#### EXETER CND NEWSLETTER

MAY 1981

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Once again this Newsletter brings to you exclusive news of the latest events and happenings within the world of Exeter CND. How long can it keep up this remarkable performance, no doubt you are asking yourselves. The answer? - not very long without your help! It was our initial intention that this newsletter should develop into an efficiently functioning repository of all knowledge and wisdom. However, we've had to lower our sights a little! Seriously though, we would like to remind you that you are a member of Exeter CND. Consequently we are calling upon you for your help and advice.

Within this issue we bring you news of plans to restructure the organization of ECND. We also bring you news of future events and functions plus reports on the Spring Fair, SANA, WDC and other interesting topics (we're still working on Page 3:) However, the overall message (as always) is that ECND needs YOU. Within this issue you will find requests for help and advice from various people. If you think you can be of assistance please respond to these cries in the wilderness.

With respect to this Newsletter, I would remind you that if you have any information that you would like printed in these pages (e.g. dates of Area Group meetings!) then it's up to you to get it to Barry Webb (25 Regent Square, Heavitree work tel: 52079) or to any other member of the Heavitree/Polsloe group.

Jenny Smith (membership secretary) informs us that ECND has 915 members. The growth of our membership is very good news although, of course, not unexpected:

On a more disappointing note, Chris Baldick has reported a dismal response to his request for names of members who are members of a Trade Union or some similar organization. I find this rather difficult to understand. There's nothing subversive or potentially threatening about Chris' job. All he wants to do is to put together a list of Trade Unions which might consider affiliating to ECND. If you are a member of a Trade Union you should write to Chris Baldick, The Queen's Building, Exeter University, giving him your name and the organization of which you are a member.

Members of the Devon County branch of NALGO are urged to attend their local branch meeting in Plymouth on June 3rd. This meeting is to decide how their delegates to the National Executive Council should vote. One of the issues to be discussed on June 3rd is a motion put to the National Executive Council of NALGO by Gloucestershire County branch. It reads as follows:

"In view of the threat to mankind represented by the proliferation of nuclear weapons throughout the world and their concentration within the United Kingdom this Conference instructs the National Executive Council to affiliate nationally to the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

"This Conference further advises all Branches to affiliate to local groups in order to ensure full representation of the public sector in the campaign."

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#### SOME RECEIVE EVENIES

#### CELTA SHEPHERD REPORTS ON THE EXETPER OND SPRING FAIR.

Our first Fair turned out to be a great success. We made a total of £1,959.98 from the combined Pair and Grand Draw, of which £1,525.83 was clear profit. The Fair was a success because so many people contributed time, energy, goods, ideas and encouragement. Many thanks to all who helped in any way. The Fair was well attended by the public - about 1400 people paid to come in , and many new members joined.

The profit made by the various stalls was as follows: Books and Records - £139.50 Bottle Stall - £72・37き Cakes - £78.71 Catering - £1.02.21 Fanoy goods and crafts - £94.071 Toys and Games - £45.45 Plants - £56-57 Produce - £26.30 Home made sweats - £22.49 White Elephant - £72-77 The profit on the Grand Draw was £656.70 and the prize winners were:

- (T.V.) A. Booth, 6 Salmon Hutch, Uton, Crediton. 1.
- (£25) C. Brown, c/o 19 Penmark Road, Exeter. 2.
- (Chicken Dinner) M. Palairet, R.D. & E. Hospital. 3.
- 4. (Soft Toy) L. Pyke (?) Church Road, Alphington. (ticket no. 15567 prize not yet claimed)

Other prize winners were J. Ashton, Y.M. Watson and Liz Hitchcott.

If you have any comments or suggestions for future events please let Working Group C know, so that they can be passed on to future organizers of such events.

At the Spring Fair you may have seen an Indian Silver Necklace on show. This necklace has been donated to ECND and is valued at around £100. What is more, you have an opportunity to be the proud owner! 500 numbers are being individually sold at 50p each and the lucky number will be drawn after all 500 numbers have been sold. If you wish to buy a number you should contact Celia Shepherd (74141).

Celia also tells us that she has a Speaugun and 2 harpoons to sell, the proceeds of which will go to ECMD. If you are interested contact Celia on the above phone number. However she emphasizes that it is definitely not for children!

