

# Capenhurst Snowball

the campaign needs

people with banners

people to leaflet

donations towards fines and admin. costs

photographers

letter writers

people to attend court cases

legal observers

people to wait at the police station

people to sell this newsletter

next snowball Nov. 1st

people to cut

you

# SUPPORT THE SNOWBALL CAMPAIGN.

The AIM of the Snowball campaign is to persuade the government by totally non-violent means, to show they really want peace by committing themselves to at least one of the following requests:

- 1) That Britain starts voting in the U.N. in favour of multilateral disarmament proposals, regardless of how the U.S.A. votes.
- 2) That Britain publicly calls for a comprehensive test-ban treaty.
- 3) That Britain takes some independent step towards a freeze or reduction in arms by abandoning Trident, returning Cruise, or publicly rejecting the forthcoming U.S.A. chemical weapons storage proposals.

The METHODS of achieving this aim through the Snowball campaign are through two main snowballing effects:

- a) A snowball of letters to public and personal figures.
- b) A snowball of people prepared to cut the fence round Capenhurst, one strand per person.

Capenhurst has been chosen to be added to the other Snowball bases because with the opening of the new M.O.D. plant, it is directly linked with the Trident programme.

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... Why Capenhurst ??

B.N.F.L. Capenhurst provides fuel for nuclear power stations by enriching uranium. The new M.O.D. plant on the same site has cost £100 million and will make highly enriched uranium to fuel Trident submarines and eventually for nuclear warheads. It therefore now has a direct link with the weapons programme as well as an essential role in the nuclear power/nuclear weapons chain.

The uranium which is enriched for military purposes is mined under inhuman conditions in Namibia by Rio Tinto Zinc. This is in defiance of the United Nations Decree No.1. 1974, which makes it illegal to import raw materials from Namibia while that country is occupied by South Africa. Capenhurst supports apartheid in South Africa this way.

Radioactive waste from the site is pumped out into the sea at Meols on the Wirral, thus further polluting the Irish Sea, which is already the most heavily radioactively polluted sea in the world.

The Snowball Campaign may be one way of increasing public awareness to what is going on at this plant





# THE JULY SNOWBALL

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The third Capenhurst Snowball took place on Sunday July 6. The cutters and some of their supporters arrived at the BNFL factory by hired bus just before 2.00pm. A group of about seventy supporters were already there, waiting. Over thirty United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority police were guarding the main-gates.

The (approximately 130) demonstrators formed a semi-circle to the right of the gates and sat down facing the fence. We remained in complete silence for exactly ten minutes. Three people stood up, linked arms and walked to the fence. A woman at the back of the demonstration stood up with her guitar. She sang:

" Gonna lay down my sword and shield  
Down by the riverside  
Down by the riverside

We joined in the chorus:

" I ain't gonna study war no more  
I ain't gonna study war no more  
I ain't gonna study war no more. "

She sang:

" Gonna shout out my call for peace  
Down by the riverside. .... "

We sang the chorus again.

While we were singing, groups of three cutters kept on walking to the fence:

" Stand up, stand up  
People make your choice  
Create a world without Nuclear death  
Now, together we are strong  
Break the nuclear chain. "

In all, thirty-one people were arrested for cutting, or attempting to cut, the fence. (In January fourteen were arrested, in April twenty-nine.)

About fifty of the demonstrators set out to walk the six miles from BNFL Capenhurst along the A41 to Chester Police Station. The walk was sponsored to raise money for the Campaign (for fines and administrative costs)

*Roger Stephenson*



....The police & eventually the other servants of the system are forced into human contact with us, &, although they hide well behind their cheerful professionalism, that contact MUST have an effect on them. This was my strongest impression of the July Snowball: fourteen or so of us were in the detention room waiting to be seen & eventually we started singing. There were good voices & in that small stuffy room the effect was powerful. Every so often the locks would work, the door open, & somebody was called out. The singing went on & the cheerful confident gaolor had to hang his head. We were singing "We shall overcome" & he knew it, somewhere at least.

Richard Jukes

# 3 Statements July 68

I have cut the wire as a symbol of my opposition to the entire cycle of nuclear fuel and weaponry of which it is a part, and of my small part in the will of the people of this earth that the machinery of destruction be dismantled.

I am afraid of this machinery. Recently I stood beside megalithic alignments of stones in Brittany, and marvelled that people had organised such a huge feat six thousand years ago. But that time is just a few minutes in the course of human history, and a blink of the eye in the span of life on this earth. Then I saw military cannon enshrined at a castle, primitive affairs of a single metal tube for the ball to be shoved into, and realised that only two hundred years ago these were the most terrible weapons yet invented. Today we are on an escalating spiral of weaponry whose power far outstrips our wisdom in knowing how to protect ourselves from it. Until now we have run from its terror, allowing ourselves to be pushed along by its inexorable development. How long then until we stumble, and it engulfs us? I am afraid, for my children who are growing up in a world that they can't be sure will continue beyond the present generation, for my family and immediate friends in my nightmare visions of what could happen, and for the course of all life on earth.

