NOTTINGHAM CND 20P. BULLETIN DEC.'86



PEACEFUL YEAR IN 1987

WHAT'S ON

DECEMBER

SANA meeeting (see p.2). Tue 2 Co-ordinating Meeting WEA 7.30. Thu 4 Party for NICARAGUA: 8pm. 19 Magdala Rd. Sat 6 Proceeds to Nicaragua Building Brigade. Members' Meeting - see below. Thu 11 NCND XMAS PARTY - see below. Fri 12 Women's Demo at GREENHAM (see p. 5) Sat 13 XMAS STALL in LISTERGATE opens. Mon 15 (See page 3.) Continues to Dec.24. HEAR NO EVIL (See p. 10) Sat 20

JANUARY

Thu 8 Co-ordinating Meeting WEA 7.30.

Fri 9 PAN Auction & Razzmatazz (see p. 2).

Thu 15 NEXT BULLETIN DEADLINE and Editorial.

Mon 19 Peace Festival Planning Meeting. Rainbow Centre 8 pm. (see p. 9).

Sat 25 Jan/Feb Bulletin ready - hopefully.

NOTTINGHAM DEFEND MOLESWORTH GROUP

ANNOUNCE OTHER FORTHCOMING

OF UNWANTED CHRIST MAJOURESENTS

AND FOR YOUR PLEASURE OF

* RAZZAMATAZZ **

** EVENDNG **

* CABARET DISCON FOOD DRINK *

MUSIC by Stoned Cold Sober

Fri. 9th January 1987 7.30~11.00
icc, Mansfield Road ...

Come to THE fun event of the year!

NCND Christmas Party

Fri Dec 12th at 7.30 pm International Community Centre Mansfield Road

> featuring "MERE MORTALS" plus "Hamsters of doom"!

> > Lots of yummy food!

Bring drink of your choice!

Fantastic raffle prizes!

£1.25 waged

£0.75p low/unwaged

MEMBERS MEETINGS

SECOND THURSDAY IN THE MONTH WEA. SHAKESPEARE ST.

DECEMBER 11 Conference Report-Back and VIDEO SHOW. Jonathon Dimbleby's "Inside Britain's Bomb" and others.

JANUARY 8. No Meeting. The Co-ordinating Meeting will be held on this day instead since the first Thursday is New Year's Day.

FEBRUARY 12 NCND'S ELECTION STRATEGY A Discussion Meeting.

MARCH 12 POLICY-MAKING MEETING. Please submit resolution by Jan 15 for printing in the Bulletin in the month preceding the meeting.

Learn to Print

A half-day workshop on how to use an off-set litho machine will be held shortly at 118. A date will be fixed to suit applicants. NCND badly needs people who are competent to use the 118 machine for printing leaflets and the Bulletin. Why not take this opportunity to learn a useful skill?

Contact Jos Wood on 33 3637

SANA Scientists Against Nuclear Weapons

The East Midlands Branch is now established and is holding its second meeting on Tuesday 2 December. There will be a talk on Verification by Dave Applebaum, who has recently had a long letter on the subject published in "The Post".

ALL scientists including social scientists welcome. Ring Dave for details on 704507.

HOUSE FOR SALE

Nice terraced house in St Ann's. 4 rooms + kitchen + bathroom. Central heating. Small back garden; large allotment adjacent. Reduced price for quick sale. Sizable donation to NCND if sold through this ad. Contact Kate or Ross at Mushroom Bookshop. (5825060623182) for details.

CHRISTMAS IN LISTERGATE - NEW STALL

The Listergate Stall began on Hiroshima Day 1982. During the four and a half years since then, most Saturdays have seen a CND presence under the wall by St. Peter's. The stall has proved to be one of our most important means of making contact with the public and putting our message across. It has been a focus for collecting signatures on petitions, distributing leaflets and recruiting members, as well as augmenting our slender finances. Everyone who buys and wears a badge is contributing to the campaign.

Because of its importance, we have decided to invest money in a NEW STALL. This will be much easier to handle than the old one and provide protection from the weather for our goods.

To get full value from it, we must have it out for as long periods as possible, especially between now and Christmas.

Then big sales of Christmas cards and specialities are possible.

HELP NEEDED

We have permission from the City Council to have a stall in Listergate:

- 1. EVERY SATURDAY
- For a special pre-Christmas period, MON. DEC 16 to WED. DEC 24.