## JOHN SHEPHERD REPORTS ON THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF SANA

Over the weekend of March 21st-22nd I and about 140 other scientists from all over the U.K. attended a meeting at the Open University to set up a new organization - Scientists Against Nuclear Arms (SANA). The aim of the organization is to supply all sections of the Feace Movement, M.P.'s, councillors et. al., with tools in the form of reliable information sheets on all aspects of the nuclear arms race and disarmamament problems. Although most of the participants were physical scientists, there were also a number of engineers, social scientists, economists and psychologists. The working groups that will produce the information are all local, to make cooperation easier. One of them is to be set up in Exeter (contact me on Exeter 74141 if you are interested in working for the group).

Whether SANA will be able to respond rapidly and effectively enough to meet the overwhelming need for reliable information remains to be seen. It may be that the Exeter CND Fact Sheets which are now being ordered by other groups throughout the country, will beat SANA to it!

#### OFFICERS' REPORTS

#### REPORT FROM GENERAL SECRETARY

Spring Fair: Its financial success will be reported in detail by Graham. It was a memorable day, not just because of the money we raised, but as a result of the happy atmosphere and the splendid spirit of co-operation. Congratulations to all concerned and thank you for all your hard work (see report from Celia Shepherd).

<u>Photographic Exhibition</u>: Unfortunately, I had to cancel the "No Nuclear Weapons" Exhibition at the last moment, as there was no place to show it effectively. I much regretted having to do this but there was no choice. It cost us £28.75, some of which we will get back; if they are able to place it somewhere else at short notice we will have the full sum refunded.

The Shop: The last Shop Committee meeting to which Working Group had been invited was a rather dismal affair. Only four members of the Shop Committee turned up and no members of W.G. B. As our "front" to the public, it does not reflect the efficiency of the Exeter CND and with the Tourist season upon us we <u>must</u> improve it. Surely there are among our 900 members several who could give ideas and help with the brightening up of the shop - there is a danger that it will fall back on a small number of already overworked people.

<u>Tiverton</u>: At a meeting in Tiverton on April 7th, it was decided that Tiverton would become an area group of Exeter CND, subject to review at the end of the year. At this point it will be decided whether they renew their membership subscriptions with Exeter or retain them and become Tiverton CND.

E.P. Thompson: It has become increasingly obvious that we cannot go on waiting for a reply from Mr. Nott before finalising arrangements with E.P. Thompson. E.P.T. is too busy a man to be kept hanging on. Ihave therefore written to him inviting him for any Saturday he has free in June/July, or failing that, October, promissing that we will create around his visit an event that won't disappoint him. We shall not, though, give up attempts to entice someone from the Ministry of Defence down at the same time.

CND Legal Action on March Ban: National CND intend to take court action against the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, in an attempt to get the Banning Order on marches, imposed on April 25th, declared illegal as being too wide. Harriet Harman of the National Council for Civil Liberties will be acting as their Solicitor. (Several CND marches will be affected by this ban.) It is thought that they will have a 50/50 chance of succeeding, but if it fails it will cost £5,000 - there will be a special appeal.

The Strathclyde march ban coincides with the major Scottish/National CND event on June 6/7th - a march from the Bolaris base at Faslane to a rally in Glasgow. It has been decided to go ahead with this event in the hope of getting the ban lifted in time. (see under forthcoming events.)

Rita Thomson

#### REPORT FROM TREASURER

Treasurers Report: Thanks to the wonderful result of the Spring Fair and Draw, we now have  $\pounds 1,574.69$  in the bank, of which about  $\pounds 1,100$  has not been allocated for any of our projects. We also have literature and other goods to the value of  $\pounds 575$  in stock which should be sufficient for our own and Regional use for some time.

The Shop: is continuing to make a profit. The first phase of "beautifying it has been carried out by three hardworking members, but for the 2nd phase we need the following:

1. A piece of floor covering (carpet, cushioned vinyl?) about 20' by 12'.

2. An artistic soul to paint the name of the shop above the window.

3. Ideas on how to arrange the window display to display our goods and selected bric-a-brac.

4. Pretty plants that need very little attention.

5. Volunteers to keep the shop clean on a regular basis.

Please get in touch with Graham Baker (Exeter 59935) or Ruth Tyndall (Exeter 52581)

Protect and Survive Monthly: Members may have seen this obscene glossy magazine on sale in W.H. Smiths, its main purpose appearing to be to promote the sale of nuclear shelters. It's slogan is "the homeowners guide to surviving a nuclear attack"(!), and its directors are P.D. Fry, Conservative M.P., and the infamous Bruce Sibley, self-styled Civil Defence 'expert'. They had planned to run a seminar in Exeter on April 14th on the above theme, but unfortunately nobody wanted to go, so they've had to cancel it. They've met with the same response to a planned national Exhibition, so that too has to be cancelled. I'm in the process of getting details of the products offered by all the advertisers in the magazine - if anybody wants any further information could they please contact me - Graham Baker Exeter 59935.

