

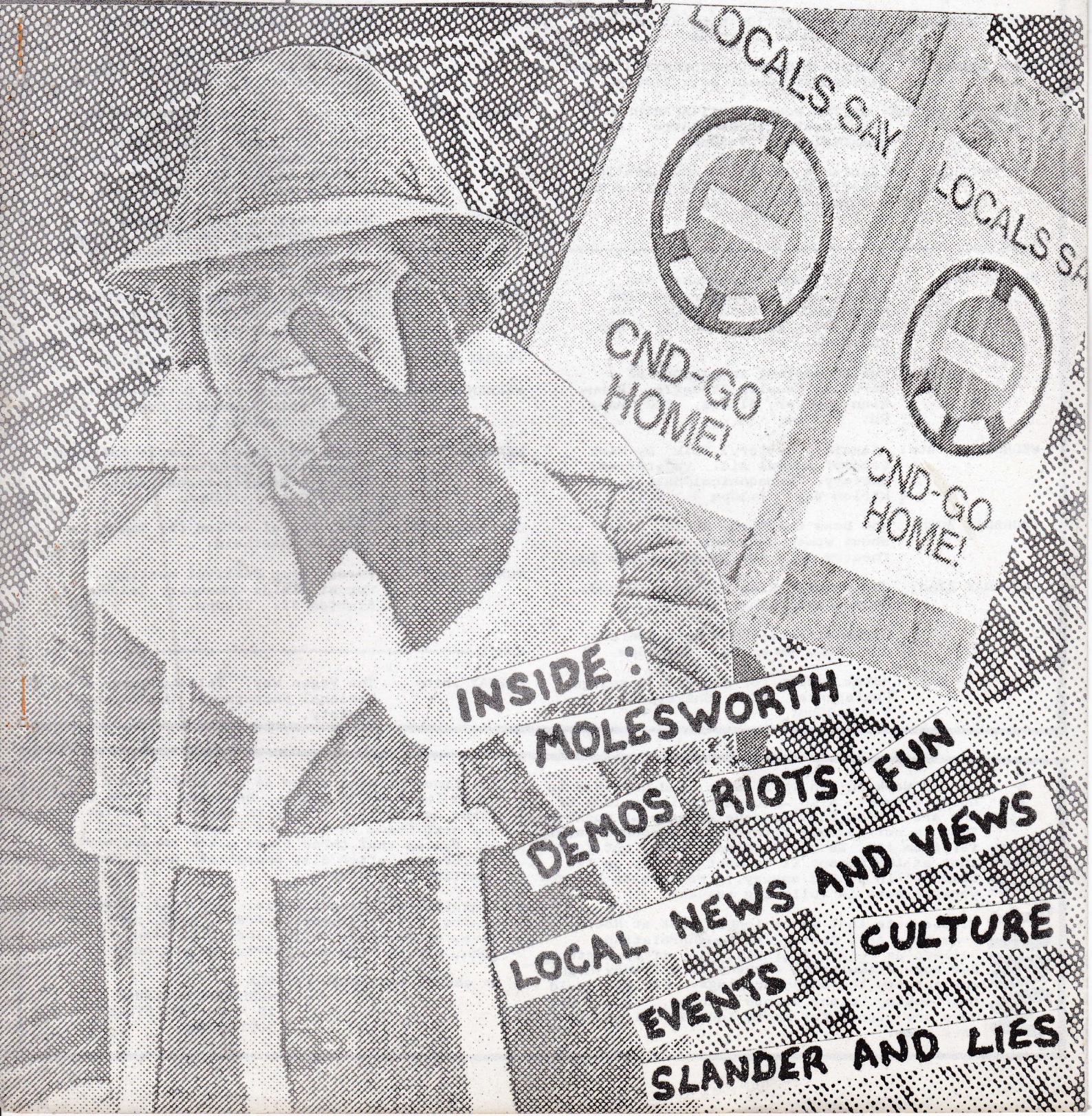
# NOTTINGHAM ANARCHIST NEWS

No 6 FEB/MAR 86 AT LEAST 10p

Hello, and welcome to our sixth edition. This is the spot where someone waffles on at great length and then gives it the grand title of 'editorial'. You hold in your hands one of only 500 copies of Nottingham's only Anarchist paper. We hope to present you with news of what Anarchists are up to in Nottingham and also anarchist views of what other people are up to. We welcome your contributions however short or 'badly' written....many people with articles in here have been discouraged from writing by constantly being compared with those who have a knack with words, but they have something to say and will not be put off. Compared with ideas, grammar, spelling and syntax are unimportant. So don't be deterred, write it down or draw it out and send it to us.

Unfortunately, we have been unable, due to lack of space, to include the 'truth

CONT. OVER →



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DEMOS

RIOTS

FUN

LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

EVENTS

CULTURE

SLANDER AND LIES

# EVENTS

## REGULAR MEETINGS:

- EVERY FRIDAY: SMASH meet International Community Centre, Mansfield Rd. 8pm. Society for Mutual Aid and Self Help believe that only by ganging up can be effective in overcoming our oppression. Together we are strong. All Welcome.
- EVERY TUESDAY: WOMEN FOR PEACE meet at the International Community Centre, Mansfield Rd. 7:30pm.
- EVERY THURSDAY: CLAIMANTS ACTION plot at the ICC, Mansfield Rd. 2:00pm
- LAST SUNDAY: ANIMALS RIGHTS CONFEDERATION meet Narrowboat, Canal St. 7:30pm.
- 1ST & 3RD MONDAY: NOTTM. WOMENS ANTI-APARTHEID GROUP meet Rainbow Centre, 180, Mansfield Rd. 7:30pm.
- 3RD THURSDAY: LESBIAN & GAY YOUTH ORGANISATION, Benefit Disco. Palais Cellar Bar 9:30pm - 2:00am. £1.

## FEBRUARY:

- FRIDAY 14th: Benefit Panto for sacked and jailed miners: Margarella, the Moles and the Money Tree. ICC, Mans. Rd. 8:00pm £2, £1 & 50p children.
- Public Meeting in support of Peruvian Peoples Struggle. Peruvian speaker, Slides. ICC, Mans. Rd. 7:30pm.
- WEDNESDAY 19th: Assault & Battery. Talk by Mark Gold, of Animal Aid. Vegetarian Society, Theosophical Hall, Maid Marion Way. 7:30pm
- THURSDAY 20th: Who Does the Dirty Work? Play about women and work. Utility Theatre Co. ICC, Mans. Rd. 2pm 50p
- SATURDAY 22nd: CND benefit Disco by Jazzy Sounds. Narrowboat, Canal St. 8pm
- Regional Anti-Apartheid Conference, ICC, Mans. Rd. 10am-5pm £2
- Nottm Action for Benefits Campaign Conference. YMCA, Shakespeare St. 1 - 4:30pm.

## MARCH:

WOMENS FESTIVAL EVENTS HAPPENING THROUGHOUT MARCH. PROGRAMMES AVAILABLE. FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT: HELEN BRIDGES 782463 or CAROL CROWE 626709. THE FOLLOWING ARE LATE CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE PROGRAMME:

- FRIDAY 7th: MILLIES... CANCELLED
- THURSDAY 13th: Talk: IN THE COMPANY OF WOMEN by Jenny Pearce who wrote 'Under the Eagle' about USA imperialism in Central America. Nottm Community Arts Centre, Gregory Blvd. Hyson Green. 7:30pm Women only.
- SATURDAY 1st: SMASH Jumble Sale. Mapperley Community Centre, Woodborough Rd. 2pm.
- Forest Fields Peace Group Benefit Disco. Forest Fields Community Centre, Gladstone St. 8pm til?
- Conference Against the Public Order Bill. Conway Hall, Red Lion Sq. London. 1 - 5pm.
- SUNDAY 2nd: National Justice for Mineworkers Campaign. Demonstration, Jubilee Gardens, London, SE1, 1:30pm. Rally, Hyde Park, 4:30pm. Speakers include Labour Movement and Broadwater Farm Defence Committee.
- TUESDAY 4th: Women Working for a Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific. Slides and discussion. ICC, Mans. Rd. 7:30pm. Women Only.
- WEEKEND 8/9th: CLASS WAR Organisational Conference Manchester Poly. The Mandela Bldg. Oxford Rd. Contact: 01-806-0570.
- FRIDAY 14th: GIG????? Watch for details.
- WEEKEND 15/16th: Midlands Anarchist Gettogether. Queens Walk Community Centre. See articles inside.
- WEDNESDAY 19th: Restaurant Fayre. Sample delights from Nottm restaurants. Vegetaria Society, Congregational Hall, Castle Gate. 7:30pm.
- SATURDAY 22nd: Local Day of Action for Sanctions Against Apartheid.
- MONDAY 24th: Forest Free Festival meeting. Forest fields Community Centre, Sturton St. 7:30pm.
- APRIL
- FRIDAY 18th: The Vegan Way. Talk by Barry Kew, National Secretary of the Vegan Society.

Waffle cont

behind Workcon' in this issue, and have had to hold it over. Also, you may notice a lack of any article on further developments at Mushroom. That is not because nothing has happened lately, far from it. We could write a book, but feel that at the moment it is best to rely on 'No Comment' (in public anyway.) We hope to bring you more news in following issues.

Please note that we no longer meet at Nottm. Community Arts Centre, although relations between us remain friendly. So, if your stuck for some stimulating company on a Friday night why not try the SMASH meetings... or you could try looking in the events columns. And if you have any events for us to include, please let us have them.

Deadline for next issue is the last Friday in March (that's the 28th). Deadline for the next issue is the last Friday in March. Deadline for the next issue is the last Friday in March. I bet typing that three times makes absolutely no difference, after all, anarchists don't run to deadlines, do they??

Contributors/workers: chris, jane, cat, dawn, meg, claire, sylvie, isabella, frank, phil, nick, nic, dave, oddie, guy, colin, joe, jim, alan, robin, john, chris, tony and ?????? and you next time????

We can be contacted at: BOX A  
MUSHROOM BOOKSHOP  
10 HEATHCOTE STREET  
NOTTINGHAM. (mail only)

# MOLESWORTH

"DIVERSE REPORTS"!

