

Nottingham CND Newsletter April/May 2010

First I must apologise for not getting a newsletter out sooner, but what with my computer being down and the really bad weather, we, as a local group, have not been very active over the last few months. This however, is going to change, hopefully with your help, as we are entering a period when CND needs to be seen to be active as a lot of major decisions regarding Trident Nuclear Weapons Replacement are going to be made. As I expect, you are aware the General Election is very likely to be called for at the beginning of May. To this end National CND is calling on all members to raise the issue of the renewal of Trident which is likely to exceed £76 billion pounds. It is important that we raise this as often as possible with our prospective candidates to find out how they stand on this issue.

If you have a computer you can contact them on line in the following way

You can do this by going onto the National CND website:

- 1) Google CND UK
- 2) Click on to No to Trident
- 3) Go to 'Get Involved' and click on 'Events'
- 4) Under 'Take Action' on the left hand side click on 'Lobby Your Candidates'
- 5) In the box put in your post code and click on 'find your candidates'
- 6) Put ticks against those candidates you wish to send a lobbying email
- 7) Enter your personal details and put your name in the box at the bottom
- 8) Tick the box if you are happy for National CND to contact you and click on 'submit'

If you receive any replies follow instructions 1 – 4 and insert your postcode under 'send us feedback' and follow the instructions. It will be very interesting to see what response we receive. Otherwise write to the candidates or raise the issue at hustings.

The outcome of the election could significantly affect the Non Proliferation Treaty Conference which is taking place in May. It would be a fantastic outcome if the UK government would go along saying they are not going to replace Trident as it would advance plans considerably for the possibility of global nuclear disarmament. This conference is also very significant as regards the Initial Gate decision as they need approval from the Conference before further developments on the design of the new submarines are undertaken.

Nottingham CND Activities

On April 17th we are holding our first stall in the Market Square in Nottingham. We are hoping that we can get enough people there to draw attention to the cost of Trident renewal and compare this to the massive cuts that are planned in the public sector which will see many people made redundant and the services to the public, especially the vulnerable people, being greatly reduced. If you have any ideas on how we can attract as much attention as possible on the day, please let me know. It would be really good if we could involve other organisations like trade unions, Stop the War, climate change groups etc so do please come up with ideas.

May Day – Saturday 1st May – Midday onwards

This year May Day will be celebrated in Nottingham in the Victoria Park, Bath Street, near Sneinton Market. There is going to be a March through the city centre plus a rally with music and speeches. Nottingham CND, together with other organisations, will be having a stall. It should be a good day out, so do please try and come down and help on the stall - especially as it is likely to be near the general election and this is an opportunity to promote No Trident Replacement.

Green Festival Sunday 23rd May - 11am to 5pm

The Green Festival this year is being held in the Arboretum, Nottingham. After last year's brilliant weather, where we managed to have a really successful tombola, I now have no items left for this year so if you want a tombola it is really important that I have items for it. So please have a look

and see if you have any unwanted gifts which you think will be suitable. They do not need to be expensive but it would be good to have a variety. But please - no second hand goods unless they are in very good condition. If people feel they don't want a tombola this year then please let us know. For both May Day and the Green Festival I do need people prepared to come and help on the stall. The more volunteers I get, even if it is only for a short time, the better. We will be using the gazebo so we will at least stay dry if it rains which of course it won't!

Public Meeting – Towards a Nuclear Free World

at the Peace Supper on Thursday 20th May 7.00 Friends Meeting House
George Farebrother (World Court Project- Abolition 2000) will be speaking on the Legality of Nuclear Weapons and the Non Proliferation Treaty. He has spent a lifetime questioning the legality of Nuclear Weapons and is very well versed on the subject. Do tell as many people as possible about the meeting. Before the meeting there will be a bring and share peace supper, which is always enjoyable and gives us a chance to meet other people.

Stall Dates for 2010

This year we are holding 7 stalls in the Market Square and 3 in Sherwood. Please note stalls in Nottingham start at 11.30am and the ones in Sherwood start at 10.30am, weather permitting.

Saturday 3 rd April	Sherwood
Saturday 17 th April	Nottingham
Saturday 15 th May	Nottingham
Saturday 12 th June	Nottingham
Saturday 10 th July	Sherwood
Saturday 7 th August	Nottingham
Saturday 4 th Sept	Nottingham
Saturday 30 th Oct	Nottingham
Saturday 6 th Nov	Sherwood
Saturday 11 th Dec	Nottingham

In order for any of the above events to go ahead I do need volunteers. Please do try and help out if you can even if it is only for a short time. I do know that some of our members are not physically able to now and I do know you are still with us in spirit and you can still do your bit by contacting your MP to find out what their position is regarding Trident Replacement. I am now on Broadband so please contact me, either by emailing me at d.h.lunz@btopenworld.com or by ringing me on **0115 981 2034**. To receive more information regarding what CND and other sympathetic organisations are doing on a more regular basis, it would be really good if you could forward your email details onto us at enquires@nottinghamcnd.org.uk.

I really look forward to seeing you at least one of the above events - so don't forget your support is necessary to promote CND in Nottingham

Yours in peace

Diane Lunzer (Nottingham CND Secretary)

Note from committee: Diane has been Nottingham CND Secretary since 1997. We thank her for her continued commitment, enthusiasm and downright hard work - which includes getting enough people out to maintain a stall presence in Nottingham, so keeping people aware of the need for nuclear disarmament. It is only a few members who keep on staffing stalls, making posters and attending meetings. You may be cautious about helping on the stall, thinking it entails haranguing passers-by, tin-rattling or shouting. Actually the stalls are very sociable occasions, there's always at least two on the stall, no one is on the firing line and most people who pause at the stall are curious and interested in what we stand for. If you are physically able, and free once in a while, we really would like to see you. Whether as stall helper or visitor, you'd be most welcome.