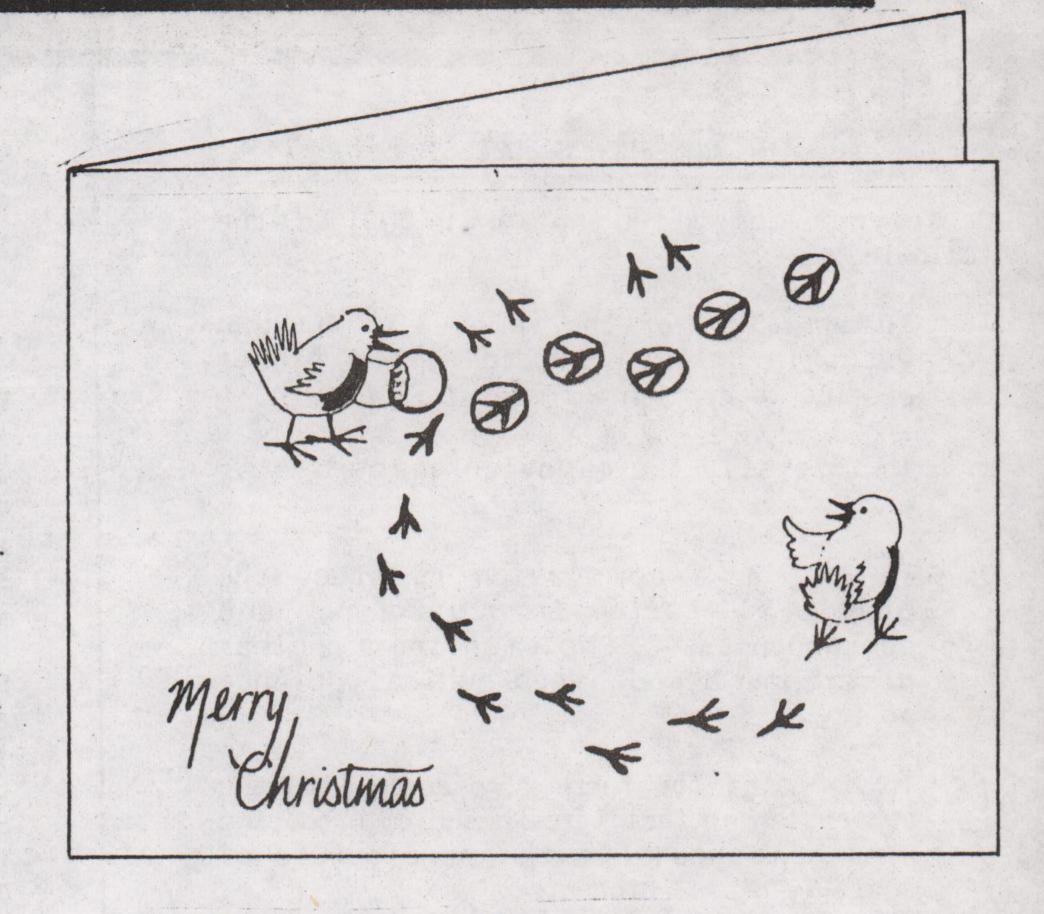
The stall can only go out if LOTS MORE MEMBERS VOLUNTEER TO TAKE A TURN.

If you can help, for however short a time, either on a Saturday or during the pre-Christmas period:

Please contact NCND office or Ann Kestenbaum on 602497

WE NEED YOU.





Christmas Cards

This is one of NCND's two Christmas cards, specially designed for us by Vivien Hayes and Bob Cann.

Price: 60p for 5 cards with envelopes.

We also have

.... NATIONAL CND CARDS

as advertised in the Christmas catalogue.

Both are available on the Stall and at the office.

HURRY WHILE STOCKS LAST.





3 CONFERENCE

MAIN CONFERENCE DECISIONS

Conference committed National CND to the following:-

- To campaign for the removal of ALL U.S. bases in Britain and to give a higher profile to British withdrawal from NATO.
- To intensify the campaign against "Star Wars".
- To set up a commission to study the practical steps involved in, and consequences of, implementing a nuclear disarmament and a non-nuclear defence policy.
- 4. To campaign for further research into the conversion of facilities based on producing nuclear weapons to the manufacture of socially-useful products.
- To support a campaign for the phasing out of nuclear power.
 (Conference rejected a proposal that CND should itself initiate such a campaign.)
- To give more prominence in our campaigning to the recent Soviet disarmament proposals and moratorium on nuclear weapons testing.