Feb 6th. The organisation was splendid. Everything went smoothly. The soup tasted great, even though it was cooked in the gents bogs. But something was wrong . . . why were thousands of people freezing their bums onto icy roadways? Other than martyrdom, what were they trying to achieve? They weren't trying to stop traffic from entering the base - there was none trying to get in.

But rules is rules is rules is rules. And CND had laid down the rules, and the rules were that people sat in the road. Regardless. Standing was disruptive; games could be played, but only in the special "warm-up" areas. So people sat and got piles, when they could have pulled down piles of fence, or when piles of them could have gone on a surprise visit to another base.

Unless NVDA is characterized by the amount of suffering involved or the quantity of songsheets distributed, Feb 6th had as little to do with direct action as CND's October demonstration in London. It was a brilliant media story, but totally symbolic. Just another demo. It almost felt that, had an opportunity for action arisen, people would have recoiled in horror and buried their heads in their rainbow knitwear. They were there to sit, not to disrupt the nuclear machine.

If half the money that must have been spent on coach fares and longjohns had been spent on padlocks and re-

inforced bikelocks, the idea of shutting down the base would have been credible.

The day was policed by yellow CND stewards, who made sure that no-one stepped out of line. Not that I've got anything against stewards as such - but I think they'd be more use if they passed on fewer orders and more information. But I'm biased; my attitude to the stewards got off to a bad start, when one of them asked on our mixed coach if any women would mind getting off and going on the womens coach, to make room for "people".

Back to the base - the numbers who turned up showed that commitment is there. The day was well (over?) - organised - that ability is there. Let's not freeze away people's enthusiasm; next time, let's couple our commitment and organizing skills with a bit of imagination, and actually try to put a small spanner in the workings of the nuclear machine. Let's do direct action as well as getting good media coverage. Let's be more flexible, let's use surprise, let's respond creatively and spontaneously to situations we find ourselves in, so that we're calling the tune. This means doing what seems to need doing, not what we've been told to do. It means less policing by the thin yellow line, and more trust in the ordinary protestor-in-the-road. It means thinking and it means doing nonviolent DIRECT ACTION.

Chris

A police man, viewing the frozen hoards huddled in the snow at Clopton, shook his head sadly and said "I could understand it for a Bruce Springsteen concert."

THE WOMEN'S GATE WAS A SHAMBLES, HARDLY ANY WOMEN TURNED UP (LOTS OF BLOODY MEN DID) DUE TO LACK OF PUBLICITY, PEOPLES ATTITUDES TO HAVING A WOMENS GATE IN THE FIRST PLACE AND GETTING THERE. AS WELL AS COPING WITH THE SNOW AND -7 DEGREES, THE POLICE HAD SET UP ROAD BLOCKS. SO TO GET TO THE WOMENS GATE FROM THE COACH PARK YOU HAD A 15 MILE SIGHT SEEING TRIP ROUND THE BASE.

IN FULFILLING THIER COMMUNITY, SOFTLY, SOFTLY AREN'T WE WONDERFUL POLICE PEOPLE THEY HAD WOMEN COPPERS ON THE GATE. HOWEVER THIER MALE SERGANT WAS ISSUING THE ORDERS. THEY WERE ALL WANDERING AROUND HAVING POLITE CONVERSATIONS IN BETWEEN RADIOING BACK TO SAY THAT EVERYTHING WAS UNDER CONTROL.

INDEED EVERYTHING WAS, THEY BROKE THE BLOCKADE WITH 2 SACKS OF COAL AND SOME WOOD THE FIRST TIME. BRAZIER, THE SECOND TIME. IT DIDN'T GET THEM VERY WARM THOUGH, WHEN WE LEFT THE GATE 3 HOURS LATER THEY WERE STILL TRYING TO LIGHT IT.

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN QUITE EASY TO HAVE STOPPED THEM BUT PEOPLE WERN'T VERSITILE OR COULDN'T USE WHAT WAS LEFT OF THEIR HALF FROZEN BRAINS. WOMEN WERE TRYING TO DO A STRAIGHT FORWARDS GREENHAM BLOCKADE. BUT AT MOLESWORTH THE GATES OPEN BACKWARDS. INSTEAD OF BLOCKADING IN A V THEY SAT IN STRAIGHT LINES. O.K. VEHICLES COUNDN'T GET OUT BUT 7 COPPERS DID LATER ON.

THEN THE MEN "OFFICALLY" TURNED UP (THERE HAD BEEN MEN WANDERING ABOUT EARLIER WHO HADN'T REALISED IT WAS WOMEN'S SPACE AND QUITE A FEW WHO DIDN'T GIVE A SHIT ANYWAY.) ONE OF THE ALLOCATION POINTS HAD TAKEN IT UPON THEMSELVES TO TURN THE WOMENS GATE INTO A MIXED GATE. NO TALKING WAS DONE WITH THOSE WHO WERE ACTUALLY ON THE GATE, EVEN THOUGH C.B.S WERE AT EACH GATE TO PREVENT COCK UPS LIKE THIS HAPPENING. SOME MALE C.N.D. BUREAUCRATE DECIDED THAT BECAUSE THER WEREN'T THE 3 THOUSAND AND AS ON OTHER GATS AND PROBABLY HADN'T WANTED THERE TO BE A WOMEN'S GATE IN THE FIRST PLACE, THAT NOW WAS THE TIME TO HIJACK IT.

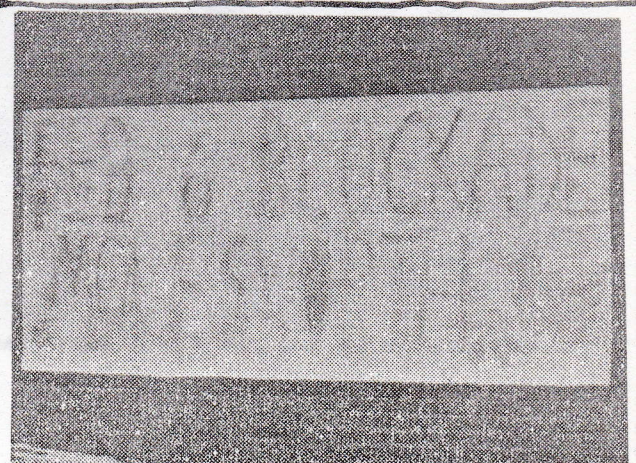
I SUPOSE AS AN EXERCISE TO SEE HOW MANY PEOPLE can WITHSTAND SUBZERO TEMPERTURES, BOREDOM AND C.N.D. STEWARDS IT WORKED REALLY WELL. (ONLY 5 OUT OF 5 THOUSAND HAD TO BE TAKEN TO HOSPITAL.)

this into account.

## Cruise fence

A second high-security perimeter fence is being erected at the Molesworth cruise missile base in Cambridgeshire at a cost of £3 million.

on the ably Mr. of the



A MURAL DONE BY SOME 'MOLES' IN BROAD DAY-LIGHT. IT APPEARED TO BE SOME ARTY-ABSTRACT DESIGN DONE BY SOME STUDENTS, UNTIL THE VITAL LAST STROKES OF LETTERING WERE DONE AND THE TRUE MESSAGE WAS REVEALED! A PASSING COPPER WHO STOPPED FOR A CHAT WAS TOTALLY FOOLED.

THERE HAVE BEEN DARING MURALS DONE ON THIS SPOT FOR MOST MAJOR C.N.D. EVENTS OF RECENT YEARS, BUT THIS IS THE MOST AMBITIOUS BY FAR.

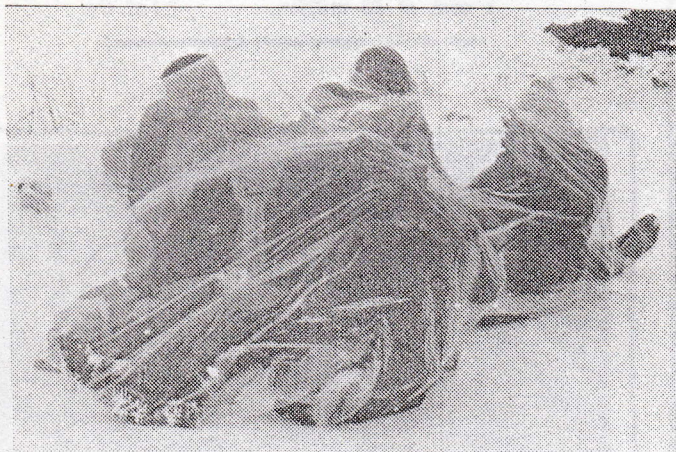
THE PHOTO WAS TAKEN AFTER THE COUNCIL HAD BEGUN TO WIPE THE MURAL OFF. IT STAYED UP UNTIL FEB. 5th.

IT WAS GOOD TO SEE SO MANY PEOPLE WHO'D GOT THE GUMPTION TO TRAVEL TO THE MIDDLE OF EAST ANGLIA, AT 2.00am ON THE COLDEST, ICYEST, DAY FOR AGES TO RISK ARREST AND SHOW CONCRETE OPPOSITION TO THE MILITARY DEATH CULTURE. THERE WERE SUPPOSED TO BE 5,000 IN ALL, 600 FROM NOTTM ALONE. THE MAIN CONTACTORS GATE, COCKBROOK LANE, WAS BLOCKADED BY A QUARTER OF A MILE LONG SNAKE OF PEACENIKS.

HOWEVER THE WORKERS AND CONTRACTORS HAD GONE IN THE NIGHT BEFORE SO NOTHING TRIED TO PASS ALL DAY. BUT C.N.D. DIDN'T SEEM INTERESTED IN CHANGING ANY OF THEIR PLANS, IN FACT THEIR STEWARDS WERE MORE INTERESTED IN HELPING THE POLICE KEEP ORDER. WHEN ONE POLICE VAN APPROACHED OUR BLOCKADE, STOPPED AND REVERSED AWAY AGAIN, SOME PEOPLE CHEERED- AT LAST, SOME ADRENALIN TO COMBAT THE COLD! BUT THE YELLOW CLAD STEWARD SHOUTED AT US FOR REGARDING IT AS A VICTORY- 'COS WE MIGHT HURT THEIR FEELINGS. BUT I WON'T FORGET THE SIGHT OF A SMILING POLICE OFFICER SHAKING THE HAND A STEWARD AND THANKING HIM FOR HIS COOPERATION. YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN HIM FAUN- HIS FACE LIT UP WITH DELIGHT- STATE AUTHORITY HAD RECOGNISED HIS AUTHORITY. SELL OUT!