I believe that most people share this fear, and urgently want some way out.

*Nancy Stewart*

I cut the fence today because I object to what goes on here at Capenhurst. Sooner or later it may kill all of us if it is not stopped; but even now people are dying because we demand the Namibian uranium that is used here. The company, R.T.Z., which "owns" the uranium mine makes its employees work in appalling conditions as a result of which many die prematurely of work-related illnesses caused by the radioactive dust. No British trade union would allow its members to work in such conditions but these mine workers are black and are therefore not covered by the usual safety regulations. They are victims of our racist attitudes.

Moreover the South African Government is illegally occupying Namibia and so we are helping to support apartheid and a regime which violates basic human rights; it has arrested thousands of its opponents and systematically tortured and killed many of them.

The uranium enriched here is part of the chain which leads to the manufacture of nuclear weapons. Thus, from beginning to end this process deals in death and destruction.

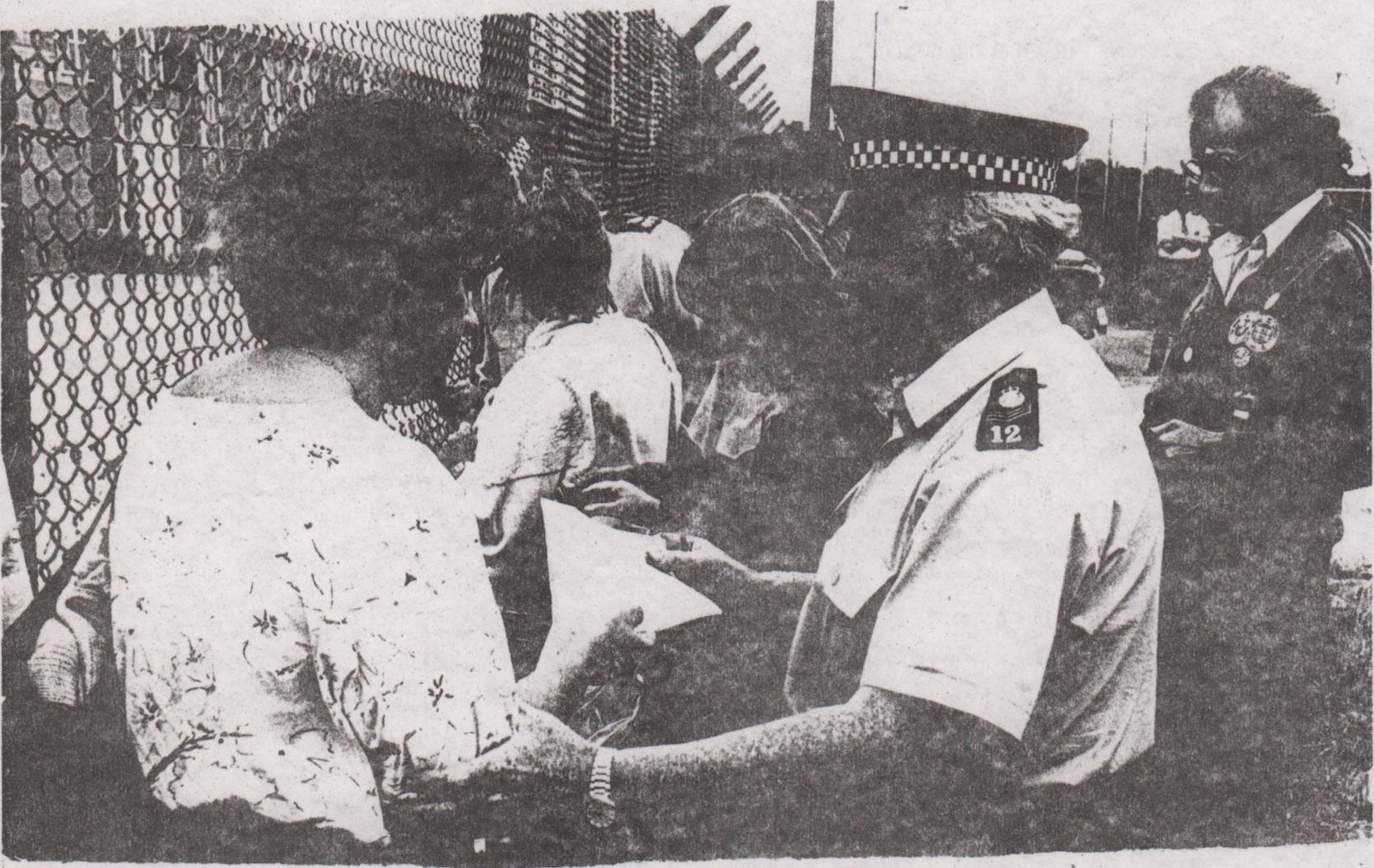
Diana Proudfoot

Faced with the oozing, black pollution, caused altogether by our mis-use of our brilliant, beautiful planet,

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And our brilliant, beautiful selves, I want to stop the guilt and the waste.

