area Monitoring Report prepared by the City Planning Department.

The report also shows that there were large increases in disadvantage in many inner city areas between 1971 and 1981, particularly Hyson Green, Crabtree Farm and Balloon Wood. Bells Lane, Bestwood, Radford, Aspley and Forest Fields also showed a significant deterioration.

LESBIAN AND GAY SECURITY

SECURITY of tenure for lesbian and gay couples in council accommodation was one of the issues discussed at the July meeting of the City Council's Lesbian and Gay Sub-Committee.

Currently if one partner is named as tenant on the rent book and dies, his or her lover will be classed as a lodger and evicted, whereas a husband or wife of a tenant would automatically be offered the

tenancy. Encouraging same sex sharers - including friends and non-spouse relatives as well as lesbian and gay partners - to become joint tenants is one solution being considered.

Further discussion on housing will take place at the meeting at 7.30pm on September 5th at the Council House which is open to the public as observers.

Richard McCance

MANIFESTO ABANDONED?

THE LABOUR Group on the County Council has refused to formally adopt the manifesto "Jobs, Services and Democracy" on which the Labour Party in Notts fought the May election.

OKAY, SHOW ME
THE GENE THAT
SAYS I STAY
AT HOME AND
DO THE WASHING
UP!!!



TEACHERS DISPUTE

DISRUPTION in schools since February; strikes involving over 100,000 teachers; and every prospect that this will continue into the autumn.

Teachers will not accept a further cut in their standard of living, and are prepared to continue the campaign, rather than accept derisory offers of 4% or 5%, with the cost of living rising at 7%, and a



DISPUTE INFLAMED IN NOTTS

THE TEACHERS dispute has been inflamed in Notts by the issuing of a letter to all teachers on 12th February, which imposed worsened conditions of service.

In the face of opposition from the teachers in the county, and escalating action by the National

drop in teachers pay of 33% since 1974, compared to comparable occupations. The dispute is about opposition to Government pay limits, and the attempt to cut resources in the education service (with teachers pay just one of the targets).

Teachers want the resources to do their job, and a decent salary, not cost cutting exercises from Keith Joseph.

Roger Tanner (Notts NUT)

Union of Teachers, the authority has suspended action on the letter, but while the letter is not withdrawn, the teachers will not return to voluntary activities, even if the dispute over salaries ends.

The growing unity nationally between labour authorities and teachers unions, in opposition to the government, must be built locally, as the threats of rate capping come closer. To do this, relations must be rebuilt, and the threatening letters withdrawn.
Roger Tanner (Notts NUT)

COAL NOT DOLE - NOTTS WOMEN CONTINUE THE FIGHT!

WITH MacGregor slicing through the coalfields and Notts scabs delighting him by trying to tear the union apart it is obvious there are many more fights ahead!

In Notts the miners wives continue to organise as the local group of the National Women Against Pit Closures. Fundraising activities continue with all proceeds going to the NUM fund for sacked and imprisoned miners.

Links with other people and groups that were made during the strike are being strengthened. The women are organising day schools on the labour movement and many are now active members of their local Labour Party.

Sympathetic women are welcome to attend the meetings. Ring Tina (703671) for more information.

Tina Yemm

WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

WOMEN sympathetic to the miners strike and cause continue to organise a Nottingham Women's Support Group. The group meets regularly and runs an information/collection stall every Saturday between 11am-3pm at St Peters Gate.

Working closely with the miners wives, the Support Group is organising a major public meeting to coincide with the closure of the first Nottingham pit. The meeting is to take up the "Case for Coal", linking up with nuclear power/ weapons and economic arguments.

Tony Benn and Peter Heathfield will be speaking. Joan Ruddock (CND) and local speakers also invited. It is on the afternoon of Saturday 14th September

at Victoria Sports Centre. We need more women to help - please ring Margaret (604659).

Margaret Davies

PENSIONERS VICTORY TRIP

PENSIONERS from Wyrale Drive in Strelley were going on a victory celebration trip to Skegness on 16th July.

The group have been fighting hard for over a year to get the City Council to officially recognise the problems that elderly people face when living in cold and damp homes; and then do something about it.

In next year's proposed housing programme, for the first time the City Council is asking central government for money to improve pensioners' homes. Hundreds of elderly council tenants who had been condemned to live out their lives in front of antique fires, unable to use bathrooms and bedrooms in the winter, can now hopefully look forward to modern central heating.

But the fight is still on. Later on this year representatives from the group will go to London with the Chair of Housing Malcolm Wood and Director of Housing Arthur Oscroft to argue with government ministers to allow the City Council to do this work.

For more information contact: **Mrs V. Barnes**
3 Wyrale Drive, Strelley

HONOURABLE MRS

THERE are now five different ways of addressing women councillors on the County Council.

While men have normally just been called Council-



Unemployment by Parliamentary Constituency, May 1985

Parliamentary Constituency	Electoral Wards Within Area	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
Nottingham East	Basford, Forest, Greenwood, Manvers, Mapperley, Radford, St. Anns, Sherwood, Trent	7,224	30.6	2,583	16.9	9,807	25.2
Nottingham North	Aspley, Beechdale, Bestwood Park, Bilborough, Bulwell E, Bulwell W, Byron, Portland, Strelley	5,444	20.6	1,721	10.3	7,165	16.6
Nottingham South	Abbey, Bridge, Clifton E, Clifton W, Lenton, Park, Robin Hood, Wilford, Wollaton	4,909	19.9	1,757	10.5	6,666	16.1

UNEMPLOYMENT

THE TABLE gives official unemployment totals in each constituency in the city for May, with unemployment rates calculated by the City Planning Department. It shows that male unemployment in Nottingham East was over 30%, nearly twice the national average. Total unemployment in the city was 17,577 in May, 2,077 higher than a year earlier.

lor Joe Bloggs, etc, women have always had to add a gender title of Mrs or Miss, presumably to emphasise the exceptional nature of women being councillors. The avant garde women have now added "Councillor Ms .." to the list.

But only Councillor Audrey Mullender has opted for complete equality by dropping the gender title altogether.

Meanwhile, Councillor The Honourable Mrs Joan Taylor insists on using the form she is entitled to as the daughter of Labour peer Lord Underhill.

THREAT TO TEXTILES JOBS

THE CITY COUNCIL is to work with other local authorities to raise national concern about the future of the "multi-fibre arrangement". This controls 80% of the world's trade in textiles and clothing. It is designed to protect traditional textile jobs from competition from low cost producers in developing countries.

The agreement runs out in 1986 and may not be renewed. 50,000 jobs could be threatened in the East Midlands according to the Hosiery & Knitwear Union.

WOMEN'S TRAINING SCHEME

NOTTINGHAM Women's Training Scheme, funded by the European Social Fund, County and City Councils and Manpower Services Commission, is designed to give all women who are over 25 years old and without qualifications a chance to train in skill areas which are traditionally male dominated, eg building, engineering (mechanical/electronic) and HGV/PSV driving.

The ultimate aim of the project is to increase the numbers of women employed in these skill areas. The scheme is based on High Pavement and provides full child care facilities. The training days correspond to school hours and holidays.

The course starts with training at the centre and

moves into F.E. colleges. After this nine month period we hope to organise work experience placements. We would appreciate information and contacts to help in this task. Trade unions will also be consulted.

For more information contact us on 586236.

Bridget Carlin



NWTs