THE "YELLOW COAT'S" DECISION MAKING WAS STAGNANT. THEY HAD BEEN BRIEFED ONLY FOR THE EVENT OF A HEAVY POLICE RESPONSE, SUCH AS GIVING PEOPLE THE CHANCE NOT TO BE ARRESTED, HOW TO DIFUSE TENSION ETC. AND WHEN THEY FOUND THE SITUATION NEVER CALLED FOR THEIR INVOLVEMENT AT ANY TIME, THEY JUST FOLLOWED ORDERS, C.N.D.'S AND THE POLICE'S, AND RAN ABOUT TRYING TO LOOK IMPORTANT.

ENOUGH MOANING ABOUT C.N.D. ORGANISATION- NOW SOME PRAISE! THE MOBILE SOUP KITCHEN'S WERE MARVELOUS- WITHOUT WHICH I'M SURE MORE THAN 4 PEOPLE WOULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO HOSPITAL WITH HYPOTHERMIA.



FIVE ANARCHISTS ATTEMPT MASS SUICIDE IN A PLASTIC BAG.

The steward who admonished us for walking down the Bridle Way, between Cockbrook Lane and Peace Corner, said "You shouldn't walk down the Bridle Way, because if you do, the Police might stop people walking down the Bridle Way."

THE POLICE ASKED THE CND STEWARDS AT CLOPTON GATE WHETHER THEY WOULD LET THEM TAKE ONE OF THEIR VANS OUT- SEEMING TO THINK THE BLOCKADE WAS AGAINST THINGS COMING IN, SO IT WAS REASONABLE TO EXPECT TO BE LET OUT. THE STEWARDS THEN WANT ALONG ASKING WHAT PEOPLE FELT ABOUT THIS- TO WHICH 900/o SAID NO (TOGETHER WITH SOME SARCASM AND AMUSEMENT). ONE OF THE STEWARDS THEN THUGHT THAT THE 100/o WHO WANTED TO LET THE VAN THROUGH SHOULD NOW BE INFORMED OF THE DECISION AND GIVEN THE OPTION TO LEAVE THE BLOCKADE WHILST THE VAN WAS BLOCKADED, AFTER WHICH THEY COULD RETURN AGAIN.

BY THIS TIME ANOTHER VAN ARRIVED AT THE OTHER END OF THE BLOCKADE, AND THE PIGS WALKED ROUND THE BLOCKADE FROM ONE TO THE OTHER.

A LONE PIG LISTENING TO RADIO TWO, SURROUNDED BY RAZOR WIRE IN A REMOTE CORNER OF THE BASE; MINDLESS MUSIC FOR A MINDLESS JOB IN MINDLESS TIMES.

## DIGGERS AT MOLESWORTH.

Molesworth is not only an issue for the peace movement and CND. The Ploughshares campaign is one that aims to return the base to farmland and to see the resources wasted on cruise missiles used to meet human needs in the third world.

At the original Peace camp and on the land, wheat was growing before the army took over, partly to send to Entrea.

At Easter this year there will be a march to Molesworth, with agricultural tools firstly to be used to symbolically dig the base and then be sent to Entrea to support the peoples self reliance. Tools requested are specifically heavy hoes, mattocks, spades, and shovels (your average British trowel will not make much impact in the desert)

The Diggers walks leaves St Georges Hill,, Surrey, Thurs 20 March. Through central London: meet 9.30 Saturday 22 March at St. Matthews Peace Garden, Brixton. There's a shorter march from Corby (Sat 29 March), all to arrive at Molesworth on Monday 31 March.  
General info: Diggers Walk, c/o Mallen, 9 Brookside Cottages, Stonely, Kimboulton, Huntingdon. East Midlands contact: Chris, 28 Brazil Street, Leicester (0533) 552903.

As yet there is no Nottingham co-ordination; and some would say people should only go if they have tools and have been involved in the march/ NVDA workshops (i.e. hundreds of people with hoes and shovels could give the MOD an excuse for anything).

Although it might all seem a bit abstract, with a purely symbolic action (and a fairly large Christian input) there is an important link for anarchists and friends. The march starts from St. Georges Hill because this was the site of an original Diggers settlement (i.e. squat!) in the 1640's. It was part of the radical movements around the civil war who, having seen the end of monarchy (as they saw it then!) also challenged private property, the new capitalist class and the church. Their struggle for the peaceful and creative use of the land by all people in common seems all the more important when we can still see that struggle in the eviction of Rainbow Village and the building of the new death camp. However vaguely, the Easter march continues over 300 years of our struggle to control the land. Think on ... (And listen again to Leon Rosselson/Billy Bragg singing "The World Turned Upside Down").

Luddite Column

# HICKEY GET'S HEAVY AT MOLESWORTH

(And firstly please note it is Hickey with an Hhhh and not with an Mmmm which a typing error seems to have immortalised).

And secondly, having started a complex analysis of the national politics of the Feb 6 Molesworth blockade, it seems more appropriate to get straight into the personal abuse and questions of (dare I say it) revolutionary organisation.

I could give detailed evidence to show that the Feb 6 organisation was centralised, and that much of it was closely controlled by Nottm Def Molesworth group, but for now you'll have to take my word for it, darling. If anything, many of Def Moles would acknowledge and justify that because it did mean that the direct Action emphasis with no compromise with the police was maintained - which possibly national CND would have bodged.

In the last Anarchist News, Laura Biding (hippy scumbag) described the Def Moles group as 'people that organise efficiently, share the workload evenly and try to present themselves in such a way as to make their message as accessible as possible.' which was in contrast to the anarchist movement. Well, yes indeed, despite mutinous mutterings over the coffee tray, Def Moles did maintain a healthy non-hierarchy with active participation and showed fairly stunning capacity to translate wild suggestions ('lets organise a national action... lets get a speech at Oct 26... lets do some graffiti on Buntingdon Street') into action.

On the other hand, the accessible message philosophy showed its tendency to reduce everything to wallpaper in the Central News item a few days before the action, where a fairly accurate report on the Mansfield Road office was placed alongside Leicestershire comprehensive school harp teachers (fancy that!) or midlands firms that make lifeboats (and to think they're miles from the sea) as another item in the TV freak show.

More important questions maybe arise over Def Moles functioning as a closed elite - whether it did, whether it matters, whether any other group should. Although all meetings remained open, for the last few months there was a very definite central committee of the same people (and yes, Hickey was there too). This meant that discussion could be open and in trust and informed and acted upon, but it also brought isolation. Specialisation always has the same effect: the more you know about one thing, the more ignorant you are of most things. The Nottingham campaign reflected the National - a fairly coherent group but one almost exclusively active in a particular part of the peace movement. From this came a lot of the distrust of possible allies - anarchists, womens movement, Rainbow Villagers, Leninist groups, non NVDA peace groups. This distrust seems to be fairly mutual in Nottingham, apart from around flavour-of-the-month campaigns like anti-apartheid or the miners strike (in which cases the distrust continues inside those campaigns).

In some cases its well founded. Nationally and locally the Feb 6 campaigns approach to the autonomous action was abysmal. The approach from some men seemed to be of the 'give them enough rope and they'll hang themselves' variety. Nothing has been learnt from the Greenham campaign and no attempt at an analysis of male violence or male power politics (the rape in November of a woman within the Molesworth Peace Camp crystallises it all). Grudgingly the principle of a woman-only gate and transport etc was accepted, but rarely supported in practise; given the last few years hostility towards women-only actions it was obvious that the women's network wasn't going to jump into line. From the nature of the Feb 6 campaign members, even the women in it had to struggle to cement non-existent contacts, under sniper fire attacks from men. The consequence of these misogynist manouvres: the relative problems of the

womens gate becomes the womens fault and 'proves' that the mixed peace movement is the only possible mass movement. Fight it!

So, you cry, 'what is to be done?' Well, if we consign Lenin's answer to the trashcan of the past where it belongs, there remains a tightrope of sorts between the example of the Nottm Def Moles and that of anarchists in the city. ('What about the womens movement?' Quite. That depends on the mens movement). While not quite like Central TV's description of 'an upstairs room.... ..twelve people working day and night' the Def Moles seem close to burning out with no clear plans for after Feb 6, and having what in reality was a very specific aim about a specific area of a specific issue.

In contrast to this efficient isolation is the sprawl of the anarchist movement which seems to believe its function is to tolerate everything and everyone who claims allegiance. An internal hierarchy exists and seems supported from both sides:

1. those who passively consume the red + black badges and seem happy to bathe in the cult glory of being 'an anarchist'. Getting some sort of fix from the activities of others avoids their terror of a real revolution which would destroy their ghetto support and demand their own determination of their own liberation.
2. and those who still maintain their activist martyrdom. The question here is surely- why tolerate obvious disciples? Do you need them for your own glory?

Both Def Moles and the ruling anarchists function as a hierarchy with followers. Def Moles do it 'efficiently' within a tiny fragment of political contestation (those who make half a revolution dig their own graves), the elite of the anarchist group flounder and fudge it through a mixture of guilt and an apparent reluctance to challenge their own power.

Comrades! The struggle against hierarchy demands that we all refuse both leaders and disciples! The creation of effective revolutionary groups requires the trust and loyalty of a safe-breaking gang! The free construction of a life of unrestrained pleasure can only come from our own actions against the death culture in its totality! And stop taking me seriously!

Hicked 4 Feb.



# ANTI APARTHEID

The campaign against apartheid hots up. In South Africa hundreds are shot. In Lesotho a government falls. In Nottingham, on Jan 25th, a few hundred people stroll timidly through the centre of town. Well, 8-900 people, actually, largish for a Nottingham demo, but hardly a force to be reckoned with. That many people involved in direct action, sabotage or destruction would have some impact. But we can't expect that from people here, can we. After all, it's against the law for a start. Meanwhile people continue to lay down their lives for a cause, and we can't even expect concerned citizens to face a £25 obstruction fine.