I have nothing, only myself, so, today, I cut the fence with my mind and my body,  
Because they are all I have. ....Barbara Rawson.



A recent report to the Scottish Health Service revealed fresh evidence of a link between nuclear installations and childhood leukaemia. The report showed that cases of childhood leukaemia near the Dounreay plant were 10 times the expected level in the 4 years up to 1983. Similar leukaemia clusters have been found near Sellafield, Aldermaston, Burghfield, Winfrith and the Severn Estuary (where there are 4 nuclear power stations).

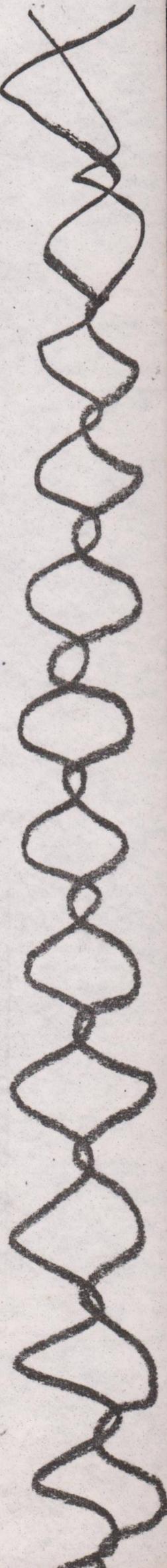
The Dounreay study showed 5 cases of leukaemia among persons aged under 24 within 8 miles of the plant; statistically, less than half of one case would be expected. The odds against the cluster happening by chance are 10000 to one.

The Parliamentary response to the report was that it would be sent to the government's committee on the medical aspects of radiation. A few years ago, the Black report on the incidence of cancer at Sellafield found the connection 'not proven' and suggested further long-term studies.

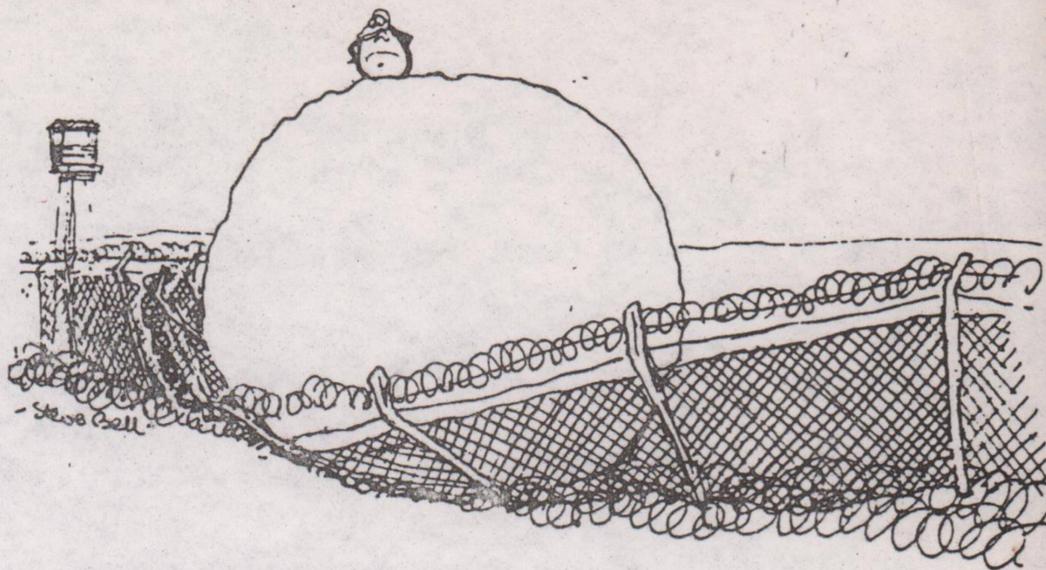
There is no suspension of the nuclear industry, either for civil or for military purposes, while these proposed studies are made, and meanwhile, more children are put at risk, and die.

We are told constantly that there is no danger, and expected to believe the half-truths and evasions that are dished out to us. When something does go wrong, the authorities express surprise - 'the level of radiation in lambs (following Chernobyl) was higher than expected'; 'the incidence of leukaemia is higher than expected', and so on.

Things being as they are, I am sceptical of 'The proper channels' as a means of averting the increasing danger and so, while I shall continue to write letters, sign petitions and lobby my M.P., I must also protest by way of direct action, even if this means breaking the law. Any law that I break in this connection is of very minor significance compared to the laws that are broken every day by governments, statesmen and military leaders, in cynical disregard for human, animal and plant life.....



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WATCHING  
THE SNOWBALL  
GROW.....



"Good fences make good neighbours" says the farmer next door in Robert Frost's poem "Mending Wall". Whatever the merits of the farmer's homely philosophy in its place and time, proclaimed as he and Frost together repaired the stone wall between their properties, the fences surrounding nuclear installations in this country today reflect a philosophy that is definitely "unhomely", anti-human, and irrational beyond the point of sanity.

