

CHAIN

DEC 89 /  
JAN 90  
No. 102

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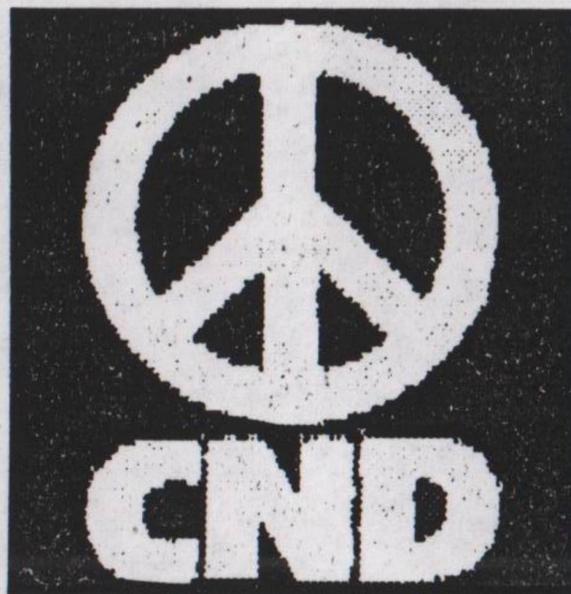


Well, I think that's one  
Chimney I won't be climbing down

A.G.M.

TANG's 1989 A.G.M. was poorly attended and had none of the excitement of the previous year's debate; consequently it was proposed at the very end that we ought to be drawing in our horns to a two-monthly Chain Reaction and less frequent meetings. Certainly response does not seem to justify present expenditure on the magazine. The production team is currently disheartened and would welcome comments .

# CND adopts new logo



A NEW and softer logo (shown above, left, with the old) was unveiled by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament at its national conference in London



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TANG'S NEW YEAR SOCIAL  
Saturday 30th December  
from 7.30 p.m.

at  
College Farm House  
Wellington

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By kind invitation of Celia and Laurens, please bring food (and alcohol if required). There will be a collection for TANG.

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### Hong Kong

Chain Reaction has in the past drawn attention to the contrasting positions of the government on Hong Kong as distinct from the Falklands; on the contrast between the treatment of East European refugees & the Vietnamese boat-people or the Hong Kong residents who wish to come West; & on Western conservative paranoia about communism in the USSR, as distinct for its admiration for the Chinese Leaders and those of the Khmer Rouge. So we are not surprised to learn (Grauniad Nov. 14) that an agreement was made with China in 1984 to limit any growth of democracy in Hong Kong so as not to embarrass China when it takes over.

Laurens Otter

### Telford F.O.E.

Telford Friends Of The Earth was formed at an inaugural meeting in Ironbridge on November 8th. (This unfortunately clashed with our A.G.M. ). The next meeting will be at the Fletcher Memorial Centre , Court Street, Madeley on Tuesday 12th December at 7.30 p.m. .

### East Europe

CND has always agitated for an end to all nuclear pacts, - specifically both NATO & the Warsaw Pact, - and a general withdrawal from confrontation in Europe. Many of us have also always argued that the two power blocs prop each other up, that when each attacks the crimes of the other they are hypocritical, not only because they both behave in the same way, but because the Cold War is essential to the continuation of these crimes.

In welcoming the changes in Eastern Europe we in no way endorse the Thatcherite mystique that the Communists are now seeing the error of their ways and endorsing the freedom we have known consistently in the West. On the contrary we believe that without the stalinist bogeyman, the ideological underpinning of Western neo-imperialism will also collapse and this will clear the way for great advances in the West.

Laurens Otter

## Nuclear Power

The Guardian commented when it was announced that for financial reasons the government was giving up its insistence on building new nuclear power stations that if the C.E.G.B. has lied to us so consistently about the price of nuclear power; how can we trust what they have said about its safety? Given that the vast growth in cost is in large part occasioned by the industry's need to tighten up safety in response to agitation in which we have been involved; in a sense this was a victory for C.N.D., the financiers didn't want to have to cope with community groups, disarmers and greens agitating for safeguards against cancer. An essential part of the ND case is thereby proven.

One of the reasons why the Media have discounted the evidence of Bob Green & others that Hilda Murrell's murder was occasioned by her researches into nuclear power has been an unwillingness to believe that she could have discovered anything sufficiently embarrassing to the authorities. Well we know now that in finance terms at least news was being suppressed. It is also now known that although the go-ahead had not been received for Hinckley C, the CEGB has already spent over £30,000,000 on machinery for it. It is not in the least unlikely that Hilda knew - at the very least - of similar illegal spending on Sizewell B, which would have proved embarrassing if mentioned at the Tribunal.

*Laurens Otter*



At the time of the Euro-Elections we invited the remnant of unilateralists within the local Labour Party to put the unilateralist case for continuing to vote Labour, despite the fact that the party was abandoning what we believe to be the essential element of a peace & social reform policy. For various reasons the article was not written, & only the Green Party accepted our invitation, we subsequently published a critical letter from a right-wing member of the Labour Party and a reply to it by a Green, now Paul Wolfe, - one of the founders of TANG, - writes this to make good the original omission.

### Labour Defence Debate

It seemed inevitable that the Labour Conference would support the Policy review & distance itself from the unilateral nuclear disarmament policy. Many activists (not just the leadership) felt that the defence policy had been a major reason for the failure in the past two elections.

Arguments in support for the change were primarily for the "need to move with the times" or "the previous policy had been an electoral liability which presented the Conservative party with a golden opportunity which they grasped with pleasure".

Clearly the political situation has changed since the period of the early 80s. The Left within the Labour Party is now weaker and CND was more active which helped those within the Labour Party to argue from a position of strength. The international situation has changed to limited cooperation between USA & Soviet Union, & dramatic changes seem to occur almost daily in the Soviet bloc.

None of these can excuse the change in policy but it certainly helps explain why the policy has been changed. I am unhappy that the change has occurred, & that we have failed to convince enough members of the L.P., let alone the public, that nuclear disarmament would not leave us defenceless, or result in unemployment.

In spite of the disappointment, it must be appreciated that the new policy still has positive aspects:-

1. adoption of "no first use" (of nuclear weapons) by Britain
2. ending testing of nuclear weapons,
3. cancel the fourth Trident submarine,
4. cancel any developments with the nuclear "stand-off" missiles for Tornado fighter aircraft,
5. oppose modernisation of short range & tactical weapons within Nato,
6. support an early verifiable agreement on a comprehensive Test Ban Treaty,
7. place all British nuclear weapons into disarmament negotiations,
8. remove all nuclear weapons by the year 2,000.

All of these are important steps, but far more gradual than the previous policy of nuclear weapon disarmament within the lifetime of a Labour Government.

CLLR. PAUL WOLFE

TELFORD CENTRAL AMERICA  
GROUP

We are a group of people who are concerned about life in Central America and particularly Guatemala.

We organise fund-raising activities to contribute to health care in Guatemala.

Some of us have "adopted" families of people who have "disappeared". We write to these to offer our support, and write to the authorities and churches to ask for information about these "disappeared" people.

We have been learning about this area of the world. This winter we hope to run an evening class with the W.E.A. to learn more. We have visits from people with experience of life in Central America who speak and show pictures.

We would welcome new members. Our "meetings" are informal and friendly and take place in one of our homes, with everyone helping with the supper.

For more information 'phone Yvonne on Telford 641104 or Mick on Ironbridge 2200.

*Telford Central America Group*

TANG organised a joint public meeting with the Central America group in October when Bruce Wylie of Oxfam spoke on Nicaragua.

## DIARY

Telford Greenpeace meetings: contact Jacqui Darbyshire,  
Telford 660486 for dates and places.

Telford War on Want meetings: contact Russell Gibb,  
Telford 680154 for dates and places.

- Sat 2nd Dec                      **Phoenix Christmas Fair**  
TANG and Greenpeace will have stalls.
- Sat 9th Dec                      **Wrekin Teachers Association Disco.**  
8.00pm -                      In aid of Action for Women in Palestine  
Midnight                      Fighting Cocks, Oakengates.
- Tues 12th Dec                    **Telford F.O.E. Meeting, see elsewhere**
- ~~Wed 13th Dec                    **TANG Business Meeting**~~  
~~7.30 pm                         16 Linley Drive, Stichley Park.~~  
~~**ALL VERY WELCOME**~~
- Sat 30th Dec                      **TANG NEW YEAR SOCIAL**  
From 7.30pm                    See Elsewhere in Chain Reaction
- Wed Jan 3rd 1990                **Chain Reaction Meeting.**  
7.30 pm                         6 Myford Cottages, Horsehay.
- Wed 31st Jan                    **TANG Business Meeting**  
7.30 pm                         16 Linley Drive, Stichley Park.  
**ALL VERY WELCOME**

## **CHAIN REACTION CONTRIBUTIONS**

Please send or give your letters or articles , in whatever form, to any of the following:

Tot Dawes,                      6 Myford Cottages , Horsehay. Tel: 507040  
Peter Nias,                      48 Victoria Road, Madeley . Tel: 587532  
Laurens Otter,                 College Farm House, Mill Lane,  
Wellington.                      Tel: 641852

Deadline for the next issue: 3rd January