I stayed for the greater part of the rally, which was more than most people did. The politicians got right up my nose! On the other hand, a woman from Namibia, from the South West African Peoples Organisation (SWAPO), spoke quietly and movingly of what she had seen, of what she had experienced. No rhetoric, no rabble-rousing, no strategically placed pauses for applause. Just the truth. Very powerful stuff!



I hope all those who marched on that day get involved in further (sic) anti-apartheid action. Boycotts can be effective, and while you're checking up on labels to see if they have any South African connections, there's lots of other things you could boycott, too. And boycotts are only the start;

Did you know that?.....

MIDLAND are bankers for RTZ? (Rio Tinto Zinc mine uranium in Namibia, exploiting black South African labour in dangerous conditions)  
EVEREST DOUBLE GLAZING are a subsidiary of RTZ.

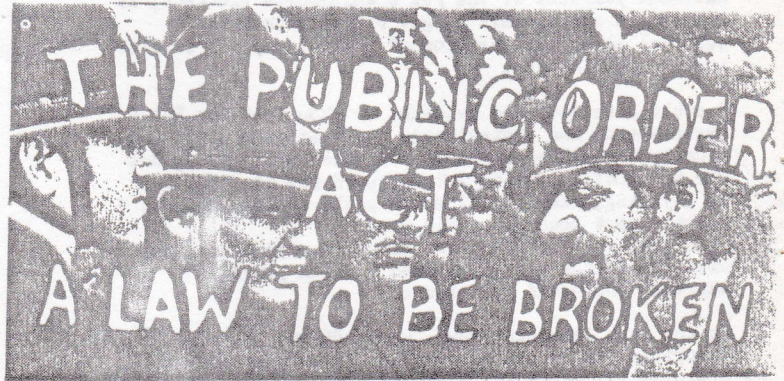
BOSTICK, BROCKS (firework makers) and RCA are military exporters.?

HOLLAND & BARRETT (Health food retailers) and ALLINSONS (Wholemeal bread makers) are subsidiaries of Booker McConnell (The worlds leading producer of breeding stock for broiler chickens, white turkeys and salmon farming)?

CADBURY SCHWEPPEPS, MARS LTD, COCA COLA CO, HEINZ and DULUX subscribe to BIRBA (a large animal research laboratory, ie animal torturers)?

GHANDI and RAMBO were both EMI films (EMI also manufacture electronic guidance, radar & control systems for conventional and nuclear weapons. They also probably rent you your telly. (Radio-rentals, DER and Rumblelows are all subsidiaries)

These facts are taken from 'DIRTY FINGERS IN DIRTY PIES' - A Sky and Trees booklet available cheap (30p) from the Anarchist Bookstall. It has lots of other equally useful and depressing information in it, but it is probably wiser to know how disgusting corporate big business is behind its glossy 'buy me' public face.



There are reports on several demonstrations in this paper, people using their right to gather and protest about things they do not like. When the new Public Order Bill becomes law, which will be within the next few months, these types of protest could be prohibited.

This law will require seven days notice to the police of any march or static demonstration (like a blockade or picket) and they may then restrict the place or route of the demonstration, the number of people who can take part and how long it can last! Breaking any of these rules could bring a £1000 fine and three months in prison for organiser s/inciters and £400 fines for anyone taking part. In other words, any demonstration the police don't like (that's most of them) they can impose conditions to make them totally in ffective and when these are not kept they can go in and break them up and ar est anyone they choose. Spontaneous demonstrations happening in reaction to some event will automatically be illegal.

This is bound to lead to an increase in violent confrontation with the police as people get frustrated by heavy-handed tactics, as the government must be well aware. The bill also brings s in new offences of riot, violent disorder and affray, all with vague and wordy definitions, making them catch-all offences to pin on people where nothing specific need be proved against them, but heavy sentences can be given (up to life imprisonment). Couple this with the recent increas e in the weaponry and protective equipment of the police and the implications become horribly clear....

If we wish to preserve our right to join together on the streets of our country as and when we choose, we must defeat this law. The only way to do this is if very large numbers of people are prepared to go out and break this law and so make it unworkable. This means publicising it's effects and org anising against them, so we will be ready to act by the time they become law.

In Nottingham there is a working group under the name CROWD (Campaign for the Right Of Assembly and Dissent). In London there is CAPR (Campaign Against Police Repression). They propose to hold a march on the Saturday after this bill is passed, so automatically breaking the seven day notice ruling.

If you wish to contact these groups, there addresse s are:

Box CAPR, #83 Blackstock Road, London N4, (01-881-2938).  
CROWD, 63, OSBORNE GROVE, SHERWOOD, NOTTM.

# FUCK XMAS

December; the neon lights are flashing, and everyone is getting more frantic about not having enough money, and spending, spending what they haven't got. A group of five (not the 'famous'), decide to do something dynamic; a fluorescent green and black banner hanging from the Council House roof, saying 'FUCK XMAS'... 'YEEAHHH'...

First attempt; the usual back entrance has now now been safely padlocked up - we scuttle hurriedly down winding stairs.

Second attempt; Debenhams. The pretty flowery shirts weren't much cop, and the banner wasn't long enough - desperate signals from our 'sisters' outside to tell us this,

So, after discussing hanging the fucking thing on the police show-van placed in Market Square, we decide we're too freaked out by now and St Pe Peters church seems safer.

Well, a few people laughed, but the vicar wasn't very pleased and tore up the blasphemous specimen. - Well at least we've got a whole year to plan for next fucking xmas, anyway.....

P. S. Any woman (weemoons & all), interested in dynamic stuff can still contact us: Box F, Mushroom, 10 Heathcote St. We are seriously thinking (all five of us) of putting out another contraversial 'Dragons' fanzine, so be warned - and of course any contributions gratefully received.



**WOMAN AND MEDIKILL PRACTICE**

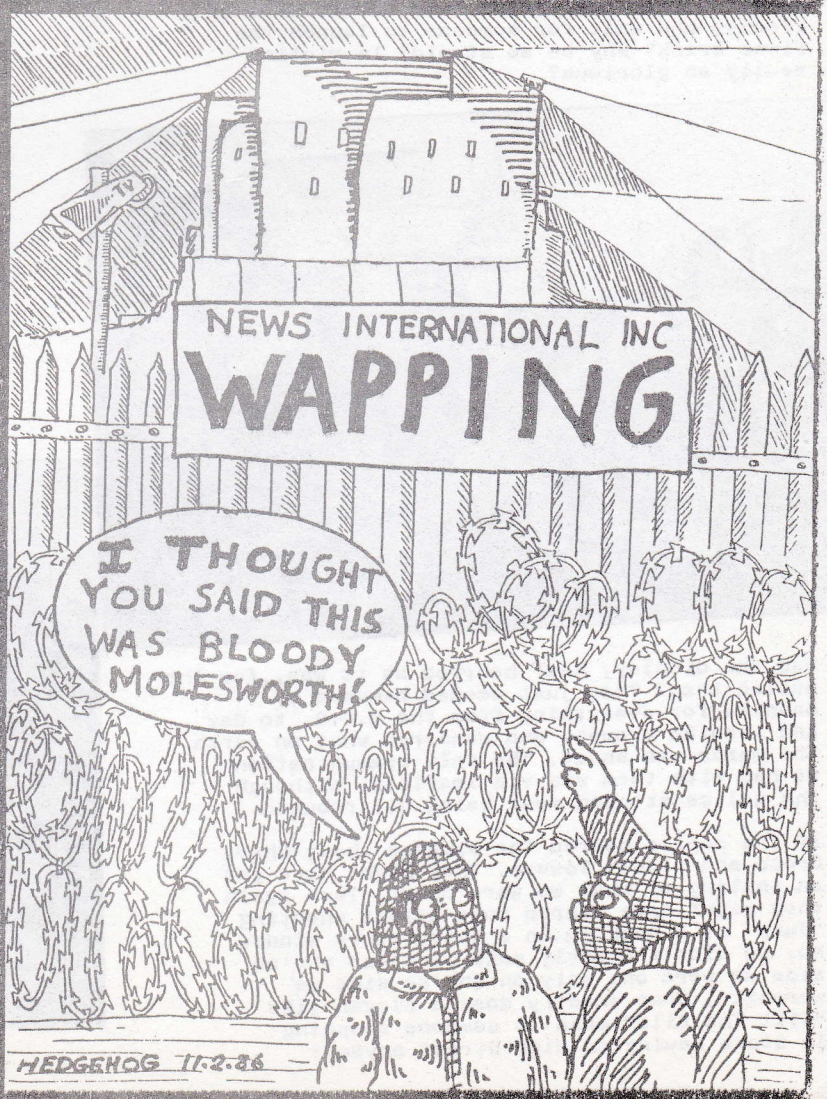
URGENT APPEAL.

THE CAMPAIGN IS IN DANGER OF COLLAPSING, DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS.

Any donations, offers of help etc. would be gratefully received.

Woman and Medikill Practice, c/o 32a Shakespeare St. Nottingham

(NO WAY!)



# CAMPAIGN AGAINST POLICE REPRESSION

In the words of the C.A.P.R. handout, the March Against Police Repression was 'not a protest' but a demonstration of our rights. The idea being that, as we marched and chanted our way round London E.9. we show them that 'together we are strong' and that 'they cannot take our rights from us'....Hmm!... Can't they?...

Saturday 25th January was a sunny if chilly day. Whatever it achieved, the march would at least be an empowering statement of our anger and defiance. In the event, all I felt was a little silly, marching inches from increasingly irritable police, chanting "Kill The Bill". I wasn't sure who the march was for. The police know how angry we are, and reacted eventually with all the violence we expect of them. We taunted them with chants about Harry Roberts, they responded by dragging us off into vans by our hair, and then we got outraged about what bullies they are. But bullying is what they're there for, we know that already. Of course they're violent and sadistic, why prevoke them into proving it?

We stopped at Dalsto Lane and Stoke Newington police stations, and verbally 'showed them our anger'. But they already know! Was it maybe to stir our selves into a revolutionary frenzy, and wait for someone to launch the first brick? Why be so stupid? Is rioting really so glorious?