I could fully understand a violent response to the glaring arrogance of the kind of fence that surrounds the Capenhurst Death Factory. I might stand and cheer as a JCB tore into that fence, mangling its interlocking symmetry, tearing out the nonchalant posts to scrap or crush them in an orgy of delicious destruction.

But at Capenhurst on Sunday, July 6th, 1986, I watched a ceremony of transcendent simplicity and dignity. I would even venture to describe the experience as seductive, generating as it did a compelling urge to participate. A totally cynical or unsympathetic observer might dismiss the token or symbolic cutting of the wire as a farce. While I must own to my share of general cynicism in a society that takes its cues from lying megalomaniacs, I will also assert that the fence marks one of the spots where the plot of the ultimate tragic farce is being developed.

What was it that Frost's farmer said about good fences?

Mike Gallacher



# COURT

- A Newcomer's Guide

This item was inspired by a court visit and so is out of sequence with possible future titles, such as 'Police Station', 'Prison' and 'Performing in Court'.

You arrive: The person to look for is the one in a black gown, carrying lists and registering people in. You report to say you've arrived. Naturally, you want to know when your case will be. The official may not be able to help you much. You look at the notices, where perhaps lists indicate which court you will be in. The position of your name usually bears no relation to when you will be called. You wait in the waiting room adjacent to your court, not knowing whether you will still be hanging around after lunch.

- So .. Locate the lavatories. Bring something - (flask, Guardian, etc.). A supportive 'Snowball' means you will have someone to talk to. Snowflakes often use such periods creatively. Take a peep into the court. Sit inside if you wish. If you visit the loo, go when someone else is called, leaving word. Best of all, ATTEND ANOTHER SNOWBALLER'S CASE BEFOREHAND. Affinity is infinitely valuable.

Your name is called: Courts vary in size and furnishings. Often you just sit in a bench in front of the magistrates. You can have what is called a 'McKenzie friend' by your side, just to be there or to help. A friend in the public part taking notes for you is useful. The clerk calls the magistrate 'Your Worship'. They all look rather ordinary.

As a newcomer, you will be there to plead. Three possibilities arise: 'Guilty', 'Not Guilty'. and perhaps an offer for you to come back again after being sent information about the case.

The first plea can result in the fewest visits. If a fine is imposed and you pay it, this will be your only trip. Time is usually allowed for payment, even if you say you won't or don't think you will pay. Should you not pay you will be summoned to attend again.

The 'Not Guilty' plea ensures a second visit, since opportunity for possible witnesses may need to be arranged. In court you should be asked if the second date is suitable for you. Before your second visit you should be sent information about the case showing prosecution witnesses, so that you can decide which ones, if any, you want to be there in person.

continued →

If the third possibility is offered and you think it worthwhile, yet another trip can arise. It is now becoming more usual for people to be offered adjournment so that advance information can be sent to them to help them decide their pleas. (It is the same information you are sent if you plead 'Not Guilty' straight away.) If you think your case is simple enough and you already know what to say, you can thank the court for the offer, but ask to carry on and make your plea.

After the almost inevitable outcome for peace witnesses, you rejoin your friends. If you are to re-attend, don't leave until the clerk or the usher has passed you your bail form. This tells you your bail (which is usually unconditional) and date of re-attendance.

For more information, don't hesitate to ring the SNOWBALL contact numbers.

“  
...in court  
we said...”

As a mother I am concerned that my children should be healthy, happy, well educated, joyful about the future, and secure. When I see that the state is pursuing mad and self-threatening policies that put my children dangerously at risk, then I have an absolute duty to oppose those policies. I am certain that we are right. What I am not sure about is whether enough can be done before it is too late. Janet Tyrrell.

I must work in every way possible for the rest of whatever time remains for me here on earth, to persuade people that nuclear power and nuclear weapons must be abandoned. An iron sword can be made into an iron ploughshare to be a useful tool. The nuclear sword cannot be converted into a nuclear ploughshare but must be totally dismantled.

Even if this could be done instantaneously today, deaths and malformed offspring would continue for an incalculable number of centuries ahead, resulting from the radioactivity by which the earth is already polluted.

Alfred Willetts

I believe that the Criminal Damage Act of 1971 provides that a person has lawful excuse for damage "if he destroyed or damaged the property in question in order to protect property belonging to himself or another.... .. and at the time of the act he believed (i) that the property was in immediate need of protection and (ii) that the means of protection adopted .. were reasonable having regard to all the circumstances. I also submit that it immaterial, according to the Act, whether the belief is justified or not, if it is honestly held..... As a ratepayer of Hoylake I own the beach- or at least have a vested interest in it. I no longer feel safe on that beach and believe that it has been damaged. 11 years ago we had a major problem on Hoylake beach with untreated sewage. This was an acknowledged problem- you could see it, touch it and by God you could smell it. It was noticed, acknowledged, and largely solved. How do we solve the problem of waste the is far more lethal, and which is invisible, intangible and odourless? We do not have the technology, and it is still a problem. We are told about "acceptable" levels of radiation - we are not told that these are safe - and we'd better not eat the cockles. Local fishermen complain of poor catches and trade (as did the Manx Government yesterday). I believe that the damage to the food chain is also damaging livelihoods in my town.