<u>Peace Tax Campaign</u>: I have details of this excellent campaign to establish the right of conscientious objectors to pay the 40% of their tax, which is at present spent on 'defence', into a Peace Fund to be used for non-military peacemaking purposes. Flease contact me for further details - Graham Baker - Exeter 59935.

Open-Air Festival: I am attempting to arrange a one day open-air festival in Exeter for the late Summer. Could anybody wishing to help, or who has experience, or who knows bands/groups who would like to play/perform please contact me. (Exeter 59935)

Graham Baker

#### SOME FORTHCOMING EVENTS

# Excter Festival

Culy one float is planned for parade in the Exeter Festival, and that is from Youth CND.

Youth CND request volunteers to man their float. In particular, they need people to dress up in a mutilated fashion or keen on building a government-recommended 2-minute warning nuclear shelter on the lorry. Anyone interested? Contact Andy Pratt (79604)

Unfortunately, as regards the float planned by Exeter CND, this project has had to be abandoned. Members may remember, in previous neveletters, requests for volunteers to help with the float project and for members to submit suggestions concerning the nature of the float. The response to these requests was virtually nil. Consequently, since the project would involve a lot of work for a few already overburdened people, we have to mourn the locs of an excellent opportunity to make some sort of impact upon a large properties of the community.

We hope that such opportunities in the future will not have to be foregone because of lack of involvement and committment from the membership!

The Barnfield Theatre has been booked for the evening of May 24th. The Feho Theatre Company will be staging a play entitled "The Finale & Mystery of the Muclear Age". The play will begin at 7.30p.m. Tickets will be available from Chapter & Verse, CMD Shop, West Thavel and City Ditch.

The Echo Theatre Company will also be available for bookings. If you wish to do so you should contact Brian Bishop, 1, North Ave.

## World Disarmament Campaign

Things are gradually falling into place - other groups are being contacted to help CND with the petitioning (all offers by people willing to contact any groups I've not yet seen are welcome!), printers have been asked for quotes for petition forms, publicity is being dealt with (we've had a bit in the 'Flying Post' already - all suggestions as to other publicity welcome!) and I now have one person in each area group who will be responsible for allocating streets to each CND member to do (hopefully nobody should be called on to do more than 50 houses).

So as to utilise this campaigning opportunity to the full each CND member will be issued with a list of a few (probably six) questions they can ask on people's attitudes to disarmament, although this is still under discussion.

The day chosen for petitioning is Sunday 14th June. I ask that people will pick up their petition forms and questionnaire from their area group WDC co-ordinator at 11a.m. and take it from there. People will be sent out to do streets in pairs - so you won't be on your own!

When you have completed your allocated houses you have until the end of June to return the petition forms to your area group co-ordinator.

Will those willing to help in a petitioning drive to the surrounding villages in the autumn as well please give their mames to their WDC area group co-ordinator - the more the better please - as obviously our membership is somewhat sparse out 'in the sticks'. Hopefully we shall have a 'car pool' organized to transport people.

Janet Barber, 17 Jefford House, Copplestone Drive, Duryard, Exeter (Tel: 213612)

#### Ode to Peace

Does anyone have any contacts within the music world who could write an 'Ode to Peace' (a sort of modern day equivalent of 'Land of Hope and Glory' - but written specially for CND)? I would like a composer of national repute (e.g. someone of Malcolm Arnold's standing)

It seems to me that music has great power and I would like to have something like this written to bring over the message to people that the 'other side' doesn't have the monopoly on patriotism - we, in CND, love our country too much to see it destroyed. I have written to national CND about this and been told that they think it's a good idea - but have no time to take it up and asked me to find a suitable composer. All offers welcome - particularly as something like 'Adam and the Ants' is more my style: Janet Barber (address as above)

# Glastonbury CND Festival 1981: 19-20-21 June Worthy Farm Pilton Somerset

This year's Glastonbury Festival has naturally adopted the theme of PEACE and DISARMAMENT and apart from such well-known speakers as Bruce Kent and E.P. Thompson there will also be film shows, workshops and information stalls. The profits from the Festival will go to National CND funds.

More musicians are constantly being added to the list, including some very famous names who will be "dropping in". In addition there is a 4-acre site for children with cartoon shows, puppets, clowns, inflatables - and a steam train.

At least a dozen professional theatre groups will be performing, so that with craft stalls, exhibitions, a licensed bar (we hope) and plenty of space for camping in comfort, Glastonbury should be a great cultural event.