Was the display, half hearted as it was, for the public then? They just seemed bemused by banners for everything from the R.C.G. to Gay and Lesbian groups, and wondered what on earth the march was about. The only communication we had with them was via leaflets, although the police stopped most being distributed.

If the public heard the slogans about Cheri Groce and Liddle Towers, they might have got an inkling of what we were about. Then again they might have heard some idiots shouting "Jump" at a heckler in a third story window. No, we didn't exactly make it clear who'se side we were on, only on who'se side we weren't. What exactly does a slogan like "Kill The Bill" mean to someone shopping in Stoke Newington High Street anyway?

So what is the Campaign Against Police Repression actually about? It does not concentrate on Police reform. At the original meeting to organize the march, people clearly wanted a broad based campaign against and in defiance of the police. How

do you end police repression without ending the police (as they are by definition repressive)? Marching and provoking them will not finish them, only lead us into confrontations we cannot win.

They weren't quaking with fear at the sight of us. Yelling at them is a waste of energy and we aren't strong enough to fight them openly, even if that would help. But we can expose them. The value of a march against them is not to 'take them on', but to confront the public with police atrocities and ask of them that they oppose the state and learn to see it for what it is.

Being a small campaign we can do no more at present than serve to educate people about the police. So, as anarchists, we work to spread anti-state ideas and promote libertarian thinking, thereby growing as a movement that is conscious of itself, it's aims and it's limitations. To try and fight them now, on the streets, is counter productive, as it weakens us and wears us out. I am only glad that on Jan. 25th the fervour for smashing up police stations, that there was at the first C.A.P.R. meeting, didn't re-emerge. It would have given them the opportunity to wipe the floor with us, and if that happens too many times a campaign can simply burn itself out. Not to mention the horrific machismo involved in choosing to fight the police.

But if the value of the campaign is to educate people about the police, rather than reform or fight them, did it do that either? I don't think so. Partly because we remained locked behind police lines, but also because of the aggression we gave off as a crowd, keeping our ranks closed, we left the public confused and rather concerned, most of the leaflets being given out were vague and uninformative anyway, unless you already lived in and understood the goals and language of our radical ghetto.

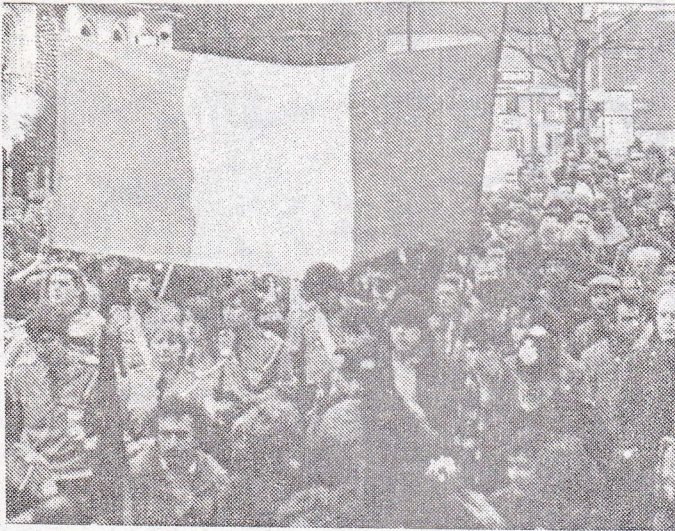
We should have the foresight next time, especially after the Public Order Bill is law, not to appear as mean and as roisy as possible. We have to make it clear who we are and what we are saying, and drop this 'if you're not with us you're against us' attitude. The campaign needs to address itself more broadly to people, gaining energy and numbers, not yelling at the police 'brick wall'.





# BLOODY SUNDAY

On 30th January 1972, there was a peaceful demonstration in Derry, Northern Ireland. It was met, not with plastic bullets, but with lead ones. The British Army shot 30 unarmed, peaceful demonstrators. 13 of them were killed. People helping the injured were shot at. Every year, that day is remembered as Bloody Sunday.



The march itself. About 2000 people left Hyde Park, pipes playing and flags flying. We were jeered at by a couple of hundred fascists who hid behind what seemed millions of coppers. Earlier they'd hurled bricks, bottles and insults before running off when outnumbered and hiding behind their friends in blue. The rest of the march, to Kilburn, passed without incident, although the RCP contingent swelled in numbers by the simple expedient of well-trained stewards grabbing hold of anybody within range and thrusting them into the throng where they were swallowed up by the fresh-faced cadres. I didn't listen to the speeches. I was too cold, wet, bored and disgusted with the long queues emanating from yet another Macdonalds. LONG LIVE THE GLORIOUS PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION! SOLIDARITY WITH OPPRESSED PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD! MACDONALDS FOR ALL!

Colin.



Going on coaches organised by the Trades Council or other labour movement organisations is always a refreshing experience. Not for them the last minute panic about whether enough people are going, to cover the cost of the coach - all the tickets were sold a week before. And would you believe that Trots actually sell each other papers before they get anywhere? The coach aisle was a scrambling melée of enthusiastic paper sellers, all trying to outdo each other in their quest to spread the true gospel. As we got back into the coach after a coffee break, a coach-load of NF supporters drove into the car-park. And great was the gnashing of teeth! The mood was hostile. Would there be a clash? Yes: as we drove away, a few brave men, high on marxism, screamed out "Fascist bastards". We were unable to see if the subhumans quaked in their boots at this proletarian anger as we sped onto the motorway.

The first thing that happened when we got to London was the anti-imperialist maoist faction jumped off the coach and straight into MacDonaldis. I always saw those "food" chains as an example par excellence of imperialism - cultural imperialism here (imposing amerikka on us) and no-nonsense, no-holds-barred economic imperialism in South America. Still, the maoists probably know something I don't; MacDonaldis is probably part of an international marxist conspiracy to drain the vitality of our young and make the world ripe for communist takeover. And if you believe that you'll believe anything, which explains maoism quite nicely.



MIDLANDS

# ANARCHIST

## GET-TOGETHER

On 15th & 16th MARCH at the QUEEN'S WALK COMMUNITY CENTRE,

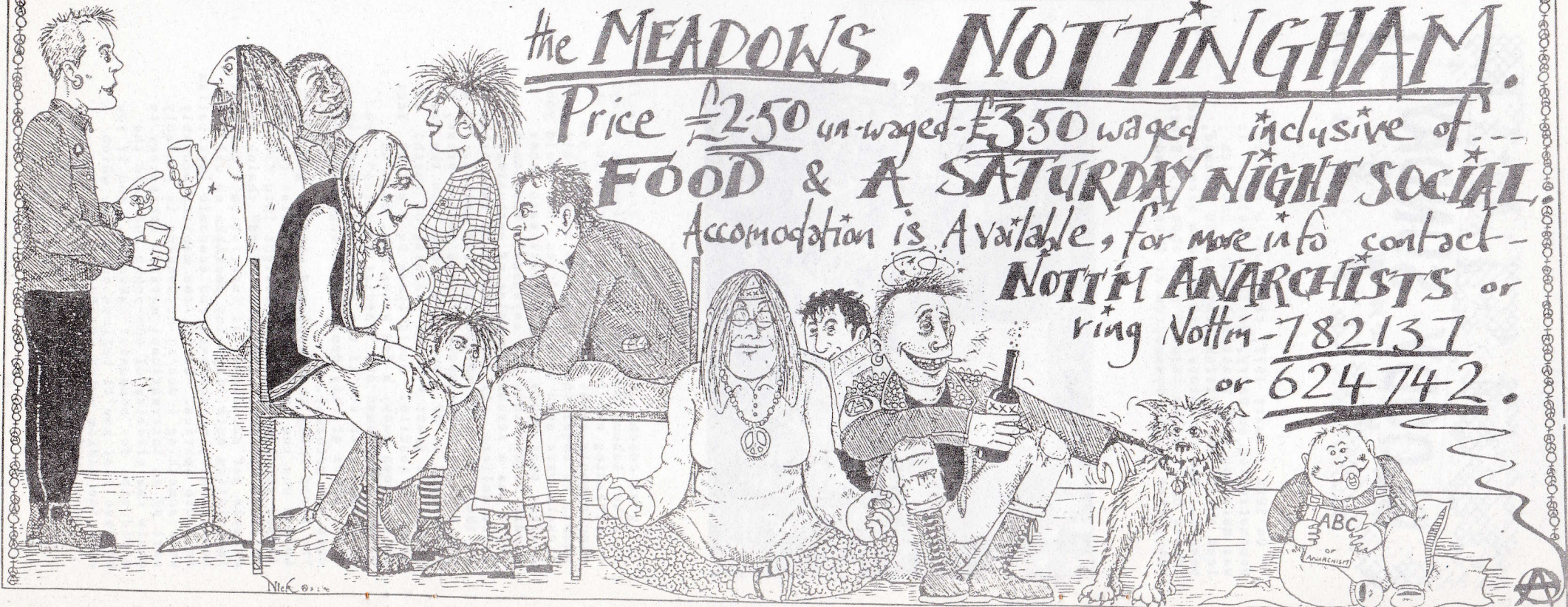
the MEADOWS, NOTTINGHAM.

Price £2.50 un-waged - £3.50 waged inclusive of FOOD & A SATURDAY NIGHT SOCIAL.

Accommodation is Available, for more info contact -

NOTT'M ANARCHISTS or  
ring Nott'm - 782137

or 624742.