The sea-spray is not always good for plants but I honestly believe that there has been a marked deterioration in the flowers and shrubs in my garden. I no longer grow vegetables - I would not wish to eat anything I had grown - and the advert "locally grown" no longer inspires me with confidence. My cats have bald patches and <sup>many residents</sup> no longer walk <sup>their</sup> dogs near to the beach. This is property of my own and of others that I feel I have the right to

Patricia Mary Wilson

I stand here time after time and I'm getting so tired. You all listen to me politely but you do not hear a single word I say. What I am actually talking about is the End of the World.. ..the deaths of our children and grandchildren, yours as well as mine.No more summers,no more trees or flowers,animals or birds, every thing that makes the world so beautiful- no more music or poetry or literature or art...all gone- and all you seem to be interested in is whether or not I cut the outer covering of one piece of wire at Capenhurst.

Of course I did. You know I did. How else can I get through to you?

Patricia Pulham

'Enough is enough.' as Brian Clayton put it ♦♦♦♦

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The Snowball Campaign considers fines the responsibility of the group, so please write and ask for money and don't be put off taking part through lack of financial backing.

MAXIMUM PERIODS OF IMPRISONMENT IN DEFAULT OF PAYMENTS

An amount not exceeding	£50		= 7 days
An amount exceeding	£50	but not exceeding £100	= 14 days
An amount exceeding	£100	but not exceeding £400	= 30 days
An amount exceeding	£400	but not exceeding £1,000	= 60 days
An amount exceeding	£1,000	but not exceeding £2,000	= 90 days

If you wish you may reduce your fine by paying some of it off (for instance the court costs) and thereby reduce your sentence. You could do this after you have been sentenced, or before. Remember you can have your fine paid off at any time including while you are in prison.

**BUT**

The Non-Violent Activist

THIS IS JOE... HE'S A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR



HE DOESN'T WANT TO SHOOT... HE DOESN'T WANT TO KILL...



HE DOESN'T WANT TO DROP BOMBS..



SO WE PUT HIM IN JAIL



WHY?



HE'S A THREAT TO SOCIETY.



If you decide not to pay your fine, this is basically what will happen- things may vary slightly in different areas.

1. You will receive the initial (green) letter from Chester Magistrates Court telling you how and where to pay.
2. When overdue a (red) letter will arrive from Chester Court asking for payment by return of post.
3. Several weeks later the following will occur; your case may be transferred to your local court or it may remain Chester depending where you reside.
4. A warrant for your arrest will be issued and a policeman will call at your home, or you may be asked to attend your local police-station on a certain date, and you will be bailed to appear at a "means" hearing at court. Some courts issue a summons to court rather than a warrant.
5. When you go to court you will be asked why you have not paid your fine and how you intend to pay. If you still refuse you will probably be given a prison sentence either to serve immediately or suspended for a week or longer to give you time to think over your decision.

Other possibilities, an attachment of pension or earnings order or an order for bailiffs to remove your property from your house, property to the value of the fine, (the latter has not happened yet in this area)

In case this may happen some of us have transferred our property to someone close to us, and lodged the letter doing so with a solicitor before the court hearing and taken a photocopy of the letter to court; see example of letter below:

Address.

Date.

Dear (name of solicitor),

I hereby transfer all my property, including my (list everything you own of value), to... ..of.....until (date, a few weeks after the hearing)

Yours faithfully,

.....

Names and addresses of two witnesses.

# SEVEN DAYS

"Would you tell the Court why you have not paid this fine?"

"There are two reasons. First, I do not consider myself guilty of any criminal offence. Secondly, I have no wish to contribute to Treasury funds - part of which will be used to provide more weapons of mass-destruction. You would call it 'wilful refusal'."

"I was coming to that. So you wilfully refuse to pay this money?"

"Yes."

"Then I have no option but to sentence you to a term of imprisonment. You will go to prison for seven days."

I walk across the Court and out through the back door, knowing how stricken you, my friends, feel in the public gallery. So much worse than I do. It's always like that.

Down in the crypt below the Town Hall I wait for transport to the Police Station and talk to the Custody Officer about the Snowball. A policeman arrives and is assured that I will not attack him, so I sit beside him in the front of a panda-car. Someone I know is waiting to cross the road and waves to me. I doubt if she knows where I am going.

"You must have been in all the cells down here by now. Well today it's the Honeymoon Suite."

Come to think of it, one cell is very like another. They've been redecorated recently and without the familiar graffiti I can't tell where I am.

The Court Custody Officer comes down to tell me:  
"Your friend, Janet, got them so confused, they've remitted her fine."

A little later, Janet herself comes and tells me what happened.

2.0.pm Out in the Police minibus to go to Risley. Three lads shackled together in the back, three escorts and a driver. I've never been driven so fast along the M56. Very soon we are driving in through the prison gate. The men are dropped off, but when we get to the women's block:

"We can't take her."

