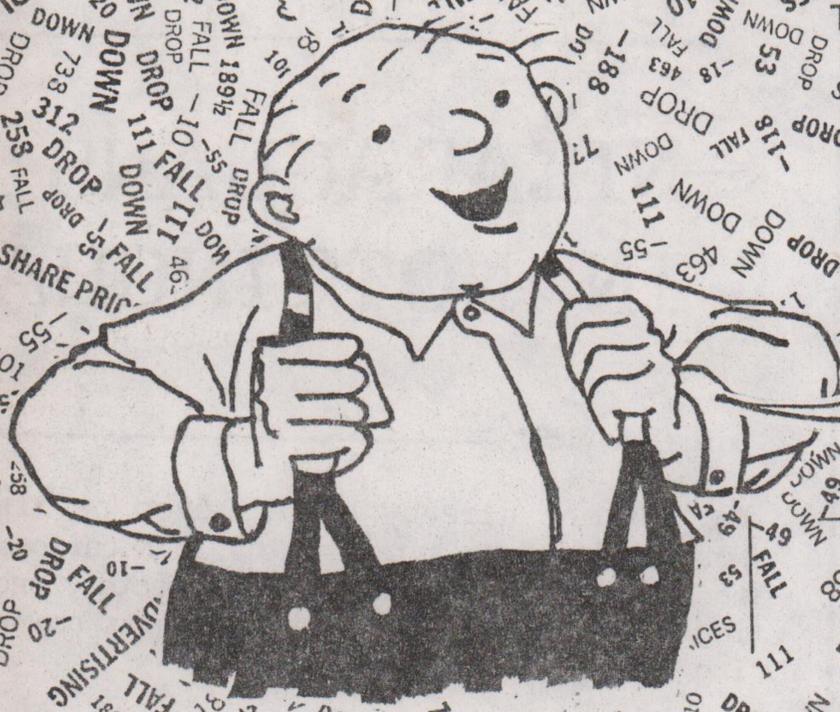


NOTTINGHAM CND

Bulletin NOVEMBER 1987- 20p

CND CLUB 300



A SHARE DEAL
THAT MAKES
SENSE!

**AVOID THE CRASH—
JOIN THE NEW CND 300 CLUB
PROSPECTUS DETAILS INSIDE
BE PART OF IT**



EVENTS

NCND MONTHLY MEETING

MEMBERS' MEETING - NOV 12 - WEA 7.30.

NCND members meet to discuss controversial resolutions (see "Unbridled Lust" - Oct. Bulletin) to be discussed at CND National Conference on Nov. 20-22.

Also, delegates from NCND will be mandated on how to vote on these resolutions. Please read through the October article in preparation for this meeting.

PUBLIC MEETING

NAMIBIA

20 YEARS OF ILLEGAL OCCUPATION BY SOUTH AFRICA

**MOST NAMIBIANS LIVE IN EXTREME POVERTY,
STILL DENIED THEIR BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS.**

A public meeting, jointly sponsored by Nottingham Anti-Apartheid and Nottingham CND, has been organised around the issue of Namibian Uranium Imports, entitled:

"DOWN THE YELLOW CAKE ROAD"

Concerning the use of Namibian Uranium by British Nuclear Fuels and the Nuclear Arms programme in Britain and the terrible working conditions suffered by South African miners, the meeting will take place at:

NELSON MANDELA LECTURE THEATRE
TRENT POLY STUDENTS' UNION
BYRON BUILDING
SHAKESPEARE STREET
AT 7.30 PM., ON THURSDAY NOVEMBER 19TH.

Guest speakers will be:
SWAPO of Namibia
Liverpool TGWU Dockers(invited)
Campaign for Safe Energy.

There will also be a video on Namibian Uranium
ADMISSION FREE - EVERYONE WELCOME.

CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

SHERWOOD CND AND FOREST FIELDS PEACE GROUP
INVITE YOU TO A

CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR!

FOOD, DRINKS, MUSIC AND FUN

CHILDREN WELCOME

LATE BAR APPLIED FOR

SATURDAY, 19TH DECEMBER, 8PM. 'TIL LATE

ALL SAINTS COMMUNITY CENTRE, RALEIGH STREET

£1.75 BE THERE OR ... £1.00

—NICARAGUANS IN NOTTINGHAM—

Juigalpa Visit

As you may already know, seven people from Nottingham spent three months in Nicaragua early this year, building a clay tile factory and helping to set up a co-operative which is now producing bricks and tiles.

Two members of the co-op, Demesio and Jesus, are in Nottingham at the moment, as guests of the Nottingham-Juigalpa Links Committee to receive technical training. Also in Nottingham is Teodoro, a worker for the Juigalpan CDS (community organisation) and member of the FSLM (Sandinista Party).

A public meeting took place on October 30th., but if members of your group missed it and are interested, there is still space on Teodoro's programme for small or house meetings (before Dec.5th.). If you are interested, please contact:

John Waller on 782463

Finally, as always, these things cost money and we still need a considerable amount to cover the costs of this visit - any donations will be greatly appreciated.

Yours in Peace,
Dave Dickinson,
for Nottingham-Juigalpa Links Committee.

LABOUR PARTY



DEFENCE POLICY

It's difficult to know for certain what the speeches at the Labour Party conference imply for the party's future defence policy. But there are grounds for unease among Labour/CND members.

Within the party are the seeds of a new internalist vision, one which shifts the emphasis of British foreign policy away from military confrontation towards reconciliation and co-operation. There is now an unprecedented number of CND members in positions of influence. But where is the confident assertion of that vision? It needs to be established now, grow in strength and support until the next election.

IF the Labour Party continues to stress that we'll plough all the money saved from getting rid of nuclear weapons, plus more, into a build-up of conventional weapons, it continues to reinforce the mentality of confrontation - the myth that the Russians will invade us at the first opportunity. Talking about the feasibility of non-nuclear defence is important, but by itself will change nothing. We have to touch something in the consciousness of the electorate, other than crude calculations of military strength.