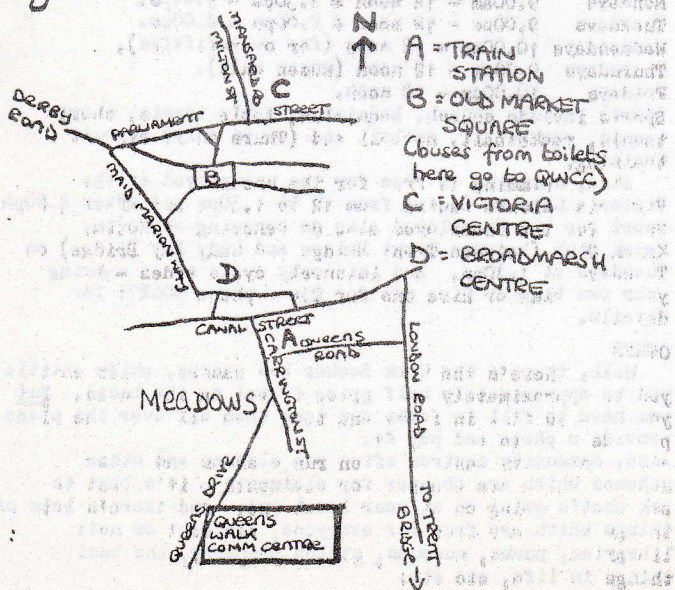
# MIDLANDS ANARCHIST get-together

Last year, Nottingham Anarchists organised a conference for Midlands As. It was a well-attended and enjoyable event; new contacts were made and fun was had. We'd like to renew those contacts and meet new people. So another get-together is being arranged for this year - all anarchists and potential anarchists, particularly from the Midlands, are welcome.

The apparently new traditional winter get-together for Midlands Anarchists will happen in Nottingham on March 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>. Once again it will be at Queens Walk Community Centre, Queens Drive, Meadows, Nottingham. Please let us know in advance if you're intending to come, as this will make it much easier to organise - contact us through the Mushroom box number or telephone 782137 or 624742.

## PRICE

Because of all the costs we have to face in organising the weekend, we have to charge people to get in. The price will be £2-50 unwaged or £3-50 waged. Included in the price is vegan food, a social and a crèche. People from outside Nottingham will be put up in local houses - please contact us if you need or can offer sleeping space. In the unlikely event of us making any profit, we guarantee to do wonderful things with it - hopefully we could plough it into a Midlands Federation.



## WORKSHOPS

There will be both preplanned workshops introduced by speakers, and space for people to organise spontaneous workshops on whatever else seems interesting or important. There will be a womens workshop. Also, there will be equipment for showing videos, so if you've got a video you'd like people to see (VHS), please bring it along. And please bring examples of leaflets, stickers, magazines, papers etc you have produced, so that we can show them to each other. There will be a bookstall where you can catch up with the latest in anarchist literature!

## SOCIAL

On Saturday night there will be a social, with free admission to everyone who has paid to get in the get-together. If anyone would like to perform anything (playlets/music/cabarets...) during the social, please don't be shy - we'll probably all be too drunk to realise you're making a complete fool of yourself. More details about the social will be supplied on the day.

## FEDERATION

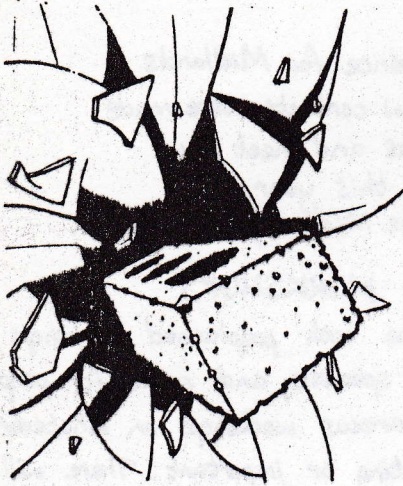
During the weekend we'd like to talk about the idea of setting up a regional federation, for the purposes of regular contact and communication, ideas and resources sharing, support of each others actions, joint activities and whatever else people think of. It would be useful if people could think about this beforehand and discuss it in their local groups.

# CLASS WAR

CLASS WAR "ORGANISATION" CONFERENCE

WILL HAPPEN ON MARCH 8-9th AT MANCHESTER POLY, THE MANDELA BUILDING. 11am - 5pm. WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF PICADILLY STATION.  
DETAILS: 01 806 0570.

CW ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO DRAFT THEIR OWN PROPOSALS ON CW'S ORGANISATION, AND TO DISTRIBUTE THEM BEFOREHAND.



spring's coming . . .  
brighten up your wardrobe  
acquire a stylish new outfit

COME TO A

## JUMBLE SALE

in aid of the Society for Mutual  
Aid and Self Help.

Saturday March 1st

2 pm

Mapperley Community Centre,  
Woodborough Road. (Buses 50/51)

*If you have any donations of  
jumble, please tel 624742.*

# goodies FOR claimants

If you're unemployed, or surviving on state handouts for other reasons, the last thing you'll want to do is pay more than you need for anything. So it's useful to have an idea of the concessions that are available.

#### ENTERTAINMENTS

Nearly all gigs and events put on by radical or alternative organisations are cheaper for claimants. As well as these, there are:  
The Film Theatre (Broad Street). Claimants £1.20 (as opposed to usual ticket price of £1.60). Details 583184.  
The Odeon. You can get in for 99p on production of a UB40.  
The Midland Group (Goosegate). Performances reduced from £2.50 to £2 and films reduced from £1.75 to £1.25 on production of a UB40 or SB book.  
Nottingham Playhouse. Monday evenings - 2 tickets for the price of one. Saturday matinees - one ticket for £1.50. Only on production of UB40.

#### EDUCATION

The place to take your UB40 for courses on a whole range of subjects (daytime or evening) is the WEA, 16 Shakespeare Street. Courses that usually cost around £9 or £12 are reduced to £1.50. But you must be registered unemployed - if you're penniless on supplementary benefit for any other reason, you'll have to pay loads more. (If you're as pissed off about the unfairness of this as I am, give them a ring on 473022 and tell them about it.)

If you want to take any other courses elsewhere, always remember to ask whether there are concessions.

#### SPORTS

This is where your UB40 really comes into its own. For 25p, you can take part in any sports at the Sycamore Centre. During school holidays in off peak hours, any facilities run by Gedling Borough Recreation Department are half price - that's Arnold Leisure Centre, Carlton Forum, Redhill Leisure Centre and Calverton Sports Centre.

But the really exciting one is the 'Sport for the Unemployed' scheme. At various centres, including Southglade Sports Hall, Noel Street Baths, Clifton Playing Fields, John Carroll Leisure Centre, Aspley Centre and the YMCA (Shakespeare Street), a huge variety of sports can be enjoyed with equipment provided free. All this for only 25p and a UB40! Different things happen at different times, so check with the leisure centre or the 'Sports for the Unemployed' office (Tel. 506271) before you go. Some of the sessions are women-only, and some are for over-fifties. At some sessions there's a 10p creche.

The Victoria Leisure Centre (near Sneinton Market)

has a full 'Sport for the Unemployed' timetable:

Mondays 9.00am - 12 noon & 3.30pm - 5.00pm.

Tuesdays 9.00am - 12 noon & 2.00pm - 4.00pm.

Wednesdays 10.00am - 12 noon (for over-fifties).

Thursdays 9.00am - 12 noon (women only).

Fridays 10.00am - 12 noon.

Sports include squash, badminton, table tennis, short-tennis, racketball, netball and (Thurs only) circuit training.

Also, swimming is free for the unemployed at the Victoria Leisure Centre from 12 to 1.30pm and after 4.00pm. Sport for the Unemployed also do canoeing at Nottm. Kayak Club (between Trent Bridge and Lady Bay Bridge) on Tuesdays at 1.30pm. And leisurely cycle rides - bring your own bike or hire one for 25p - phone 506271 for details.

#### OTHER

Well, there's the Work Seeker bus passes, which entitle you to approximately half price travel on the buses. But you have to fill in forms and take them all over the place provide a photo and pay £1. Also, community centres often run classes and other schemes which are cheaper for claimants - it's best to ask what's going on at your local one. And there's lots of things which are free for everyone, claimant or not: libraries, parks, museums, stolen property, the best things in life, etc etc.

## UNEMPLOYED CENTRE

## WAGE LABOURING

Since its opening in 1982 (so long? and so little!) Nottingham Centre for the Unemployed has proved a stunning example of paralysis and incompetence from the Laboure and Trade Union movement. Their inability to come to terms with the needs of the unwaged in the city shows to those who ever doubted it that they are interested only in squabbling over the corpse of workerism (and stuffing it right back up the workers).

Anyway . . . sponsored by Labour City and County Councils, with the Trades Council, and with funding by the MSC for the workers, it's unlikely that it could have developed beyond the stupidity of one building stuffed with eleven workers in the city centre - not even the social centre - where claimants are thin on the ground. Having a number of centres with fewer workers (or even claimant control!) in different estates would not have been as dramatic a gesture. Over the last few years there has been valuable work there - welfare rights, womens campaigns, some 'arts' stuff - largely the result of a few individuals who of course are chucked out after a years contract of battling in isolation. After an initial blitz of campaign activity produced the inevitable backlash from the Post and Tory councillors, respectability in the eyes of the MSC became the watchword. The "users group" was a classic battleground for the professional leftists, with Militant fighting a glorious revolutionary battle for the right to keep the coffee bar money. On most days the place had an atmosphere veering from the macho to the suicidal.

Now . . . information is a bit shaky so corrections and contributions would be welcome - the issues are far too important to keep quiet. Some would say that NCU was initially/essentially a Communist Party front, and perhaps its current stagnation (with reverberating traumas in the Trades Council) stemmed from the Communist current national squabbles. For certain the actual management committee of NCU has been suspended (by the MSC?) and replaced by a steering group . . . In some bizarre move the long standing manageress resigned in order to reapply and is left out in the cold . . . The premises themselves are under threat with the City offering no alternatives . . . At the moment the main section of the building is unused with the workers hidden in their private bunker . . . Do we have a right to know what's going on?!

The best thing would be for someone to squat it.

Ludd Again.

# NOTTM RIOTS!

↑  
sensational  
headline

Although it's a while back now, I was sorry to see the article in the Oct/Nov issue which took such an unenthusiastic view of the riots last autumn - which in Nottingham saw action on the Saturday night of Goose Fair,

Our history is fragile and soon lost and forgotten. There have been riots around Goose Fair time for at least 300 years, and looking back the politics become clear.

1776 saw the 'Cheese Riot' in the Market Square: at this time the fair was mainly an agricultural sale, where local people would stock up for the winter with food like cheese. Finding the price too high was a bit like a dole out, so the giant cheeses were liberated and dealt with by the crowd. Troops were called in (no police in those days) and five days of riots continued, some of it at the Fair with other local state and business property being attacked. (The troops shot and killed William Egglestone, but a coroners inquest ruled 'Accidental death, by a person or persons to them unknown' - familiar story!)

