



W E L C O M E W O M E N

We are very pleased that you are here. Hope that your journey was ok.

Today the moon is full - an important time for women everywhere - the height of the sun is just passed and while we carry on our daily lives it feels good to respond to the steady cycles of nature - she is strong - Mother Earth - and her struggle is our struggle.

Human affairs are in confusion at the moment but we are trying to see some sense behind it all and come together in body and spirit to work for a safer, more enjoyable future.

Today we are making a giant rainbow patchwork dragon. As with the web and snake symbols - the dragon has come to us, rather than us search for it. What does the dragon mean? It has been around for who knows how long - it emerges in countries all over the world. The root meaning of the word is "to see clearly".

Earth energy, music, dancing, singing, colour.

A dragon head has been made by women at the camp (although there maybe more than one head.....).

If you sew or tie with ribbon your pieces of the dragon together, then as the day goes on the dragon head and growing body with travel around.

Please feel comfortable at this place - make yourselves at home - this day is what we make it. Women's positive, creative energy has a very special place in the changes that have to happen to make human society different - so that the earth will survive.

ABOUT THE FIRES

Anyone can make mistakes - and we did by suggesting that women build fires on the common, in large numbers. On retrospect we would ask you not to do this for a few reasons, the main ones being your safety and damage to the common land. We feel that even with the greatest care it only needs a spark to blow on to dry ground and this could be disaster. Also fire can, in dry conditions, smoulder and spread under the peat and earth, to burst out somewhere else a distance away. Also the earth can be badly damaged if a fire isn't prepared properly and then the earth or turf replaced afterwards. There will be communal fires at some gates (that are a safe distance from petrol places in the base) e.g. Main Gate, Orange and Green Gates (maybe more). So sorry to suggest one thing and then change it - but please feast for the future anyway.

Toilets

We hope to have enough toilets for you at places around the base - if something drastic happens and this isn't possible there will be something arranged e.e. 'shit-pits', but please don't just go anywhere (it makes us very unpopular with Newbury people - who also enjoy the common) also - please don't leave toilet paper anywhere, it's not necessary - there will be lots of rubbish bags etc. If you do see toilet paper anywhere would you help by putting it in one of the rubbish bags.

To say not to leave rubbish around is so obvious I won't mention it - whoops I just did!

Local residents around the base are very uptight about the base, the peace camp, the nuclear issue, etc. and as we have to live near them as neighbours we ask you to respect their space - just as we expect ours to be respected. Thanks.

There will be a creche at the Orange Gate. Please don't cut any live wood.

The Orange gate is a good place to be picked up by coaches - this is also a good place to park - but carry on with your own arrangements if they are different. We are anticipating that the traffic will go around the base anti-clockwise, which means coming from Newbury down the Basingstoke Road (330) passed the main gate and the Women's Peace Camp and then turn left towards the Orange Gate.

It seems right that the Dragon (or a section of her) stays around the base for the blockade - July 4th - 8th and then she or a part of her has been invited to Jubilee Gardens, London to a Dragon Festival on July 11th. After that - well where will she go - we don't know yet because dragons are very mysterious.

LOTS OF LOVE TO ALL YOU OLD DRAGONS FROM ALL THE OLD DRAGONS AT THE CAMP. xxx



PORTON DOWN WOMEN'S CAMP FOR PEACE AND ANIMAL LIBERATION, IS OUTSIDE PORTON DOWN 'CHEMICAL DEFENCE ESTABLISHMENT' A FEW MILES FROM SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE ON THE ANDOVER ROAD. WOMEN ARE WELCOME TO STAY.

More thoughts on non-violence.

Well I cannot pretend that it has been easy over the last few months, between the time I wrote the non-violence article for the December 12th booklet and now. However, I'll try to fill you in on the details of the predominant thoughts that are with me at the moment.

Over the last few months lots of things have happened, a lot of them filled with negativity. I keep thinking that the more we strive towards non-violence the more we provoke violence and hatred in others, I'm not quite sure why this is. All I know is I've witnessed my fair share of violence lately. Violence isn't just physical either, it can be emotional violence and it can be psychic violence, each are as tangible as the other. Because at Greenham we are trying to live what we believe (that the ends and the means must be the same). That we will never have a civilised, non-violent society until each one of us recognises the way we personally contribute to the problem, and each one of us take responsibility for that fact, and change it, we aren't going anywhere! However, it seems this philosophy does provoke a lot of people, probably despite themselves. It isn't easy, we all have to struggle with our conditioned responses to situations especially if we are provoked consciously and purposefully by others.