"But you said you would."

"We only said we might. You'll have to take her back."

A lightening of the spirits. Back to Chester at a breakneck speed. I ask if I can 'phone home for a toothbrush as I am staying, and talk to my daughter.

Back to the cell for tea, meat pie, chips and sweetcorn. Michael brings in my sponge-bag and I am given a blanket and a mattress.

"You didn't look very comfortable in the night," said the Sergeant, coming in with a pile of four blankets. "See if you can make yourself more comfortable with these."

Breakfast- bacon, egg, tomato, sausage and two pieces

of toast. I eat it in bed. Luxury indeed!

"As a Home-Office prisoner, you are supposed to get some exercise, but we haven't got a yard. Would you like to give Asa a hand?"

Asa is a chap who comes in to clean so I think I might as well.

"We not-a work-a too quick." says Asa as we wipe over the paint we did a few minutes ago, and gives me a tube of Polos.

I resolutely ignore the jerk of the head towards an empty cell and ask bright questions about his wife and family.

Hot shower with two clean towels.

Jan comes to visit me and tells me about that morning in Court. Trixie has sent in a sleeping-bag and a sheet. I'll be warm enough tonight!

Today's Custody Sergeant tells me that he really wanted to be an architect and what he likes best about the Police Force is the admin. and traffic-control.

I feel the time spent down here is very worthwhile. The police officers are interested in why people opt for prison, why they choose to be arrested and what the Snowball is all about, I get a bit concerned when they are all too anxious to separate us 'nice' criminals from the 'horrible' criminals they usually deal with. Any of us who've been to prison know that people can't be divided up in that way. I can pick out the policemen who could be violent. They talk to me about going on picket duty and I watch their faces. All though, were kind and considerate to me.

Michael comes to visit me in the afternoon, but doesn't tell me he is going to the races with some friends. The girls spill the beans about their father when I come home!

Friday night. In spite of my warm and comfortable bed, little sleep. Complete bedlam in the cells. Three men are brought in for fighting and continue it verbally for hours. Someone howls like a wolf all night. I can hear the voice of a woman with a cockney accent who sounds a bit the worse for wear from drink. At six in the morning they are all turfed out, and I am on my own again,

Dispute over, Risley has agreed to take me in and the next two days are spent there in the "Unit" as there is a shortage of beds. This is where Rule 43 women are accommodated, people who are isolated for their own safety. It was an odd experience. A corridor within a corridor. I shared one of these cells with a young heroin addict. For the first day we followed their usual routine- eating in our cell, only allowed to the washroom one at a time so that we didn't meet any other prisoners.. The next day we were allowed into one of the dormitories during the afternoon, but only after the other women had been assured that we were "not beasts but normal - or at least as normal as anyone is in this place."

Monday morning- woken at 5.45. am. Back through reception, strip-search, belongings checked and eventually out through the gate and back to Chester in time for the morning's Snowball hearings.

"That was a short seven days", said Sgt. Bailey.

You build a wall round a bit of Society to make a prison and time has a different value. A short seven days? A long seven days?

Who knows?

Patricia P.

1

.. and they said....

# Peace women admit damage

## Peace woman fined but her fight goes on

A CHESTER mother has vowed to continue fighting against the nuclear arms race after being fined for cutting a fence at British Nuclear Fuels Capenhurst plant.

Peace campaigner Mrs. Carole Anne Herbstritt, aged 39, of Panton Road, Hoole, was found guilty of causing criminal damage at the site during a demonstration on April 19.

She was fined £30 by city magistrates and ordered to pay £20 prosecution costs.

Mr. Steve Everett, prosecuting, said Mrs. Herbstritt was arrested when a police sergeant saw her start cutting a piece of chain link fence with a hacksaw blade.

When Sergeant Frank Bailey, of the Atomic Energy Authority constabulary, arrested her she handed him a prepared statement admitting the offence and explaining her reasons for it, added Mr. Everett.

Three more blades were found in her jacket pocket when she was searched by police and Mrs. Herbstritt allegedly told officers she had cut through the plastic coating of the fence as a protest at the 'illegal' use of Namibian uranium at Capenhurst.

"I believe I had lawful excuse for what I did. It is my belief that by cutting the fence at Capenhurst I am helping to prevent nuclear war," she told the court.

After the hearing the mother of three young children commented: "I would do it again, and I think I was justified. We are not going to see an end to the arms race unless we take action."

She said she would pay her fine unlike some campaigners who have gone to prison rather than pay, but added: "I think my children are too young to leave

TWO peace protesters pleaded not guilty at Chester magistrates court last week to each causing £15.60 worth of damage to a chain link fence at BNFL, Capenhurst, last month.

Patrica Pulham (46) of 18 Shavington Avenue, Hoole and Carol Ann Hebstritt (40) of 66 Panton Road, Hoole, were charged with damaging the fence on April 19.

Pulham's case was adjourned until July 9 and Hebstritt's case will go ahead on July 14.

