

Jan 1981

1) Information from National CND (N.B. Quotations are verbatim)

- a) About Regions: "In the next mailing I will be putting forward, for comment, an outline for new regions to be drawn up where they do not already exist. I will also be suggesting that regions have a regional committee, which both CND Groups and CND affiliated peace groups attend, with CND Groups having 2 votes, and affiliated groups one vote. This will be subject to ratification at National Conference, but seems a practical proposal to bring some organisation into the regions. I will then send all groups a list of other groups in their region - this should help in the formation of new groups.
- b) About Groups: "A CND Group is asked to raise £25 a year towards the cost of running the National office. This requirement is discretionary in the case of a new group. The idea is that groups raise money in the course of the year as part of their activities." (N.B. This refers to Exeter CND, not its sub-groups)
- c) About the Petition: The deadline for the CND Petition has been extended from early December to mid-February. (It hadn't seemed worthwhile to run the national petition alongside the Exmouth petition, as people get confused if they are asked to sign two similar petitions at much the same time. With the new extension, members may feel that it would be worth getting as many signatures as possible in the next two months. I have a quantity of national petitioning sheets, and can get more.)
N.B. There is a World Disarmament Petition starting in January.

2) Campaigning Suggestions

In view of the fact that National CND is preparing for distribution a report on the Leeds National CND Conference - this will be sent to all area groups when it arrives - I shall confine my report to listing campaigning suggestions and useful facts that came from the working groups and general discussion. Since many useful ideas and suggestions have also come from the Exeter groups, I have attempted to compile a list of suggestions from both sources:

a) For Individual Members

- (i) Inform yourself, so that you have answers for questions.
(A list of useful reading material is being prepared, and, if possible, a question-and-answer sheet. If you could note down negative responses, it would help with the preparation of this sheet.)

- (ii) Talk about the issues to others on any occasion.
- (iii) Be seen to be a member of CND - wear your badges, put CND stickers in your car and house windows.
- (iv) Encourage new members to join - and when they do, make sure they get to know others and are made welcome. Make sure they are informed of your group's activities, and where and when meetings are held.
- (v) Feed back any relevant information to your Group Coordinator.
- (vi) Individual initiatives are very welcome, but check first that they are appropriate and that they are not duplicating the efforts of others.

b) For Area Groups

- (i) Organise a chain of communications to make the coordinator's job a bit easier - and phone bill smaller! This is particularly relevant to some of the larger groups.
- (ii) Hold local fund-raising events (jumble sales, coffee etc.)
- (iii) Have a local social event for new members to get to know existing members.
- (iv) Have a local showing of The War Game. (Posters, with a blank for when and where, are available.)
- (v) Find out if you can have a CND stall at any local bazaar or jumble sale - you won't sell much, but you will make your presence felt.
- (vi) The larger groups could order their own literature, and badges, from National CND on a sale-or-return basis.
- (vii) Involve your local churches.

Many groups are already working along these lines. Funds are available for hire of halls for (ii) (iii) and (iv) above.

I have very little literature and very few badges left at the moment. A large order was sent to the National office last week.

c) Exeter CND

I have listed below some of the issues that it has been suggested Exeter CND should concern itself with. It may well be that an Area group might wish to take special responsibility for one of these (e.g. Heavitree/Polsloe has already expressed an interest in (i); St. Leonard's & Exwick have shown concern about (ii).) Some of them can be covered by Working groups. Whatever the eventual decision, it would seem sensible for Area groups to discuss their approach to the issues, and for individuals and/or groups to

research the necessary facts and figures so that, after the AGM on 26 January, we already have the information to act upon rather than starting at square one in February.

- (i) An information collecting and collation service.
- (ii) An approach to the Churches and Church Leaders. Christian CND
- (iii) The setting up of a Youth CND. (Many requests for this).
- (iv) Schools programme.
- (v) Approaches to Trade Unions and their members. (Manchester against Missiles are holding a Labour Movement Peace Conference in February.)
- (vi) Collection of information on Civil Defence activities.
- (vii) Approaches to the Media and records of Media coverage.
- (viii) Approaches to the Local Council.
- (ix) Approaches to Local M.P.s.
- (x) Production of a Newsletter.

d) For The Region

There is very little co-ordination between the CND Groups in Devon Cornwall. Exmouth CND has proposed that Exeter set up a Regional Meeting to discuss their suggestion of a S.W. Region March to a Rally in Plymouth sometime in May.

3) The Leaflet Drop

This was an enormous undertaking, particularly for some of the smaller groups with a large area to cover, and was so well organised by the co-ordinators that there were very few problems. That a group so recently formed should successfully manage an operation of this size augurs well for its future.

The results so far (11 December):- 80 new members, many donations and many requests for further information.

Please include the new members in your activities, as soon as you have their details.

4) General

Working Group C is arranging a Social Event for January

Membership Cards are now available.

A National CND Speaker has been requested for a Public Meeting/Debate No date for this yet, as there is a waiting list.

AGM in St. Luke's Main Lecture Room, 7.30pm 26 January, 1981

DATES

January:

- Fri. 23rd. Inaugural Meeting of Youth CND, 7.15 p.m. at the Friends Meeting House, Magdalen Road (opp. Eye Infirmary). All 18 year-olds and under welcome.
- Sat. 24th. In Plymouth: World Disarmament Petition Workshop taken by Brigadier Michael Harbottle. College of St. Mark & St. John, Derriford Road. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- In Bristol: Perspectives on Disarmament Day School. University of Bristol Students Union. Subjects include "Alternatives to a Nuclear Defence Policy", "Civil Defence" and "Public Speaking".
- Mon. 26th. A.G.M. in St. Luke's Main Lecture Theatre at 7.30 p.m. Lecture by Professor Michael Pentz at 9.00 p.m.
- Thurs. 29th. "War Game". Exeter College Drama Studio, 8 and 9p.m.
- Sat. 31st. In Plymouth: Meeting of Devon and Cornwall Groups to discuss proposed Easter Anti-War March.

February:

- Sun. 1st. All petition forms must be returned by this date. (Is any member planning a trip to London in the first few days of Feb. and, if so, could they find time to deliver the petitions to Nat. CND, Finsbury Park? It would save considerable postage/carriage)
- Wed. 11th. Dartington Film Theatre. "Children of Hiroshima" in the Barn Theatre.
- Fri. 20th. In Tiverton: "War Game", 8.00 p.m. in St. George's Hall, St. Andrew Street.

March:

- Wed. 4th. Dartington Film Theatre. "Hiroshima Mon Amour" in the Barn Theatre.
- 6th - 8th. In Bristol: Perspectives on Disarmament National 3-Day School. A bigger and better version of the one on Jan. 24th., with National Speakers.

April:

- Sat. 18th. Proposed Demonstration in Plymouth. European Demonstration outside N.A.T.O. Headquarters in Brussels.
- Sat. 25th. Exeter CND's Spring Fair/Craft Market in St. George's Hall, 11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

May:

- 1st. - 15th. "No Nuclear Weapons" Photographic Exhibition booked.