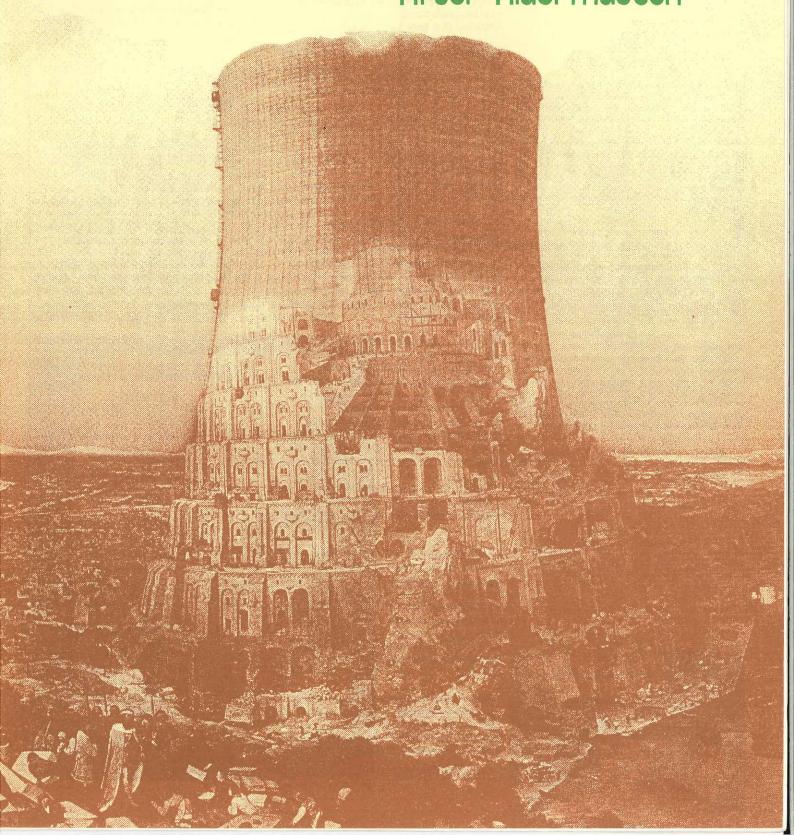


# GREEN

No 62 / MAY 1988 / 60p

Work and conformity
Against mass politics
Greens in Antwerp
After Aldermaston



#### Britain's Green Monthly

# GREEN

No 62 / MAY 1988 / 60p

Green Line, 34 Cowley Road, Oxford (0865 245301)

Monthly magazine of Green politics and lifestyle

GREEN LINE is published ten times a year, and is produced by a collective based in Oxford. Green Line appears thanks to the efforts of Carole Guberman, Barry Maycock, Graham Hooper and Jerry Spring.

Thanks especially to all those who help collate the mag, lick stamps and stuff envelopes – but who don't get a proper mention. You wouldn't get your copy without their work. If any other readers can offer help of any kind then we are always pleased to hear from you. Phone Jerry on 0885 724375

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Normal rate £6, low/amenged £5, voluntary hi-waged "supporter subscription" £10. The "supporter" rate helps build our publishing fund (we are all unpaid); and our thanks go out to all who have contributed as supporters. Overseas readers please add £1.50 to all rates (surface mail) or enquire about airmail rates to your area.

#### BULK ORDERS

5-9 copies only 50p each; 10 or more only 45p each – post free. Send cash with order first time, please; after that, if you want a regular standing order, we'll give you a month to pay. For special occasions like demos or big meetings, we'll supply you sale or return. Normally, however, we do <u>not</u> supply sale—or—return on monthly orders. Normal trade arrangements apply to shops etc.

#### ADVERTISING

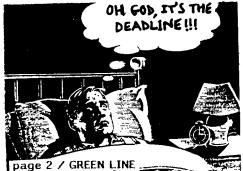
Display advertising is only £76 a page, smaller sizes pro rata, 10% off for cash with copy. Send camera—ready copy by the 10th of the month prior to publication, or enquire for our typesetting and layout charges.

#### DEADLINES

The next issue in the out on JUNE 1ST. We need all news, articles, small ads etc by 15th May. In general all articles are read and discussed at a meeting of the collective in the middle of each month.

#### SPECIAL OFFER! BACK ISSUES

Six recent back issues for £2 post free or 20 back issues for £5. Ideal for new subscribers.



SUSTAINING AND SUSTAINABLE — guide to living healthily, free of exploitation of humans and other animals. With menus and recipes. 75p inc postage. WHOLE NEW WAYS. Imaginative vegan recipes using only ingredients that could be grown in the UK. 75p inc postage. The two booklets together £1.30 inc postage. FOOD FOR EVERYONE. Ten A4 display sheets on the importance of plant foods in solving world food problems £1.00 inc postage.

All from Movement for Compassionate Living the Vegan Way, 47 Highlands Rd, Leatherhead, Surrey GROWING OUR OWN by Kathleen Jannaway. How to grow healthy food with minimum labour and no artificials or animal products 35p+15p p&p, Movement for Compassionate Living the Vegan Way, 47 Highlands Rd, Leatherhead, Surrey.

STONEHENGE — Beautiful handmade, 4 colour screen print, (approx 20"X15") saying simply "We want our stones back". Send £1.75 (bulk orders discount: 2-5=10%, 5-10=20%, over 10=30%) Send cheque /P.O. /stamps to Paul Whymark, 37 Divinity Rd, Oxford OX4 1LH

IF A HOME-BAKED, home-produced wholefood breakfast appeals to you more than ensulte bathrooms and colour TV, you'll be welcome in my thatched village cottage and smallholding between Dartmoor and Exmoor. B&B £7.50 per person. Phone Margaret Cruft, Morchard Bishop (03837) 499

THE SOCIAL ECOLOGY PARTY:
extra-parliamentary, eco-democratic,
symbiotic( which includes feminist),
decentralist, internationalist - does not
yet exist but is blowing in the wind. No
national conference until local core
groups have laid the foundations. Join
the preparatory network. Contact Peter
Cadogan, 3 Hinchinbrook House, Greville
Rd, London NW6 5UP Tel: 01 328 3709

STICKER "Wirral Says NO to Nuclear Dumping" 35p+sae (10+ for 30p each) from 101 Somerset Rd, Pensby, Wirral LB1 BSS

VOLUNTEERS WANTED to help on green book about last October's hurricane (part of the proceeds of sales going to tree replanting appeals) — processing information and questionnaires, typing and word—processing, costs paid, also back—dated wage, if required, when book is published in late Summer. Write to 14 Euston St, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE18 BQR

GOWER PENINSULAR, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. 8&B £6.50, caravan £40–80 per week on secluded smallholding in lovely surroundings. Sea 4 miles. Telephone (0792) 850286

PRINTED by Will Print

FOURTH GHANDI SUMMER SCHOOL: An application of Ghandian principles to the solution of current problems. To be held at The Abbey, Sutton Courtenay, nr. Abingdon, Oxfordshire. 24th–30th July 1988.

Ghandian practices each day and application of principles to Northern Ireland, Inner Cities, Central America etc.

Camping — indoor cooking. Cost £50 inclusive.

Information from Betty Clarke, The Ghandi Foundation, Kingsley Hall, Powis Rd, London E3 3HJ. Tel: 01 981 5017/7828

GREEN DESERT TECHNOLOGY: Spain, sun, purpose, good company; guests £80/week; working visitors (work 24hrs) £20-25/week; Full details £1 from Unit G, 22 Godesdone Rd, Cambridge CB5 8HR



RECYCLED PAPER PRINTERS

Let us design and print your Cards, Leaflets, Newsletters, Brochures, Booklets, Letterheads, Posters, etc.

FROM BUSINESS CARDS TO A2
- BLACK OR COLOUR ALL ON QUALITY RECYCLED PAPER OR CARD.

Prices start from:-£17 - 500 A4 L/Heads, £20 - 1000 Comp slips £35 - 500 B/Cards, £30 - 1000 A4 Leaflets

BUSINESS STARTER PACKS – FROM £55 Inc. 200 A4 L/heads, 200 Envelopes, 50 Cont sheets, 200 B/cards, 150 Comp slips.

From camera ready copy · Artwork quoted extra.
Printed black on 80gsm white or tinted recycled
paper.

NOW AVAILABLE - CONSERVATION 100gsm WATERMARKED PAPER, Vellum/White.

SHOW YOUR CONCERN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT WITH EVERY LETTER YOU WRITE.

GREEN MAN DESIGN & PRINT

Is a small, caring and efficient family business, set up to promote recycled paper and produce artwork of quality.

No job too small or too large.

SEND NOW FOR DETAILS AND SAMPLES OF TO DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS, PERSONAL OR TRADE.

GREEN MAN DESIGN AND PRINT Unit 7a, The Labyrinth, Station Street, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 4RG Tel. 0323 647973 (9-4) 506937 (Home)

#### FULL MOON FUTONS

Send sae for leaflet and swatches to 20 Bulmershe Road Reading RG1 SRJ Reading (0734) 65648



We make Japanese style mattresses, (single, double, king size, cot size), cushions, pillows, yoga/massage/ shiatsu mats, to individual orders. All 100% cotton, range of colours. Pine bases.

Deliveries arranged. Competitive prices.

Green Line reports on the Aldermaston demo in Green Peace News on page 17. Meanwhile, here is an angry cry from the grassroots of the peace movement at the lack of progress over the last thirty years.

# COMMENT

# Time for a change!

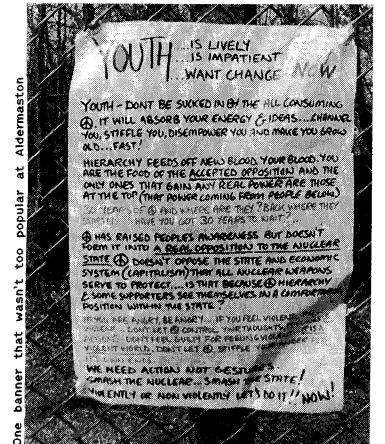
THIRTY YEARS OF CND - thirty years of marches, leafletting, letters to newspapers, Snowball, letters to MPs' waste bins. Woweee.... Why are we celebrating the fact that we have been going on for 30 years with no great advance forward for peace. And don't say 'what about the INF agreement?' because anybody who believes that the likes of Reagan and Gorbachev want to scrap weapons, or believes that we had anything to do with it is an absolute fool.

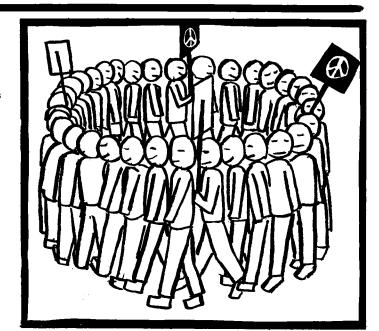
We are still doing the same old things over and over again; the same old routine. People are scared of change and exploring different tactics.

We have at the moment a liberal campaign filled with politicians, bureaucrats, party hacks and even Tories. Let's make no mistake that 'the bomb' is not an isolated issue — it is here because of capitalism, and we cannot afford to tolerate those who support the very system that causes the things we are against.

We have a centralised campaign based in London with 26 paid workers and some regional workers costing thousands of pounds; money that should be put into campaigning and effective action. But no, some people have got a cushy number and prefer £8,000 a year than real change. Some coincidence then that those living off the campaign always slag off any form of effective action – anything that goes beyond a march or a leaflet.

Our movement is starting to crumble; we are compromising and conforming more and more all the time; people are starting to leave the campaign as they





become disillusioned with the same old routine every year – how many people do you know who are prepared to have a go at bases but don't because there is no organised campaign and encouragement for individual initiative? It is time to re-examine what we are doing. People are becoming 'armchair activists'.

We have classic examples from other campaigns of how we can go forward for publicity and direct interference with the war machine. The Animal Liberation Front has shown how much effect an autonomous, sustained, direct action campaign can have; how much damage it can do; how much it can grow; how much publicity it can bring. The same goes for events like the mass direct action used at German nuclear sites such as Wackersdorf.

Obviously, not everyone can take part in direct action due to physical disadvantages, but these people can play a supportive role with funds, publicity etc. Direct action is easy; materials are readily available; and if people are careful, very few ever get caught. Other excuses for not doing direct action are simple cop-outs: what is more important, change or the law?

It is time for full-scale direct action. Economic sabotage has already started on a small scale at military bases, nuclear plants, Nirex sites, recruiting offices, companies supplying and working for the war machine, civil defence targets... The list is endless.

And by the way, we would in no way consider our views to be extremist. There is nothing more extreme than threatening pollution, war, bass murder, internment and world annihilation. Nothing we do can ever be on the same level as that.

So let's see some brains working and some people having a go. Let's get a mass direct action movement going — we can all use the same name, we are all part of one mass movement for change.

Love and damage...

Manchester AUTONOMOUS PEACE ACTION

# You don't mind if I take my little with do you?

#### OZONE

#### COLANDER?

The latest analyses from the international ozone trends panel suggests strongly that a Winter depletion in ozone is occurring over the Arctic as well as the Antarctic. Moreover, this thinning affects latitudes covering mainland Europe as well as the Polar regions. The scientists are busily repairing their models to account for this latest evidence of the damage that CFC pollution is doing to the atmosphere. Chemical manufacturers are busy reassessing their public stances: DuPont, the most advanced in finding alternatives, predictably taking a lead. FoE's excellent work at pressurising the companies to face up to their responsibilities appears to be working - although there is still a long way to go merely to get CFCs out of consumer products.

Now the politicians must be forced back to renegotiate the Montreal Treaty (see GL55 & 56) whose terms were never adequate in the first place and are now hopelessly overtaken by events. CFC concentrations in the atmosphere have doubled over the last 10 years, creating the present alarming situation. By the time the Montreal cuts even begin to have any effect on CFC production in 2000, levels will have again more than doubled, with totally unformeeable results. If we went and asked the government to have permission to carry out an uncontrolled experiment on the earth's atmosphere one hopes we'd be sent packing. Why then are we allowing just such an experiment to occur in the name of business and convenience?

#### ALTERNATIVE CAREERS

Oxford Students are gathering information to counter the brain washing dished out at industry's annual university recruitment drives. At presentations by various companies they have already had some success in bringing the well-rehearsed patter to a spluttering halt simply by asking informed questions about the particular firm's role in the pollution of the environment and the exploitation of workers. But the aim is not just to embarrass the multinationals. It is also to direct the minds of student job searchers in other directions than wage increases and pensions. Despite their promises of job security, it is clear that many multinationals are destroying the planet rather than securing anything else with their code of profits before people.

"We are complifing information on areas such as involvement in apartheid regimes, ecological disaster, the arms trade and 'Third World' exploitation. Having searched through the McCarthy Press Cuttings, 'Who Owns Whom' and with help from the Transnational

Information Centre, we are ready to expose the wickedness inherent in many of the high-paying 'career' jobs. That leaves us with the daunting task of searching for alternatives for the shocked and radicalised audience!"

The other half of the work then will be to gather all kinds of information on alternative careers and alternative approaches to living generally, so as to provide a convincing and morally just direction for job seekers to take rather than the annual migration through the shiny portals of each university town's best hotel.

The Oxford group want to share their information and experiences with alternative careers fairs with other student groups. Also they would like to hear from people who can offer help with information about the companies, setting up careers fairs or speaking at the fairs. If you are interested in doing an expose of activities or presenting an alternative careers fair, please contact the Peace Group, Oxford University Students Union, 28 Little Clarendon St, Oxford.

#### ANIMAL RIGHTS CAMPAIGNER ATTACKED

The Secretary of the Dr. Hadwen Trust for Humane Research, Dr. Gill Langley, was physically attacked at the Trust's offices last December. As if that wasn't bad enough, the attacker, Terry MacManus, was another animal rightist, a disciple of the controversial and outspoken Swiss anti-vivisectionist Hans Reusch.

Reusch and his followers assert that many leading figures in the animal rights movement, including Gill Langley and her husband, are really inflitrators working for the pharmaceutical industry. The Apparent intention of the assailant was to knock Dr. Langley out and then search the office for incriminating documents.

Shortly after the attack, Dr. Langley wrote to Hans Reusch asking

#### STUDENT GREENS ON THE MARCH

The recent elections to Student Union posts at Oxford University saw the greens take 20% of the vote in a single transferable vote system. The three 'major' parties spent vast amounts of time, effort and money yet the Tories were beaten into fourth place behind the greens who thus secured a Vice-Presidency post. There were similar successes in the Executive and NUS delegate



Victim: Dr Langley

him to condemn the attack. However his reply contained a less than forthright condemnation along with a repeat of his allegations that the Langleys are infiltrators.

#### ballots.

Considering how traditional Oxford is, this is a startling breakthrough and an excellent opportunity both to spread green ideas around the university and further affeld. The greens would appreciate any ideas or suggestions on what they should do in the next year to have the greatest impact on the university. Contact Paul Ingrams, University College, High St. Oxford.

#### ANARCHIST

#### GREENS

You've heard of Green Anarchist, now meet Anarohist Greens. The Anarchist Greens Network has recently formed and GL has received the following provisional statement of aims and principles:

"We recognise that the ecological crisis facing our planet is immediate, and hat a broad front combining all the progressive opponents of industrialism is a necessity. We believe that the Green Party is one organisation around which such a broad front can coalesce. "Whilst respecting the diversity of opinions within the GReen Party, we recognise that a choice has to be made between retaining hierarchical

GREEN PARTY ELECTIONS CAMPAIGN

The Green Party will be fielding over 400 candidates in the forthcoming District Elections in May, and will be fleiding a full slate of candidates in Exeter, Stockport, Southampton, Hastings, Norwich and Bath. According to Brig Oubridge, Green Party Co-Chair, democracy is under threat as never before. The Governments proposals for the introduction of Poli Tax, and new plans in Education represent a fundamental assault on the rights and responsibilities of local government. Decentralisation of power is at the heart of Green philosophy, and Green Party candidates will be campaigning for local control of local resources and services."

At a time of unprecedented interest in green issues, the Green Party are interested in seeing how this is translated into votes in local communities.

#### TOES & DEBT

The Other Economic Summit is holding a conference on May 19th-20th at Regent's College, Regents Park, London NW1. The focus will be on the debt crisis to coincide with the latest G7 summit. An evening meeting on the Saturday will Include Frances Stewart 100-author of 'Adjustment with a Human Face', Susan George, whose 'A Fate Worse Than Debt' was reviewed last month in GL81 and Prof. Bade Onimode from Ibadan University. On the Sunday there will be workshops and seminars on the orisis. Details and bookings from Debt Meeting 25 Thames House, South Bank Business Centre, 140 Battersea Park Rd. London SW11 4NB.

power structures to enforce ecological edicts, and building a stateless society with genuinely green values from the grass roots. "In the long term, we believe that only the latter, anarchist path can succeed in creating a green society based on the principles of ecology,



non-violence, social justice and grassroots democracy. We reject the former path, espoused by liberals, conservatives and state socialists, as it is based ultimately on coercion and a state apparatus liable to be recaptured by the forces of industrialism.

"We therefore resolve:

- -To develop and promote anarchist ideas and actions within the Green Party:
- -To challenge the predominant liberal and state socialist analyses of the ecological orisis;
- -To question the electoral emphasis of the Party:
- -To work towards a stateless green society."

Unfortunately no contact address was sent, but look out for them and watch this space for developments.

#### GREEN DIARY

#### MAY

1st. Beltane Festival, Barberry Castle, Swindon.

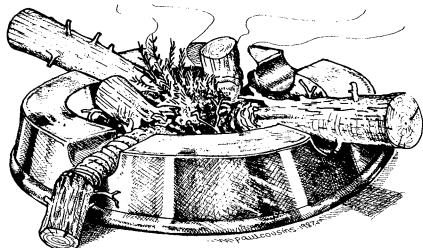
14th. Brazil: The Fight For the Environment. 3rd Annual Conference of the Brazil Network, Friends Meeting House, 1 Archibald Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne. 10.30-5.00. £1.50/50p, lunch £1.50. Regristration & further details: V.Cadoxa, 29 Frederick Gardens, Penshaw, DH4 7JY.

14th. FOE Public Speaking Workshop on Energy. Details FOE, 01 490 1555.

14th-15th. National Green & Socialist Conference. Details: The Socialist Society, 9 Poland Street, London W1V 3DG, 01 734 8501.

18th. The Academic Inn. Sir Richard Body MP, "Red or Green Agriculture". 24 Abercorn Place, London NWS. 6.30pm.

19th-20th. TOES Debt Crisis Conference at Regents College, Regents Park. Speakers include Susan George. Details: 'Debt Meeting' 25 Thames House, South Bank Business Centre, 140 Battersea Park Rd, London SW11 4NB.



Mind

21st. Levellers Day Human Rights Celebrations, Burford, Oxon. Details elsewhere in this issue. Even more details Martin Smalley (0865) 736828.

22nd-30th. Disarm the Seas. Actions everywhere. Info. North Atlantic Network c/o CND 01 250 4010.

28th. Bio-Dynamic Agriculture Association. Workshop "Seed Breeding the Bio-Dynamic Way", Emerson College, Details: BDAA, Woodman Lane, Clent, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY9 9PX, 056 286 4933.

30th. Wirral Green Alliance march from Meols slipway against Nirex dumping plans. Contact John Ellis, Heswell CND on 051 648 1024

30th. Kingston Green Fair, 6 Canbury Gardens, Kingston, Surrey. Details: Des Kay 01 546 1827.

30th-3rd June. Stop PWR Week. Details elsewhere in this issue.

June 1st. Stonehenge walks start from London, Oxford, Doncaster, Exeter and Bristol. London details: meet 12 noon at Jubilee Gardens, South Bank for departure 2-3pm. Peace Picnic at Peace Pagoda, Battersea Park.

June 5th. World Environment Day. FOE Day of Action for Cities For People Campaign. Details FOE 01 490 1555.

#### GREEN & SOCIALIST CONFERENCE

Organised by the Socialist Society, this weekend over May 14th-15th will feature a mix of speaker and workshop sessions aimed at strengthening links between reds and greens. The workshops proposed include Capitalism or Industrialism?,

Global Planning, Alternative Defence, Sexual Politics, Democracy and the State, and Animal Rights. For more info and tickets (£5/£2) contact The Green & Socialist Conference 1988, 9 Poland St, London W1V 3DG

#### COLCHESTER GREENS

A local Green Party in the Colchester area has now been formed. They hold regular meetings and interested green people after more details should contact Steve Long on Colchester 271980.

### Better Active Today Than Radioactive Tomorrow

MON 30TH MAY

FAMILY FUN BEACH PARTY

Kite flying, stalls, music, games, food, fun, evening beach bar-b-q

TUE 31ST MAY

PUT SIZEWELL OUT

Bring a bucket and help put Sizewell out

WED 1ST JUNE

STREET PARTY BLOCKADE

**THUR 2ND JUNE** 

**NUCLEAR WASTE DAY** 

Occupation action and leafleting

FRI 3RD JUNE

RADIATION DAY

Mutant and monitoring gathering

# attracted wide support from

educationalists throughout Europe and participants will be drawn from all areas of education, formal and informal. Well known speakers have been invited to share their experiences of educational change and development and there will also be workshops and discussions.

For more information, contact Green Party, 10 Station Parade, Balham High Road, London SW12 9AZ, 01 673 0045.

GREEN BOOKS

A new green publisher has recently started up. Green Print claim to be 'the best publishing news in years for greens and radical environmentalists worldwide.

As far as is possible their books will be printed on recycled paper and they should be available through competent booksellers. Their first catalogue is now out and listed books include 'Living Without Cruelty' a guide to cruelty-free living by Mark Gold and Sarah Brown, 'Against Machismo', a look at women's struggles in the Christian Church, through interviews by Elsa Tamez; 'Renewing the Earth', a collection of writings in honour of Murray Bookchin, and, John Seymour and Herbert Grardet's 'Far From Paradise'.

Green Print is always interested to hear from prospective authors, and are especially interested in printing more books by women to try to redress the imbalance of the sexes in green literature. They interpret the word 'Green' very liberally and are interested in practical as well as theoretical subjects, in popular as well as more academic ideas.

For a free catalogue, contact: Green Print Mailing List, Marshall Pickering Ltd., 3 Beggarwood Lane, Basingstoke, Hants. RG23 7LP. Watch out for reviews of some of their books in future issues of GL.

GREEN EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The Green Party is organising a Special Education Conference - its first public conference on education - in Brixton, London on May 21st-22nd. The Conference will offer a forum for a radical reappraisal of current educational practices, and will explore means of achieving a genuinely person-centred and holistic education system that aims to develop the whole person,



GLADE CONFERENCE

With the formation of the new Social and Liberal Democratic Party, the Liberal Ecology Group and the SDP Greens have begun to work together with the concern that the new party will need a green perspective more than ever. A new green campaigning group, Green Liberals and Democrats (GLADE), is to be launched at a conference on saturday May 14th. 11am to 4pm, at thr Congressional Centre, Castlegate, Nottingham. The

organisers hope that members of the various Liberal and SDP peace and green groups will find a home in GLADE to help produce a major radical campaigning group within the new party.

The conference fee is £7.50 (£5.00 unwaged) and a buffet lunch is included. For further details and bookings contact Tricia Melton, Bramblewood, Staythorpe, Newark, or phone Keith Melton on (0636) 73430.



#### DIE GRUNEN NOT

#### DEAD SHOCK!

Despite premature reports of Die Grunen falling apart, the party has held its own in Baden-Wurttemberg with 7.9% of the vote (8.0% last time), ahead of two right-parties. The ruling CDU managed to hold onto power.

#### **EARTHCARES FESTIVAL**

The Lancaster and Morecambe Earthcares Festival takes place between wednesday 8th and subday 12th June. There will be a variety of events, including a one-day Festival Fair with stalls, music, circle dancing, childrens games and craft demonstrations; visits to local nature reserves; talks, courses, displays and workshops on various green themes, and, disco and ceilidh nights.

Further details from the Festival Secretary, Lancaster Earthcares, 82 Dale Street, Lancaster, Lancs. LA1 3AW.

#### CHERNOBYL BOMB

According to New Scientist (4th Sept. 1986), the hot reactor core was not damped down by tons of sand/boron/nucide absorbants airlifted by brave helicopter crews, as was widely reported, but: "the reactor core was blasted by the (first) explosion a kilometer away and it did not melt down but shattered due to the speed of the temperature rise". Radioactive fragments were scattered in a wide arc.

Chernobyl did what the Soviets believed would be impossible, it went "prompt critical". Only nuclear bombs are supposed to do that!

#### GREEN UMBRELLA

Readers in the East London area may be interested in this lively local green magazine, which covers liford, Romford, Stratford, Loughton, Hornchurch and East London. It covers the local green movement, giving comprehensive details of events, meetings and contacts. The magazine is a good example of the building of local contacts.

It costs 20p an issue or £2,00 per year, available from 30 Bathurst Road, liford, Essex IG1 4LA.

Network compiled by GRAHAM HOOPER



#### FOREST ACTION

Looking for an alternative holiday this year? European Youth Forest Action (EYFA) — a network of over 200 European youth organisations concerned with acid rain and its effects on forests —is organising a series of youth camps in July and August, in Germany, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Poland and Russia.

The camps will hopefully act as meeting points for young Europeans with similar concerns, as opportunities to learn more about forest issues and as a joining together of European youth to take action against environmental polluters.

EYFA are also organising an 'Introduction' tour of Eastern Europe in July, Further details about the EYFA camps and the tour are available from Graham Lennard at Birmingham FOE, 54 Allinson Street, Digbeth, Birmingham 85 5TH, (021) 382 8909.

#### POLLUTION GUIDE

Thames TV Help Programme, in association with FOE and the GMB, has produced a pollution action pamphlet. "Fighting Pollution" is a guide to pollution in the home, neighbourhood and workplace, and what to do about it. It contains plenty of information on appropriate action, useful addresses, useful information sources and references to topical literature. It can be obtained (price?) from Thames TV plc., 14a Tottenham Court Road, London W1P GLL.

#### CONSUMERS AGAINST NUKES

Rreaders may be interested in a way of hitting out against the nuclear industry when they pay their next electricity bill. Consumers Against Nuclear Energy have been organising a campaign in which electricity consumers withhold the 17% of their bills that pays for nuclear electricity and send that money to CANE, where it is held in trust. The money can be returned to the consumer or paid to the CEG8 later at the consumer's request (e.g. if disconnection is immanent). Interest on the withheld money in trust is used - with other monies raised - towards funding CANE's activities and to support research into renewable energy systems. CANE's address is PO Box 697, London NW1 8YQ.



#### VEGAN GUIDE

London Vegans have produced "The London Vegan Directory of Usefuil Addresses". The Directory includes information about animal rights organisations, alternative medicine, restaurants and caterers, wholefood shops, footwear and other consumables, holidays /retreats and green organisations. It is available - 50p + A4 size SAE - from London Vegans, 7 Deanbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 98E.

#### GRAHAM'S FRUITY CAKE

11b wholemeal flour 80z chopped nuts & sunflower seeds 8-12oz dried fruit large pinch each of caraway and aniseeds

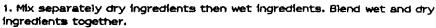
2-3 tsp of arrowroot

2-3 tsp of baking powder

2-3 tbls of apple juice concentrate

5 floz of of

10 floz of water



2. Pour into baking tin. Bake at 350°F for 45 mins or shape mixture into buns and bake for 30 mins.





This Easter, around five hundred greens converged on Antwerp for an international conference on the theme of 'Local Politics'. ANDY SPRING from Oxford Student Green Action was there.

#### CONVERGENCE AND DIVERGENCE AT ANTWERP

THE FOURTH CONGRESS of the European Greens was held over three days from 8th-10th April, in Antwerp in Flemish-speaking Belgium, and was hosted by Agaley, the green party. Formed in 1977, they have risen from just 0.3% of the vote then to 12% in December 1987, and now have four seats (out of 55) in the City Council, 3 MP's and a Euro MP. They claim to be "working on most of the typical green topics; traffic, urban renewal, waste. nuclear power, racism and decentralisation." Their effect on the town is visible - the streets are relatively car-free, public transport is cheap and comprehensive, cycle-lanes and bottle banks are common. But their influence extends beyond cosmetic improvements: the socialist Mayor of Antwerp who welcomed us at the Town Hall spoke of the Greens' attempts to challenge the large corporations and business interests who pull the city's purse strings through control of its major industries; shipping. banking and diamonds, a challenge laid down not just in the Town Hall but on the streets also. Meeting this challenge proves harder if alternative strategies-outside the main political system are used to raise awareness: the first afternoon of the conference was spent drawing in chalk on the riverside promenade to express the concern with river pollution felt throughout Europe, and the organisers proudly displayed their local press column inches the next

day. Alternative "actions" achieve something, anyway.

The value of the Congress lay in the chance to make contact with other greens; for me, other student greens; to hear of their problems and successes and to share mine. At a different level, Paul Staes, the Agalev MEP, demonstrated how the centralization that will be created by the Single European Market in 1992 would best be exposed by united Eurogreens – and how a new air route from Antwerp to Stuttgart was successfully opposed by pressure from both cities.

#### ▶ Jobs, migrants, women

The Congress centred on "Local Politics", specifically three areas: local employment initiatives, the involvement of migrants in local politics, and the involvement of women in local politics. Each issue was discussed during the Saturday and Sunday by three speakers, followed by questions and debate. Much that was good came out of these sessions - we heard from Finland how the women there are more effective in local politics because of their sensitivity to other issues, how this makes them more active outside the patriarchal parliament, more alternative in extra-political activity.

Paul Lannoye, a Belgian MP, outlined an energy scheme, principally for rural areas, based entirely on local demand and local resources of wood and blo-gas (solving a waste disposal problem at



the same time). Being decentralized, it was insulated from changes in global macroeconomics, but unfortunately (from the economist's point of view) it also had a negative effect on G.N.P. Thus although cheaper to run, the political will was lacking to alter the (central) electricity tariffs to make such a scheme viable.

The session devoted to the problems of migrants - not usually found on green agendas in the UK focussed on a group who are not only denied many civil and political rights, but who are also at the bottom of the economic heap. From Liege, Brigitte Ernst, an Alderman, outlined community participation schemes, where, for example, people such as migrant workers - who wouldn't normally challenge council house development plans - were given information and encouraged to participate in the planning process. All this began to tie in with the speeches on local economics, where it was stated that we must attempt to regain control. particularly financial control, if the projects set up are genuinely to meet the needs of local communities rather than multinationals.

#### ▶However...

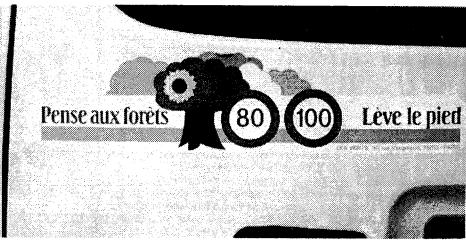
However, it did appear during the Congress that among the greens there are some who advance views which if not actually "ungreen" are certainly not alternative. Guy Dauncey, a UK sconomist and Green



chalking up the news coverage at the dockside

Party member, suggested a coalition of business and community interests in small scale enterprise job creation schemes, in which green thinking was just one 'strand'. As such, green principles such as a no-growth economy could be sacrificed to other 'strands', such as enterprise or social justice. Jurgen Holtermann, an adviser to the green group in Bremen City Council suggested that as a major port, Bremen is so tied into the global economy that decoupling from that economy is impossible given the scarcity of local resources. While recognizing that the alternative to the declining textile and chemical industries should be co-operative. meet local needs and so on, he seems to have overlooked the imperative that the declining industries are not meeting local employment needs because of the extent to which they are coupled to the global economy; when America catches cold, Europe sneezes, they say.

Similarly Markus Heinzer, a geographer from a private planning bureau for urban transport in Basel, Switzerland, outlined a public transport scheme sold under the



French Greens car sticker: 'Think of the forests, lift your foot'

spoke of the need to bring out assertiveness in women so that they succeed in the current political system. Surely a more alternative approach would be to challenge the current system by working outside it, as the Greenham women have done, and thereby build structures for action that actively involve everyone?

The 'ungreen' element of the conference showed itself in other more practical ways; the lack of

Secretary of the Green Party UK voiced this concern in her closing speech to Congress:

"We might also be wise to ask ourselves why this conference has not had a session devoted to the environment, urban or rural, when opinion polls tell us that most of us have been voted into our local authorities because of our environment policies more than anything else. Just as the opposition is waking up to the radical implications of environmental protection, the Greens in Europe seem to be forgetting it. I suggest that we not only have a lot to gain by going global with our local green politics, but we also need to rediscover and seriously develop the radical potential of environmental protection. Our very survival may depend on it."



banner of Ecology - basically funding a cheap travel card to increase public transport use. The initiative for the scheme came from the transport companies themselves, and so was designed to maintain their incomes. By now it came as no surprise to learn that no steps had been taken to reduce private car traffic, and when pressed on this, Markus Heinzer put forward the view that a transport scheme must meet people's demands - if they want to drive their cars they should be accommodated - a view quickly challenged by other greens, who pointed out that achieving a sustainable society implied reducing consumption rather than accommodating it.

Likewise during the Sunday afternoon session on "Women in politics", Evelyn Knowles, an SLD councillor in Cambridge and an executive member of the 300 Group.

provision for vegan food, the concentration at the conference on a speaker/ audience set up, even the choice of purely local politics as the theme. All this led some UK greens to question the extent to which continental greens had thought through the full implications of green policies, be they public transport or job creation. What this division arises out of I don't know. It might be that the radical implications of green thinking are deliberately rejected, they could also not be fully understood in some places. Certainly, discussion of local politics should lead to establishing fundamental principles (such as challenging consumerism, opposing multinationals); that in some cases in Antwerp it did not do so is worrying, given the prominence and influence of some of the speakers from Green Parties around Europe. Sara Parkin, International



Photos by Andy Spring. Posters by AGALEV, the Flemish Belgium Green Party

THE ARTICLE BY David Pepper and Nickie Hallam really will not do because it fails to locate the real thrust of the global crisis with which it purports to deal. Overall it presents a scenario of the individual versus monopoly capitalism and urges greens to clamber on the treadmill of mass political organisation yet again in order to put a green perspective onto the struggle of the 'proletariat' to defeat 'capitalies'. This is not the politics of the future; it is simply the poitics of nostaigia. The authors condemn recent books by Walter and Dorothy Schwarz and by Jonathon Porritt on the grounds that they are merely "recycling environmentalism" or the ideas other writers have put forward at least a generation earlier. O.K., but what Pepper and Hallam are giving us is nothing more than the recycled class war theories of the 19th centruy as a recipe for solving the problems of the

The odd thing is that, although they make free play with names like Schumacher and Roszack, not once do they touch on the core of these people's ideas. The import of the very title of Schumacher's world famous book 'Small is Beautiful' (my emphasis) appears to elude their attention altogether – as it eludes the Schwarzes and Porritt too for that matter.

This means they miss the most significant aspect of green politics completely, and in doing so they wander into the same old stale, discredited terrain of mass politics; apparently oblivious of the analytical perceptions of Kohr, Schumacher, Roszack, Illich and others and the efforts we of the Fourth World have been making now for a quarter of a century to project a political and economic programme which stems uncompromisingly from their insights; a programme which has the integrity of consistency and points to a form of politics which is organically structured (i.e. empowered from its smallest units), power dispersed and community based.

I am aware that this may seem the most impractical drivel to many people, even though they may well describe themselves as 'green', but before we are dismissed as being unworthy of serious consideration, some attention at least should surely be focussed on the reasons why mass reform politics have always failed us and why they always will.

#### • Absurdity of mass politics

The record alone shows quite unequivocally that a 'mass democracy' is a contradiction in terms. To be a member of any mass is unavoidably to be isolated, alienated and manipulated. A mass by its very nature consists of leaders and the led. It is of course possible, in the quest for democratic decision-making, to fragment the mass into small units; that way you may get democracy, but it is no longer based on the mass.

A mass structure implies a continuing leadership group and it is the nature of political life conducted on a mass basis that the leaders are compelled to subordinate all other considerations to that of achieving power as an end in itself - not, be it noted, to attain socialism or capitalism or greenism or any other objective, but power. Why? Because as in the market place, the trader who does not pursue the highest possible profit as an end in itself, is soon defeated by rivals who do. So in mass politics, the person who does not subordinate everything to the aim of getting to the top of the greasy pole is soon replaced by more singleminded rivals.

This is why Mr Kinnock must drop his opposition to 'the bomb' and a great deal of his socialism if he is to capture more of the middle ground of the electoral stakes to win the next election, and why he will be ousted as party leader if he fails to do so. Not that it matters a spare button whether he or Mrs Thatcher or whoever the latest green mass electoral hopeful may be, wins or loses. The dynamics of the global crisis cannot be countered by mass political processes because those processes are themselves so locked into the value

# The Green Movement CAN break through

In GL 60, Darcannot rely cannot rely cological so consciousner change. For the past and movements communities,

JOHN PAPWORTH is editor of 'The Fourth World', the quarterly journal of the Fourth World organisation which campaigns particularly for community empowerment and action. For more information write to them at 24 Abercorn Place, London NNS.

assumptions peddled with such satanic skill by their media acolytes that, on a mass basis, either those values must be shared by the aspiring political hopefuls themselves or they will be rejected by mass electorates unable to envisage any other values.

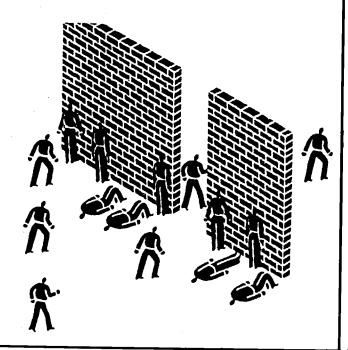
This point was once demonstrated to me with exquisite clarity by none other than Jonathon Porritt himself when (what year was it?) he canvassed me in my London home for my vote for his candidature in the local elections (Local' for a council governing about a million people - more than some countries with a vote in the U.N.). "But Jonathon" quoth I, having carefully preused his election address, "it says nothing here about the biggest environmental problem of the neighbourhood, cars! They kill about 5,000 people a year and injure badly about 30,000. They poison the air and my kids can't play in the street without the risk of being killed." Said Jonathon: "Most people round here have cars, and if I put that in my election address they just would not vote for me."

Well they did not vote for him anyway, which fact is its own contribution to the analysis I am making. It must be evident that if a Green Party operating on a mass basis came within sniffing range of Downing Street, its leaders would be compelled, if they wished to preside behind the portals of No.10, to drop any of their environmental proposals which conflicted with the dominant consumerist values of the mass electorate. Did I hear you say the members of the Green Party would compel them to stick to their principles? Please don't make me laugh; my face muscles are still aching from the last Labour Party conference. Tell it to the members of the Labour Party who want Kinnock to ban the bomb, or to the majority of those members of the Land of Hope and Glory Party who want to bring back hanging and flooring.

Pepper and Hallam cannot, it seems, take any of this into account. They are too busy urging us to seek salvation on a mass (and inevitably totalitarian) basis by allying ourselves with the 'proletariat'. Apparently they



avid Pepper and Nickie Hallam argued that greens on individualistic efforts to create a more ociety, but that they must also create a mass ess for green revolution if we are to see real JOHN PAPWORTH however, this is the language of it ignores the crucial issue of how mass create power without effective control. He believes at return to action at the level of local



are unaware that whilst <u>any</u> mass grouping is reactionary as a matter of course, the proletariat tends to be the most reactionary of all, if only because it is the most ignorant, the most focussed on a stomach and pocket view of life, and the most debased by the powerful economic forces which dominate it.

#### · The politics of size

If they want to come up with a solution which really does enable people to have some control over their lives and some chance of letting their innate decencies flower then let them stop this stale old postulation of the individual and the mass and grasp the pivotal importance of the factor of size. For it is only within the structure of human-scale communities, armed with their own forms of political and economic clout, that moral and value considerations can take their badly needed precedence. Without that locally based clout, all other political talk is hogwash and claptrap.

The world will not be saved by <u>any</u> mass groupings if only because it is mass structures <u>because they are built on a mass basis</u> which have created the global crisis in the first place.

That crisis is a product of the destruction of localised community life, which has enabled power to become rootless even as it has assumed a size which makes it impossible for anyone to control it, through the ballot box or any other means. Basically, there is a crisis of power itself which will never be resolved until the power implicit in genuine community life is restored, expanded in terms of our modern notions of democracy and gender equality, and made the clear source of all other forms of power created by collective life.

It may well be asked how we can achieve this goal. I don't know, and I know nobody else who does. But in politics, a goal clearly defined is a battle more than half won. We of the Fourth World have worked ceaselessly to get our sights clear on this, and our annual assemblies

have no other object than to elucidate ways and means by which community power may be realised.

Quite clearly we have entered a phase of breakdown of our mass societies, whether they are socialist, communist or capitalist. As they continue to fracture, this will make the problems of local life more acute: there will be more crime, poverty, unemployment, drug addiction, homelessness, family breakdown, abused children and the devil knows what else.

These problems, it is already evident, can only be grappled with at the local level. It is the first political task of all greens to identify themselves with the problems within reach of their own doorsteps. In this way we begin the long haul back to sanity and community life; as we work on common problems together we begin to replace anonymity with relationships; we raise neighbourhood consciousness; we increase the awareness that we do have it within our power to solve local problems using local skills and local resources.

We move on from there to new definitions of local power and responsibilities; we assume power over local economic life by organising boycotts of any non-local activities we do not want; we begin our own local bank and credit facilities; we learn to control our own schools and clinics; we appoint our own local police as we see fit...

Slowly the long deluded and long sleeping giant of democracy awakes and, understanding of its own latent power to decide and direct on a localised consensual basis, begins to illuminate its comprehension of its own possibilities, that by such means, and always aware of the wider world, it can see itself as part of a ferment of change of human consciousness and human purposes which encompasses human life everywhere.

#### **Emerson College**

a centre of adult education, training and research, based on the work of Rudolf Steiner

SUMMER COURSES 1988

July 8 - 15
A WORKING CONFERENCE IN MUSIC
"Re-membering Osiris" - A search for
the Sources of Musical Vitality

July 9 - 15
EDUCATION AND HUMAN VALUES
An Introductory Course for
Teachers and Student Teachers

July 17 - 23
LIFEWAYS '88
"Life as a Work of Art" - How can we work artistically with our lives?

Emmerson College offers a Foundation Year and full-time courses in: Education, Social Development, Bio-dynamic Farming and Gardening, Rural Development, Sculpture, Voice, Speech & Drama, Economics.

#### Details from:

The Conference Secretary, Emerson College, Forest Row, East Sussex, England RH18 5JX. Tel: (0342 82) 2238

NORMAN JOPE considers the implications of the Government's iniquitous and relatively undiscussed changes in the law that are making it possible to block benefits to the 'voluntarily unemployed'. It reveals a Tory attitude to the 'work ethic' and to those who don't share their view which must be broken and replaced by a humane, ecological idea of work.

## Idle hands ..?

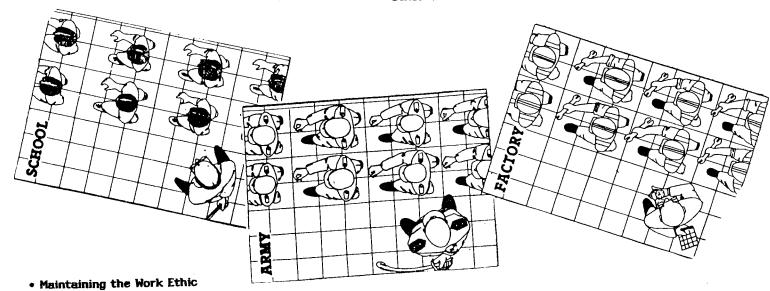
Parliament which is going to have an impact on the lives of millions, and which may, in the last analysis, cause us as much heartbreak and misery as any of the government's measures. It didn't receive much coverage in the media, and many of you may not even realise that it has already become operational (as of April 11th). What it does is extend the period in which those deemed to be "voluntarily" unemployed, or to have contributed towards their own dismissal, are unable to claim unemployment benefit; from 13 to 26 weeks maximum. Although it will still be permissible to claim a reduced rate of (means-tested) supplementary benefit during that period, this can amount to as little as £15 a week for those under 25 - barely enough even to feed oneself.

hostility towards those who look towards other meanings and rewards). They are, quite deliberately, going to be starved into submission.

It has to be said that there would not have been much of an outcry were these measures publicly debated, for the reason that most people are wedded to a comparable ethic. Moreover, many of those who slog their guts out for little reward understandably resent those who do nothing but are no worse off. However, not only is such resentment largely the product of a lack of overview, rather than logic, but it is not necessarily correct that the Government's conception of work exactly coincides with that of most working people. Whereas Thatcherism is concerned with labour as a means to wealth-creation, the common view would still tend towards work as a service to the community, hence the latent antipathy towards those seen as "money-for-nothing" types - Yuppie stockbrokers, computer whizzkids, streetwise entrepeneurs - who often do work hard in terms of hours and energy put in, but who can seem to generate little in the way of social benefit. The Tories have a long way to go before they can re-define work in mass consciousness. It is to be hoped that they will not have the time to do so, or indeed, the time to do much more damage. Barring a miracle (or a catastrophe) they'll have three or four more years, so we can but hope in the short-term ... and resist where we can.

#### Criminalising Alternative culture

This brings me to what I perceive as another reason for the Government's measures. Since the massive increases in unemployment a decade ago, a spell on the dole has been an option for many folk, whether utilised willingly or otherwise. Some have found that the financial



The overt purpose of this legislation was, by the Government's own admission, to deter those dissatisfied with their current jobs from leaving them - unless of course they had sufficient savings or a job to go to. The Government does not seem to be worried about the prospect of millions of jobs being filled with dissatisfied and embittered employees, even when, given the current labour surplus, those opting to leave would merely change places with benefit claimants rather than increase the jobless total. All they seem to be interested in is the preservation and enhancement of what they see as the "work ethic" - work being more and more narrowly defined as "the creation of wealth", no matter what the means or consequences. They appear determined to weld the minds of their subjects to this ethos and are not in the least concerned, it seems, if they ruin the lives of millions in the process. And woe betide those who transgress; who aren't prepared to give their lives in exchange for cash (cash seems to be the one incentive this government understands - it can only radiate

disadvantages of unemployment have been outweighed by the human advantage: using their own time as alternative capital, they have undertaken new projects, explored new options and made new contacts. Many have been unable to do so, because the dole is pitched below the level of minimum comfort and where one lives can be a significant factor. However, those who have approached the experience of unemployment in a positive manner have, with providence, achieved enriched lives. Moreover, many have used the time to change direction towards the kind of lives they wanted to lead in the first place. There are also a large number of folk who have deliberately espoused life on the dole, not to sit about and rot, but to pursue alternative lifestyles and assorted counter-cultural projects - often of an artistic nature and therefore, at least in the short-term, usually not commercially viable.

Anyway, when the government looked around, it saw that its revenue was passing to its perceived enemies and that an incipient counter-culture was blossoming, or at least digging in, on the income gained from various forms of benefit. Many of their recent measures can be seen, in part, as moves towards starving the counter-culture of the human time and energy it needs to develop. The unified training scheme, due to be "made available" to the long-term unemployed in September, will deprive it of much of its 'un-labour force'. The increase in the benefit disqualifications period will have the effect of deterring those embroiled in the dominant culture, but who do not share its values, from making the move towards principled penury and the hope of something better.

#### Opposing the Work Ethic

I tend to think that this Government will not be satisfied until every adult is securely ensconced in a permanent full-time job that they cannot escape from, a house they cannot leave except to take on a mortgage for another house and, ideally, safe in a nice little nuclear family to boot. Connected only by the media, and by the view of the world it perpetrates, all of us would work, shop, sleep, grow old and die. After all (so their arguments seem to imply) there are unlimited resources available to carry this charade into the indefinite future, and it will go on being possible to extend at least the hope of affluence to all citizens. Isn't that what people want (they seem to be saying): comfort, assured security, the chance to consume as much as it is possible to consume without being physically ill? And what right have I, a minority of one, to complain about it?

Well I do complain, not least because this vision of everyone slogging their guts out in order to consume as much as possible in their leisure time is, globally and ecologically speaking, an intensely poisonous one. The creation of wealth, where not falsely engendered on paper, can derive only from the exploitation of resources; and all affluence, by its existence, engenders a demand that can only speed up this exploitation. So it is that the wealth of aeons is transformed... to numerical profit, waste, and that horribly bloated feeling in the mind and body which accompanies gluttony.

It's time the debate about work was taken up at this level. Rather than lie low and await the ascendency of the Labour Party (whose very name seems to betray their absolutist faith in the work ethic, and whose pronouncements have, to date, largely revealed a basic concordance with the Tory 'workaholicist' vision) it is imperative that the debate be taken up as soon as possible. Attempts to do so should be accompanied by strategies designed to reduce the financial hold the State has over the counter-culture (i.e. by increasing its self-sufficiency). And we need strategies to resist any attempts by the State to regiment and subjugate the unemployed, either through deterring them from leaving their jobs, or by intimidating those out of work to participate in its 'training' schemes ('training for slavery" as one friend described them).

Perhaps the Government would think twice about any further measures (such as Workfare in its pure form) were those drafted into the schemes to overcome their individual impotence, units, and resist any moves that even hinted of compulsion. Much of the Government's strategy relies on its ability to intimidate the individual claimant. Break that intimidation, and it may learn to tread more circumspectly in future.

However, the main radical task still concerns the work ethic itself: can it be redefined, or is it something to be eradicated altogether? In order to approach this question, human nature (assuming there is such a thing) needs to be considered. Would we all be inclined to laze around, do nothing, and eventually starve or freeze to death were there not such a thing as the work ethic to keep us in line (as the Tories appear to be contending)? Or is it rather that life is not worth living without the chance to participate in the human community, and in so doing to create the preconditions for one's own genetic

survival? I would argue that we do all want to contribute in our own ways, and that it is only when faced with an artificial choice between money and time that some of us would choose time.

The nature of what constitutes worthwhile work should be addressed: in what crazed system is a stockbroker, an advertising executive, a double-glazing salesperson or a munitions manufacturer more valuable than a mother rearing a child, a poet, or even a streetsweeper? Another very relevant consideration is the necessity, or otherwise, of everybody being allotted only one, highly specialised task as their contribution to society. Are there ever reasons for doing so, or is the very concept simply barbaric?

But for me, the essence of the debate has to be the way that excess labour in the short-term threatens, rather than enhances, the future of the planet and of the species upon it. It must be asked whether the rewards of an overworking, over-consuming society are worth the long-term consequences - especially when the 'long-term' is liable to loom large in our own lives. The fact that these questions are heretical in mainstream terms is all the more reason to ask them urgently. In blunt terms, the effects of the necessary changes will mean for most people shorter working hours and lower incomes. To some extent, it will be possible to make the latter more acceptable by means of the former; but there is still a lot of convincing to be done and not much time to do it in. Certainly it is clear that Thatcherism is advancing resolutely in the opposite direction and that it is prepared to employ such vindictive measures as the six-month disqualification to achieve its objectives.

If we are to have any chance of making headway, we will have to expose the values which underlie such measures and argue against them to the dgree our capabilites permit. Otherwise it could be twelve months next time; it could even be illegal to leave your job at all, no matter how hateful, useless or unrewarding it is. After the last nine years, little would surpsie me.



### the radical nonviolence fortnightly

due for relaunch in September 1988 as a newspaper requires four workers to be based in Nottingham:

- 2 Editorial / Production
- 1 Office Administration / Finance
- 1 Development / Promotion / Outreach.

Experience in producing a newspaper preferred. Sympathy with aims of <u>PEACE NEWS</u> essential.

Pay £6,000 p.a. initially. Job shares considered.

PN strives to be an equal opportunity employer but regrets no wheelchair access.

Application forms from PN Jobs, 8 Elm Avenue, Nottingham 3. Closing date for applications 20/5/88 Interviews in week beginning 6/6/88



SAVE TIPI VILLAGE

THE TIPI VILLAGE near Cwmdu. Talley, was founded in 1976 by people buying derelict farmland and living in tipis, following the North American Indian philosophy of living close to the earth and in tune with Mother Nature. Over the years, the village has grown to become a community of over a thousand people, with many others visiting every year to learn about our simple lifestyle. It has featured in numerous TV documentaries and in a course of the Open University. We have also built up contacts with North American Indians and other native peoples struggling to maintain their traditional way of life, and a number of such people have

visited the village.

Initially it was thought that no plannig permission was necessary. since a tipi is not a permanent structure. However, in November 1984, Dinefwr Borough Council issued two enforcement notices alleging a change from agricultural to residential use of the land and requiring the tipis to be removed. The Tipi Village appealed against these notices and a public enquiry was held in Llandeilo in July 1985. The Inspector's report was suppressed by the Welsh Office and remained on the shelf for over two years. The new Secretary of State for Wales, Peter Walker, has now upheld the enforcement notices and given until August 1988 for people to comply. Anyone disobeying these notices could then be liable for fines of up to £2,000 per day.

Yet, the Inspector's report was broadly sympathetic to the village. He stated that: "...the degree of visual intrusion or environmental damage (is) minimal... In relation to the local ecology their presence seems to me, on balance, to be beneficial rather than harmful... To reject such claims as they make for special consideration in what they regard as a near ideal location and on land that they have purchased would almost inevitably transfer what is at its highest, a problem of limited local significance to some other location where it would be less easily accomodated."

He then concluded: "...in land use planning terms I consider [the Tipi Village] to be, in principle, acceptable in the special circumstances of the case."

Although the Inspector wanted to give planning permission, he was unable to do so because the

After 12 years living peacefully on their own land, the Tipi Villagers now face homelessness due to the unbending attitudes of local planners and the Welsh Office.

enforcement notices (and hence the appeals) related to only a part of the valley area, and because the land is owned by more than one person or organisation.

If Dinefwr Council persists with its persecution of the Tipi Village and succeeds in forcing people off their own land, those people will then be homeless and Dinefwr will be legally obliged to rehouse them. At present Dinefwr has only two houses for homeless people and cannot afford to build any more. Over a hundred tipi-dwellers (who want only to be left alone) would have to be rehoused at a cost of about £1,000,000, ahead of the 700 people on the housing list who actually want council housing.

However the Tipi Village is not giving up without a struggle. The Secretary of State's decision is being challenged in the High Court and our barrister is confident of winning the case. If the Council were to issue further enforcement notices for the remainder of Tipi Valley, this would result in more appeals and public enquiries and still further unnecessary costs for Dinefwr ratepayers.

There is a simple way out of this insane situation. In the time still remaining before the enforcement notices come into effect, Dinefwr Council should negotiate with the Tipi people and find a way of granting the planning permission which the Inspector wanted to give but could not. A simple change of heart would save a unique community, save the Council countless thousands of pounds, and would save anyone from having to jump the housing queue.

The pressure of public opinion both inside and outside the borough is already starting to make the councillors think again, and personal letters to the Council are particularly effective. Over 3000 petition signatures have already been handed in and more are arriving every week from all over Britain.

Please write to Dinefwr Borough Council, Crescent Rd, Llandeilo, Dyfed, sign the "Save Tipi Village" petition, and collect signatures from your friends and neighbours. Send a donation (however large or small) to Save Tipi Village Campaign, PO Box 1, Salem Post Office, Salem, Llandeilo, Dyfed.

# A far cry

How much do you know about the Pacific? To mark the current UK tour by Women for a Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific, here's information on some of the Pacific nations.

1 NORTHERN MARIANAS formally a UN Trust Territory, it now has a Commonwealth (dependent) relationship with the US. There are US plans for "essential" radar installations for SDI.

#### 2 JAPAN

a dominant economic power, has many nuclear reactors and 119 US bases.

#### MAUD E

a US dependency and potential base for Trident. The Chamorro people are demanding indigenous rights.

#### 4 PHILIPPINES

since the overthrow of the Marcos dictatorship in 1986 has put forward plans for a nuclear-free constitution. Currently there are tough negotiations over the renewal of the US bases' licences, which expire in 1991.

#### 5 BELAU

presently a UN Strategic Trust Territory, Belauans democratically adopted the world's first nuckear—free constitution. They are under constant US economic and political pressure to recind it through imposed referendums; a series of which have been held to try and produce the right result for the US. US plans include acquiring a third of the land and extending airfields.

#### 8 AUSTRALIA

a regional power, permits transnational companies such as RTZ, BP and others, to mine uranium and desecrate Aboriginal lands and cultures. Despite government bans on military uses of the exported uraniam, it is widely believed that this does happen in Europe and elsewhere. British atomic testing on Aboriginal land poisoned people, black and white, and land, as has come to light during recent law cases to force the British to clean up the mess and compensate those harmed by their negligence. Over 30 US bases of global importance are stationed in the country.

#### 7 EAST TIMOR

was forcibly annexed by Indonesia in 1975. Over 100,000 have been killed. The US, UK and Australia continue to supply military equipment, economic aid and political support to the Indonesian government.

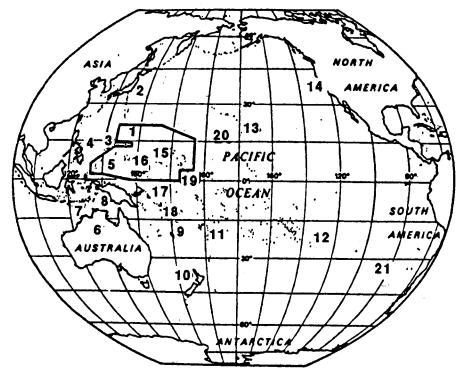
#### 8 WEST PAPUA

became part of Indonesia after a referendum of dubious legality in 1982. Indonesia has plans for forced

# from the Pacific

THE PACIFIC is the most nuclearised zone in the world. More than any other area, the Pacific and its people have borne the brunt of the nuclear cycle; uranium mining, nuclear power programmes, missile testing – waste dumping is now being proposed. The US, USSR, French and British governments all maintain a nuclear presence. The Pacific contains the world's largest nuclear arsenal and deadliest weapon systems. However, Pacific peoples are refusing to let the nuclear nightmare overwhelm them. They are courageously fighting back; demanding true independence, restoration of their lands and compensation for health damage. An indigenous grassroots movement for a Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific formally began in Fiji in 1975. A network was formed to support this by the Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp and volunteers work to publicise issues, develop and maintain personal links with Pacific peoples, raise money for campaigns and projects and organise tours of the UK by indigenous Pacific women.

The latest tour began at the end of April and continues into June - see Network, GL61 for details. GL61 also includes a list of contact addresses for those looking for more information, or to offer help and support. A builetin is available, produced by Women for a NFIP: £5.50 for a year, 50p an issue (+30p p&p) from Jan Symington, 52 Salisbury Rd, Crookes, Sheffield S10.



the

resettlement to outnumber indigenous Tribal population.

#### S KANAKY

a French 'Overseas Territory', the Melanesian Kanak people are engaged in a bitter struggle to achieve independence, despite a deliberate French policy of white immigration, leaving the Kanks a minority in their own homeland.

#### 10 AOTEAROA (NEW ZEALAND)

in 1984 its people voted in a nuclear—free harbours programme which in May 1987 became law. However its indigenous Maori people, who have now become a minority, still demand land rights, Maori culture and fulfullment of

the 1840 Treaty of Waltangi.

#### 11"FIJI

an independent parliamentary democracy from 1970, a new government supporting a nuclear—free policy was overthrown by a military coup in May 1987 amid allegations of US complicity, and was followed by a second coup in September. Racial tensions between indigenous islanders and Asian settlers remain high, the latter now suffering political discrimination as a consequence of the coup.

#### 12 EAST POLYNESIA (FRENCH POLYNESIA)

with its capital at the main island of Tahiti is a French 'Overseas Territory'. Between 1966 and 1974 there were 41 atmospheric tests on Moruroa and Fangataufa atolis and since then over 80 underground tests at Moruroa. The atoli is severely damaged and the environment poliuted.

#### 13 HAWAII

a US state, is a major centre for US military with 110 bases and a massive arsenal, including Trident. Nuclear submarines discharge radioactive waste. The sacred island of Kaho'alowe has been bombed in military exercises called RIMPAC with British participation. The indigenous Polynesian people are a minority, exploited and discriminated against by the whites.

14 CALIFORNIAN COAST was a dumping ground for nuclear waste from 1949 to 1965. The seabed is now contaminated and radioactivity levels are 5000 times normal.

15 MARSHALL ISLANDS formally a UN Trust Territory, now a US dependency, its legal status is unclear. It was the site of 88 nuclear tests between 1947 and 1958. On 1 March 1954 the first H bomb was tested with extensive fallout on the surrounding area including Rongalap and Utrik Islands. Kwajalein Lagoon, now the most polluted in the world, is a testing ground for US missiles and its 8000 original inhabitants were displaced to 66 acres on Ebeye Island and now live in slum conditions. The US has now begun to use its base on Kwajalein for SDI research.

#### 16 FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

several island groups, formally a UN Trust Territory, they have been denied independence and their legal status is now unclear.

17 SOLOMON ISLANDS a parliamentary democracy, gained independence in 1978. It has a growing nuclear-free movement with strong trade union backing.

#### 18 VANATU

formally administered by France and Britain, it gained independence in 1980 after a secessionist struggle. Today it follows a strongly anti-nuclear policy.

#### 19 KIRIBATI

formally the Glibert and Ellis Islands, now an independent republic. It includes Kirimati (Christmas Island), the site of 32 British and US atmospheric nuclear tests from 1952 to 52, plus later underground tests.

20 JOHNSTON ATOLL formally a US nuclear testing site in the 1950s and 1960s. Since 1971 it has been used for chemical weapons stockpiling and incineration. It is now contaminated by plutonium and Agent Orange spills.

#### 21 RAPU-NUI (EASTER ISLAND)

a dependency of Chile with growing US military involvement, Indigenous sacred sites are facing destruction.



#### PEACE DIARY

MAY 7th: Orpington CND Alternative Spring Fair, Village Hall, High St, Orpington 10,30-5pm. Phone 01 467 5675

MAY 7th: Day School on Nambian Uranium, 32 Theobald Rd, London WC1. Phone CANUC on 01 2877 1941/2

MAY 10th: Lobby of Parliament on UN Third Special Session on Disarmament. Contact UNA, 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2EL

MAY 16th: The Turkish Peace Movement - Stephanie Mills speaks at Harrow CND, Co-operative Hall, Masons Ave, Weakistone, Harrow at 8pm

CO-operative Hall, Masons Ave, Weakstone, Individual Color of Contact CND on 01 MAY20th-29th: DISARM THE SEAS: WEEK OF ACTION. Leafletting etc. Contact CND on 01 250 4010

MAY21st: 'On The Move' - conference on transportation of nuclear materials. 10.30-4pm at Sheffield Town Hall. Details from John Briezley (0422) 845456

at Sheffield Town Hall. Details from John Briezely (1922) 49444 MAY30th Start of 5 days of action for STOP PWR WEEK, SIZEWELL, See Network for details.

#### GREEN CND KICKED OUT OF NATIONAL CND

NATIONAL CND has recently taken the decision to remove the status of 'specialist section' from Green CND because (or so they said) Green CND was redundant, preaching to the converted (that was the compliment) and that, perhaps because of this, Green CND wasn't doining enough to bring the question of nuclear weapons into the agenda of environmental groups in general. This ruling effectively removes Green CND's seat on CND Council and

representation at National Conference unless they affiliate.

This all seems an unwarranted attack and the loss of an important group that has been making tangible links between disarmament and other wholly related issues like nuclear power, the environment and lifestyles in general. GL will carry Green CND's reaction to National CND's decision next month.

• Paul Ingrams

#### ALDERMASTON: NOT EVEN SITTING ON THE FENCE

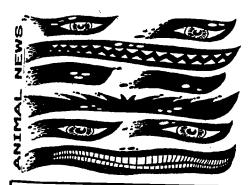
Let me admit at the outset that I went to Aldermaston to sell Green Line: the entrepeneurial dream of a captive market was not to be resisted. But why did 10-20,000 others go? Certainly there was a distinct atmosphere of confusion about our purpose in converging on the base that Bank Holiday Monday. Everyone arrived to cheer in the marchers, and the sense of well-being was only mildly disturbed by the chinless wonders from Families for Defence (or is it Death?). But that was it really. Once we'd celebrated our remarkable ability not to have got bored after 30 years of the nuclear arms race, the rest of the afternoon became like any other public holiday; people went for a walk, had picnics, chatted with friends and relatives, listened to a pop concert...

What didn't happen was any concerted attempt to turn anti-nuclear rhetoric into real action (I couldn't you understand because of all the Green Lines under my arm). And what an opportunity was wasted: if everyone had lined up round the base, cut their way in and wandered off inside, the police would have been totally overwhelmed. People could have been on un-guided tours doing NVDA inside Aldermaston for days afterwards. But nothing happened. I don't want to underestimate the need and the value of simply being there, bearing witness to the evil within the fence and strengthening our own resolve from the presence of so many others who share our own beliefs, but is that really enough?

Of course there were gates of more concerted resistance, notably from women and anarchists but basically the heavy police presence was about as necessary here as at a Port Stanley football match. And so, afterwards -no longer warmed by the presence of so many other Bellevers I felt that the State; the police, the government, the nuclear workers can only have been laughing at our world-saving sincerity and total ineffectiveness. For if nuclear weapons are ever to go from this country, we each have to ask ourselves honestly whether we are willing to turn our beliefs and our rhetoric into resistance and action. Otherwise the next demo will be as much a sham, or even shame, as Aldermaston was.

Jerry Spring

[GL would welcome readers' views on the Aldermaston demo. Were there any positive aspects to it?]



#### ANIMAL EVENTS

MAY 3: Trial at Cardiff Crown Court of Robin Lane, Sally Carr, and Terry Collins; the charges relate to the activities of the ALF Supporters Group (see last month's Green Line).

MAY 7: Animal Charities Fayre, Bishopston Community Centre, Pigsty Hill, Gloucester Rd, Bristol. Please ring Bristol 555221 if you can help.

MAY 14: Campaign for the Abolition of Angling AGM, Friends Meeting House, St Martin's Lane, Westminster, London WC2N 4EA.

MAY 15: Meeting in Huddersfield of the Federation of Animal Rights Groups. Contact: Huddersfield Hunt Sabs/Animal Action, PO Box B20, Huddersfield HD1

MAY 28: CANCELLED: Animal Aid March and Rally in Oxford. The city council could not find a suitable venue.

JUNE 18: The first National Anti-Angling Day: further details in next month's Green Line. Keep this day free!

#### THE FUR STARTS TO FLY

JUST AS foxhunters have become conservationists and anglers have formed a bizarre alliance with Friends of the Earth, so the fur trade too has suddenly discovered a tender concern for the indigenous peoples who live by trapping, even though the latter contribute a mere one tenth of one per cent of wild furs sold on the international market. No one would guess that the fur trade has any connection at all with profit, as opposed to a concern for 'wildlife management' and the survival of the eskimo. The hypocrisy of this is self-evident, but it does pose a problem for campaigners: Greenpeace, for instance, can be seen defending the way of life of Pacific islanders against U.S. bullying, and simultaneously wrecking, or so it seems, the livelihood of those who are dependent on the seal-pelt trade. Nevertheless the challenge is to create alternative means of livelihood that are not dependent on the whims of the rich, and the vagaries of fashion: all campaigns create difficulties, often unforeseen, but the alternative is to sit still and change nothing. No doubt the abolition of the rack threw torturers out of work, and devastated the lucrative manufacture of torture

instruments.

The fur trade has been thrown on the defensive in this country because of a labelling change proposed by MP Alan Clark at the Department of Trade: under the Trades Descriptions Act the relevant fur garments would have to state on the label the fact that the animals have been caught in leg-hold traps. This seems a modest enough proposal, especially as the majority of the fur sold in this country is from farmed animals; but Clark's proposal has been considered such a threat by the fur trade that pressure is being exerted at government level. All the formidable resources of the fur lobby have been deployed in order to defeat this proposal: the anti-fur group Lynx is urging sympathisers to write letters of support to Alan Clark at Westminster. Perhaps letters should also be sent to Labour MP Gwyneth Dunwoody, who is paid a retainer's salary to represent the fur trade's interests in Parliament. Contact: Lynx, PO BOx 509, Dunmow,

Essex CM8 1UH (0371 2018).

#### REPORT ON FEDERATION OF LOCAL ANIMAL RIGHTS GROUPS

THE THIRD National Conference of the Federation took place at Keele University on February 28th. About 100 people were present, representing local groups from all over the country.

The meeting began with a discussion on whether the Federation should continue with its intention of 'taking over' the BUAV in order to dissolve it and distribute its funds to local groups. Once again we were divided on whether it was a good idea, and when after much debate we were asked to raise our hands if we were willing to vote for Federation supporters at the next BUAV AGM, only about 80% of those present did so.

Happily there was no animosity during the debate and we finally reached a compromise. Some of the supporters of the 'take over' stategy went into another room to discuss it in detail, while most people stayed behind to discuss how we could best strengthen the Federation. This centred around establishing regular nationwide days of action againist a particular animal abuse target. Many such targets were mentioned and we finally decided to call a nationwide day of action against the fur trade, and one against the meat trade on May

We also discussed how to improve

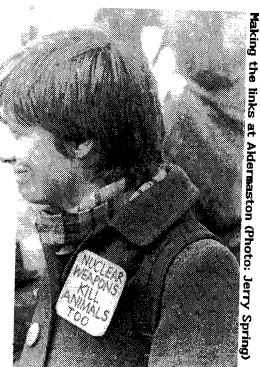
contact and oo-ordination between local groups. We thought it would help if people 'Visited' other groups to see how they were run and get ideas from them. This would help groups that are still struggling to get off the ground because they could learn from the older well-established groups. It was also stressed that local groups should produce their own leaflets wherever possible, and the Vegan Action Group in Glasgow has access to very cheap printing facilities which other groups can use.

The meeting ended on a very positive note, and it was very encouraging to see so many people gathered together from all over the country with a common purpose and without the petty squabbling that mars so many conferences. The next Federation meeting will be in Huddersfield on Sunday May 15th. (Information supplied by London Greenpeace).

#### AR PRISONERS UPDATE

A list of Animal Rights prisoners can be found in the February Green Line. To that list please add:

David Barr 4193, B Hall, HMP Saughton, Edinburgh, EH11 3LN.



MARINE PROTECTION GROUP

Opposition to the horrific and unnecessary slaughter of pilot whales and other dolphins in the Faroe islands has led to the formation of the Marine Protection Group, whose purpose is to force an end to the slaughter by promoting a boycott of Danish and Faroese fish and other products. The campaign hopes to have the full support of Sea Shepherd and other sympathetic groups. For further details contact M.P.G., 47 Avon Road, Bournemouth BH8 8SE, (0202) 34700,

GREEN LINE / page 17



IDEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF 'NO CENSORSHIP' AT SOUTHPORT

I believe the Green Party conference made a grave error of judgement at Southport when it voted for no selection of stalls at the conference. The debate, such as it was, was largely a sterile discussion on the word 'censorship' — as if censorship was ipso facto a 'bad thing'. Everybody carries out censorship in their own lives, through the exclusion of certain TV programmes for their children, the selection of reading material in their house, and even to what they hear or accept in conversation. Those who

other people have different views, many felt that it was offensive to have such material on display at conference.

One speaker in the debate said that the "world was unpleasant", and many of us, if not all, will agree with that. But that is no reason why we should accept such unpleasantness within our own 'space'. Conference allows us to decide policy, but it also gives us an opportunity to be with like-minded people to exchange experiences and recharge our batteries for the battles ahead. We face opposing views the other 99% of the time — let's take the opportunity to have some respite.

As another speaker said, if pornography was allowed on a stall, this would be an attack on her and other women. Similar cases could be made for other groupings such as black people, homosexuals, etc. The

reason. GL was, nonetheless, right to print those odious letters in GL45 & 47.

The problem of the Fascist cancer in the green movement (be it manifested as a perverse hatred of love, as power tripping or whatever) has to be confronted, no matter how painful. The printing of those letters probably did more to open the eyes of the sleeping and the naive than a whole series of cosy, jargon-ridden articles could ever have.

We cannot and should not keep silent about the problem; nor should GL keep such knowledge from its readers. If you conspired in hiding the problem, the cancer would have spread just a little more, unseen.

Graeme Talboys 17 Newfield Rd Newhaven

#### GETTING RIGHTS RIGHT

say otherwise are suffering from self-delusion.

The Green Party has a policy stated in the 'Manifesto for a Sustainable Society' which includes many cases where activities will be banned, abolished, curtailed or controlled. It is therefore hypocritical to pose as defenders of 'freedom' in an abstract way; one must always ask the question "Freedom for whom?". Even at conference itself there are standing orders banning smoking — some might say, an infringement of the right to smoke. Indeed, why do we have Standing Orders?

Civilised society can only survive if there is a structure and a set of rules. Some of the rules would restrict the absolute freedom of the individual if that freedom were to affect other groupings adversely. The stall in question at conference was displaying material to do with blood sports and factory farming which supported activities the Green Party opposes. Whilst accepting that

acceptance of proposal 2 for 'no censorship' rather than proposal 1 'for the exclusion of stalls opposing Green Party policies' is therefore an indirect attack on other party members. Selection is a natural activity, and those who invest words with a mystical abstract value are doing a disservice, both to the Green Party, and themselves.

It is very sad that people who proclaim to be sensitive to the needs of the planet are so insensitive to the needs of some of their fellow members (if they remain) within the Green Party.

Bill Littlewood Glanford Green Party

TO PRINT OR NOT TO PRINT

Norma Barolay is correct in what she writes (Letters GL60). The debate over the rights of homosexuals is false and it was thoughtless of GL to use the need for debate as a

**GETTING RIGHTS RIGHT** 

Your article on Socialist Greens, in the same issue as the chilling description of 'How we let Fascism Grow'(GL59), disturbed me. It reads: "We believe that the rights of the individual must be consistent with rights and needs of the communities," This turns liberty on its head. If individual rights mean anything at all, they must come into effect precisely when they are not consistent with the interests of the community. These interests are always open to interpretation by the State, which can and does use them to persecute, torture or imprison anyone if they feel it is in the best interests of the community to do so. Obviously people do not have the right to pollute and destroy. But unless green values - any values are held within a framework of absolute basic rights for ordinary individuals, we will simply swap one kind of tyranny for another.

David Boyle 23 Camden Hill Rd Crystal Palace

#### WE'RE NOT HELPLESS!

"The giant manufacturing firms and their food technologists determine what we eat and the choices available, and their power and influence are all-pervasive." (Barry Maycock GL58) What rot! I resent being told that we're all helpless victims. For all their political power and unscrupulous methods, the big firms can't force us to eat the muck they produce. Alternatives exist and they're not expensive.

Taking myself as an example, I belong to a co-op buying wholefoods, where I get all my dry foods (much of it organic), beverages, soaps etc. at 10% over wholesale prices. I grow some vegetables and all those I buy are

organic. Even with the organic premium on the vegetables, my food costs me about £10 to £15 a week, and I eat like a king.

Maybe I'm not typical. I live in an area where there are enough like-minded people to form a food co-op; organic vegetables are available; and I've got access to a patch of land. But no-one in Britain is without choice. Wholefoods are available in most places now and they're not expensive if you buy wisely. Supermarkets are beginning to sell organic vegetables and anyone can buy fresh vegetables, instead of organic or not, processed foods.

Barry doesn't think there's much we can do "unless we reject the free enterprise system". But no system is a panacea, and changing ours may or may not have the desired effect. For example, the supply situation in eastern Europe has just as many problems as that in the west, though different ones. I'm not denying the importance of working on the macro-political scale. I am disputing the notion that that's all we can do, and that until we achieve revolution we're helpless pawns. We all have a degree of power over our lives right here and now, and in the case of food that power is considerable.

Patrick Whitfield Dove Workshops Butleigh nr Glastonbury Somerset

#### RIGHTING THE WRONGS AT THE OAK DRAGON

I was sad to read in GL59 of a physical attack last Summer on a woman at an Oak Dragon camp and the attitude that the organisers are said to have taken towards it. Although I have not heard Oak Dragon's position on the subject, Jenny Goodman's account rings true with my experience of New Age practice. I am on the Oak Dragon mailing list and I am writing to them to let them know that, until this issue has been dealt with by them to the satisfaction of the woman involved, I for one am not going to attend any of their camps.

I hope other readers of GL will also take time to write to Oak Dragon and ask them about their stance on oppression, given the contents of Jenny's article. To my mind, silence on this issue only serves to perpetuate the collusion that Jenny says took place. Collectively, we cannot allow people to get away with answering serious complaints by oppressed groups or individuals with a barrage of New Age cliches

designed to stifle social change and protect enriched power groups.

Jenny's article raises for me the whole question of the ultimate compatibility of some of New Age ideology (if such half-thought out positions could be called that) with real 'grounded' transformation. In my experience, we are told that in the name of light and love anything goes; anything that is, except a complaint from an oppressed person since one of the keys to change is a non-judgemental stance.

I have put together a critique of New Age ideology from a feminist perspective and am collectina information and articles on the subject. I would be glad to send a copy of these to interested readers and would also welcome any input from others. For me, it is high time that those peddiing such highly dangerous philosophies are called to account. Certainly I have read that the Council of Elders of the Native American Peoples has repudiated several

medicine-men who have inspired some of the New Age groups. The Elders dub them 'plastic medicine-men'; notable for their fostering a spiritual vision divorced from the practical political means to achieve it, and which turns a blind eye to social oppression or silently colludes with it.

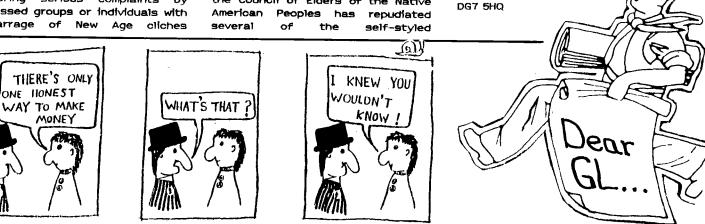
In the case of the Oak Dragon event, Jenny is claiming that the collusion was not only silent, but verbalized. The onus is now on the Oak Dragon group to answer publicly her criticisms and, if necessary, make publicly some sort of restitution to her. Certainly, at the very least, they should state what guidelines, if any, they have for conduct at their camps.

Daphne Francis

Castle Douglas

Kirkpatrick Durham

53 Victoria St



#### SEPARATING MARXIST WHEAT FROM THE CHAFF:

#### PART 1 ...

For stimulating progressive thinking, your magazine is second to none. All the more depressing then to find the exhausted nostrums of Marxist economism extolled in the ghastly grey prose of Chris Hall in GL57 & 58 (and further advocated by Pepper and Hallam in GL60 - talk about "repeating the same old shibboleths"!).

Economic and especially class considerations extremely important - although the latter cannot be reduced to the former but they do not cover everything. Specifically, there is no reason to believe that public ownership of the means of production (in what forms?), even assuming it did end inequalities, would have any impact on sexism. racism, or green concerns. These issues require political linking, not monistic subsumption under quasi-religious Theory.

Greens who may not be well acquainted with social and political theory, but who have (quite rightly) a keen interest in it, should beware of

reinventing the wheel. And the political consequences for the green movement - joining a tiny ghetto of sectarian purity, already well-represented by the SWP, RCP etc etc - would be a disaster.

For those who want to take on board Marxist insights without the baggage, in a politically useful way, I recommend Ernesto Laclau & Chantal Mouffe's Hegemony and Socialist Strategy (Verso 1985): it's hard intellectual work, but worth it. And above all, it's promising.

Patrick Curry 1a Redan St London W14

#### ...PART 2

I would like to relay some thoughts about the excellent piece by David Pepper and Nickle Hallam in GL60. Important to the balance between individualist and capitalist approaches, is the recognition that changes in individual political consciousness are more likely to come through involvement in political

struggle than through access to ideas alone. Taking action that challenges the stranglehold of 'capital' on resources and social possibilities is thus not something we do after areen consciousness raising, but in the process of it - ask anyone who's been involved in a major industrial dispute, a mass campaign or a successfu) piece of community action.

It's when you're out there doing it that your ideas take on a social and political meaning outside of your own reflective processes. This is of course the old Marxist dialectic between class conflict on the one hand and ideology on the other!

I often get very frustrated that so many greens do so little campaigning in their own communities about the immediate environment in which people live and work. Maybe it's because they don't, like me, see it as the key to social change. Id welcome a reply to this particular point.

Andy Porter SERA Trade Union Group