Observer

May 21

27 July 1986 CATHOLIC VICTORIA

PEACE WOMEN DENY DAMAGE



Two Chester peace protesters pleaded not guilty in magistrates' court last week to causing £15.60 damage each to a chain link fence at BNFL, Capenhurst. etc. etc. etc.

ist on Sunday a. hacksaws for the fence cutting protest at the arms turned out to campaigners, arrested, criminal

## He's waiting for the day when verdict's 'not guilty'

GRAHAM Thorne, presently resident at the Friary, Bote Street and awaiting training to be a Jesuit priest, has been in Court on a charge of causing criminal damage. Graham pleaded not guilty though he did admit to committing 'a symbolic act.'

Graham's offence? He made a cut in the wire fence at the nuclear base of Capenhurst in Cheshire. It was his second arrest.

Graham is a supporter of the Snowball Campaign which he describes as 'non violent direct action' against Britain's nuclear bases.

He defends his action by saying that Capenhurst is protecting a means of destruction. 'It is a base that serves to enrich uranium used in Trident missiles. It has therefore a purely destructive task.'

Graham is a member of Pax Christi and until recently was the organiser of the Wrexham Peace Studies Centre. 'I'm in the Peace Movement for Christianity. It is a major part of my faith.' But he was anxious to dispel the idea that all peace workers were Christians, 'There are many atheists and Jews involved. We're all in it for

our different reasons.'

He committed his 'symbolic act' for publicity 'to make sure the people know what is going on. If an accident happened at Capenhurst, Liverpool would be seriously affected.' He pointed out that after Chernobyl many people joined environmental groups such as Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace. 'Libya too heightened people's consciousness.'

The Jesuit Order is traditionally known for its discipline but Graham did not see his breaking the law as a contradiction. 'I've found the Order very sympathetic and very supportive of the work I do.' He does understand though that his involvement will have to lessen once he starts his training in Birmingham. He is very interested in Jesuit missionary work and admires their work in South Africa and the Middle East.

Graham Thorne believes that the Snowball Campaign will develop given time. 'I can't reason why we spend so much on nuclear weapons when at the same time we're trying to raise money for things like the Alder Hey CAT Scanner.'

He is aware that some people go too far, 'At Burtonwood, for example, some people got a bit wild when they saw an American officer. It was quite soon after the attack on Libya. But that was totally against the spirit that we're about. It is Snowball policy to be pleasant to the Police. After all we recognise that they are only doing their job. I think many of them are quite sympathetic to us.'

Graham believes that the act of a single cut in the wire is powerfully symbolic — 'We're not trying to build barriers but trying to make links. And

CND women fined by court

Why the public MRS McCann is entitled to break the law she wishes, but should your paper glorify her? A friend of mine has been doing the same thing for months without any fuss. I do not glorification for her.

Peace demonstrators MORE than 100 arrested at Capenhurst plant

## 'Snowball' fines

A member of Corwen Peace Group pleaded not guilty at Chester Magistrates Court last week to causing criminal damage during CND's national 'Snowball' campaign of non-violent civil disobedience.

Hefen Guyon, of 13

High Street, Llandrillo, who is also a member of Greenpeace, is to appear before Chester Magistrates again on June 25.

She was one of 29 anti-nuclear protestors who were arrested at BNFL's uranium enrichment

plant at Capenhurst (Wirral) on April 19.

Mrs Guyon is currently paying off fines imposed after taking part in a previous 'Snowball' campaign at the plant with 13 other people in January.

# Jail threat man pays peace fine

by Gareth Hughes

A PEACE campaigner who was prepared to go to prison yesterday reluctantly accepted that his fines would be paid — and then promised to support future protests.

Retired teacher Ken Worthy, of St Asaph Road, Dyserth, appeared before Rhuddlan Magistrates for failing to pay a total of £154.90 in fines and costs imposed by Fakenham and Chester magistrates in February.

He had been convicted of causing damage to fencing around nuclear processing plants during demonstrations forming part of the Snowball Campaign.

The case was adjourned last month for details of Worthy's income to be obtained from Clwyd County Council.

He told the court yesterday: "My original statement that I do not wish to pay the fines still stands. If I paid it would be a confession of guilt and I have no feeling of guilt because I am glad to be able to stand up against nuclear weapons."

The Bench made an attachment of earnings order for the fines to be paid at the rate of £12 a month.

Worthy (58), who formerly taught at Rhyl High School, told them that he would still take part in the next Snowball Campaign.



31 HELD  
Thirty-one demonstrators were arrested at British Nuclear Fuels Ltd's Capenhurst plant in the Wirral, during a protest as part of CND's civil disobedience campaign. The Rev. Alan Hyslop, of Broughton, was one of those arrested.

## Nuclear 'defiance' costs woman £60

"WHY don't you stand for Parliament and put your views to the electorate if you feel so strongly about disarmament?" a Chester solicitor asked on Monday.

Prosecutor Mr. David Burns was questioning a North Wales peace protester for her part in the Snowball Link Campaign at British Nuclear Fuels, Capenhurst.