If I, through my anger, pass on disrespect and hatred, I am encouraging the other person to do the same and so it goes on, just like a game of ping pong! Just like Russia and America, just like the nuclear arms race and our society's militaristic thinking. We cannot pass the buck any longer, it has to stop at our self; that's what non-violence is to me.

On the eve of the election a few of us from the camp went into Newbury to see the film GAHENDI ...There are some similarities I think. But I hope for all our sakes that our non-violence against 'cruise' doesn't provoke similar feelings of hatred and anger to those which were experienced at that time by the Indian people. Mothers, Daughters, Sisters:- there's a storm coming and we haven't got a mast (we haven't any hierarchical leaders) We all need every hand we can get, to hold up the sail to the wind. We CAN do it and we will. When we are positive and act together with one voice, we are unstoppable.

A few words about Symbols and Mythology, before I finish... I think there may still be some Women who are a bit unsure about our use of symbols. I think with the Rainbow Dragon Fire Festival it's a lot more clear than usual what we mean (it's always images that are universal, not words, in the long term). When we recreate our own myths we get them right. It's not just our conditioning that's wrong, I think the problems also exist in the back of our psyches too, it's the place that we get all our unconscious programming from: Fairy-stories, nursery rhymes, myths; a lot of them need recreating into life loving, life affirming, life-respecting mythology. How else do we expect our children or our selves to get our unconscious examples of ethics that do not hold militarism and macho values as the only predominant ethics in our society. That's why the Rainbow Dragon that we are creating today has a mythology all of her own! She is the Rainbow Dragon that has been born through womens' creativity, it is through our will that she as a symbol and thought exists. She represents womens positive inspiration from all over the world, our thoughts joined on one piece of material... that says just one thing, LIFE. We must respect and protect our living world. We do have an alternative to annihilation and our will to preserve it is represented in our beautiful Rainbow Dragon. Io.

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Legal Briefing

We have found that organised women's actions, when every woman knows what role she is taking, understands the implications of her actions and has confidence in herself and those supporting her always go well. These notes are to inform you and give you confidence and dispel unnecessary fears. Please read them carefully and ask about anything that is still unclear.

1. Offences for which you may be arrested: (a) Obstructing the highway;

(b) Obstructing a police officer in the course of his duty; (c) various public order charges, eg, breach of the peace; (d) criminal damage; (e) Official secrets act.

a, b, c and d are the offences most often used by police in enforcing order. They all carry the power of arrest and allow police to remove you from the action and possibly hold you in custody overnight. They must be heard in a magistrates court.

In all cases we list the Maximum penalties: but mostly it is a small fine or an order to be bound over. If you refuse to pay a fine or be bound over, you will be jailed.

a) Obstructing the highway: highway means any highway available to the general public which need only be partially obstructed or obstructed by someone else because of your action.

b) Obstructing an officer: useful to police when they cannot get you for anything else and almost impossible to argue with (arguing could itself constitute an offence). Max. Penalty: £200 fine and/or 1 month in prison.

c) Breach of the Peace: It is an offence to use 'threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour' either deliberately or which could cause a breach of the peace in any public place. You can be charged with this if it seems likely that a breach of peace might happen. Max. penalty: 6 months in prison and/or £1000 fine. Or the magistrate can be asked to bind you over to keep the peace. This will be for a specific time with the surety of a fixed sum.

d) Criminal damage: It is an offence to 'without lawful excuse deliberately destroy or damage property belonging to another'. Max. penalty if damage less than £200: 6 months and/or £1000 fine. If more than £200 can be tried in crown court with max. penalty of 10 yrs and/or large fine

e) Official secrets act: This is mentioned simply to acquaint you with the remote possibility of it being used at some point in the next year against a few individuals to deter us from increasing activity. It is very unlikely to be used against a large mass of activists.

2. Other Legal Hassles:

Bye-laws: Infringement of bye-laws can only be prosecuted in the magistrates court and normally carry a maximum fine of £50. THERE IS NO POWER OF ARREST. E.g. camping - if police claim this is illegal on the common, explain that it is a matter between you and the council - i.e. a civil matter and nothing to do with police. Possession orders are equally irrelevant. Be prepared to give your name and address, they could hold you if you refuse. Even so, police may try to arrest for obstructing them, so judge for yourself whether to back down. We suggest all women use the peace camp as their address.

3. Getting Arrested: Each group should have a legal observer with (a) names, ph. nos of members of group (b) to observe everything that happens, keep notes and be witness in court (c) to stay with her group and not get arrested - inform our central information point (Gate 8) (d) note no. of arresting officers (e) if you are arrested hand over task to someone else

If you are arrested: you are usually warned first and given the chance to leave. If you decide to stay (a) call your name to the legal observer;

(b) you will be taken to a police stn, asked your name, address and ph. no, birth date and occupation, then searched. They may question you - you don't have to say anything. You do not have to have fingerprints or photos taken. Once you are charged you will probably be released. If not, DON'T PANIC. A solicitor will have been contacted on your behalf, but if no-one contacts you before 6 hours are up, phone Kingsclere 298512.

Thoughts on Metal....

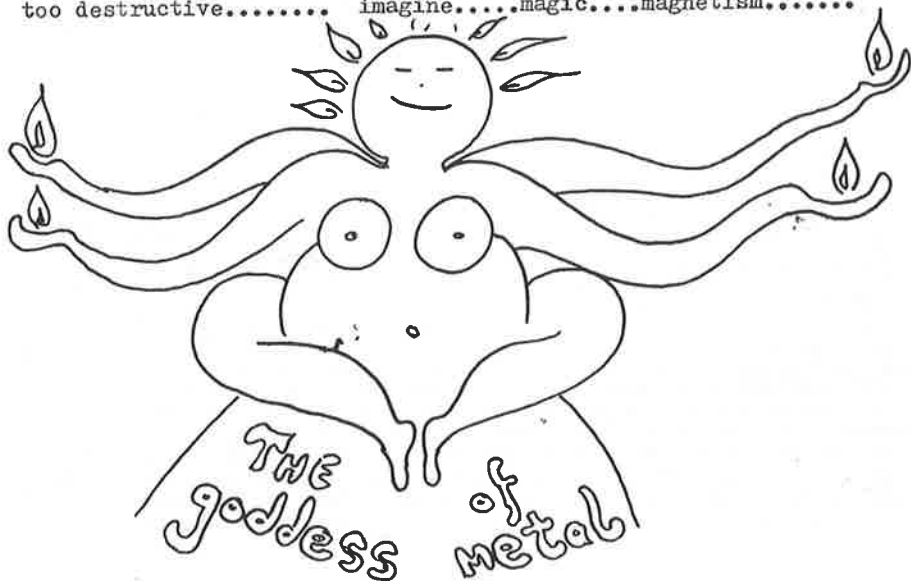
Metal is a natural element- use and abuse of metal is out of control - the core of the earth is believed to be metal - the earth reclaims metal, from her core, for her own. The goddess of uranium is ANGRY.

I had a tendency to ignore metal, until working on the dragon idea and looking into a Chinese horoscope book, about fire controlling metal (the dragon breathes fire) I began thinking about how the combination of male power and metal was a very dangerous thing and instead of disliking metal for itself, I began thinking of it as a mis-used natural element. The whole nuclear 'thing', is about ~~mens~~ (I use the word deliberately) attempt to dominate over nature. Think of travel- think of time- think of anything mass produced and the involvement of machinery. Think of the army- the weapons, the nuclear bombs, the mis-use of uranium.

Patriarchy has gone as far as it possibly can with metal- in its own sphere it has domination...e.g. with all the weapons and the control over physical life that it has - but I believe there is another way to affect the metal vibration - through the power of the mind- imagination, concentration. Some human beings act as a catalyst for the recognition of this- Uri Geller, for example- when he performed his power to affect the metal vibration, by spoon bending (amongst other things) many people found that the metal around them was affected (e.g. clocks stopping) Thousands and thousands of people all over the world witnessed and created something that defied the laws of known science. But - we don't really know too much about this sort of thing- an interesting thing, this energy force that people tapped into.....on occasions the M.O.D. were in touch with Uri Geller because when he was around their computers wouldn't work properly - now there's an interesting thought.....!

What if on Friday evenings millions of people all over the world began lighting candles and imagining the metal of the weapons drip, drip, dripping....(or concentrated on any image that suited)

We have to use a different sphere of thought, to construct our vision for a better world - the vision for the present one is far too destructive..... imagine.....magic....magnetism.....



Rainbow Serpent's return

'When the earth is sick, the animals will begin to disappear. When that happens, the Warriors of the Rainbow will come to save them...'

This North American Indian prophecy – now adopted by the environmentalist movement Greenpeace and the ship, 'Rainbow Warrior' – relates to a myth known in various forms virtually throughout the traditional world. It is the myth of the 'Rainbow Serpent', according to which the rainbow is an immense serpent which acts as the guardian of all human and animal blood, punishing those who abuse life by sending down lightning, floods and storms. One form of this myth is the story of Noah's Ark. In this version, however, the link between Rainbow and Serpent has had to be obscured in order to preserve consistency with a relatively recent patriarchal cosmology which treats the snake as the embodiment of all evil. In Aboriginal Australia, by contrast, the Rainbow Serpent is the most universally-respected divinity and is thought of as an eternal flow or stream of life-forces or blood arching across the sky and through the underworld.

GREENHAM SNAKES

The left in general, and the Labour left in particular, has never shown much interest in traditional cosmologies or myths. The signs are, however, that we had better start learning soon. Traditional myths convey messages through a language which is more truly internationalist than any other language known on this planet, and it is no accident that the women of Greenham Common have begun to speak in this language more than in any other in recent months. Newspaper reporters from the Tory Press have been amused, scornful and/or indignant at the discovery that the Greenham women not only dance, sing and hold hands in circles (like the witches of European folklore) but also seemingly worship snakes. My sister Liz (secretary of Enfield CND) recently sent me a copy of the Women's Peace Camp journal to show me the extent to which snake-symbolism has caught hold among these women. Not only the cover, but also almost every page of the journal is covered with lovely spiralling, undulating and circling snakes. The centre pages (February issue) are entitled 'A Snaky Story' and describes how the women formed into three long snakes (rather like the long dragons with papier mache heads and numberless legs used in Chinese festivals) in order to invade the main runway at USAF Greenham Common on February 7th. Two of these snakes were 'ripped apart in a disgraceful show of sheer exasperation and panic by several men who called themselves POLICE', but the third – called Sybil ('the slow snake') got through. An *Observer* reporter later interviewed a group of women awaiting trial and was given a lesson in mythology, in which it was explained to him that the serpent is a symbol of goddess-power and life – a symbol which has only been treated as 'evil' since patriarchal religions took over and turned everything upside down.

ABORIGINAL HOLOCAUST

The 15th of October, 1953, was the birth day of Britain's 'independent deterrent': the UK's first droppable atomic bomb. As I mentioned earlier, the Aborigines of Australia believe in a guardian-spirit of the game animals and of all life, and call her the Rainbow Serpent. She avenges those who abuse or destroy her sacred blood. Well, the place chosen to drop 'our' first bomb was right in the middle of the home of a number of Aborigines in Central Australia. 'I looked up south and saw this black smoke rolling through the mulga', says Yami Lester about what happened to him then. 'It just came at us through the trees like a big, black mist. The old people started shouting "It's a mamu" (an evil spirit) ... they dug holes in the sand-dune and said "Get in here, you kids". We got in and it rolled over and around us and went away. Everyone was vomiting and had diarrhoea, and people were laid out everywhere. Next day, people had very sore eyes, red with tears, and I could not open my eyes ... Five days after the black cloud came, the old people started dying ...' (*Observer*, 3.4.83, page 9). Yami Lester lost his sight and has been blind ever since this catastrophe happened to him and his tribal relatives when he was a child. A number of families actually camped unsuspectingly in the intensely radio-active bomb craters left after the test-programme was completed and died shortly afterwards of radiation-sickness. This is not to mention the destruction of wildlife over an immense area.

THE SERPENT REDISCOVERED

It is uncannily fitting that the Greenham feminists should have rediscovered the Aborigines' own Rainbow Serpent (an image shared by the North and South American Indians) as the symbol of feminine resistance to the patriarchal war-machine. For in Aboriginal Australia, too,

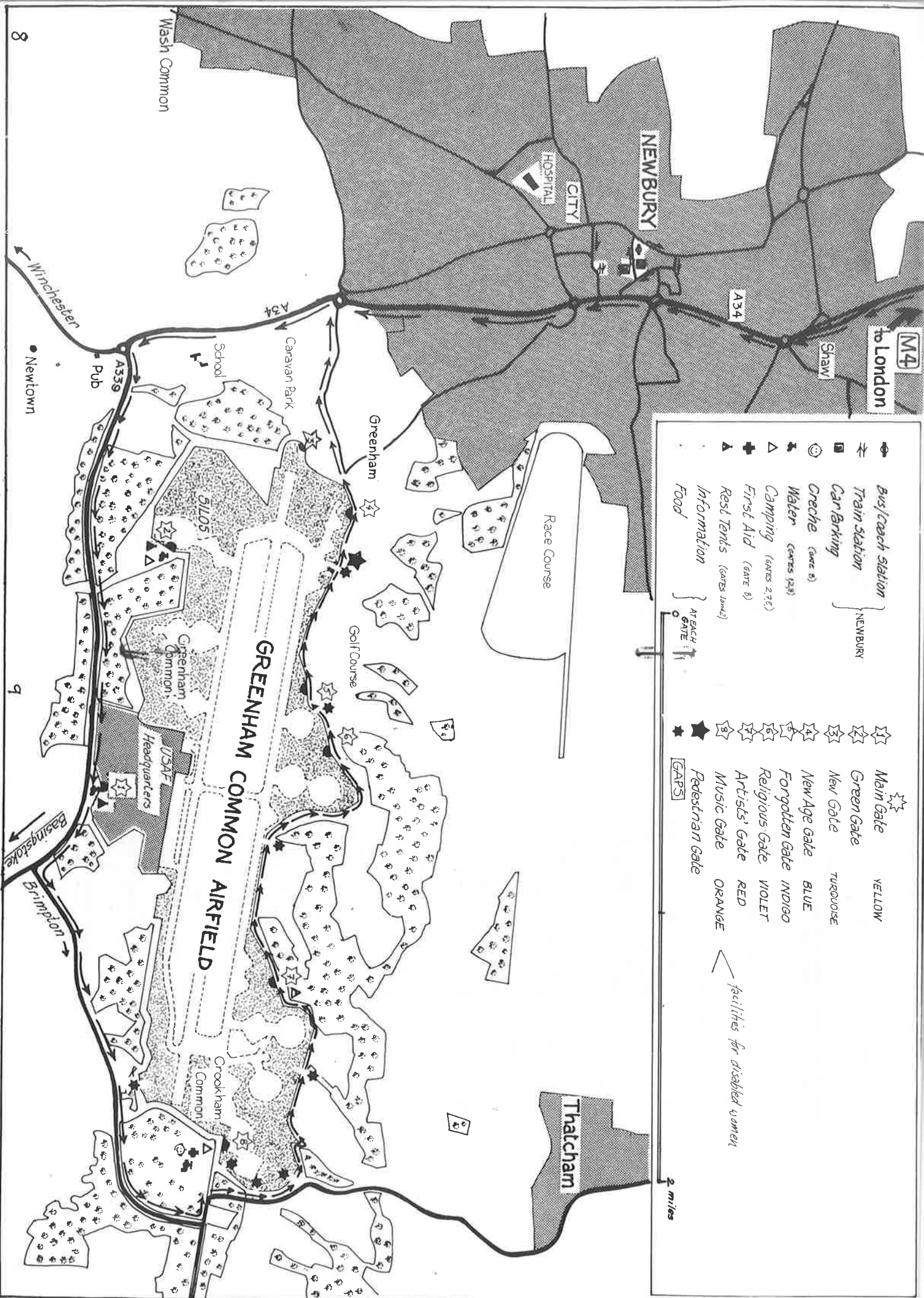
the Rainbow Serpent is essentially the solidarity of women. As I have described elsewhere (*Man* (sic), *The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, Mar 1983) its logic is essentially lunar and relates to the synchronisation by women of their menstrual cycles. To abuse the blood of game animals is treated as a crime akin to rape or incest – it is like failing to 'respect' women's menstrual blood or afterbirth blood. Women, as the custodians of all life-blood, are the guardians of life itself and of our future. When women have solidarity and strength, their reproductive cycles tend to synchronise with the periodicities of the tides and of the moon, so that the rhythms of human sex and life harmonise with wider cyclicities to form a coherent whole. This is the world-encircling 'dragon' or 'serpent' which lies at the heart of all traditional mythologies. Instead of dying, it merely changes its skin, as the moon does each month or as women do in menstruating. Patriarchal religions are based universally on the atomisation of womankind 'at the point of reproduction': ie. they are based on forms of marriage and family life which exclude the possibility of menstrual synchronicity. The 'dragon' is slaughtered by some patriarchal hero who established the present world-order from which we are suffering still. But however many times you kill the dragon, it has a tendency to rise up, fire-breathing as ever, with a new crop of heads. True, it hasn't been seen around for some time, now. But she seems to be stirring from her thousand-year sleep at last, her patience finally at an end. The Australian Aborigines and the American Indians, together with traditional people and women everywhere, will have the last word.

Chris Knight
(Lewisham East CLP)



Note: the illustrations on this page are from Australian Aboriginal rock paintings. They are images of serpent-power in a variety of forms, all of them pertaining to the cyclicity and synchronicity of women's menstrual cycles.





- Bus/Coach Station
- Train Station
- Car Parking
- Creche (GATE 8)
- Water (GATES 1,2,8)
- Camping (GATES 2,7,8)
- First Aid (GATE 8)
- Rest Tents (GATES 1 and 2)
- Information
- Food

- Main Gate YELLOW
- Green Gate TURQUOISE
- New Gate BLUE
- New Age Gate INDIGO
- Forgotten Gate VIOLET
- Religious Gate RED
- Artists' Gate ORANGE
- Music Gate
- Pedestrian Gate

facilities for disabled women

2 miles

Anyone can stand for Council

I obtained 147 votes. Not bad for a Greenham womyn in the Greenham true blue ward. The canvassing is obviously the 'big thing'. I found it took far more courage to knock on peoples doors to ask them to vote for me, than speaking at meetings. Most people were reasonable like: 'You've got to be joking', that fine. I found it far more depressing how many womyn admitted to voting the same as their husbands, even when they were out of earshot.

Some were fatalistic (about cruise). 'Well, we will get it first', they'd say. I replied with asking them what about the children and grandchildren. Often people would refer to God's Will, which I thought a good start for an argument. Other statements were: 'The base is at the other side of town so it doesn't effect me', or, 'You don't know where to put your apostrophe, so how can I vote for you?' I was in great need for support in leafletting and canvassing and needed money and help from other partys i.e. Labour.

I often recieved very violent reactions.

How do you cope?

I survived by having lot's of humour and showing it. My main reason for standing was to show that womyn from Greenham hadn't two heads, also to prove that we are reasonably articulate.

How to go about it:

You need ten voters to sign the paper, plus one councilor, solicitor or dignitary in ward. Comes the count you have to find out where it takes place. Get yourself a security card!

You must insist on some counters from your team, (I fell down here). In the papers you use for canvassing, the one with the photo of you, try to find burning local issues, i.e. education, unemployment, recreation. In Newbury it was the motorway bypass.

I was honest about the fact that Nuclear Bases were my overriding interest but if elected I would work for local issues.

I think womyn should realise how easy it is to

stand for council, how much power councilors have

over our lives, i.e. five members of Newbury council made common land private in secret session.

My overriding concern now is to find out the limits of power of baliffs and sherriff. I've tried police chief superintendant, solicitors, barristors, citizens advice, ect. My question is, does the sherriff of Berkshire have power in other countys to take possession of property belonging to the womyn on the high court injunction and womyn who signed the affidavids because we haven't paid and do not intend to pay court and eviction costs?

My car is labeled as stolen property, I can't sell or give it away, according to the Sherriff and the Solicitor. Is it true that the Sherriff of Berk. can have an agreement with another county sherriff?

Perhaps you can help to find out about these things hoping to hear from you, yours in Peace,

Jane Dennett.

STANDING FOR PARLIAMENT

Any woman can stand for election, but the way the system is organised, it is a painful draining process, and no woman could be blamed for not wanting to do it. I stood in the general election against the Secretary of State for War, Michael Heseltine. I have never felt so much in conflict with myself as during that time. I would wake up every morning with a sense of dread - the moments before being fully awake when I would twist and turn away from having to get up: to go up and down long driveways to knock on impersonal doors; to stand in markets and street corners talking through a distorting megaphone. No wonder the leaders 'we' (s)elect are so psychologically distorted. Again and again to go through that process to have to surpass all natural consideration and sensitivity to impose oneself - it felt like invading. Once in awhile on a doorstep the dawning consciousness... A letter received from someone who had been moved by a speech outside Thame Town Hall but hadn't dared to approach me then... People exited and inspired after a meeting... but so few. The Henley constituency stretches from outside Reading to outside Oxford. The wealth and comfort seems untouched by poverty or unemployment. Three cars in a groomed driveway. The rejections were mostly polite and closed. The firm smile that is designed to put me in my place "I'm sorry but I don't agree with you dear". This said before I had spoken. They are so sure they know what I am about to say, what I can think. Everything predetermined and complacent to minimize the necessity of questioning. Words have been falsified. "I think we need a strong defence" I used to think defence was something to protect us, putting our lives first, now it is a strategy for killing others, with an acceptance of our own mass death as an (unfortunate) by-product. "We have to be realistic". What is more realistic than recognising the stupidity and danger of nuclear war and attempting to avert it - not be turning to the failed prescriptions of the past and preparing for that unthinkable war in the vain hope that such a preparation will avert it. War has never been averted that way in history; only the blind or stupid could suppose now would be different. Or the anaesthetised.

Those polite dismissive phrases on the doorstep. Orwellian newspeak has come home to Britain in 1983. It is alive and thriving well-heeled Henley. And yet... every so often I saw a spark, a flicker. Someone fervently thanking me for standing - the first time she's been able to vote for someone she agrees with... she says she's 72. That's a long time to be disenfranchised.

It is a costly business standing in elections. In money, about £1,800 most of which goes on the 'election address' - my front page showed a cruise transporter in a leafy lane. In time - days going into exhausting weeks, and I didn't even start until after May the 24th. In energy most of all.

We have to change the system in all sick manifestations. Women standing for parliament must share the costs, share the responsibility and share the votes. A woman should not stand alone, with 'supporters' - we all need to stand up and we all need to support. The division between leader and supporters must be the first to go. It is built into elections, it is built into parliament and legitimises tyranny.

Standing in the general election for Women for Life on Earth was just another action, like the silos or December the 12th, to raise, discuss and further the cause of peace and survival. It was the most difficult action I had undertaken and I am still too tired to gauge how effective it was. But I know I never want to be so lonely again. Or so alienated from myself. A sick exam-system for our governors who gives us sick government. Is it so surprising?

Women's International Peace Island.

A women's Peace Island where we can explore ways to live peaceably in an anarchic society. Weaving together personal responsibility and initiative with consensus decision taking and respect for life, we can help create a loving future. The extremes of patriarchy, as seen in militarism and fascism must be desolved in the embrace of new thought forms that will arise through out work towards self sufficiency. A way to grow and learn. A place that would be for all women...to come and stay for long or short periods of time. A place where international links between women for peace could be made, and strengthened. A 'safe' space for women to experience something very different. Lots of hard work, but hopefully lots of fun too.....

Vaila - 'a Shetland Island - means 'peace'. It is about a square mile of land - with a 9 mile perimeter. This land would be owned collectively. It is without laws of trespass...and this women's land will help root us to our planet, The Earth Mother.

How would we raise the money?? Well one idea is.... if every women involved in the May 24th demonstrations gave just one pound, the island could be bought...plus a boat to get us there, peat for the first year's fires and enough to live on through the first winter. Does it sound like a good idea

If there isn't enough money to buy this island we'll look around for another one, but Vaila is available now. We will soon be opening a bank account in Lerwick and sending out more details. Please look out for news. This is the seed of the idea. We will nurture it and hope to make it grow into life.

uranium Mountain in the care of Aborigines

A mythical message, carried to us by the Aborigines in Australia, holds majestic inspiration. For these people, with timeless knowledge, are protecting their mountain, rich in uranium, from the pressures of a government determined to buy it from them, at any cost. When one understands that uranium is a kaleidoscope of colour, then such resistance takes on huge proportions. For the Aborigine throughout centuries has been taught that when their mountain is disturbed, the rainbow serpent will rise and destroy the world. (*Patriarchal world that is*)



This was taken from an article written by a woman called Sarah.

WOMEN'S PEACE BOAT

I would like to get a boat for all women to have the chance to sail - near Britain and as far around the world as we can/need to go. Would anyone with interest/ideas/money to sponsor...../a boat?, contact Ruth, % the Peace Camp **

JULY 4TH - 8TH : INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S BLOCKADE
AT GREENHAM COMMON

"ARMS ARE FOR LINKING!"

Dear Women,

17th May 1983

On July 4th - 8th there will be an International Women's Blockade at Greenham Common. In the spirit of the women camping at the base since September 1981 and the 30,000 or more women who joined them on December 12th and 13th last year in a massive statement against the siting of Cruise Missiles, we are calling on women from all over Britain, Europe and the World to come to Greenham to blockade and disrupt the preparations for these weapons of fear and destruction. Cruise Missiles in Britain (and indeed elsewhere) are a dangerous escalation of the arms race and increase the probability of a nuclear war in Europe.

A weeks blockade will involve thousands of women so we have suggested it be divided into different regional areas for different days running from July 4th to the 8th as follows: Monday 4th - International and Scotland. Tuesday 5th - Cymru(Wales) Ireland and South West England. Wednesday 6th - London. Thursday 7th - South East England. Friday 8th - North England and the Midlands. We are hoping that women from each region will commit themselves to covering the blockade for 24 hours. Over and above that we hope that many women will come whenever they can, especially for Monday - the first day, and also for as long as they can. No doubt the weekend will be celebratory!

SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR REGION'S DAY - TO MAKE IT MORE MEANINGFUL AND FUN

- *Adopt a theme that links the arms race with cuts in health and education services; the third world; the effects that nuclear power and weapons are having on our health already; British Independence from American Military Bases - July 4th is American Independence Day.
- *Light candles and hold vigils during the day and night for the victims of Nagasaki and Hiroshima; indigenous peoples who have lost their land rights through Uranium mining and weapons testing; women in prisons; Karen Silkwood, who was murdered while investigating the dangers of nuclear power, etc.
- *Celebrate your day in a life-giving joyful way wear bright colours, make or bring banners; decorate the fence to contrast the destruction of life on the other side of the fence, etc.
- *Bring musical instruments, songs, street theatre, balloons, kites, flowers to plant, ribbons and wool and anything else you can think of.

LOCAL ORGANISING

The Central co-ordinators for the blockade are based in London, with regional co-ordinators in most parts of the country. Some regional co-ordinators are still needed please contact London Greenham Office.

REGIONAL CONTACTS:

International - London Greenham Office
Scotland - Women's Action for Peace - c/o The Women's Centre, 61A Broughton Street Edinburgh
Cymru (Wales) - London Greenham Office
Ireland - Maggie Malone, 3 Ardenlee Avenue, Belfast 6. Tel: (0232) 56392
S.W. England - London Greenham Office
London - London Greenham Office, 5 Leonard Street, London EC2 Tel 01 251 3133
S.E. England - Brighton Women's Peace Place, 7 Florence Road, Brighton (0273) 553466
N. England - Melanie Restall, 114 Park Hill, Moseley, Birmingham B3
Midlands - 021-449-2981

We ask that all women come as self sufficient as possible. Here are a few ideas that spring to mind:-

NON VIOLENT DIRECT ACTION: Due to limited time, we ask that women prepare themselves in NVDA training as much as possible beforehand in local groups. For advice contact your regional co-ordinator.

PLEASE BRING: Protective clothing (long sleeves/trousers for blockading). Warm night clothes, rain gear, toilet paper and rubbish bags, pens and paper for legal observing, food, a tent if possible, sleeping bag/blankets, polythene sheeting, firewood and water carriers. Plus whatever is needed for your regional day (see above).

RESPECT FOR THE COMMON: Please respect and care for the land. Bring rubbish bags and use them. There will be rubbish points to take them to. Please don't cut live trees bring wood if you can. Please contain your fires (hazardous places are signposted).

TRANSPORT: To Britain - International flights to London's Heathrow and Gatwick Airports. Also, coach and train services from the Continent. Newbury Berkshire. National Bus Co. (01 730 0202). By car, take M4 to A34 To the base - Bus 302 leaves once an hour from Newbury Bus Station at 20 minutes to the hour. (From the base - bus leaves at 20 minutes past the hour) By car, take the A34 to the A339. Women travelling together is supportive and more fun. Think about car sharing, or hiring a coach or mini-bus/van/caravan. Bicycles (or horses?) are useful for transport between gates or in the case of blockaded roads.

WE'LL PROVIDE: General information and maps of the base. Marquees for registration and limited Non Violent Direct Action Training. Health workers and medical support. Walkie-talkies. Legal back up and support and toilet facilities.

WE NEED: Lots of HELP NOW (Contact your Regional Co-ordinator) AND DURING THE BLOCKADE Cars or vans at every gate. Bicycles at every gate (especially if the roads are blocked) Horses(!) and women at each gate who are experienced with horses in case the police use horses again. FUNDS: Please send donations to: London Greenham Office, 5 Leonard Street, London EC2. (Make cheques payable to Greenham - July 4th)

WHAT MEN CAN DO TO SUPPORT. Men can support us by respecting that this is an all women's blockade and by supporting the concept of women organising autonomously. We ask that men look after children, leaving mothers free to come and blockade. Publicise this action in their local areas and work places. Put pressure on their unions, employers and local councillors to take a stand against nuclear weapons. Financial assistance; either individually, through fund raising, or donation matching through work. Contact Men's Support Group for advice. Men's support is vitally needed at mixed peace camps all over the country.

If every woman copies this letter and sends it to 10 friends and they each send it to 10 others etc. we SHALL be thousands. This is the main way we are publicising this action. We look forward to seeing you there. With love and peace, from London Greenham Women.

*****WE NEED 3,000 WOMEN PER DAY, PLEASE TELL EVERY WOMAN YOU KNOW*****

if you see monsters in the game
and speak out fearlessly to name them
you'll be around for the turning of the sea
and if you find yourself alone
with no compassion but your own
it brings you down
but you know its got to be
because you see
your foes and allies are clear
some will fear you
someday they'll ache to be near
you look when others turn away
wait for that day
aint no way the'll keep us down

for the signs are everywhere
theres a rising of the waters
and a stirring in the air
it's coming down, but you'll be ready to rise
you'll be surrounded by gentle women
who are wise and realise
your visions reach beyond the stars
you've got the scars
but you know just who you are
whilst others burrow in the ground
you'll be around
to hear the sound of the witches call
you are one who'll be repaid
cause you've got woman's spirit in your mind
and you've got woman-loving deep inside
and you got woman power on your side

(This poem is an adaptation written by
Theresa in America, the other part by
a well known feminist singer/songwriter