IF we say that we won't commit ourselves to getting rid of Trident, because by the next election the money will have been spent, we undermine the most important reason for scrapping it and find ourselves in the old ways of thinking about "bargaining weapons away" that have led to a world with 50,000 nuclear bombs.

The expected INF agreement concerns 3% of the world's nuclear arsenal. This is the time for the parliamentary opposition to be pressing urgently for follow-up action, both multilateral and unilateral.

ANN KESTENBAUM.

NEI NEI

TIL ATOMVÅPEN TIL ATOMVÅPEN

IT FELT LIKE A MILLION

It was an extraordinary transformation.

At 1.00 p.m., this afternoon, (Sunday 25th. October), the centre of Brussels was quiet. The organisers from the Belgian Peace Movement hadn't been sure what sort of turn-out there would be. Only one bus was parked in the large area allocated for the demonstration car-park and we were beginning to wonder if our 12-strong contingent from Nottingham might be a large proportion of the crowd!

How wrong can you be!

BY 2.00 p.m., we were amongst 150,000 in a multi-language, good humoured crawl along about 2 miles of Brussels city centre streets. This took us about 4 hours.

The British contingent of 70 or so, arriving by train with Bruce Kent or by a variety of other means, had mustered as many banners as it could physically manage.

As we walked in the sunshine to the music and the applause of the passers-by when they saw the international delegations and avidly read the names on our banners, all the effort to get there seemed worthwhile.

We had turned on the radio in our minibus early the day before to hear the news about the INF talks. Suddenly it seemed that there wouldn't be a summit. There might not even be an agreement. Right now, on the ferry back to England, we are aware only that there is still an enormous international will for peace and disarmament. It was expressed to a wonderful degree by the Belgians, who are determined to make Brussels, the seat of NATO, a continuing focus for anti-nuclear protest. That a country of 9 million people could produce such a massive demonstration is an inspiration to us all.

Ann Kestenbaum.



JET-SETTING FOR PEACE



On September 4th 1987, international solidarity finally touched the sleeping backwaters of Beeston, as Jill Robson and I flew to Broxtowe's West German twin-town of Gutersloh to take part in an anti-nuclear demonstration.

We arrived in Gutersloh late on Friday evening and met members of the local Peace Movement, the DFG-VK group over a meal and a few beers. Neither Jill nor I speak German, which meant that when people got abusive to us we couldn't understand their insults and so it was easy to keep smiling at them! There were many squaddies from RAF Gutersloh in the town who were surprisingly willing to talk to us. One told me: "I don't want nuclear weapons at all - they scare the *** out of



Memorial at Stuckenbrock.

me!" - an admission he would never have dared make if he was in Britain.

Each year on the first Saturday in September, people all over Germany pay their respects to those who died under the Nazi regime, so in the afternoon we went to a demonstration at Suckenbrock, the site of a Nazi concentration camp where 65,000 Russian prisoners were literally worked to death. Tall trees now overhang the mass graves at Stuckenbrock and the shady avenues beneath were lined by members of the German Young Socialists group, silently holding flaming torches, as people filed by and laid wreaths and flowers on the gravestones.

On Sunday we took part in the Olaf Palme Peace March, one of a series all over Europe to publicise the Swedish minister's call for the creation of a nuclear weapons-free corridor stretching 120 km each way from the East/West border. We cycled to the gates of RAF Gutersloh, where Jill helped to give a resolution to the base commander that nuclear weapons would be removed from Germany. In the evening, Jill was interviewed in front of a large audience about CND, Greenham Common Peace Camp and women's contribution to the peace movement in this country.

The next morning there was a civic reception with the burgermeister (mayor) - a coup for the DFG-VK as the local administration is Christian Democrat (Conservative). The local press took photographs as we were presented with a beautiful (?) pseudo-willow pattern plate, decorated with scenes of Gutersloh town. After that, we waved off the Peace March on its way to Cologne, said our goodbyes and travelled to Berlin where we stayed for three days, meeting peace activists and learning about anti-nuclear protest in the city - and the incredibly violent police response.



Jill is not impressed with the commander at RAF Gutersloh !

The trip gave both of us a broader view of peace campaigning and we made firm links with Gutersloh activists who will be visiting Nottingham soon - watch this space! We must thank Nottingham CND for making it possible; Robin at Peace news for help with accommodation in Berlin; Karen for help with transport and Chris Blunsden.

JOHN CROMBY.

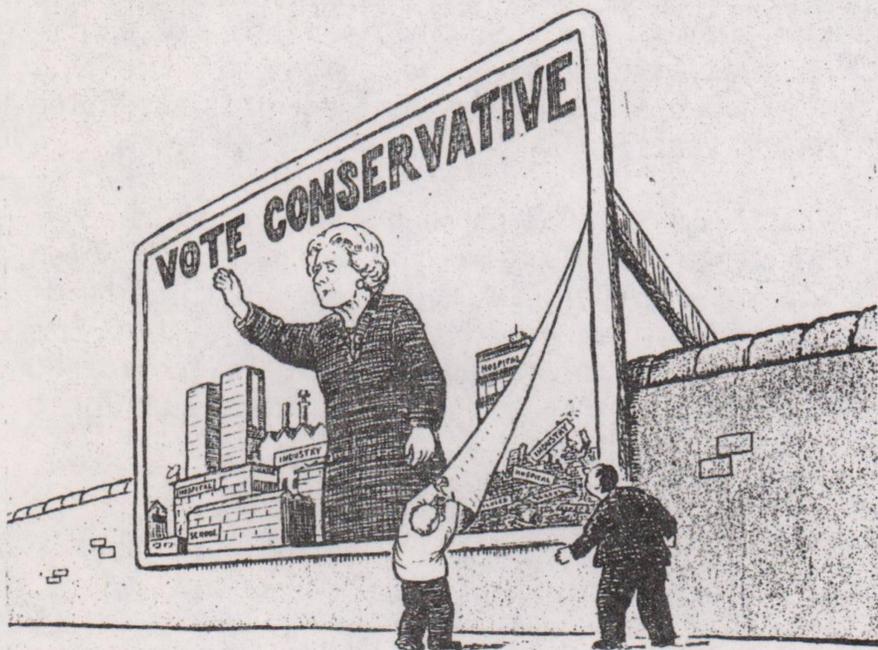
DECLINE:

A WAY OUT ?