Weekend tickets are available from CND, 11 Goodwin Street, London, N4, at £8 for adults, children under 14 years of age free. All the entertainments and facilities are included in the ticket price.

# Faslane - Glasgow CND March

A CND march is being planned starting at Faslane (base for Britain's four Polaris submarines) at 10.30a.m. on Saturday June 6th and after an overnight stop at Clydebank will culminate in a large rally in the centre of Glasgow. The only problem at present is a three month ban on marches imposed by Strathclyde in April. Assuming CND decide to go ahead with the march, anyone interested in joining a minibus to go up should contact: Jan Wilson 12a Blackboy Road, Exeter or phone, work no. Exeter 53251.

For other forthcoming events and attractions see Diary.

# STOP PRESS: NOT A FORTHCOMING EVENT BUT A REPORT ON AN IMPORTANT MEETING HELD TODAY (11th MAY)

The meeting was of the South West Regional Health Authority held at the Mercury Motel, Exeter. Iten 8 on the agenda referred to government circular D.A.(81)9 entitled 'Home Defence - The Creation of a Planning Post'

The circular says that Regional Health Authorities should improve their health planning provision in the eventuality of a conventional or nuclear attack. TO this end the government has used available a special fund for each A.H.A. up to £35,000. The proposal on the agenda was in pursuit of this Home Office circular to appoint a specialist in community modicine and a Principal administrative assistant which, with other necessary expenditure, would have totalled £22,534. On the agenda members of the Health Authority were asked to consider these proposals 'for immediate implementation'. In introducing the item on the agenda, the Chairman told the meeting of a letter he had recloved from a group of Bristol nurses saying they were opposed to spending money in this way - the health authority had no business trying to plan for the unplanable. Board member Councillor Graves of Bristol referred to the decision of the Southmead Community Health Council to advise health authorities not to participate in this kind of health planning. After this introduction health authority member, Mrs Cocks proposed that the meeting note the circular but take no action. This was seconded by Conncillor Graves. Deapite opposition from some members it was carried by eight votes to five.

#### Party Political Groups within ECND

You may recall in a previous Newsletter a suggestion that various party political groups concerned with nuclear disarmament be set up within ECND. The feeling was that for ECND to achieve its aims and objectives it has to work within the political system as it is. However, the fear is that once ECNDsteps into the political limelight it will be open to attack on party political grounds. It was thought that one way of safeguarding, as much as possible, ECND's neutrality concerning party politics is to incorporate into its structure various working groups such as Conservatives Against the Bomb, Liberals Against the Bomb, Labour Against the Bomb, Social Democrats Against the Bomb etc.

Since that Newsletter Howard Marsh has stepped forward to convene a Liberal CND group. Anyone who is interested should contact him (4 Feltrim Ave., Countess Wear 57498.

However, convenors are still urgently needed to set other such groups. If anyone is interested in taking up this vitally important task could they contact Rita Thomson (32163).

#### Reorganization of Working Groups

To say that there is a need to reorganize the Working Groups (W.G.) might sound strange if effectiveness is judged by results. We have had a series of excellent fact sheets from W.G. A, a leaflet used country-wide from groups A and B, posters etc. of an extremely high quality and a superb banner from W.G.B., and W.G.C. organized the very successful and enjoyable Spring Fair.

With so much talent at our disposal, the main concern must be to maximise it and to reduce as far as possible administrative frustrations and the problems of communication.

At present the W.G.'s each consist of about 40 members, many of whom are already committed to too many other things to be fully available. The administrative problem of contacting every member of a W.G. before each meeting is enormous. This <u>putsxthexresponsitivityxxxxthexWxXx</u> could be got round by any member unable to attend one meeting phoning the co-ordinator to find out when the next meeting is to be. This puts the responsibility on the W.G. member, leaving the co-ordinator free for other more necessary chores.

#### PROPOSED RE-ORGANIZATION

W.G.A to be concerned with

- 1. Education and information. To extend the role it has played in informing us, to include the possibility of workshops etc.
- 2. To provide a letter-writing and letter-writing advice service.
- 3. The production of more general leaflets for public distribution and specific occasions.

<u>W.G.B</u> to be a service group for A and C. For this purpose we need a directory of the members particular skills so that any other W.G. can select the specific talents they consider most useful for any project. That would not preclude their working together as a Group. Present members of W.G.B would also make useful permanent members of W.G.s A and C, should they be prepared to take this on.

W.G.C to be an events and fundraising group i.e. to extend their activities to include public meetings, exhibitions, rallies etc. which are not necessarily fund raising.

