



Radioactive Rolls

Local people in Crich, near Belper, are involved in a battle to stop Rolls Royce from dumping radioactive waste in a quarry - only 50 metres from a school!

The Hilts quarry action group was set up in November 2000. Rolls royce has been burying nuclear waste in the quarry for 35 years which is in the centre of Crich 50 metres from the local school. The local community feels strongly that the tipping should be stopped. So when rolls royce and the environment agency refused to attend a public meeting to explain why exceptionally high levels of cobalt 60 had been found in local streams, they decided to take action.

A group decided to blockade the quarry entrance. Ten people, including mothers with children, were arrested when rolls royce attempted to make a delivery on the 19th of July. They tried again on the 29th august, but more than 60 locals confronted the convoy and forced it to turn back. Then on Monday 3rd September a convoy of vans arrived at the quarry at 6am surrounded by over 60 police officers. The police sealed off the site and surrounding roads and footpaths. Around 60 locals quickly appeared on the scene in a bid to stop the convoy getting through but after a while the police forced them back and rolls royce were able to make their first deposit of waste since July. Again on Thursday 1st November rolls royce turned up with 2 loads of waste and large police escort. The police blocked off the area again, but 30 locals, many alerted by sky rockets, turned up to try and stop

the convoy. After much fuss the convoy got through.

The locals have been protesting at the quarry since early July and have vowed to continue their campaign. For more information contact info@hiltsquarry.co.uk or look at their website www.hiltsquarry.fsnet.co.uk/

More quarrying news...

Stancliffe stone want to reopen to disused quarries on the hillside below Stanton Moor, near the 9 Ladies Standing Stones. These quarries have not been worked for over 50 years and have been completely reclaimed by nature. The proposals cover 12 hectares and would have a huge impact on the hillside, it is proposed to reopen the 2 quarries for the next 40 years. The first camp was set up on the site two years ago and now there are many treehouses, benders and walkways through out the 2 dormant quarries. More people and equipment are always needed. Marshalls plc. the company which have just recently taken over Stancliffe Stone have just announced that they will decide whether or not to go ahead with the proposals in May 2002. Check out the web site at www.nineladies.uklinx.net.

ss,
Tel

11048
T
troubleshooters

**Free news
for
Peaks area**

Issue 1

**Winter
2001**

Sheffield anti war demos

On Saturday 27 October in Sheffield various anti war demos took place. Kicking off at 10.30 with a critical mass. There were around 40 cyclists decked out with banners, placards and a giant flag saying bikes not bombs. As we were about to start, 3 people appeared, pulling a great big trolley on which was a sound system. This got everyone into party mode and off we rode through Sheffield. We made our way all around the city for an hour before joining the main demo at barkers pool at 12 noon.

When we got there the square was packed full of people. There were a few speeches, the Sheffield socialist choir sang "your not doing it in my name" and then the crowd set off to march around Sheffield. Two thousand people were there. The march was led by a group of chanting children, then came a variety of people, chanting, singing and drumming and at the back was the sound system blaring out good tunes and surrounded by a dancing mass. The rally was amass of different colours with banners saying everything from "stop the war", "bombing for peace is like fucking for virginity" to "nuke them"? (its ironic ok). The rally ended up in Devonshire Square. Then there were more speakers about 8 in total hurrah!(you know we can never get enough).

Food not bombs after feeding us all already at barkers pool set up there stall again (gluten's for punishment or what?) giving out scrummy curry and soup. Everyone left eventually to get ready for the benefit gig that evening, where all had a cracking good time (well, we must have, I can't remember a thing.)

Local peace protests

Local people have been holding peace vigils in Matlock objecting to military action in Afghanistan. They have been meeting on Monday evenings in crown square for candle lit vigils. Five people attended the first gathering but over 50 people turned up the next week and numbers keep rising.

People in north west Derbyshire have set up the High Peak Anti War Coalition. They have staged a number of events in Norfolk square in Glossop. They have also organised various public meetings which have been well attended. Meetings take place every Wednesday in Bradury community house, Glossop.

Don't believe the hype

On Friday 12th October Manchester and Derbyshire activists visited the bbc building in Manchester to catch a show or 2. While there we decided to let them know what we thought about their coverage of the war in Afghanistan. A 25 foot steel ladder (who's bright idea was it to nick something that heavy) was put up to the roof nearly going through the window. Up clambered 4 people who hung banners from the roof and 3 flag poles saying " truth is the first casualty of war, "fight imperialism not Afghanistan" and "blair broadcasting corruption". Soon after security appeared on the roof and removed some banners. The action attracted lots of attention and soon a large crowd was gathered. The atmosphere got even livelier when the samba band joined the crowds below. The police eventually turned up after over half an hour but were t busy calming down the bbc's manager to deal with us. After over an hour we decided to come down from the roof.

We're on a road to nowhere.

Just when you thought it was safe to come down from the trees, a group of high peak and Cheshire councillors and mps are seeking action on the transport problems in the area. Fair enough you may say but they are pushing for a single lane carriageway High Lane, Disley, Newtown, Furness vale bypass. So why not go and let them know how you feel by bulldozing their houses, chopping down their trees and covering the lot tarmac - if you do a good job they'll probably give you the contract to build the road.

If I had a hammer...

Twice in the last 6 months machines at the dale view quarry on Staton moor have been put out of action. A seven foot high wall topped with razor wire, sensor lights and spy cameras were dodged before the intrepid mechanics had their fun. A dumper truck and lorry were put out of action. Since stancliffe stone have only 2 dumper trucks on site this action costed them tens of thousands of pounds. Stancliffe stone is the company who are planning to quarry near Nine Ladies. Since the first incident in May they had erected a security compound but f### all good that did them.

Sheffield refugee co-op

Asylum seekers are going hungry because the governments voucher system does not work. This means they cannot buy everyday items we take for granted. Asylum seekers receive £26.50 per week in vouchers that can only be spent on food and are only exchangeable in a very small number of outlets, plus £10 cash. This makes it very hard for them to live a healthy life and to buy many items they need. The co-op is working with local people, church groups and community groups to set up collection points where you can drop off items that they could use. Useful things are non-perisable foods: rice, pasta, cooking oil, pulses, sugar. Household items: cooking pots, cutlery, bedding, washing up liquid/powder. Toiletries: soap, shampoo, toothpaste, nappies.

At present the collection points are Broomspring centre, Broomspring Lane, Broomhall and the Refugee Advice Centre, Duke Street, Parkhill. For more info

asylum@lowtech

This newsletter was put together by people living in Derbyshire who believe in taking action to change things, to take control of our lives.

If you know of anything happening anywhere in Derbyshire - whether it is a local campaign or a couple of people writing some good graffitti on an ad billboard - we want to hear from you.

Or if you have anything to say, email us - we might have a letters section next time!

Contact us on
Or email: peak