In the last issue of the Bulletin, Pete Strauss wrote asking for discussion on the "way forward" for Nottingham CND. Here's a contribution...

Before we can discuss the way forward, we need to recognise the current state we're in. At first sight, this seems wholly negative. At the annual general meeting in September, it was reported that our membership has dropped below 1,000 for the first time in many years. (This represents more than 1,000 people, however, as there are quite a lot of household/family memberships.) This is a drop of about a quarter since the previous AGM. Similarly, the amount of donations has fallen. Whilst we remain in a healthy financial position, a further similar drop would be disastrous, especially in terms of being able to afford office rental. The decline is more noticeable in terms of events. Non-violent direct action has effectively (at the moment) ceased. Many of our local groups are struggling. Not too long ago, any event advertised in the Bulletin would produce a turnout, whether it be coaches to demonstrations or special events around the Listergate stall. It is going to be very hard for us to come to terms with no longer being a monolithic, mass-movement with a mass following - where once the peace movement could dream of governments calling a war and no-one coming, we now live with the worry of calling a demonstration and no-one coming. This is not solely a Nottingham phenomenon (but perhaps only a British and American one - while a few weeks ago, only 300 demonstrated up at Windscale, countless numbers [30,000] were on the march in Germany.)

What has caused this. Obviously, the Tories getting back in, time after time, has hit us hard. Many people see little point in protest of any kind as we live within an increasingly Conservative culture. Few older movements



(excepting conservation/ecology) are without similar problems to ours - witness the low level of industrial action these days. Compared to other more recent (or recently re-activated) movements like supporting Nicaragua or opposing Apartheid, we perhaps seem a little old-fashioned, less trendy, less exciting (and less likely to win?) than movements where other people can win on our behalf in countries far away. The drop-out level of our activists is not high, but those who move away are not being replaced.

But, despite our problems, we retain a loyalty and respect from a large community. The 1987 Peace Festival was as popular as ever (though the number of peace stalls was down). Also NCND has still enough clout to mobilise/organise faster and better than just about anyone else. Witness the response to the US bombing of Libya - within hours and days, hundreds locally were drawn into action. Had "the day after" response been left to the Labour Party, it would just about be reaching the agenda of one or two general management committees by now! We must also be proud of ourselves that, solely as a result of peace movement action, the whole level of debate on nuclear weapons is at a higher level now. We destroyed the myth of a limited nuclear war, we destroyed the myth that nuclear shelters could save anyone (note that all the local shelter companies went bust) and fewer and fewer people really believe that the Russians are coming to take away our freedom. Our actions (and the changes in the Kremlin) are responsible for the current arms control talks. Our style in CND has paved the way for other movements like Anti-Apartheid to grow.

More important than anything - here we are, talking about a crisis with over 1,000 members - 100 times more people than we had 8/9 years ago. CND is a long way from disappearing. So it's not all gloom and despondency.

A number of suggestions. Firstly, that we recognise our strengths and weaknesses and do less, but do it better. In times past, our workers wore themselves into a frazzle, organising event after event. Smaller, carefully planned events should now be the order of the day. Nuclear bombs won't rain down on us if we skip sending a coach to a demo. We're again in the business of a long haul - we've got to think 1 year, 5 years, even 10 years ahead, rather than next month. Next, we've got to have better contact with our members and our ex-members. Everyone who has tried it assures me that lapsed members will rejoin after a call, rather than a circular. Also we shouldn't give up easily - for many people we have to send circulars. So I'd suggest, well-thought out letters, 6 months or a year later, if no joy at first.

On a citywide basis, the Bulletin is all important. If people don't come to events, the Bulletin may be their sole point of contact with NCND: perhaps we should transfer more resources to it, so that people get real value for money when joining.

Lastly, several hundred national CND members live here who are not local members (presumably people responding to adverts. in the press). National

CND is discussing ways of merging local/national membership. Whatever the outcome, I feel we can't afford not to bring these people into our net, even if that means giving National members free local membership and seeking ways of raising the funds for it in other way.

At a very local level, groups may feel it is time to take stock. Can they survive? Could they merge to form - say, constituency wide groups? If everything local has been exhausted, is there a role/task that the group could take on from the overall work of NCND? If it is just no longer possible to recruit enough members to keep a local neighbourhood group going (or if people are just too bored), maybe change the name to ... Peace Group and try to get local shops to stop selling South African goods or campaign to keep the military out of local schools. Dilution may be better than liquidation!

The danger of doing nothing but try to hold on to what we were is that will fall apart when there's not enough people to rush around papering over the cracks. Times have changed, we have changed, let's look for ways of coping, stabilising and, hopefully, growing anew.

ROSS BRADSHAW.

PARIS IN THE SPRING

The trouble with us lot is that we're frightfully embarrassed about raising money. (Are we?) Maybe this is because we are British and, as such, are embarrassed about just about everything in life. (Are we?) Or perhaps it is because we are "well-meaning Guardian-reading soggy-liberals" (Are we?) and believe that raising money is the sort of thing that property speculators, international financiers, capitalists, CIA agents, generals and arms dealers get up to. In any case, deep down, we all tend to feel that going up to people land asking for money is, well... just not "nice".

We need to shake off these mind-forged manacles of fear, once and for all. Let's get rid of the guilt. It's okay to go up to someone - a friend, neighbour, colleague at work - and say to them, "Excuse me, but I wondered if you'd like to buy some of these raffle tickets".

The first couple of times, you may feel twinges of embarrassment. You might blush or smile sheepishly. But don't worry. Everybody goes through that to begin with. The only answer is to practise. Try it every day and, soon, the awkwardness will begin to slip away. You will find, to your astonishment, that your friends will not be horrified. They will do one of two things. They will say "Yes, okay; I think I will" or "No thanks".

They know the score. They know that they have a very slim chance of actually winning a holiday for two in Paris. They know that isn't the point.

They understand that you are basically asking them to give 25p or 50p or whatever for Nottingham CND. They either want to give it or they don't. That's all.

The simple truth is that, if we all go out there and forget our embarrassment and sell those tickets, we will make £2,500 for Nottingham CND. TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS!

That's not to be sneezed at... and it's not to be blushed at either. So, please don't be embarrassed. Get out there and bring in the booty, dredge back the dosh and send in the smackers. We need every penny. Thank you.

PETE STRAUSS

TOM PAXTON: LIVE AND KICKING

Looking back through Tom Paxton's records is like reading an American history book. Richard Nixon (and Spiro Agnew), Johnston, Jimmy Carter - who remembers these people now. And Ronnie - in 10 years' time, will anyone put up a plaque to Reagan's achievements? No, but I guess Tom Paxton will still be singing - poking fun at whatever fool or charlatan will be the President of the U.S.A. Paxton has been touring for 27 years, singing what used to be called protest songs and

what are still called love songs; it's unlikely he'll give up now.

Paxton was at his peak during the Vietnam war ("Wake up Jimmy Newman", "Talking Vietnam Pot Luck Blues"). Many of his colleagues didn't survive the end of the war and that era (one of the best of them, Phil Ochs, who staged the massive "The War is Over" concert, survived the war - but couldn't survive "peace", killing himself).

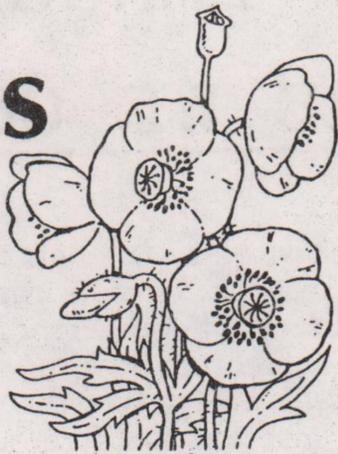
But Paxton goes on - the causes change - the neutron bomb, the U.S. mail's plans for post-W.W.3. mail delivery, the plight of the U.S. farmers and unemployment, have seen his attention in recent years.

In Mansfield, Tom Paxton sang mostly his old songs - love songs like "I give you the morning" which we all knew. As he put it, he seemed to be hanging round with an older set these days, but it's not a bad thing to keep a loyal following for 20 years. And, no, we didn't feel embarrassed to sing along with him:

"Peace
Peace will
Peace will come
Let it begin with me".

ROSS BRADSHAW.

White Poppies for PEACE



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Armistice Day will be remembered and honoured by most people this year with the wearing of red poppies and, by those of us in the peace movement, with white poppies.

A young soldier of the First World War called Wilfred Owen, was killed in action just seven days before the Armistice was signed. He was 25 years old. He was a poet. Of his writing, he had this to say:- "It is not about deeds or lands or anything about glory, honour, might, majesty, dominion, or power, except War. Above all I am not concerned with Poetry. My subject is War, and the pity of War. The Poetry is in the Pity All a poet can do today is warn. That is why the true poets must be truthful."

————— DULCE ET DECORUM EST —————

It is a sweet and noble thing (to die for
one's country)

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags, we cursed through
sludge,
Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs
And towards our distant rest began to trudge.
Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots
But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame; all
blind;
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots
Of tired, outstripped Five-Nines that dropped
behind.

GAS! GAS! Quick, boys! - An ecstasy of fumbling,
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time;
But someone still was yelling out and stumbling
And flound'ring like a man in fire and lime...
Dim, through the misty panes, and thick green
light,
As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.

In all my dreams, before my helpless sight,
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If, in some smothering dreams, you too could pace
Behind the wagon that we flung him in,
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,
His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;
If you could hear at every jolt, the blood
Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,
Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues, -

My friend, you would not tell with such high jest
To children ardent for some desperate glory
The old lie: Dulce et decorum est
Pro patria mori.

WILFRID OWEN.

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Christian CND will be holding a service at 11.00
am., outside St. Peter's Church on:
Saturday, Nov.7th.

White poppies will be available from the
Nottingham CND stall (free with a donation), as
well as Mushroom Bookshop and elsewhere. Please
refer to the October Bulletin for more
information about the origins of the white poppy
and advice on how to make your own.

NCND members will be handing out leaflets which
explain the origins of the white poppy. Please
come along and help with this.

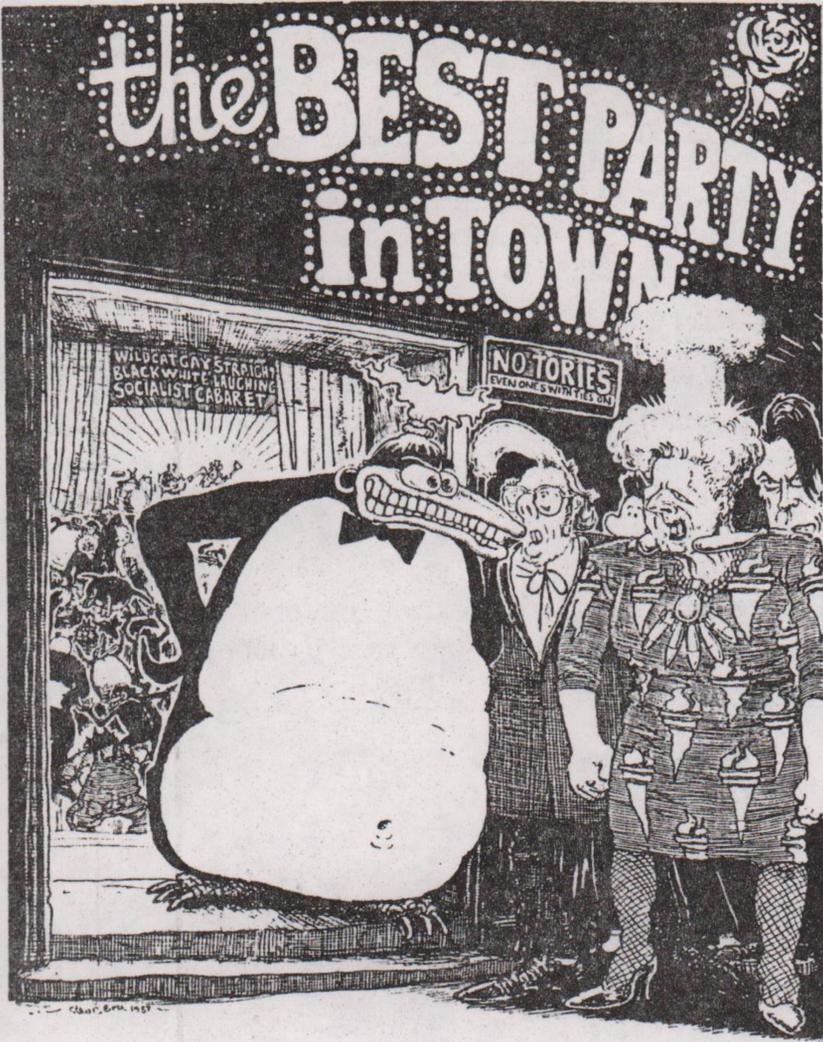


Correction

Jessie of Wollaton would like to point out that
the credit for the original design of the home-
made white poppy should go to Helen, also of
Wollaton. All Jessie has done is slightly adapt it
for wearing in a buttonhole and used odd moments
to make a quantity. "Ingenuity" (see Oct Bulletin)
is not a gift she possesses, unfortunately.

Jessie Guillon.

THE PARTY CONFERENCE BARN DANCE OR CHANGE YOUR PARTNERS? HERE WE GO ...



The ritual of the political party conferences is over for another year. Betrothal, divorce, courtship and trial separation were among the major themes. The SDP, determined to join in wedlock with the Liberals, didn't even present David Owen with a farewell gift. The French, they did a-woosing-go and received a warm welcome from the Tories; the joining together in unholy matrimony of the French and British nuclear forces might protect them from those greedy, missile-snatching wolves in lambs' clothing, Messrs. Reagan and Gorbachev who seems to be contemplating, and even talking about the possibility that, other things being equal, they might, if the time is right, consider a proposal to remove some nuclear missiles from Europe, perhaps, maybe, some day.

The Labour Party, equally cautiously, signalled in completely uncertain terms, that it might ditch its unilateral line on nuclear disarmament and yet continue to trade under the guise of a "non-nuclear" defence policy, albeit one implemented by multilateral means.

All in all, events in the past eight weeks have somewhat resembled a Cambridge Ball, with some familiar fellows being ejected from beds, and some stranger ones being welcomed in.

George Younger, Secretary of State for "Defence", reiterated to the party faithful that the Gorbachev-Reagan accord had vindicated the Government's defence policy. During the election campaign, he had repeatedly argued that the unflinching resolve to stick to our nuclear guns had brought forth the INF proposals. His is a very eccentric view of cause and effect, particularly given Mega Maggie's

warning to Ronnie Ray-Gun not to push nuclear arms reductions too far, and George's retreat into the amorous embrace of the Francais. His speech to conference reflected none of these doubts. "We have just decisively won the argument about the independent nuclear deterrent. That means the end of the matter." He also announced orders for the second Trident submarine - a huge, cylindrical, tapered thing with a rounded tip. Britain's evolving courtship with France may turn out to be merely a manifestation of a Freudian urge to be consummated on completion of the Channel Tunnel.

The fact that Trident will be with us and most of the money for it spent by the time of the next general election, is proving a major complicating factor for Labour. Guess who recently wrote "The current spurt of progress in arms control renders unilateralism obsolete"? 'Twas none other than our very own Joan Ruddock, former chair of CND and now MP for Deptford). The reconciliation between Labour and multilateralism (which, under successive past Labour governments, meant doing nowt but their bit for the arms race) might yet lead to some awkward twists and turns of logic and decidedly painful postures.

Labour's announcement that defence would be included in the thoroughgoing review of Party policy ("Why did we lose the election?") immediately brought forth the retort from Ken Livingstone that "any attempt to abandon our non-nuclear defence policy would lead to a civil war inside the Party". But, at least, Labour is trying to respond to changing circumstances on the world scene, whilst the Tories go marching on regardless, deaf to the messages on the airwaves and blind to the opportunities for disarmament that are opening up.

Their only recent move (the French Connection) is one long advocated by Doctor David Death, as a step along the road to a European deterrent. According to a speaker at the SDP Conference, "Britain and France could ... defend Europe, and Germany above all". But the SDP's commitment to a "minimum" deterrent (minimum, one wonders, for what purpose, to "defend" Britain or Western Europe?) appears less secure than it was, given the Party's prospective merger with the Liberals. Meg Beresford, CND Gen. Sec., is joining the Liberals too.

Change your partners, and round we go...

TONY CLAYDON.



*Would it be the
end of the world
if Britain scrapped
the bomb?*

LETTERS

Dear Editor,

During an industrial dispute in which I was involved many years ago, a friend said to me "You know, it's no good talking to the bosses if you want something; they'll talk from here to Kingdom Come cos talk costs nothing - it's actions that get something." And so it has become, on the issue of nuclear weapons: the politicians talk, talk and smile and so on, as Bob Cann so well pointed out in last month's Bulletin. But all this talk has cost them nothing and it could cost the world a lot!

Sadly, I think even CND has allowed itself to become enmeshed in all this talking and with all the technicalities and strategy of nuclear weapons, looking this way and that for encouraging signs from so-called world leaders. Let's face it, we all know full well that this "government", with a full term of office ahead, is totally unconcerned about nuclear disarmament and world peace and, to prove it, they have placed an order for another Trident submarine at an estimated cost of around £450M. They regard CND as a subversive organisation, backed by the Kremlin (or is it Gremlin?), and the right wing media are only too willing to push their propaganda for them.

Of course, this doesn't answer Pete's question on where we go from here, but it's got something off my chest - and, I hope, yours. I believe that actions such as those of Cruisewatch catch the public's imagination (witness Greenpeace) and gain a more active support rather than the passive one resulting from the more mundane publicity campaigns - valuable though these are - and, for me, the only time that I have ever felt to be doing something effective is in actions such as Defend Molesworth, etc., for then I am confronting the nightmare and turning it into the reality that can be fought and defeated, not just in "talks", but by genuine negotiations brought about by people acting in solidarity.

All the rights that we have today (eroded as they are), the vote, trade unionism, etc. have been won by struggle and nothing of worth is achieved without it. Nuclear weapons may take an even greater struggle before the world is rid of them.. See you in the rain at Molesworth, Pete! (And you?).

Love to all,

BILL HAINES.

I'd like to make three points in reply to Bob Cann's letter in the last Bulletin about the "demise" of the Cruise Free Molesworth Group.

I think Bob is being very unfair to accuse us of closing the group out of a "blind faith" in the INF talks. In fact, we all share Bob's healthy suspicion of superpower politicians and their various manoeuvres and manipulations. In many

senses, any INF deal signed at Geneva would largely be a con-trick, which would scrap 2,000 obsolete missiles, and leave 53,000 still in place.

Having said that, it would be the first time any bombs had been banned by mutual agreement and our response must surely be - "GOOD - NOW CARRY ON AND GET RID OF THE REST".

Secondly, I think Bob fails to recognise the degree to which the peace movement here, and all over the world, has been part of the process that brought Reagan + Gorbachev together. It isn't **entirely** a con-trick... partly they've been forced into it by the pressure of public opinion.

Finally, of course I agree with Bob that direct action is critically important. However, I see direct action as a **tool** that is useful and appropriate at particular times - not an eternal principle of faith.

Some of us have decided to spend some time concentrating on **keeping some** of our basic peace movement structures and groups intact. We haven't turned our backs on direct action forever. Nor are we gullible fools who believe Reagan + Gorbachev are reborn CND supporters.

I look forward to sitting down in the sludge outside a missile base with Bob again some day.

Yours,

PETE STRAUSS.

On 2nd June, Katya Komisaruk entered the Vandenberg Air Force base in California and destroyed Trident navigation equipment: this is the Navstar system which, the military claim, would be used for a first strike and is unnecessary for defensive purposes. Katya's trial has now been set for 10th November, with an initial hearing on 26th October at which the judge will decide whether to grant the prosecutors "motion in limine", this is the prosecutors' request that Katya be forbidden to tell the jury about her motives, the Nuremberg Principles, etc., (as happened in the case of the Ploughshares 8). So Katya faces the possibility of a twenty year sentence and yet will be refused the right to offer in her defence the reasons for her act of civil disobedience!

As Katya herself says, "It's one thing to go and disarm a computer alone, but I could never fight this legal battle myself. The courtroom is very large and intimidating and the judge and prosecutor hard to face...". So, despite the help that she is receiving from friends, she still needs as much support as she can get, especially from peace groups around the world, so please write to her, either with your neighbourhood group, or as individuals, also send letters of protest to Judge Rea, who is conducting the case, to protest at the way in which her defence is being unfairly blocked, and also to show support for her action.

The address to send both letters to is:
White Rose Support Collective,
1716 Felton Street,
San Francisco,
CA 94134
U.S.A.

BILL HAINES.

SPY CATCHER

The Candid Autobiography of a Senior Intelligence Officer

You've followed the countless television news reports; forgotten the newspaper serialisations; attempted to comprehend the staggeringly banal and transparent positions taken by the British government and its lawyers; tried (sic) to keep pace with the seemingly endless stream of injunction and counter-injunction across the globe. Well . . . now read the review! Spycatcher - candid opinions on the book by a retired ex-high echelon CND official (?) with secret access to the American edition. A city-wide scoop for the CND Bulletin!

Well, what can I say. The initial excitement of having a banned book drop through the letterbox like any other piece of mail soon wore off as I eagerly began the long journey to page 382. Essentially, Spycatcher is a straightforward account of a career. But, of course, it is no ordinary career. Wright's route to MI5 and subsequent 20 year service was via Marconi and the Admiralty doing scientific war-work. The book spans just about every significant political event from roughly the end of World War 2 until 1976 (when Wright retired) and details MI5 involvement in it.

Although Wright is critical of the shortcomings of MI5 throughout, in no way does he come across as anything other than a hard-headed, loyal, conservative-minded and professional secret servant. He left me with a sense of acrimony and bad feeling between himself and his superiors at MI5 and this bitterness is perhaps the most enduring aspect of the book. However, I would say that Wright is far from being an ageing woolly-minded liberal making a two-fingered gesture to the State!

Throughout the book I had a strong feeling of 'well I'm not too surprised to hear that' and 'I always assumed they did things like that anyway' about many of the hyped-up secrets disclosed in Spycatcher. The shock-horror revelation of a plot to assassinate Nasser during the Suez Crisis is hardly new, neither is the

selective bugging and surveillance by MI5 and MI6 of Commonwealth Embassies and agents and those of Britain's allies as well as agents of Warsaw Pact nations. That the late Sir Roger Hollis (former Director of MI5) was a Soviet agent, and the infamous 5th man, is shown to be almost beyond doubt by Wright in countless references. In fact, Wright's pursuit of Hollis' treachery through decades of case files, documents, meetings, conversations and clandestine friendships occupies a large part of the book and is almost its purpose - the theme weaving in and out of the fabric of Wright's career and, in later years, almost becoming its *raison d'etre*.

The infamous allegations of a growing plot to undermine the minority Wilson Government of 1974 are well founded. In the late 60's and early 70's Wilson was under continual investigation by MI5 due to his friendship with Lord Kagan who, in turn, was an associate of a known KGB officer named Vaygaukas. When the Conservatives took power in 1970 they took great interest in the information, as did the CIA. By 1974, the political situation in Britain was unstable and it became increasingly likely that an election was in the offing. Months before polling day, a plot was hatched to discredit the Labour Party (and Wilson in particular) by leaking selective pieces of information to 'sympathetic' members of the press. Wright understood the implications of the dirty-tricks school of espionage and refused to hand over classified documents to the plotters, mainly junior men out to make a name for themselves. The matter drifted into internal squabbling, Wilson later claiming, quite rightly, that he was the victim of a plot.

Wright's revelations of Soviet and Warsaw Pact espionage activities in Britain and the numbers and quality of penetrations into a naive and sluggish Secret Service in the 1930's and 1950's are an amazing insight into the malignant amateurism which, one is tempted to presume, continues to dog MI5 and MI6 to this day. His book is rigorous in its description of the Secret Service Way-of-Life. The Public School and Oxbridge traditions of loyalty, propriety and impeccable personal dignity (I believe it is known as 'doing the proper thing, old boy') transposed down the generations from the playing fields of Eton to the corridors of power and enshrined within the very structures of MI5 and MI6 are dismantled one-by-one in bitter and scathing revelations by Wright of blundering ineptitude within the

Service. The same ineptitude illuminated by the ease with which Philby, Burgess, MacLean and Blunt rose to positions of power. One interesting fact revealing MI5's entrenched amateurism accounts for the whole staff in higher management (100% white male) being absent from the office for a whole week each summer. They go as one to the Lords Test Match!

Disappointment awaits anyone on the left reading Spycatcher with the sanctimonious glee of a person hoping to find some little gem on how MI5 has kept surveillance on their organisation and membership. Wright states that MI5 has never considered the multitude of left-wing splinter groups (with whom he includes CND sadly) as presenting any revolutionary threat of any kind to the establishment. He says "veterans . . . viewed groups like WRP, SWP and CND as largely irrelevant pieces of the jigsaw. Certainly an eye should be kept on them, but we (D-Branch MI5) were quite satisfied that they were not the major objects of KGB attack." This is a far cry from the unreal world of subversive rhetoric whipped up to smear the Peace Movement and other groups by the vested interests of the right in Parliament and in the Media.

An interesting insight into the feelings of scientists during the early years of Britain's development of the 'independent deterrent' is shown by Wright, then still working for Marconi. "I found missile research utterly demoralising. I was not alone in realising that the missile system (Blue Streak) would ever be built. It was folly, a monument to British self-delusion. In any case this kind of science was ultimately negative. Why spend a life developing a weapon you hope and pray will never be used?"

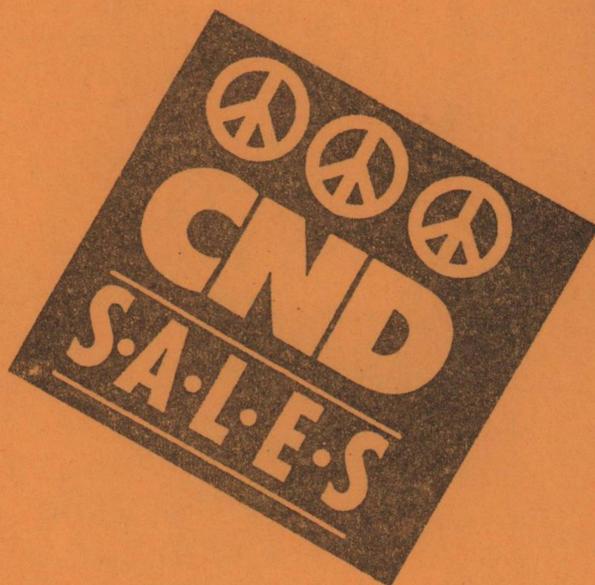
In a book revealing much about the workings of the British Secret Services much more is disclosed. Plot, counterplot and counter-counterplot in the never-ending game of international espionage. The shadowy underworld of deceit, betrayal and mistrust which is the Secret Service stock-in-trade conducted from anonymous grey office blocks in central London is studiously revealed by Wright in a book which we all should have the chance to read.

Barry Otherman.

NCND FUNDRAISING EVENTS

NCND CRAFT FAIR 1987

With Christmas just around the corner, there could be no better place to find your first presents than at the NCND Craft Fair to be held on Saturday 28th November. Last year, the fair proved to be a tremendous success and this year we expect to have a wider range of local crafts on display. It is being held in the Congregational Hall on Castle Gate and opens at 10.30 p.m. **DON'T MISS IT!**



THE NEW CND 300 CLUB

The existing 200 Club is being relaunched as a 300 Club on Jan 1st '88. All current 200 Club members will automatically become part of the new scheme, but if you haven't joined yet, now is your chance!

The new scheme will pay out four prizes every month instead of three and the first prize will go up to £60!

All the proceeds from the Club go to NCND + help pay for the basic running costs of the campaign. (In fact, apart from membership subscriptions, the Club is our single biggest fundraiser.)

It only costs £1 a month to join... less that 25p a week (23p.). That really isn't a very big financial sacrifice to make. If you are waged, why not take out more than one share and help NCND's work even more.

Please don't delay. Join today. Complete the form overleaf before you forget.



GIFTS AND CARDS

This year's CND Christmas cards and gifts have now arrived. You can buy them from the NCND office (open 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. every day, Mon.- Sat.) or from the Listergate stall every Saturday. There's a wide selection of attractive and reasonable-priced cards plus other goods which would make ideal Christmas gifts: calendars, jewellery, new design T-shirts for adults and children, socks, diaries, tea-towels, stationery, new design badges and, last but by no means least, the every popular CND mug in BRIGHT NEW COLOURS.

So start your Christmas shopping with CND: come into the office and see for yourself.

Do your Christmas shopping at CND

THE FUNDRAISING GROUP

All the events on this page have been organised by the NCND fundraising group. Following the treasurer's report at the Annual General Meeting, the value of these events to raise extra money for NCND was made very clear. But to work effectively, the Fundraising Group needs people who are willing to organise these events or help out on the day as at the forthcoming Craft Fair. So, if you only have a few hours to spare, please ring John Mitchell on 787269 evenings: there's plenty to do!

IN PRAISE OF THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM

Last month Tony Claydon diagnosed the REAL reasons for members dropping out of NCND (and let's hope they have all contacted the consultant-subscriptions-therapist and sorted their problems out quickly!), but didn't mention the people who are confronted with syndrome after syndrome, week in, week out - the membership team. If you suffer from the "feeling unwanted syndrome", the "where have all the peaceniks gone syndrome?" or perhaps more pertinently the "out of sight, out of mind syndrome", then spare a thought for the membership team!

Every Thursday there is a sudden flurry of activity in the office as the team, get to work... updating membership, taking off lapsed members, listing those members due for renewal, preparing reminder notices, putting on new members, preparing new member's packs, rejoining lapsed members - a huge effort with membership being the size it is. THEN they prepare an updated bulletin list for each group, sort out reminder notices to go with them and new membership cards and packs.

Certainly, to most members, I'm sure this activity is "out of sight, out of mind", but next comes "feeling unwanted", as each month, more and more members fail to renew their membership and the team takes them off the computer list and then comes "where have all the peaceniks gone?" as month after month, Bulletins sit in the office - along with their reminder notices - and never get out to members.

Please help the membership team - provide them with some therapeutic activity!

- Get out and nudge your group's lapsed members to rejoin (the team will supply you with names and addresses).

- Make sure your group's Bulletins get out and personally deliver reminder notices.

- And just check your own membership!

The membership team are: Cath Wakeman, Peggy Westaway, Wendy Hannah and Dorothy Bowkett.

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

Name

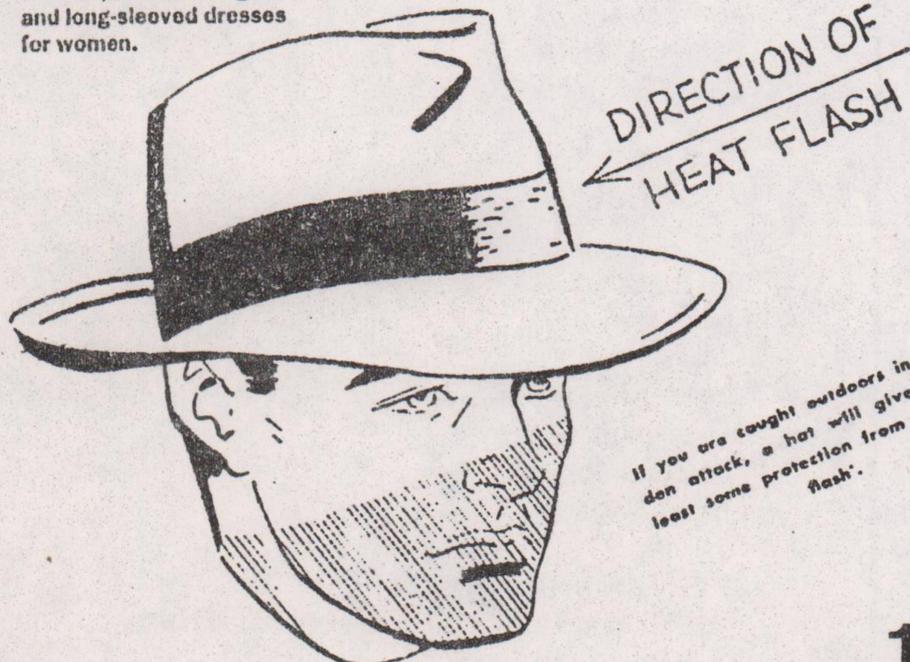
Address

I enclose £ membership plus £ donation

Please make cheques payable to NCND and return to:

Nottingham CND, 17/18 Queen's Chambers, 3 King Street, Nottingham.

Snap-brim era of the Cold War before 'nuclear winter'. Richard Gorstell's government-sponsored *How to Survive an Atomic Bomb* (1950) advised hats for men, and stockings and long-sleeved dresses for women.



EXHIBITION WISE

An exhibition is an ideal way of putting over information, lobbying as part of a campaign/ pressure group or showing what has been achieved ... but it seems a major step from a simple display of snapshots to something shown in the local library or County Hall.

Nottingham Community Arts Centre have organised a course which will be a thorough introduction into what the possibilities of an exhibition are - there will be lots of examples of work produced by people with different levels of experience, advice on production, budgetting, venues, in fact all you need to "GO PUBLIC".

To enrol:
Contact: Nottingham Community Arts Centre, 39 Gregory Boulevard, Hyson Green. Tel. 782463

NCND OFF.
ASPLEY
ARNOLD

BASFORD
BEESTON
BINGHAM
BULWELL/

BURTON J
CITY CEN
CLIFTON
EAST LEA
FOREST F
HUCKNALL
ILKESTON
KEYWORTH
LENTON/D
MANSFIEL
MAPPERLE
MAPPERLE
MEADOWS
RADCLIFF
RALEIGH
ALL SA
RAVENSHE
SHERWOOD
SNEINTON
STAPLEFC
TRENT PC
WEST BRI
WOLLATON
YOUTH CN

BEESTON
BULLETIN
CHRISTIA
LABOUR C
MEDICAL
MEMBERSH
NALGO WC
PEACE
NAT COUN
RAINBOW
SAFE EN
TRADES U
WOMEN FC

COMING SOON: 30 YEARS OF CND.

Next April will be the 30th anniversary of the founding of CND. The Bulletin team are planning a special issue; fuller details will be in the next issue. Consider this advance warning! The issue will be, amongst other things, a retrospective and will include photos and material from the past. Please start thinking about what you can provide....

BULLETIN TEAM.

PARIS IN THE SPRING



TWENTY PRIZE RAFFLE

1ST. PRIZE:
A WEEKEND FOR TWO IN PARIS!!!



All Proceeds to Nottingham CND

Next Month's Bulletin Deadline:

Thursday November 26th.

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Diary

- Nov. 7th Remembrance Day Service
(See p.2)
- 9th FFPG Open Meeting
(See Oct. Bulletin P.11)
- 12th Members' Meeting
(See p.2)
- 19th Joint AA/NCND Public Meeting
(See p.2)
- 20-22nd CND National Conference.
- 25th Deadline for return of raffle monies and counterfoils.
- 26th December Bulletin Deadline.
- 28th NCND Craft Fair (see p.12)
- Dec.19th Joint FFPG/Sherwood CND Christmas Spectacular (See p.2).