Riots were common all over the country at this time and later if local people thought the price of basic food was too high, often the crowd would seize it and sell it at what they thought a 'fair price', and return that money to the original seller. Another Goose Fair riot happened in 1791: 'The Stocking Frame Riot' as part of years of resistance to a new industrialised technology which impoverished a working class emerging with a sharp political consciousness.

By 1831 campaigns were happening to extend (fairly pathetically!) the right to vote. When the news that the House of Lords had rejected this reached Nottingham at Goose Fair time the crowds marched to the castle - home of local nobility - and burnt it to the ground. Our official City history tends to avoid this point . . . the present castle is a Victorian remake.

And the 1980's? Riots remain a continual form of radical action which all too often outstrip the theories and demands of political groups. The looting of today demolishes the commodity as the rioters of the 1700's fought to challenge the new capitalism by insisting on a fair price determined by the community. As the Luddites destroyed the new means of production, today we destroy the means of consumption and passification. Rioters today cannot attack their "own" community because none of us have a community which is ours - everything is owned and controlled by power. What have we got to lose?!

federation together. Everyone else was embarrassingly middle class and cringe-makingly nice, whilst being naive about Anarchism as a movement and patronising about everyone except themselves.

An Anarcho-Pacifist Federation is a necessary and good idea, but if it gets off the ground (which I doubt) and is full of people like these it'll be just a bit more radical than CND. There are lots of anarcho-pacifists around (organising at Peace Camps, writing magazines etc) with a clear idea of where they're going and how to get there. The Anarcho-Pacifist Federation needs hijacking by people with some sense...

For more info. write to:

Federation of Anarcho-Pacifists  
c/o Housmans Bookshop  
5, Caledonian Road  
London N1

Laura Biding

## ANARCHO-PACIFISTS

There is a National Federation of Anarcho-Pacifists currently being formed. At a meeting on Sun 26th Jan in London the group initiating the idea decided that the federation should aim to spread and develop the ideas of anarcho-pacifism. Also, hopefully, that smaller groups would emerge in different towns and possibly federate in regions. Not much seemed to have been clarified by the time I left the meeting because only one or two people in the room seemed to have any real practical sense of how to run a meeting or the practicalities needed to hold something like a national

# TOO BUSY PRACTISING...

IN FUTURE ISSUES WE HOPE TO INCLUDE ARTICLES ON THE LOCAL MUSIC SCENE. WE HOPE TO CONCENTRATE ON THOSE BANDS/GROUPS WHO HAVE SOME SENSE OF POLITICAL AWARENESS AND/OR ARE PREPARED TO DO BENEFIT GIGS, NOT THOSE WHO ARE IN IT FOR THE POTENTIAL FAME OR FORTUNE, OR WHO JUST WANT TO BE PART OF THE 'SCENE', IF YOU FANCY YOURSELF AS A REVIEWER OF SOUND, VENUE OR STYLE, OR WANT TO TELL US HOW THINGS MIGHT (OR COULD) BE, PLEASE LET US HAVE YOUR ARTICLES. IN THE MEANTIME HERE'S A FEW MUSINGS TO CHEW OVER. RESPONSE? RESPOND....

Many forms of art have created impact and influenced the general public; none (looking at things in general terms since the year dot) more so than music going under the broad hyped banner, the 'Rock Cult Medium'.

'We are more popular than God'(or words to that effect) dribbled from the lips of Lennon. He was trying to point out that the plastic mystique the Beatles and their manipulators perpetrated had created a larger following (numbers wise) than this revered God myth. Unfortunately the following of false Gods has risen to an intollerable level. Hero-worship in the 'Rock Cult Medium' has been the sole source of its demise. I see macho-posturing wallburts jerking themselves off to AC/DCs Angus Youngs guitar riffs (a good cult style for Rambo nurds); the intellectual, very white, post-grad audience believing 'Brickhead Rambo Springbean' to be some sort of working class hero; misguided labour party supporters thinking 'Willy Wag Bragg' is some sort of rhetoric educator for the politically illiterate; and punk & post-punk agitators bleating about a bunch of monotonical four/four beat rocksters who consider Sids smack intake to be hip and sub. cult. Smashing up the Hilton's best rooms doesn't give me hope that our so-called leaders in the Rock Star world are going to break down the walls of Babylon.....?

Apart from the jumped-up musicos I've mentioned here, there are many more that could be added to the list. All these gutless pap-creating artists are shoved up by the goons on Radio One. 'It's where you're at on the pecking order pedestal that matters, maaannn!' as our socio-conscious Peter Prat Powell would have us believe. These rock youth cult bozos have had years to change things: they have done Fuck All!! Negative & uncreative, soft-centred, well-hyped, simple melodies have guaranteed only money in the pockets of the elitist few. This elite has successfully reduced thinking people into enjoying music at a bland, blind level, relishing in clichés like 'Its got a nice tune' and 'I don't care if its got rubbish lyrics, they sing nice on it'. We know music has power to influence, but on what level? Is it lack of political will on the side of the artist that stops the passionate sentiments conveyed through music being able to terminate the repressive regimes by stimulating its following into trying to seek justice?

Is it that the repressive regimes have the power to terminate any ideological fantasies a young rock star might have? Is it that the rock medium has seen its best days and will remain as it always has been: a raft to keep liberals with a social conscience afloat so they can have a corner in the big artistic sea to rant & rave to their respective captive audiences of back-slapping sealions???????????

ROBIN

## RECORD REVIEW.

### B. BRAGG Days Like These.

A soft jangling guitar, 50s sounding, picked in a folky style. A lovely contrived working class East End vocal. Simplicity!?! Ralph McTell's 'Streets of London' didn't make us aware & neither will 'Days Like These'. I'm sorry, Billy, but your style is old hat. It's a variation on an old Dylan theme. At least your accent isn't mid-atlantic, that must be a plus. The subjects you sing about are close to home - another plus. But statements are no record of events. We want positive ideas, not a record of events. We know times are bad; we don't need telling that. We, the people you sing about, want creative, energetic, positive ideas to put an end to Days Like These..

# ROCK AND REGGAE

## THE HISTORY

7 years old; a multi-cultural musical event on the Forest over a July weekend; attracting audiences of thousands both from the local area and city wide. People enjoying themselves in the sun, and the rain! Afro-Caribbean and white cultures intermingling on a basis of mutual respect. And slowly more than music - childrens area, community stalls, poets, break-dancers, theatre groups. Successful - yet organised by a handful of individuals and a couple of local organisations

## THE AIMS

FREE, non-competitive, local performers who culturally reflect the surrounding community. Planned and staged collectively encouraging the performers to participate in the organisation.

Aiming to actively challenge divisions based on race or sex or class within the context of an event that is accessible and enjoyable for all. Paid for from various sources - city and county council, East Midlands Arts, Radio Trent, commercial food stalls.

## THE FUTURE - THE FOREST FREE FESTIVAL

A change of name, a change of emphasis? To some degree yes. Still musical, still multi-cultural but aiming for more styles of music, more women performers, Asian involvement, expanding the events off the stage. Reinforcing the steps to make it more of a Community Festival - by the community as well as for it.

WHICH MEANS THAT IT NEEDS MORE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN ORGANISING IT. People planning, writing letters, printing publicity, organising stalls, performing, building and supervising a childrens area, erecting tents, driving vans, providing vans, keeping the site clean. A central coordination is necessary but there's plenty of scope for individuals or organisations to use their initiative and say "I/We'll do this bit"

## WANT TO GET INVOLVED

In March we're organising a social event cum meeting to talk about this year's festival. Some short performances from some of last year's acts, some food some talking. Its at

FOREST FIELDS COMMUNITY CENTRE, STURTON ST on MONDAY 24th MARCH starting at 7.30pm

Watch out for more publicity about this.

In the meantime - for more information.

CONTACT:- FOREST FREE FESTIVAL, c/o Nottingham Community Arts Centre, 39 Gregory Boulevard Hyson Green, Tel 782463.

# BOOK REVIEW

## 1984

### TWO YEARS TOO LATE

THIS IS A BOOK WHICH RAISES TOO MANY POLITICAL THEMES FOR ME TO DEAL WITH THEM ALL HERE, YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO READ THE BOOK YOURSELF. WHAT I'D LIKE TO TALK ABOUT, IS IN WHAT WAYS IT IS RELEVANT TO US AS ANARCHISTS.

ORWELL WAS AGAINST ALL RIGID BELIEFS OF LEFT OR RIGHT, HE IDENTIFIED WITH ANARCHISM AND MANY OF HIS FRIENDS, SUCH AS GEORGE WOODCOCK, WERE ANARCHISTS. THE NOVEL IS NOT AN ANARCHIST ONE BUT IT RAISES TWO IMPORTANT ISSUES. THE FIRST IS A WARNING AGAINST THE USE OF POWER, AND WHAT THE USE OF POWER CAN LEAD TO IF WE LET IT. THE FRIGHTENING ASPECT OF 1984 IS THE FACT THAT THERE ARE NO PRETENCES, POWER IS HELD FOR ITS OWN SAKE - NOT FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING MONEY OR 'FOR THE GOOD OF THE PROLETARIAT'. AS O'BRIEN SAYS 'POWER IS NOT THE MEANS, IT IS AN END'.

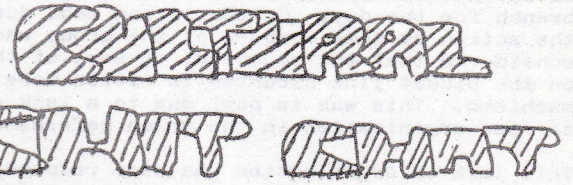
THE INNER PARTY MEMBERS ARE AS FACELESS AS TODAY'S CAPITALISTS, THEY ACHIEVE THEIR IMMORTALITY THROUGH THE PARTY CONTINUING TO HOLD POWER OVER GENERATIONS - DIRECTORS MAY CHANGE BUT I.C.I ROLLS ON. MANY SOCIALISTS STILL ARGUE THAT, CHANGE THE ECONOMIC RELATIONS IN SOCIETY AND OPPRESSION WILL FALL. IN THIS NOVEL WE HAVE A SOCIETY WHERE PROPERTY IS COLLECTIVELY OWNED AND MATERIAL DISTINCTIONS MINIMAL, YET POWER IS CONCENTRATED IN THE HANDS OF A FEW. POWER, AND AN EXAMINATION OF WHAT MOTIVATES INDIVIDUAL POWER IS CENTRAL TO THE ANARCHIST MOVEMENT.