Publicity Group We need a small group of people, preferably including some with experience of publicity, to work closely with the Press Officer and W.G.C. So far publicity has been carried out on an ad hoc basis, it being no one person's responsibility, and we are in danger of missing opportunities to make the presence and ideas of Exeter CND seen and felt. This group could initiate small scale events and 'happenings' to keep us in the news and respond quickly to any event devised by W.G.C, utilising the skills of W.G.B.

The Shop Committee needs help over the next few months and would like to co-opt people to assist with the re-designing and smartening up of the Shop. Once that is done and the shop is running efficiently, a small committee is quite adequate. But we do need help now.

What is essential is that all the groups communicate well with each other and the Officers. Don't hesitate to volunteer for more than one W.G. if you have sufficient time, as the overlapping of membership helps greatly with this problem of communication.

We would like to make a start on the reorganization (though further ideas and amendments would be very welcome). Many of our members who joined using the leaflet form have not had the opportunity to offer their services to any of the W.G.s. To remedy this and to clarify the existing group membership, could I ask all those with time and skills to offer to fill in the form at the bottom of the page and send it to 19, Thorntin Hill as soon as possible. <u>IMPORTANT</u> could you fill in the form even if you are already registered as a member of a W.G.

## CAMPAIGNING STRATEGIES

It is apparent that ECND is, at present, pursuing campaigning strategies conccerned with (a) making its presence seen and felt in the community.

- (b) increasing its membership and bank balance.
- (c) building up the knowledge, confidence and involvement of existing members.

However, other additional Campaigning Strategies have been proposed which need your considered opinion. As noted earlier, the feeling is that CND should seek a political solution to the issues with which it is concerned. If such a solution is to be realized CND must make the next general election an important target. Consequently, campaigning strategies involving mass canvassing, door-to-door discussion and a general increase in intensity and political content has been proposed.

Exeter CND Council will be convening a special campaigning meeting on June 1st. Area Group co-ordinators have been sent details of the campaigning proposals. These proposals are to be discussed at area group meetings so that those members who attend the campaigning meeting will be able to faithfully represent the response of their area group to the proposals.

Campaigning is what CND is all about. The movement fails or flourishes according to the effectiveness of its Campaigning Strategies. As such, it is vitally important that you attend your next area group meeting where you can discuss the Campaign Proposals in detail.

I should like to voluntee	r for	
Working Group A		
Working Group B	y special skill/interest	is
Working Group C		a set recent the state of the
Publicity Group		

Please remember your talents are urgently required by your Area Group also and that Area Groups can call upon the services of the W.G.s for particular projects.

## DIARY

MAY

<u>Wed. 13th</u> A Public Meeting to be held in Tiverton concerning the decision of the Council to spend £6,000 on the building of a nuclear shelter. Devon's Emergency Officer will be attending. The meeting will be in the Parish Rooms, Tiverton 7.30p.m.

- Thurs. 14th Heavitree/Polsloe Area Group meeting at 7.30p.m. (13 Baker Street)
- Fri. 15th Topsham CND Folk Evening. Upstairs in the Matthews Hall, Topsham. Begins 8.30p.m.
- <u>Wed. 20th</u> Area Co-ordinators meeting. 9, Alexandra Terrace (off Blackboy Rd) at 8.00p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss any organizational problems area groups may have experienced. Consequently the meeting is open to anyone who wishes to discuss such issues and is not exclusievly a co-ordinators meeting.
- Fri. 22nd YCND meeting at 7.15p.m. in the Friend's Meeting House (opposite the eye infirmary, Magdalen Road.
- Sun. 24th Echo Theatre Company to present "The Finale & Mystery of the Nuclear Age" at the Barnfield Theatre. 7.30p.m. (see this Newsletter)
- Thurs. 28th Dr. Martin Hartog to speak on the medical consequences of nuclear war at the Postgraduate Medical Centre, R.D. & E, Wonford. 8.00p.m.

#### JUNE

- Mon. 1st ECND Council meeting to discuss campaign proposals and strategies. Oddfellows Arms 7.30p.m.
- Sat. 6th/Sun 7th. Scottish CND march (see this Newsletter)
- Mon. 8th ECND Council meets. Oddfellows Arms 7.30p.m. There are booking problems for this day. You should therefore check the date since the meeting may have to be put forward (or back) one week.
- Sat. 13th YCND march. This has yet to be confirmed by the authorities. Contact Andy Pratt (79607)
- Fri. 19th/Sat. 20th/Sun. 21st Glastonbury Festival (see this Newsletter)