A further emergency resolution was passed calling for a campaign for a British moratorium on nuclear weapons testing and support for a comprehensive test ban treaty.

A proposal that, in view of the cost, conference should be held biennially was overwhelmingly defeated.

CONFERENCE

National Conference this year was divided about equally into plenary sessions and workshops, a new development which gave much more time to the latter than ever before. Three delegates from NCND were joined by several other observers and individual National members and so were able to take part in a variety of the great number (107) Each of us were able to of workshops. go to four, my choices being "Organising for the General Election", "Making Coalitions". "CND and the Nuclear Power Movement" and "Public Information Campaigning". Several of us were involved in facilitating or speaking on panels. Our intention was, and is, to bring the information and ideas we gleaned back into our local campaign.

I felt that conference was very valuable for this opportunity and I would urge other NCND/National members to consider going next year.

LUNATIC FRINGE TAKES OVER CND

Pete Strauss, just back from Blackpool, reports on the latest political developments within the Peace Movement, as seen from inside CND's National Conference.

If recent events at Blackpool are anything to go by, there has been a dramatic and significant shift of power within CND. This will undoubtedly send shock-waves throughout the country, as the growing influence of the new CND "power brokers" begins to bite at local Peace Group level. Politicians and pundits, both East and West, will be frantically trying to unravel the threads of these developments, in order to make the right political responses. MI5 and the Special Branch will be unplugging the bugs on the "Old Guard" ...(Stalinists, Quakers, Greenham Women and Kinnockite Technocrats) ... and will be plugging in to the "Young Turks" who have taken control.

The "takeover" seemed to be almost haphazard, but takeover it certainly was. It began with the cancellation of the Workshop on DESPAIR. The organiser was reported to be too depressed to face it. Consequently, CND's most unstable and unpredictable elements were left to cope with their despair alone and spent the rest of the weekend wandering around the bars, cafes, workshops and debates like proverbial Ancient Mariners at a wedding.

Their influence was profound. Conference started off with a truly embarrassing communal singsong, 200 delegates shrank and cringed into their seats as two guitars, a tambourine and a wildly flat soprano belted out "H-Bomb's Thunder" from the stage. "F***ing shut up!" screamed some unruly elements at the front. "Stop this stupid waste of time" yelled others. Apparently, a tape-recording was to be made of the singing and sent to a CND stalwart recovering from an accident, in hospital. Poor chap!

Workshops were also enlivened by these interesting goings-on. A group earnestly discussing the tactics and strategy of NVDA found itself admiring one participant's snapshots of a demo in Trafalgar Square. In other workshops, the man with the iodine tablets popped up again and the "we-don't-seem-to-begetting-anywhere-I-don't-see-the-point-of-it-all" Tendency was positively everywhere.

All in all, a fascinating weekend. As for the implications for us here in Nottingham, it is probably too early to tell. Will the "Lunatic Fringe" take root here too? Perhaps it already has. We shall have to wait and see.

VAONEN

COME TO GREENHAM

DAY AT GREENHAM

ON SATURDAY 13th DECEMBER

To mark the anniversary of the "Embrace the Base".

DEPART - Waverley Street entrance to the Arboretum at 8.30 a.m. and the Salutation Inn at 8.40/45 a.m.

RETURN - Coach will leave at 4.30 p.m.

COST - £2.00 unwaged, £4.00 low waged, £6 high waged.

ORGANISED BY RALEIGH STREET CND WOMEN'S GROUP.

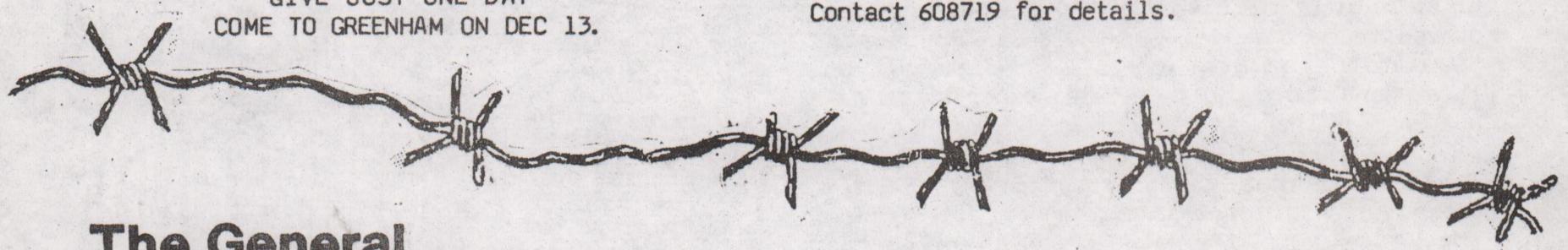
For over four years since September 1982, women from the Peace Movement have been present at Greenham.

Changes in laws and bye-laws, prison sentences, the action of bailiffs and bulldozers, constant harassment and evictions have all failed to dislodge their presence. Recently, the number of women at the Peace Camp has declined and there is now a permanent presence only at the main gate.

The name "Greenham" is known world-wide because of the women, not the missile base. It is vital for the Peace Movement that the protest at Greenham continues.

GIVE JUST ONE DAY

Nottingham Women for Peace are also organising a coach to Greenham leaving the Salutation Inn, at 8 a.m. There will be a minibus for those wanting to stay overnight and return on Sunday. Contact 608719 for details.



The General

I wrote my name in air I wrote it large and fair, And only I knew it was there.

I wrote my name in water That splashed like smothered laughter, And the mark was gone but a moment after.

I wrote my name in sand In letters bold and grand, But the incoming tide it could not withstand.

In blood I wrote my name That brought me lasting fame, And a million orphans cursed me to my shame.

CONNIE FORD

WHITE POPPIES

Margaret Thatcher made them flourish. We thank her for her comments.

Just under £150 was given in donations for white poppies at the Listergate Stall on Remembrance Saturday, Nov. 8th. People were still asking for them when we had to pack the stall away those on duty had been there over 3 hours.

If only we had had more helpers...

A special thank-you to Jessie of Wollaton Group who, since last August, devoted her odd moments to making poppies - really professional ones.



THIS MONTH'S NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP

SHERWOOD AND CARRINGTON

Sherwood and Carrington Against Nuclear Weapons (S.C.A.N.W.) started after the E P Thompson Meeting of 1979 and quickly grew to over 100 members. As most neighbourhood groups know, it is one thing to have a large membership and quite another to involve more than a small percentage in any form of activity. However, SCANW has managed to hold regular meetings for many years now and tends Ito have a core group of 10 to 15 dedicated members who try to take part in campaigning in all its forms; keep our local members informed of what we're up to via the SCANW Newsletter and have as much fun as possible whilst doing it! We have held regular jumble sales, disco's, lunches, etc., which usually raise decent soms of money and have earned us a reputation for being "good at" fund raising!

Our first experience of NVDA came with the Chilwell Trespass followed by the Newton Picnic, the Alconbury Blockade, etc. However, the Sherwood Affinity Group (SAG) finally "arrived" during the build-up to Feb 6th this year. Over 20 of our members wrapped up that night to brace the elements at Molesworth, which proved to be a positive experience for us all. SAG continued to meet thereafter and has gone on to support and organise several other actions - but more of that later.

In the meantime, the Sherwood Street Theatre group surfaced to present a short play during the Basic Case launch. This comment on the lunacy of the Arms Race was well received and by now we were beginning to wonder if there was anything that SCANW couldn't turn its hand to! Football came next when Forest Fields Peace Group challenged us to a friendly match on the Forest. Of course, the game itself was totally non-competitive and it really doesn't matter that Forest Fields had all their players plus half (at a moderate estimate!) their supporters on the pitch all at the same time. We won't mention the final score that day since some members of the opposing team are still a bit touchy about it! Suffice to say that a great day was had by all.

Within a few days of the "footie", SAG was out again joining in the Chilwell Fence-Cut. Then a week later, our "vintage" tent was blown free of cobwebs, set up on the Embankment and made

ready for the Sherwood Drinks Stall at the Peace Festival. We have done this for the past two years and actually made a healthy profit this time. Several members of SAG were out again on the eve of Hiroshima Day taking part in the Shadow Project. This was followed by what must be hailed as SAG's finest hour when on Sept 16th, 15 people dressed up as Bunnies, Beagles and a Cat (or bear? - this is still very much in dispute!), drove through the gates at Molesworth unchallenged, drove up to the water tower and dispatched its menagerie before the police could do anything about it! Five people reached the top of the tower and were able to hang banners for some hours before being arrested. The same people went back for more the following week to sit down in the road for the Molesworth Blockade. It's Marking the Routes next and we can guarantee that SAG will be out there doing something "intrepid"...

Looking back, it's certainly been a busy year for SCANW! We have done many things together which have served to unify and strengthen the group and inspire us on to greater things. Who knows what we'll be getting up to in 1987!

PETE HAMSHAW & JACKIE JEZEWSKI



NOVEMBER 200 CLUB WINNERS

£50 Andy Keyes £10 Rob Hervey

£5 P. Zabulis & S.White



BRIAN CLOUGH with NCND members in West Bridgford by one of our eight billboard posters.

PHOTOGRAPH by JOHN BIRDSALL.

Write to Local Papers

"The Post" frequently publishes letters on defence topics, including a fair proportion putting a CND view point. Why not have a go? The most effective letters are short, simple, and make one main point. You don't need to be a literary genius or a scientific expert to get a letter published.

LETTER

THE MUSHROOM BOOKSHOP DISPUTE

Owing to the support NCND has received from Mushroom Bookshop over the years I feel that a letter on this non-nuclear subject deserves a place in this bulletin.

Briefly, Chris Cook left Mushroom in June 1985 following disagreements with the rest of the collective over the policies and politics of the bookshop. Eventually both sides agreed to a Community Enquiry and to accept whatever recommendations were made. The Enquiry group wrote a twelve page report in May 1986 (available from John Waller, Nottingham Community Arts Centre, Hyson Green) and decided that Chris Cook should get £3,000 to set up and

alternative bookshop: far less than the one fifth share which she wants.

Mushroom has accepted the recommendations but Chris Cook has not. As a co-signatory to the bookshop's reserve bank account she still won't consent to any withdrawals of cash - which is of no profit to anyone except the bank! Her refusal to withdraw her signature from the bookshop's lease is also causing legal aggravation.

I cannot definitively judge the issues involved, nor can anyone except the Enquiry group and the parties themselves. But I don't think Chris Cook can simply disregard the recommendations because they don't suit her. She is ignoring the Enquiry's financial recommendations because they were too influenced by a "head count" of the 115 letters sent in. But this is surely evidence of local, grassroots democracy at work—which she, as an anarchist, should support. In writing this letter I wish simply to extend that local awareness and ask you to be part of the community decision which should at last resolve this dispute.

Bob Spence

CND CRAFT FAIR

A successful venture by the fund-raising group. About 800 people came; there were 19 stalls including our own. After expenses are covered, we should have about £250 profit.

A STRATEGY FOR NVDA?

There has been a lot of talk recently about the need for a strategy for NVDA in Nottingham. So far the ideas have centred on long words and high-flown theories, so I've not got involved because I prefer to get my ideas from the real world. Some of my intellectual friends tell me that this is an orthodox Marxist-materialist view that acknowledges the primacy of the dialectic in the socia-historic evolution of ideas, and substantiates the dynamic intersubjectivity that creates and re-creates consciousness within the shifting flux of object-events. Personally, I find it significant that none of these people is able to make a decent cup of tea.

Anyway, up until now I've stayed out of it. But when I was at the recent Sherwood CND disco at the Ukrainian Social Centre and Botanical Gardens, I was gripped by an idea so powerful in its novelty and simplicity that I felt compelled to pass it on.

It was one of those events with an integral creche, the latest thing for right-on social functions. This means that instead of the children being safely locked away in a separate room the little darlings are left free to roam the dance floor like junior soccer hooligans.

When I first walked in and saw the sweating heap of bodies wriggling and writhing on the dance floor, I thought that I had accidentally walked into a student party, but then my eyes adjusted to the flashing lights and I realised that they were all dressed far too sensibly for students.

I went to the bar and bought a pint of mild. It tasted good; sort of nutty, creamy and inviting, with a subtle hint of sulphur dioxide. At least, that was the fleeting impression I got as I swallowed it - straight away I bought a second one so as to confirm it.

Despite the excellent music, for the moment I was able to resist the urge to dance - I am to dancing what Robert Maxwell is to the Daily Mirror. Instead, I bought another pint and pondered the state of the arms race. Who was winning? Certainly not us. The arms race...every time I hear a low-flying jet, I think it's the starting gun.

This was a depressing thought, so I bought another pint to cheer myself up and, as I drank it, I watched the children playing. They were making long chains of prostate (I always struggle with that word after four pints) bodies, dragging each other across the floor like a game of cops and blockaders. I was smiling to myself about this as I started my fifth pint, but then a light bulb came on in my head, the bath water rose and, by Gandhi! I had it! My idea for a Nottingham strategy was born!

It goes like this: every Saturday, we take a

coachload of committed children down to Molesworth and sprinkle them liberally and democratically in front of the Peace Corner and Cockbrook Lane gates. All we have to do then is sit back and watch the fun.

The persistence and levels of energy displayed by the children at the disco were staggering. They were swift, agile and quick-witted, running, making chains and linking arms and legs, lying down and leaping up again - however could the MoD plods cope with a blaockade like that?

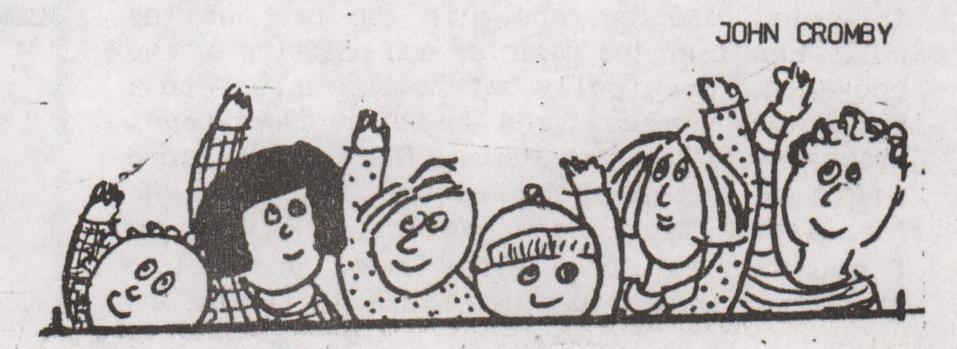
The idea has other advantages, too. Children present just the right kind of human, caring image that we need to project in the media. There is no real problem with them staying non-violent. Best of all, they are under the age of criminal responsibility and so they can't even be charged!

Of course, there are some rough edges to be tidied up. It was after my eighth (or was it ninth?) pint, when I was coerced into dancing, that I realised that the initial problem is with numbers. By this time the little dears had been parcelled off to bed, the music was slow and nauseous and I felt as though my feet were dancing by themselves. I'm not sure if this was que to the eleven pints of mild or the magnetic impact of my partner's personality - she told me later that it certainly looked as though my feet were dancing by themselves. Whatever, I quickly realised that if enough children were to be available for effective action on a weekly basis, a determined programme of breeding would be necessary.

I was happily pondering the details of this problem when the music stopped, the lights came on and someone announced that the hummus was going cheap. I didn't know that hummus had budgies in it, but after twelve pints my vegetarian principles were flung to the lions and I gratefully got stuck in.

By the time I had finished eating, the woman I was dancing with had gone - obviously something to do with the full moon and the garlic in the hummus - so I drained my thirteenth pint and went home. On the way I tried to think about more of the problems my plan would create, but I

wasn't able to get past the breeding issue. Still, the idea is there - can anyone else come up with something better?



PERCE PESTIVAL!

It's now four months since the 6th Peace Festival. The planning team is still active, thinking about next year's event, and we need you as a volunteer. Work starts in earnest in January. Each year there is an increasisng range of jobs to do, from lorry transport to organising children's entertainments. The festival is worthwhile in one sense as a relaxed entertainment event. But it's also the biggest single opportunity to put across our campaigning message in a positive way. Sounds predictable? Don't forget that over 5000 people came to the festival - they couldn't ALL have been NCND members!

At the moment we are putting together an information pack, pooling everything we have learned over the last few festivals. It's intended to help the organisers of public events in other areas - to save them making the same mistakes that we did at various points.

The 7th Peace Festival will be bigger, better, longer ... but we need you. The more equipment, facilities, labour and expertise we can get from within our membership, the bigger the event can be on an limited budget. Ideally we wouldn't need to hire much at all.

If you've any ideas, suggestions, criticisms, drop a letter into the office marked "Peace Festival". Come to the meeting of the planning team on January 19th, 8.00 at the Rainbow Centre, 180 Mansfield Road.

JEREMY JAGO

POLICY SUBMISSION

The following resolution will be presented for debate at the March Policy-making meeting:-

"This meeting reaffirms its commitment to the Peace Festival as a major part of NCND's calendar of activities. The meeting notes that the impending City Council's elections may change the political make-up of that Council to one which is unsympathetic to CND and the Peace Festival; the meeting also recognises that the Council may be subject to rate-capping and unable to offer any grants to the Festival.

This meeting therefore resolves to make a grant of £2000 towards the Peace Festival costs on the understanding that:

- a) all the profits made by the Festival will be returned to NCND after the Festival
- b) the Peace Festival Group will keep NCND members informed of the Festival's progress and success through the Bulletin and at co-ordinating and monthly members' meetings."

Proposed: Val Harris. Seconded: Rob Nicholls.

NVDA DISCUSSION DAY

On Saturday November 8th, a day of discussion for Nottingham NVDA activists was held at the ICC.

A lot of ground was covered during the day, and there was no lack of courage shown in tackling problems head-on. Some of the issues that came up were: whether or not we should work toward the forthcoming general election, reasons for the recent decline in numbers taking part in actions, the effects of our actions on others both inside and outside the wider peace movement, how we should be organising for NVDA and the problems of the existing set-up, the implications of the Public Order Bill, and the things that we need to include in our strategy for the coming months. The role of affinity groups was explored in detail, especially in relation to the question of accessibility and drawing in new people on the one hand, and efficiency on the other.

We did not shirk away from discussing the question of stopping NVDA completely, for both practical and political reasons. By contrast, we also discussed the feasibility and implications of planning small, disruptive

secret actions, like those organised by the Animal Liberation Front.

As might have been anticipated, by the end of the day we had not come up with answers to many of these questions. The only major change to come out of the day was an agreemment that the existing PAN committee should be dissolved, and immediately replaced by a new body with a different structure and ways of working. A further meeting was called to work out the details.

Thanks are due to all those who came along and worked hard on what was never anticiopated to be an easy task.

It seems appropriate at this point to record our gratitude and appreciation for the work of the retiring PAN committee. They have done a fine job of mobilising people, organising successful mass actions, and creating the groundswell of activists that are around in Nottingham today, and it is not the fault of the group's members that changes now need to take place.

PAN is dead, long live PAN.

John Cromby

NCND OFFI **ASPLEY** ARNOLD/W" BASFORD BEESTON BINGHAM BULWELL/B BURTON JO CARLTON/G CITY CENT EAST LEAK FOREST FI KEYWORTH LENTON/DU MAPPERLEY MAPPERLEY MEADOWS RADCLIFFE RALEIGH S ALL SAINT RAVENSHEA SHERWOOD/ SNEINTON STAPLEFOR WEST BRID WOLLATON BEESTON M BULLETIN CHAIRPERS CHRISTIAN DEFENDMOL EXHIBITIO FUNDRAISI LABOUR CN MEDICAL C MEMBERSHI NALGO WOR PEACE GRO NAT COUNC PAN RAINBOM C SAFE ENER **SPEAKERS** SCIENTIST TRADES UN WOMEN FOR

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NOV. BULLETIN TEAM: Jos, Jackie, Louise, Geoff, Eric, Phyllis, Lawrence, Madeleine.

HEAR MO EVILI



HYSON GREEN BOYS'CLUB Saturday 20th. December

CND Carrier Bags

NCND's special plastic carrier with the Slogan "Nuclear weapons would cost us the Earth" are available from the office ore the stall.

SPREAD THE MESSAGE

CARRY YOUR THINGS ROUND IN ONE

Going, going

Are unwanted Christmas presents YOUR problem?

Then let us get rid of them for you!

Nottingham Defend Molesworth is holding an AUCTION and we need your unwanted gifts.

Please phone: 620459 or 704621 and we will collect.

Please deliver to or CND office or 9 St. Andrew*s Road, Mapperley Park