

VOLUME 3
NUMBER 10

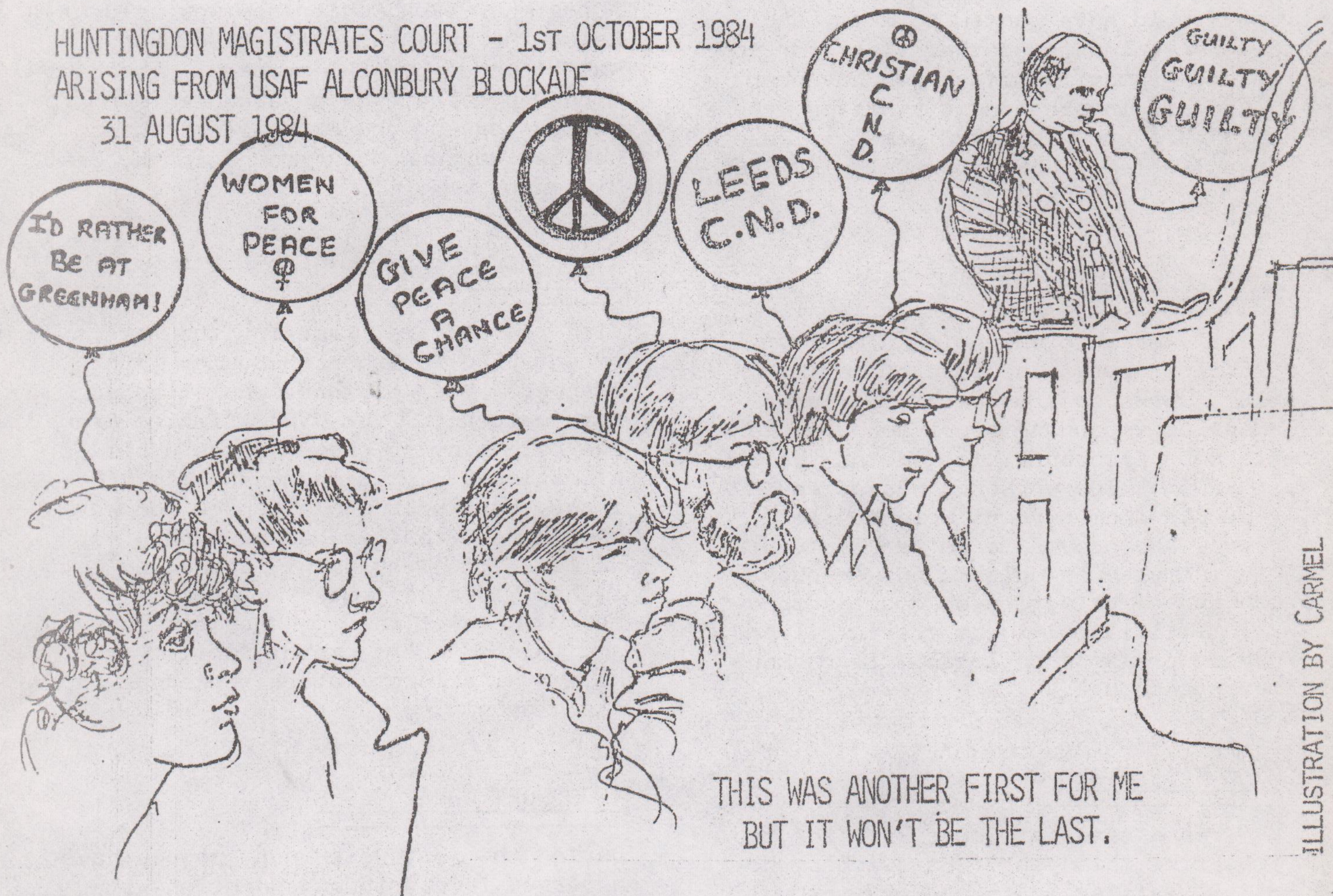
FOREST FIELD PEACE GROUP

OCTOBER 1984

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NEWSLETTER

HUNTINGDON MAGISTRATES COURT - 1st OCTOBER 1984
ARISING FROM USAF ALCONBURY BLOCKADE
31 AUGUST 1984



THIS WAS ANOTHER FIRST FOR ME
BUT IT WON'T BE THE LAST.