Rowlands-Hughes had been seen cutting at the fence by a police sergeant. Foreman of BNFL's buildings and works department Mr. Roy Metcalfe said he later established 21 links had been cut through and a further 16 partially severed.

### Duty

"We have been advised time and time again to do things democratically", said Rowlands-Hughes, speaking in her own defence. "We have a right and a duty to make known our objections."

"I am not of the age to do things like this, it's a bit of a nuisance really, but I have written letters galore, I have lobbied, petitioned, I have taken part in vigils, but there seems no end to the arms race."

"This is the only way we can get through to the politicians", she added.

Magistrates fined her £40 with £20 costs and her scissors were returned.

Mrs. Elizabeth Rowlands-Hughes of Bryn Aweilon, Llangollen was one of several CND protesters arrested at the Capenhurst plant on April 4 for allegedly damaging a perimeter fence with a pair of nail scissors.

Altogether 37 links were cut and more than £570 worth of repairs had to be carried out.

Rowlands-Hughes (67) denied a charge of causing £15.60 worth of damage to the fence. She claimed the scissors were blunt and her intention had been merely "a symbolic act of defiance against nuclear weapons". Mr. Burns told the court

## 'My guilt' by a peace woman

The court heard how Kate Mary MacDermott had been caught with a group of other peace people cutting the perimeter fence as part of Operation Snowball at BNFL Capenhurst.

She had pleaded not guilty to criminal damage and told magistrates she would have been guilty of allowing criminal damage to be caused to the world if she hadn't acted as she did.

Giving evidence in her own defence, MacDermott said: "My actions were committed out of fear, anger and despair at what is happening today in the world. I wanted to take part in the Snowball campaign because its aims are

very simple in asking the Government to take one small step."

She said one child was dying every two seconds somewhere in the world because of hunger and money spent on nuclear weapons could feed them.

"That can change, but the effects of radiation can't. They are accumulative. We can't wash it away or burn it, because it goes into our water supply and we breath it in."

"The dangers affect our children and their children and we can't quantify what these effects will be."

"I cut the fence because in law you are allowed to use reasonable force to prevent a crime," she said.

## Greenham Granny is jailed

VETERAN peace fighter Margaret Roberts, 74, was jailed for 14 days yesterday for not paying a £95 fine.

Mrs Roberts, nicknamed Greenham Gran, of Calver, Derbys, refused to pay the fine for cutting a fence

Before being taken to Risley Remand Centre, Mrs Roberts kissed her retired vicar husband Ben outside Bakewell Magistrates' Court.

## Sentence halved Pensioner jailed

MRS MARGARET ROBERTS, aged 74, who was sentenced to 14 days in prison for refusing to pay a fine imposed for cutting a nuclear plant's perimeter fence, is being released seven days early today after getting time off for good behaviour.

A Corwen pensioner starts a week long jail sentence on Monday for her part in a major nuclear protest.

Gwen Robson, aged

64, of Ty Canol, Glyn-dyfrdwy, was jailed by Llangollen Magistrates for non-payment of fines for criminal damage at the Capenhurst nuclear installation in January.

MIRROR

GUARDIAN

Thanks all round to those who supported the July Snowball in so many different and valuable ways. YOUR HELP is still vital: Please continue to send donations, ideas, any press cuttings or articles to the contact addresses.

Can people who took part in any Capenhurst snowballs please send copies of their statements given to the police so that a booklet can be made & sold as a fundraiser.

Anyone wanting to attend meetings & speak about the campaign & show slides please write to either contact. You will be needed! Expenses can be paid.

VIGIL - the regular Friday a.m. peace vigil is almost a year old and we still meet 10:30 am - 12:30 pm at the Capenhurst Main Gate. Please come if you can - Bring banners, placards, leaflets concerning peace issues but, more important, YOURSELF - Thanks!



Terry Fields, Labour MP  
Liverpool, Broadgreen

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Anne McCann  
91 Childwall Priory Road  
Liverpool L16 7PD

25th June 1986

Dear Anne

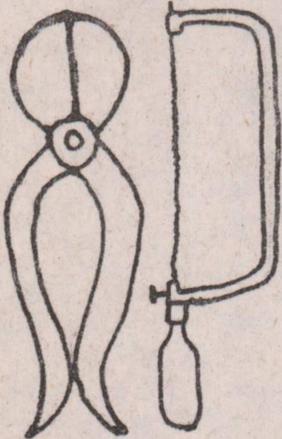
Although I saw you last week, I thought I should formally reply to your letter of 10th June about Snowball Campaign.

Of course I support the actions of those in the peace movement who are undertaking civil disobedience in order to highlight the issue of arms control.

If you need my assistance on this or any other issue please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours fraternally

Terry Fields



CAPENHURST VIDEO

An excellent video has been produced by a group of peace women entitled, 'THE CAPENHURST CONNECTION'. It encapsulates the relationship between Namibian uranium, Apartheid and Capenhurst. Good value and well worth viewing. If you or your group would like to see this video or have a speaker, please contact: 051 653 5552.