SECONDLY THE NOVEL IS THE CRYSTALLISATION OF ORWELL'S DISTRUST OF THE MIDDLE CLASS INTELLECTUAL. ORWELL IS OUR 'REBEL' BUT HIS INSTINCTS ARE THOSE OF

O'BRIEN, HE WILL SACRIFICE THE INDIVIDUAL FOR AN IDEAL. WHEN WINSTON AGREES TO THROW SULPHURIC ACID IN A CHILD'S FACE, HE HAS BECOME WHAT HE FIGHTS.

ORWELL HAD FAITH ONLY IN THE 'COMMON SENSE' AND 'DECENCY' OF THE WORKING CLASSES, NOT IN THE THEORIES OF ACADEMICS. THE MODERN ANARCHIST MOVEMENT TENDS TO BE VERY ANTI - INTELLECTUAL PERHAPS JUSTIFIABLY SO, MIDDLE CLASS INTELLECTUALS WERE NEVER THE MOST ACTIVE IN SOME RESPECTS.

HOWEVER, ALOT OF OUR ACTION TODAY SEEMS AIMLESS AND ERRATIC, ORWELL SAW THE IMPORTANCE OF HISTORY - WHO CONTROLLED THE HISTORY CONTROLLED THE FUTURE, BUT WE AS ANARCHISTS HAVE NO SENSE OF OUR PAST AND THEREFORE OF WHERE WE ARE GOING NOW. MAYBE WE CAN LEARN FROM THE MISTAKES AND USE THE THEORY TO PULL OUR ACTION TOGETHER.

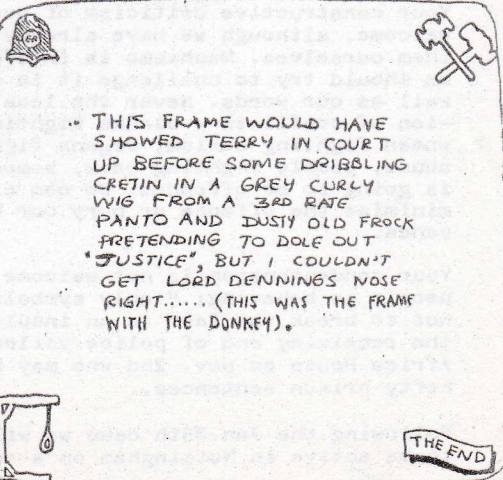
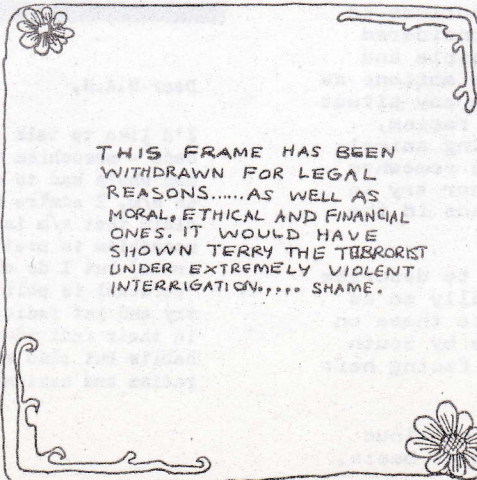
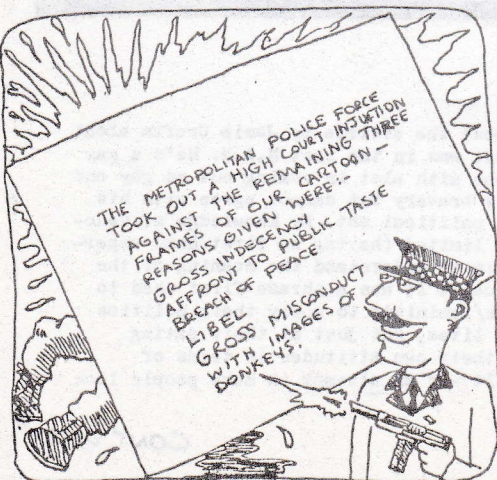


Some months ago Anarchist News contained scurrilous articles on various "media organisations", (Nottingham Video Project, Mass Productions, the new media centre) and a vigorous defence of them. Well . . . no great developments in political debate but all round bad news in terms of getting state/capital funding. Perhaps it was foolish to get excited about these things in the first place but an air of unreality, of nonspeak, still persists . . .

. . . and talking of jobs for the middle class, there are wild rumours of turmoil at our local culture palace the Midland Group. Two (?) workers sacked because of disagreements over long term plans - no doubt to be featured in the next Cinema day school and exhibition of womens/blacks/gay/working class art. Though always against wage labour, Anarchist News is always ready to extend its solidarity to victims of sackings (from Mushroom tp Wapping) and we will be ready to take our place on the picket lines. What is going on??...

# GUN-LAW - EVERYDAY TALES OF TERRORIST FOLK

WORDS/PICTURES - PHIL HEDGEHOG  
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THE END

# LETTERS

Dear friends,

Following your report in NAN 5 on the 'student' demonstration against apartheid on 24th October I would like to make some points.

The first action was an occupation of the Barclays branch behind the the Council House which effectively succeeded in closing that branch for the day. Criticism was made during the action by some members of the group who considered that the behaviour of some of those on the picket line amounted to little more than machismo. This was in part due to a lack of serious organisation in the group beforehand.

This lack of organisation was also responsible for the style which the demonstration took on reaching Tesco's. One plan was to clear the shelves of South African produce, but the very nature in which we moved en-masse from Barclays made this impossible. This left further confusion as no suitable leaflets had been prepared and resulted in the attempted blockade by young men and young women shouting slogans at men and women doing their shopping. This action was considered to be a failure by many members of the group.

however, on December 7th the 'Action Against Apartheid' demo, attended by smaller numbers of students (and hardly anyone else - despite publicity) was far more successful. The same targets had been chosen, but we picketed Barclays (instead of occupying) and by giving out leaflets and 'shouting slogans' several account holders proceeded in withdrawing their accounts. At Tesco's leaflets encouraging the boycott of South African goods were given out, petitions were signed and several shoppers contributed to the material aid campaign, despite intimidation from the security scum.

I don't feel that Barclays and Tesco's felt threatened either - nor do I think that glueing up cashpoints gives more than a little inconvenience, nor do I think that spraying Anarchist/Anti-Apartheid graffiti on the walls does either. Glueing cashpoints causes inconvenience to the "average" person in the street trying to get their fiver out, and how many bank executives have you seen scrubbing walls clean.

Creative and imaginative the idea was, but do you think that advertising Kruggerands for sale at Barclays made the bank's users consider apartheid? Do you think that advertising "Special offers" boots made people think twice about vivisection and animal exploitation? - Or did it more likely inconvenience shoppers and shop assistants alike? O.K. - I only went on one of the London Stop the City's - but do you think that any of them - or any of the Stop business as usual's, is anything more than symbolism? - Although this need not invalidate such actions.

Your constructive criticism of our actions is welcome, although we have already considered them ourselves. Machismo is indefensible and we should try to challenge it in our actions as well as our words. Never the less in any situation of conflicts - blacks fighting racism, women fighting sexism, vegans fighting animal abuse, people fighting back, someone somewhere is going to be offended. We can either try to minimise the offence or bury our heads in the sands.

Your condescension is not welcome - to describe people as behaving; "only symbolically so as not to break the law" is an insult to those on the receiving end of police violence by South Africa House on Nov. 2nd who may be facing hefty prison sentences.

Following the Jan. 25th demo we will continue to be active in Nottingham on a regular basis.

We welcome all suggestions as to how we can improve our effectiveness and would welcome your involvement.

Please note that the polytechnic and university anti-apartheid groups are not directly connected with Nottingham Anti-apartheid.

Cheers,

13/12/85

nic

Teent Poly Anti-Apartheid Action Group.

Dear Nottingham Anarchist News,

How I laughed when reading the article on Molesworth 1986, when I came across the reference to the Nott'm contingents' participation in the Upper Heyford blockade in 1983. We were, it claimed, totally astonished that the only organised group there among the Nott'm people were the anarchists.

It was some time ago, but I couldn't remember being astonished. I remember being jealous when, looking up between the armpits of 2 big cops who were dragging me off to the Paddy wagon, I saw the anarchists having lunch, a leisurely lunch, prior to their own arrest.

It's not usual for the anarchists to feel they have to put others down to boost themselves, so I enquired further about the source of the article. "Him!" I exclaimed when told who had written it. "That jerky fellow from Forest Road. I can't remember him being at Upper Heyford." But then I cast my mind back & remembered he had been there. He was the one who stayed shy while the rest of us, including all the other anarchists, were arrested.

"So that explains it", I said. "The poor boy couldn't properly have been able to see what really happened from the dirty windows of that coach."

Yours

Frank Shiels & Isabella Smart.

REPLY:

Maybe the Anarchists were not the only organised group at Upper Heyford, but we were the only group organised enough to eat a leisurely lunch prior to our arrests. Also, we were organised enough to have a legal support person - who was organised enough to shy away from arrest so he could support us.

Maybe if Frank and Isabella didn't rush their meals they wouldn't feel the need to gripe jealously about other people's organisation!

Dear N.A.N.,

I'd like to talk about the article by Jamie Crofts about sado-masochism that was in the last N.A.N. He's a gay man who's had to cope with a lot in coming out as gay and as s/m, I admire his bravery but cannot agree with his claim that s/m is a political act. My knowledge of sado-masochism is pretty limited (having no first hand experience) but I do claim to understand the meaning of the 'personal is political'. It was a phrase first used to try and get radicals/feminists to apply their politics in their individual lives, not just at their eating habits but also at their own attitudes in terms of racism and sexism. It was an attempt to make people look

CONT. OVER →







BOREDOM IS COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY.