

# STOP HINKLEY EXPANSION



Newsletter

September 1988

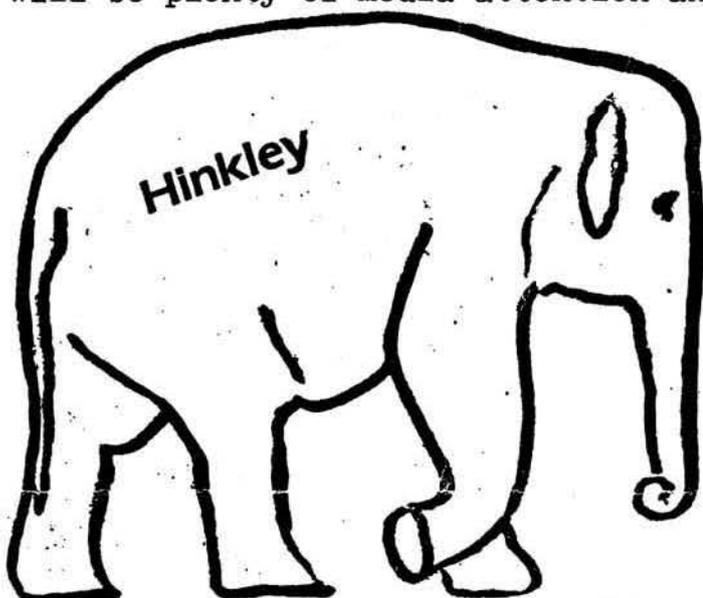
**October 4 IS "WHITE ELEPHANT DAY"**

We now have a new symbol for the unnecessary and unwanted Hinkley C nuclear power station - a White Elephant. The symbolic beast is intended to emphasise the fact that, safety considerations apart, Hinkley C would be a wasteful and uneconomic hulk which the majority of people in this country simply don't want.

'Hinkley' will make his/her first appearance at the opening of the Public Inquiry in Cannington on October 4. The leaflet enclosed with this newsletter gives you the basic details of the day.

Please try to get to Cannington for at least some time during this first day. We must try to double the 500 figure for those who came to the first Pre-Inquiry meeting in June. Tell your friends and organisations about it. Pin the leaflet up on notice boards.

On the day, there will be activities outside the Inquiry hall from 9.30 am (the Inquiry officially opens at 10.30). These include a theatre group, a marching band, and the dramatic appearance of 'Hinkley'. If you can, bring your own model white elephant - one dimensional on a stick will do - so that Hinkley doesn't feel too lonely. Remember there will be plenty of media attention and lots of snapping photographers.



**Transport:** From Bridgwater, a 16-seater Shuttle minibus leaves High Street (Market stop) at 9.35; a 40-seater Southern National coach leaves High Street (Mansion House stop) at 9.15. The journey takes about 15 minutes.

The special Inquiry bus should also be running from Taunton via Bridgwater; check with the Inquiry Secretariat (0278 652830) for times.

**Accommodation:** Call the SHE office (see end of Newsletter) if you'd like somewhere to stay.

**Inside the Inquiry:** It's essential that as many people as possible are prepared to make statements to the Inspector on

the first day of the Inquiry. This will ensure that we don't just go straight in to the CEGB beginning to put its arguments. One obvious source of comment is the Inspector's letter after the second Pre-Inquiry meeting (see below), but it might well help your chances of being heard by the Inspector if you write a letter in advance outlining what you would like to say.

The next general meeting of Stop Hinkley Expansion will be on

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11th 2.30 pm at the  
BRISTOL ENERGY CENTRE, 101, PHILIP STREET,  
BEDMINSTER, BRISTOL (opp. Windmill Hill City Farm)

All supporters welcome. Come along and meet other members; get involved in SHE activities; join in discussions about future SHE events.



# INQUIRY NEWS

Second Pre-Inquiry Meeting, July 12/13: Less eventful than the first on June 1, this second preliminary meeting nonetheless started with the announcement that the government would not be providing any financial support for objectors to balance out the CEGB's enormous resources. Though not a surprise, this was still disappointing,

and SHE, among others, strongly criticised the decision.

Other points raised, on which Inspector Michael Barnes then commented in a letter of July 27, were: 1. Scope of evidence: The connection between civil and military nuclear uses, off-site management of nuclear waste, nuclear insurance and energy efficiency are all issues which can be properly raised at the Inquiry. 2. Local meetings: Inquiry sessions will be held in Cardiff (2 days) in late November/early December and in Taunton (1 day) before Christmas. 3. Legal advisers: Barnes has still not decided to appoint either a Counsel (legal adviser) to the Inquiry or for the objectors. 4. NRPB evidence: The National Radiological Protection Board is to give evidence at the Inquiry. A representative from the Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (COMARE) may also be invited if submissions by objectors justify this.

Full copies of Barnes' letter, and transcripts of the two days' proceedings, are available from the Hinkley C Secretariat, Cannington Court, Church Street, Cannington TA5 2HA (0278 652830).

STATEMENTS OF CASE: A number of organisations and individuals have now been asked to submit a 'Statement of Case' (some have already sent them in). If you haven't yet, then these points are worth bearing in mind: 1. Don't feel obliged to go into a lot of detail - this is still only a record of the arguments you would like to put, not your detailed 'evidence' or fleshing out of those arguments. 2. In order to keep your options open at the Inquiry, make sure you mention all five topic headings suggested by the Inspector - requirement/economics, safety, waste, emergency plans and environmental issues (see Barnes' letter of June 23). 3. Remember that if you mention a document in your statement you have to include a copy, so maybe keep these for your evidence.

It's also important to read through the Statements of Case produced by the CEGB and COLA, whose differing views will inevitably form a substantial part of the Inquiry. The CEGB's case is particularly important both in thinking about your own statement (and evidence) but also in deciding which areas you would like to cross-examine CEGB witnesses about.

\* \* \* \* \* BRISTOL INQUIRY WORKSHOP \* \* \* \* \* BRISTOL INQUIRY WORKSHOP \* \* \* \* \*

\* A second Public Inquiry workshop aimed at helping individual \*  
\* objectors to prepare for giving evidence at the Inquiry will \*  
\* be held in Bristol on \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

\* Saturday October 22 10.00 am - 4.00 pm \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

\* Students Union, Bristol Polytechnic, Frenchay, Bristol \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

\* Morning: How a public inquiry works and what to expect, led \*  
\* by either Robin Grove-White (Council for the Protection of \*  
\* Rural England) or John Valentine (SHE adviser). Afternoon: \*  
\* Smaller group discussions of what statement you would like \*  
\* to make at the Inquiry. Refreshments (coffee, tea and lunch- \*  
\* time snacks) available. \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

\* For further details please fill in the form below. \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

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I would like to attend the Bristol Hinkley C Inquiry Workshop on October 22.

Name ..... Address .....

..... Telephone .....

I am interested in creche facilities for my child/children aged .....

**CANNINGTON OFFICES:** Apart from the hall in which the Inquiry hearings take place, there will also be other facilities at the Agricultural College in Cannington, most of these located in an area called Cannington Court. Some of these should make a visit to the Inquiry more pleasant, especially for those coming from a distance. The most important facilities are:

1. **Offices for Objectors:** A number of rooms will be allocated to objecting organisations as offices. SHE hopes to have one of these, probably shared with other groups. We are also in the process of appointing a person to be in the office every day, so that any objectors will be able to find out what's going on in the Inquiry and generally obtain advice. We see this as a vital service being provided by SHE, not just for local people but for any objectors whether SHE members or not. Further details will be available as soon as the appointment is made and we have a phone number for the office.

Please note that any group or organisation which would like office space, probably shared, during the Inquiry, should immediately get in touch with the Inquiry Secretariat. See above for number.

2. **Library:** This will contain copies of all documents submitted to the Inquiry, including reports which may be useful to objectors in compiling or checking their evidence.

Some Inquiry documents will also be lodged in various public libraries in the West Country and nationally. Check with the Secretariat to find your nearest.

3. **Creche:** This will be provided for children up to five. At the time of writing it's still unclear how the very young ones (i.e. from 3 months) will be catered for. Check with SHE or the Secretariat. If you're thinking of coming regularly it would also be helpful to tell the organisers in advance which days etc.

There will also be a tea and coffee room and a separate quiet room

4. **Accommodation:** Contact SHE if you want somewhere to stay when you come to the Inquiry. The Secretariat has a list of commercial B+B places. It's vital that every SHE member makes a point of attending as often as possible.

**IF THE ROMANS  
HAD NUCLEAR  
POWER, WE'D  
STILL BE  
GUARDING  
THEIR WASTE**



**SAY 'NO' TO  
HINKLEY C**

STOP HINKLEY EXPANSION  
WICKPITT FARM  
NETHER STONEY  
BRIDGWATER  
SOMERSET TA5 1EX  
0278 732921

One of 3 new SHE posters:  
see below for details.

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**campaign  
NEWS**  
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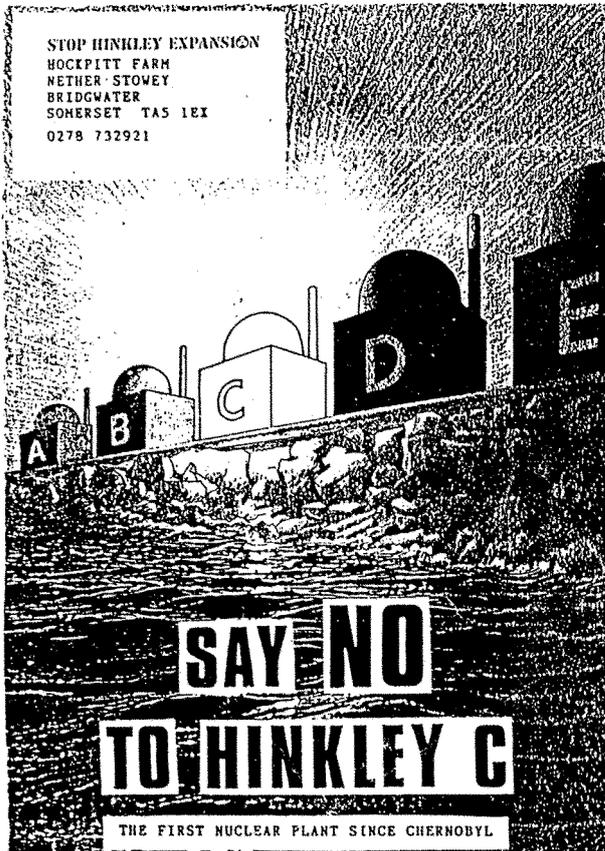
**ROADSHOW TOUR:** The 'Safe Energy Roadshow' has been on the road again since mid-August, with visits to Exford, Devon, the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Show at Shepton Mallet, Weston-super-Mare and the Taunton Agricultural Show, among others. This

time we have a 20-foot long trailer with a dramatically painted backdrop showing the two sides of the energy debate - on one side the dangers of nuclear power, on the other a selection of the renewable alternatives. In the middle is a giant panel on which people can sign their names under the slogan 'Sign Here For Safe Energy'.

The only hitch has been the refusal by two local councils to allow the Roadshow parking space in their car parks. At Weston (Woodspring District Council), the council eventually agreed to let the Roadshow park opposite the Tropicana entertainment complex as long as nobody was asked to sign the petition and no leaflets were handed out. The controversy surrounding this ban in fact probably got SHE more

publicity for the visit, and prompted the local Mercury newspaper to publish two successive full page features on the Hinkley C debate. All the correspondence was critical of the ban.

The second ban has been by Sedgemoor District Council for bookings at Bridgwater and Burnham. Although Sedgemoor is notoriously pro-Hinkley, one special factor appears to have been the SHE 'Holiday Leaflets' which we specially printed to catch the attention of holiday-makers at Somerset resorts (there were allegations of scaring away tourists). Despite this, the issue is now a matter of freedom of speech: the CEGB has used these same car parks for its own display on several occasions, as did Greenpeace last year. Please write in the strongest terms as soon as possible to both the Bridgwater Mercury, Royal Clarence House, Bridgwater and to Sedgemoor District Council (The Chairman), Town Hall, High Street, Bridgwater.



Meanwhile, the Roadshow has other bookings, and will spend most of October in and around Bristol. For details of Bristol dates, especially if you can help on the day, call Jamie Gill at Avon Friends of the Earth (0272 715446). For other future plans, call Danielle Grunberg (0278 422632).

MORE COUNCILS OBJECT: Every County Council which borders the Severn Estuary and Bristol Channel has now signalled its opposition to Hinkley C. The ring was completed when Gloucestershire County Council voted on July 21 by 26 to 19 to oppose Hinkley C. This was particularly crucial since the authority contains both Berkeley nuclear site and major CEGB offices at Barnwell outside Gloucester. On the same night, Stroud District Council also voted to oppose Hinkley C, bringing the total of opposing councils (excluding parishes) to 63.

SPONSORED WALKS: Thanks to all those who organised or took part in the two sponsored walks in July, especially the four stalwarts who walked all the way from Coventry. A few SHE members welcomed them at the gates of Hinkley on July 29; it's not yet known how much was raised.

One of 3 new SHE posters (SHE 1): see details below.

SCAR BENEFIT: Two days before the Public Inquiry opens (Oct. 2), the Severn-side Campaign against Radiation (SCAR) has organised a benefit concert at the Colston Hall in Bristol with the Loose Tubes jazz group. Their aim is to raise vital funds for the case they want to put at the Inquiry about the health effects of radiation.

SCAR will be producing witnesses to show that there is accumulating evidence that the higher incidence of cancer round nuclear installations cannot be accounted for by chance. Since the revelation of a cluster of childhood leukaemia cases round Lydney in Gloucestershire (near Berkeley and Oldbury nuclear plants) in 1984, SCAR has been the main group publicising the issue in the South West. It hosted the first National Conference on Low Level Radiation in 1985, and has produced a special report on 'Nuclear Power and Health in Gloucestershire'.

The 21-strong Loose Tubes group will be flying in from Germany to produce their exciting range of music - from African and South American rhythms to rock, funk and jazz. It promises to be an excellent night out, getting you in the mood for the following Tuesday. You can buy tickets from the Colston Hall box office (see leaflet enclosed), but it would save SCAR the commission if you bought direct from them at Hillside Cottage, Viney Woodside, Lydney, Glos. GL15 4LX (cheques payable to 'SCAR'). Tickets cost £5, £6 and £7 (concessions only from Colston Hall).

**HEALTH MONITORING GROUP:** Following in SCAR's footsteps, a local Somerset Campaign against Radiation has been set up to look at locally based evidence of the health effects of discharges from Hinkley Point. Only recently, the COMARE report on Dounreay in Scotland confirmed that the high incidence of childhood cancer was due to the nuclear plant's activities, whilst the 40% excess of all leukaemias in West Somerset continues to be unexplained. Anyone interested in getting involved with the group, which is non-party political and made up of concerned parents and others, should contact SCAR c/o Woodbine Farmhouse, Walrow, Higbridge (Burnham 783348).

**RAFFLE REMINDER:** Deadline for sending in entries for the raffle is the beginning of October - the draw is at the October 9th SHE meeting in Bridgwater. Please send your stubs and money to Mary Newton, The Garden Cottage, Flaxley, Newnham, Glos.

**VISUAL AIDS:** Remember that the SHE video is still available for use at meetings; especially suitable for small discussions. We also now have a copy of the Friends of the Earth 'Energy Without End - The Potential for Renewable Energy' slide show, if anyone would like to borrow it. The show lasts 30 or 60 minutes, depending on which selection you project, and has its own speakers notes.

**SHE POSTERS:** Three new poster designs have been produced from illustrations by SHE member Terry Mulvihill. All three are shown in this newsletter. They are available in two sizes (A4 and A3) and in three colours (white, blue and buff). Samples are free, bulk orders 10p per poster, both sizes. Please specify which design by stating 'Roman', 'SHE 1' or 'SHE 2'.

Write in now to the SHE office and let's get them up all over the West Country.

**PARLIAMENTARY LOBBY:** The East Anglian Alliance against Nuclear Power is coordinating a lobby of parliament on November 9 for all PWR site groups around the country. We now have a list of MPs and their constituencies within a 90 mile radius of Hinkley (the eventual evacuation zone around Chernobyl). Anyone (or groups) who can arrange to see their MP to argue the case against Hinkley on that day, please contact SHE.

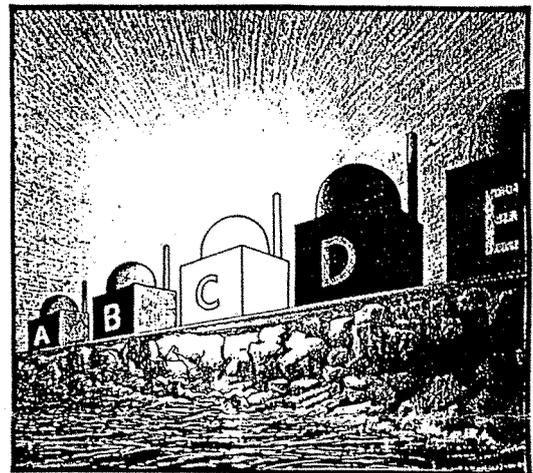
**SHE COMPUTER:** The SHE office now has the use of an Amstrad 1640 computer. Any computer-literate members who can help with inputting or training, please get in touch.

**'THE HINKLEY INQUIRER':** This ambitious project means that a fortnightly report of the Inquiry will be published by SHE along the lines of the 'Sizewell Reactions' magazine during the Sizewell Inquiry. A local freelance journalist has agreed to take on the overall editing, although contributions will be welcome. See the flyer enclosed with this newsletter for further details. The first issue should be available for the opening day on October 4. We are still planning to produce this newsletter for all campaigning and general nuclear news, but it will not cover the Inquiry in any detail. The subscription rate of £12 for a year's 'Hinkley Inquirer' reflects the fact that it's published every 2 weeks and posted first class. Single issues will be 35p.

**STOP HINKLEY EXPANSION**

STOP HINKLEY EXPANSION, ROCKPIT FARM, NETHER STONEY, BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET TA5 1LZ  
Telephone 0276 732921

**SAY NO TO HINKLEY C**



THE FIRST NUCLEAR PLANT SINCE CHERNOBYL

One of the new SHE posters (SHE 2): see article on left.

# NUCLEAR NEWS

**TWO ITEMS OF BAD NEWS** for the nuclear industry in almost the same week in July. The CEGB announced that it would close Berkeley nuclear power station in Gloucestershire next March - because implementing safety measures demanded by government inspectors would make it uneconomic to run. And the government said it was cutting public funding of the fast reactor research programme, concentrated on Dounreay in Scotland, in effect killing off the industry's great white hope for the time being. The first decision means that the nuclear industry is actually contracting when it wants to expand; the second that all those grand claims of an endless supply of uranium fuel can now be forgotten... **CEGB FINANCES** are not looking good in the run-up to privatisation - its 1987/88 profits were down £200 million, which almost certainly means another price rise for electricity consumers next Spring. The reason for the drop? The poor performance of the AGR nuclear power stations, including Hinkley Point B. In fact nuclear stations contributed only 14.4% of the country's electricity, a far cry from the often quoted figure of 20%... **RADIOACTIVE RUBBLE** was found in a lorry load of 'spoil' about to be dumped on the coast near Hinkley Point as part of the Wessex Water Authority's sea defences scheme. The rubble, from inside the Hinkley perimeter fence, was said by the CEGB to have been there for 15 years, and probably came from the Hinkley A station cooling ponds. An investigation is under way to find out how the material got there in the first place... **COMBWITH RESIDENTS** are concerned that, not only will very large loads for the Hinkley C construction pass through the village from Combwich wharf, but also regular traffic of radioactive material from the decommissioning of Hinkley A. A parish council meeting is due to consider the issue....

**URANIUM MINING:** If anyone is interested in presenting evidence to the Public Inquiry on uranium mining, or would like information on the health effects of nuclear weapons testing in the Pacific Ocean, then please contact Bristol Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific group c/o 82, Colston Street, Bristol BS1 5BB (0272 743224 or 541524).

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sept. 11	Bristol	<u>SHE General Meeting</u> , Energy Centre, Philip Street, Bedminster. 2.30pm.
24	Lynton, N.Devon	<u>Public Meeting on Hinkley C</u> organised by Lynton Peace Group, Town Hall, 2pm.
28	Wells	<u>Public Meeting on Hinkley C</u> , Town Hall, The Market Place, 7.15pm. Speakers: Patrick Green (Friends of the Earth), Jane Wildblood (Greenpeace), Danielle Grunberg (SHE).
Oct. 2	Bristol	<u>Benefit Concert</u> for Severnside Campaign against Radiation with 'Loose Tubes' jazz group, 7.30pm, Colston Hall. See leaflet and newsletter.
4	Cannington	<u>Public Inquiry - Official Opening</u> , Somerset College of Agriculture, 10.30am. Events start 9.30am. Music, theatre, elephants.
9	Bridgwater	<u>SHE General Meeting</u> , Unity House, Dampiet St, 2.30pm.
22	Bristol	<u>SHE Public Inquiry Workshop</u> , Bristol Polytechnic, Frenchay, 10am - 4pm. See newsletter.
Nov. 9	London	<u>Parliamentary Lobby</u> for all PWR sites. See newsletter.

# STOP HINKLEY EXPANSION

For further information on items in this newsletter, please write to SHE, Hockpitt Farm, Nether Stowey, Bridgwater, Somerset. TA5 1EX or phone Crispin Aubrey on 0278 732921 or Danielle Grunberg on 0278 422632.