ILLUSTRATION BY CARMEL

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REPORT BACKS

WOMEN'S VISIT TO GREENHAM

To mark the special days from 20th-30th September (10 million women for 10 days) women from FFPG visited Greenham Common Peace Camp. Although no-oneⁿ was able to be there for the full 10 days, 3 women spent 2 nights at Blue Gate, and were joined for a day by other women from FFPG. The experience of being at Greenham was one which none of the women would have wanted to miss, and they have planned another visit for the weekend beginning Friday 9th November. If you are interested in visiting Greenham with a group of FFPG women, please contact Helen (705887) or Cathy (788655)

LEGAL WORKSHOP

A legal workshop was held on Sunday 30th September. The idea of having such a workshop arose from the large number of impending court appearances after the Alconbury Blockade at the end of August. The workshop was attended by people from several Neighbourhood Groups, and proved to be very valuable. A magistrate was able to answer questions and offer advice on court procedure. It is likely that there will be further workshops on legal matters and court procedure.

GOOSE FAIR STALL

FFPG ran a stall at Goose Fair for the first time this year. Sandwiches, hot drinks, waffles and pancakes were sold as well as a selection of badges and issues of the newsletter. There was also a large selection of free leaflets on display, and it was encouraging to see the different sorts of people who showed an interest in these.

The site of the stall (in The Arts and Crafts Centre forecourt) did not prove to be the ideal place from which to sell food, and profits only amounted to about £20 over the 3 days of the

fair. Maybe next year we could sell something different. If you have any bright ideas please raise them at an FFPG meeting, but don't wait too long - there are only another 49 weeks until Goose Fair comes round again!

REGIONAL NVDA CONFERENCE

A regional NVDA Conference was held at Leicester on Saturday 13th October and was attended by FFPG members. The conference proved to be a valuable forum for discussion and the exchange of ideas between various NVDA groups in the East Midlands.

VIOLENCE WORKSHOP

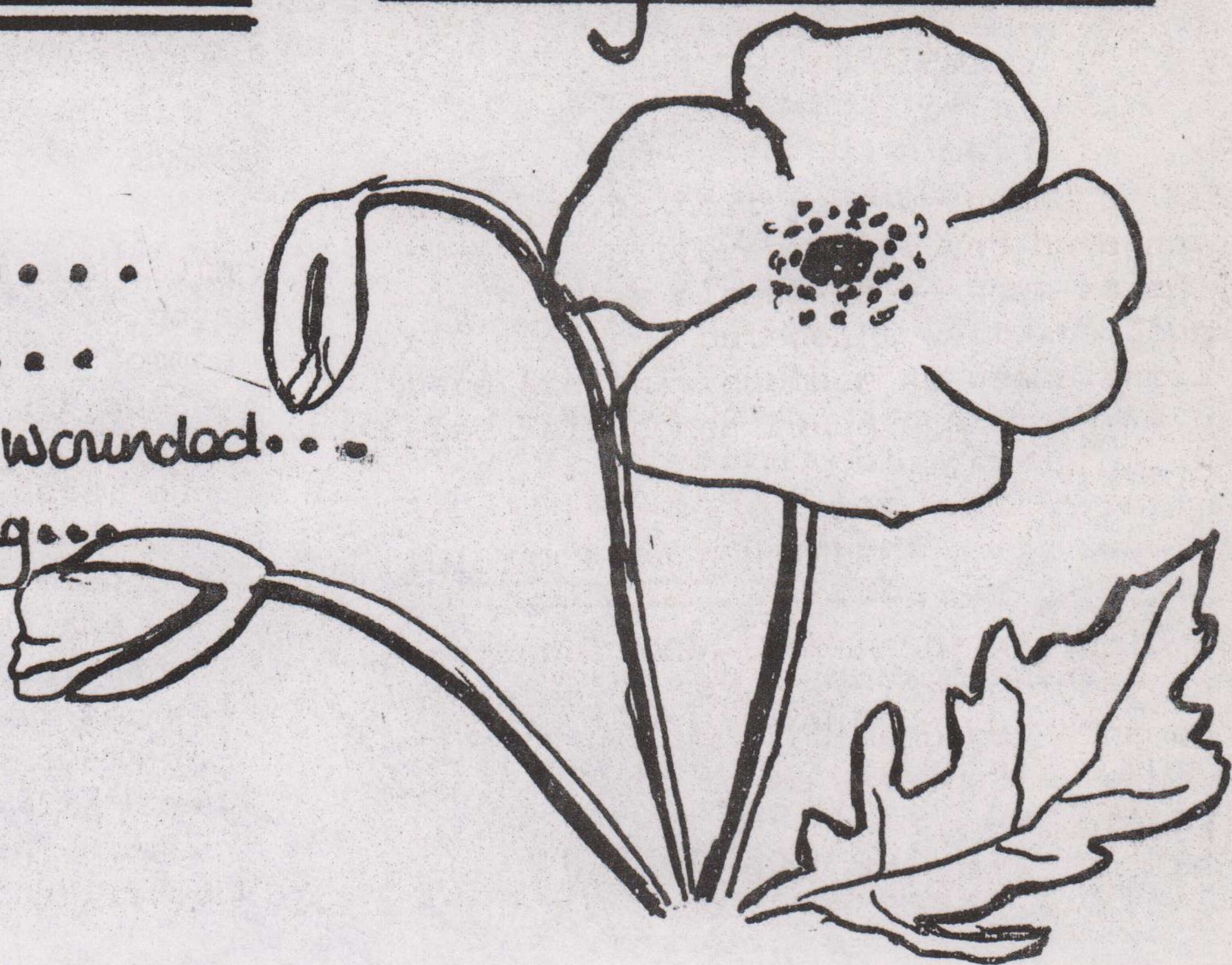
Violence was the theme for the most recent FFPG workshop on Sunday 14th October. Most of those who attended were members of the NVDA Affinity Group. The role playing proved to be a bit of a challenge with a theme such as violence, but those who attended the workshop agreed that it had been very worthwhile. Video equipment, loaned by Nottingham Video Project, was used to record some of the workshop sessions, and this may be a useful facility to have available at future workshops, and other events.

ALCONBURY COURT CASES

During the past weeks many people have appeared in court in connection with charges arising from the Alconbury Blockade on 31st August. The fines seem to have been fairly standard - £25 for those pleading guilty, and £25 with £20 costs for those pleading not guilty.. An encouraging note in these dismal proceedings has been that Kath O'Driscoll was acquitted when she appeared in court. Apparently the police hadn't quite got their story right and Kath's case was dropped on "a technicality".

REMEMBRANCE DAY - Sunday 11th November

The War to end wars . . .
Ten Million killed . . .
Twenty-one Million wounded . . .
Seven Million Missing . . .



On Armistice Day the World looks back and remembers them.
We look back and remember the sixty million who died in
the Second World War.

But who will look forward, to mourn the millions who will
die in the next war?

Who will remember the dead from a nuclear war?

Who will lay the wreaths?

Who will sew the poppies?

No-one will remember.

No-one will be left to remember

After . . . the War to end all wars.



BUNKER MADNESS

I think we often comfort ourselves by thinking that no-one will be stupid enough to start a nuclear war. With NATO's policy of a nuclear first-strike such comfort begins to evaporate. Look at the preparation made in this country, not only to start a nuclear war, but to actually continue to some kind of finish (who could possibly win is unclear), and the comfort evaporates still further.

One of these preparations is the Royal Observer Corps (ROC) posts which make up part of the United Kingdom Warning and Monitoring Organisation (UKWMO). There are 870 ROC posts up and down the country. They are all underground bunkers capable of holding up to 4 men for a week. Around Nottingham

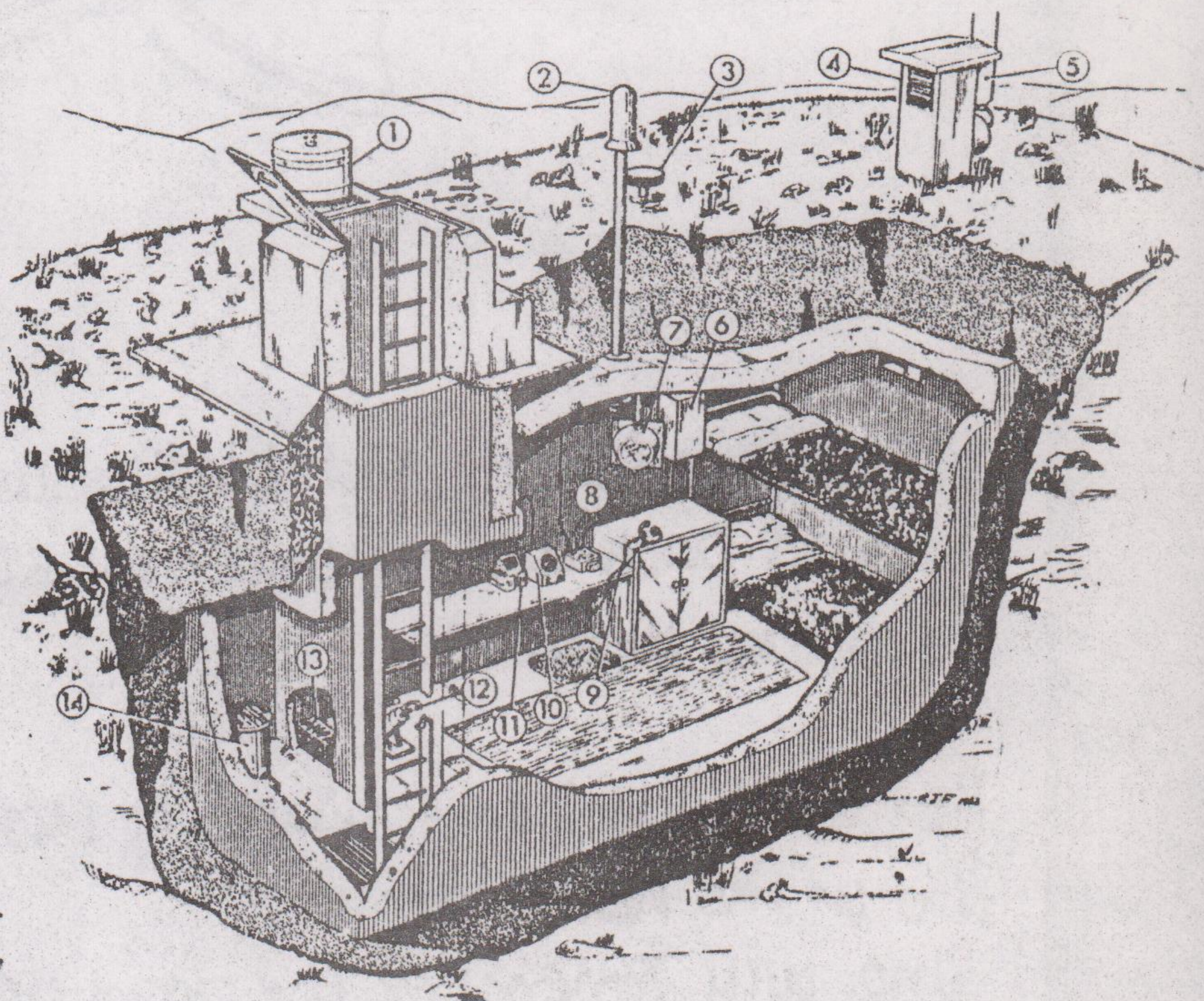
posts at Hucknall, Newark and Burton Joyce. The posts feed information to group controls which in turn inform one of 5 sector controls (Friskerton in Lincoln for Nottinghamshire) which keep the Government and NATO Authorities informed.

The ROC bunkers are intended to measure the blast of nuclear detonation to enable the Group and Sector Controls to plot the size and location of nuclear hits. Measurement of radiation levels will be used to plot fall-out patterns.

The UKWMO claims all this is to help the survival of the civilian population should the unthinkable ever happen. But with all transport and communications systems devastated or commandeered by the armed forces how we can be helped is not so clear. What the UKWMO can be used for however, is to continue a nuclear war after the initial strike. Information from the ROC posts will let NATO commanders know which ports and airfields are still useable. Information which will allow them to continue the fighting.

The ROC posts are only one of the so called preparations for nuclear war. All in fact are useless as far as you and I are concerned. Futile attempts at making nuclear war acceptable, like the sirens that will give you 4 minutes warning of a nuclear attack. What could you do with 4 minutes warning?

WE ARE WARNING YOU NOW!



ROC MONITORING POST
KEY TO ILLUSTRATION.

- 1 Ground Zero Indicator
- 2 Survey Meter Probe Unit Cover
- 3 Bomb Power Indicator Baffle Plates
- 4 Air Ventilator
- 5 Pneumatic Aerial for Radio Set
- 6 Radio Set
- 7 Bomb Power Indicator
- 8 ROC Fixed Survey Meter
- 9 Radio Head Set
- 10 Loud Speaker Telephone
- 11 Carrier Receiver
- 12 Pump for Pneumatic Aerial
- 13 12 Volt Battery
- 14 Toilet

DAY TRIP TO GREENHAM

We set off shortly after breakfast, I was feeling excited at the prospect of my first trip to Greenham. On arrival we met up with the wimin who had gone for the weekend and because we only had a few hours we decided to 'walk the fence'!..Lots of smiling faces, "Hello" "Hello", I think I have the 'Reclaim Chilwell' feeling, everyone looks so happy, I wonder if it is always like this, I doubt it.

There are lots of pretty wild flowers and heathers in the wooded areas that we passed, such a contrast to the dismal grey buildings and rolls of barbed wire on 'the other side', I didn't want to look at it but it was the reason I was there.

"How far have we gone?"

"Oh easily half way", says Helen, so we have a break, out come the ciggies. After sharing views on what we have seen so far we press on, my feet are beginning to ache but I'll not let on.

Those 'inside' keep following us, it must be Cathy's yellow wellies that facinate them, you won't believe this but we've got a helicopter tailing us now. I find myself peering thro' the fence at the squaddies, it's quite like visiting the zoo except the animals are all the same here.

Vanessa, Angie, Chris and Barbara have forged ahead and Cathy, Helen and Jean are tailing behind deep in conversation and here am I dreaming up all manner of V.D.A. that I, d love to do to this fence.

We reach a food wagon and have a most welcome cuppa (I could murder a gin and tonic), "How far now?" "Oh, not much further" says Helen-forever the optimist - as she disappears up to her knees in a mud-hole.

Angie has taken on the job of surveyor on this little expedition noticing every tiny flaw in the fence, I swear she has X-ray vision.

We appear to be on the home stretch now, I must admit I'm pleased, it's been a long afternoon coping with my aching feet and the thoughts buzzing in my head.

Blue gate is in sight, did I hear someone mention nine miles had been covered (some stroll)..

Saying goodbye to those who are staying over leaves me feeling guilty because I'll be sleeping at home tonight.

It's the end of a super day, I'm tired and dirty but happy that I've been part of Greenham if only for a few hours. Before we were out of sight we had planned to return to Greenham.

Idon't think any of us missed the candy floss and sand castles on this day trip.

Goodbye Greenham our thoughts are with you.

CHILWELL VIDEO SHOWING

WITH : CHILWELL EXHIBITION
STOP THE CITY VIDEO
DISCO -SOCIAL WITH RAFFLE

AT THE QUEENS WALK COMMUNITY CENTRE,
QUEENS WALK, THE MEADOWS

7.30PM 'TIL LATE
SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER

TICKETS = £1.25 WAGED
75P UNWAGED

CONTACT CHRISTAT-MUSHROOM (582506)

ALL PROCEEDS TO GO TO THE

PEACE ACTION NETWORK

WHAT'S ON

NOVEMBER

- Thursday 1st :- Pete Strauss up at Guildhall Magistrates Court for non-of £140 fines and costs from the RAF Cottesmore action last February.
- Friday 2nd :- BOOGIE AGAINST THE BOMB - Disco at the Italian Community Centre, Sherwood Rise from 7.30pm with raffle for big, big prizes.
- Sunday 4th :- Nottingham CND Annual General Meeting. 7pm at the Friends Meeting House.
- Monday 5th :- Peace Action Network meeting, 7.30pm, NCND office.
- Saturday 10th :- Chilwell video showing with exhibition, Stop The City video and disco/social at Queens Walk Community Centre, 7.30pm.
- Wednesday 14th :- FFPG Bi-monthly meeting, FFNC 69 Wiverton Road, 7.30pm.
- Sunday 18th :- Peace Action Network NVDA Trainers' Training Day, Queens Walk Community Centre, 10.30am.
- Thursday 22nd :- FFPG Bi-monthly meeting at FFNC, 69 Wiverton Road, 7.30pm.

FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP

We are a group working towards the abolition of nuclear weapons in Britain, Europe and the World. We oppose the Government's current Defence policy and believe that effective defence can be achieved other than through a national suicide pact.

If you would like to find out more about us or join Forest Fields Peace Group please fill in the form below.

I wish to :

- 1): Receive more information on the nuclear disarmament issue. ☐
- 2): Join Forest Fields Peace Group & enclose the membership fee of £1 ☐
- 3): Give a donation of £..... ☐

I enclose a cheque/PO payable to Forest Fields Peace Group for £

NAME

ADDRESS.....

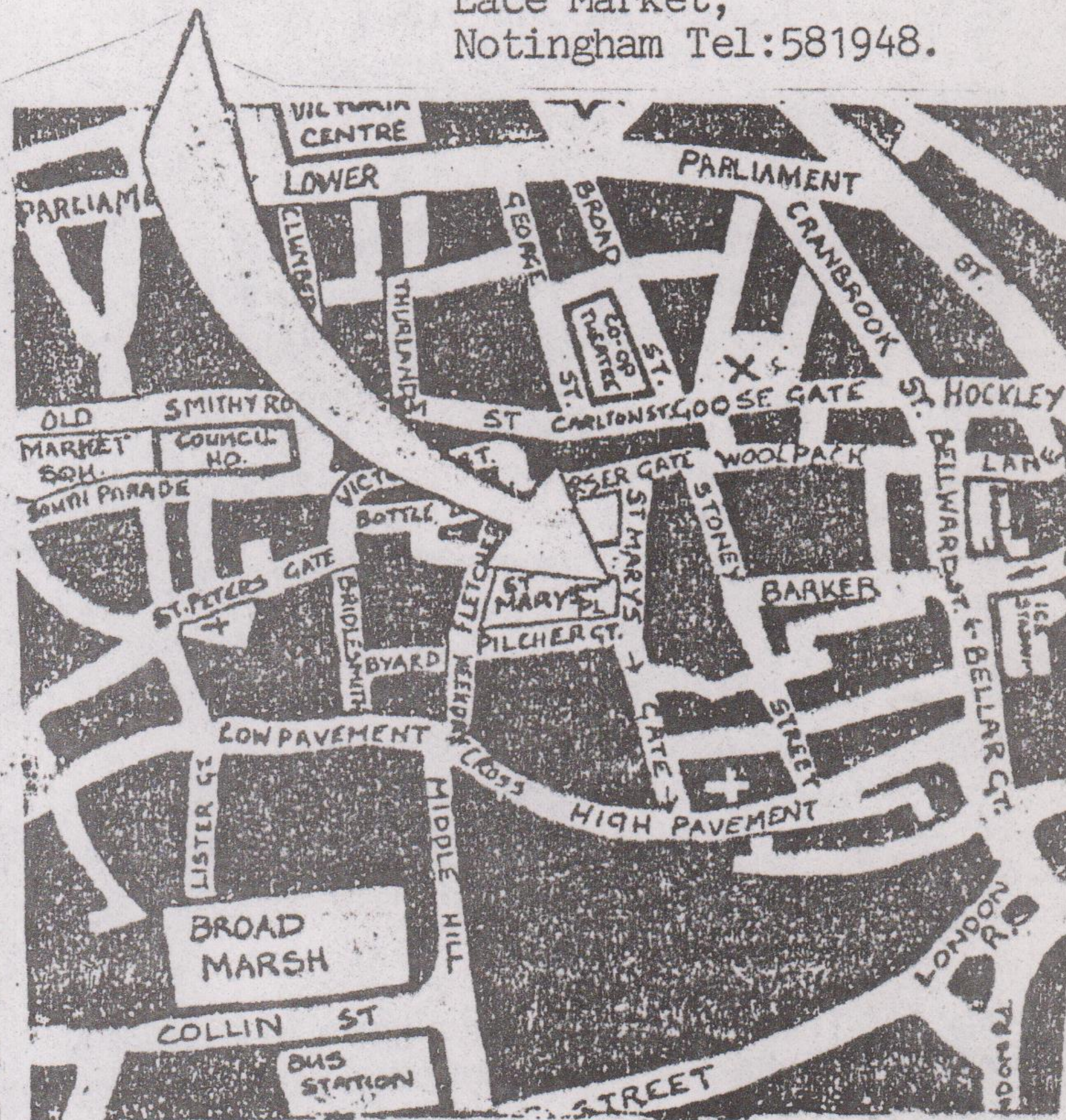
.....Tel.....

Membership includes a newsletter like this delivered monthly.

Please return this form to:
Forest Fields Peace Group, Box 5,
Forest Fields Neighbourhood Centre,
69 Wiverton Road, Forest Fields,
Nottingham.

NOTTINGHAM CND

New address: Unit B,
14-18 St. Mary's Gate,
Lace Market,
Nottingham Tel: 581948.



X = PREVIOUS OFFICE.

Printed & Published by the
Forest Fields Peace Group