Partizans (People against Rio Tinto Zinc and subsidiaries) invite you to a

- Unique!
- Scintillating!
- Fun!

Cornish Tin Weekend

From Saturday August 23rd - Monday August 25th (Bank Holiday)

At The Wellbeing Centre, Churchtown, Illogan, Nr. Redruth, Cornwall

Cornwall is one of the most depressed parts of Britain. Despite the tourist ‘gloss’ and the beautiful postcards, it has in many ways been regarded as an exploitable hinterland by successive governments and companies: lower than average wages, opportunities, mobility, social provision. In 1979, the world’s second biggest mining conglomerate, RIO TINTO-ZINC (RTZ) came to the apparent rescue of Cornish tin, with a revival that gave hope and jobs to many thousands of local people - miners, families, ancillary workers. Within the last year, however, the International Tin Council (ITC) has collapsed - and with it, the relatively high price of tin on international markets. The tin mines in Cornwall (four out of five controlled by RTZ) are not only in crisis: without government support, or a transformation in RTZ’s strategy, they are doomed to closure.

What’s happened to the Tin in Rio TINto Zinc?

What extent has RTZ itself been responsible for the “mis-management” leading to this regional disaster? Is it only mis-management or are there factors which this huge multi-national (employer of 75,000 people worldwide) has been at pains to keep from us - especially the people of Cornwall? What role did Bolivian Tin (and the exploitation of indigenous Bolivian tin workers) play in persuading RTZ to revive Cornish tin? What part does cheaper tin from RTZ’s new Canadian mine play in keeping the company’s Capper Pass smelter replete with raw material?

The Cornish Tin Weekend will try to examine these issues, along with local people (including miners) and the A31 Theatre Company of Truro, who will perform their “tin play” which has already been well-received in the region.

We invite anyone concerned with examining the role of multi-nationals and their economic and political “hidden agendas” - to JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND OF STIMULATION and FUN!
CORNISH TIN WEEKEND: What and how

The weekend will begin on SATURDAY August 23rd at 2 pm with a WELCOME and open session that looks at:

* Cornish tin and the present situation
* RTZ as a global factory - history and future prospects

At 5pm there will be a break - to enjoy food, drink, walks, maybe a swim - followed at 7 pm by

THE TIN PLAY - performed by the A-3I Theatre company (Truro)

After the play, members of the company and audience will be free to discuss the implications of the production, its relevance to the current situation, possible expansions of the theme - and a future production centred on RTZ's global role

SUNDAY August 24th presents a number of possibilities - any one of which (or all) could be pursued:

* Tour of the tin mining area
* Workshop with A-3I Theatre company
* Discussions with local people on how the work of Partizans can be made relevant to their needs and priorities

MONDAY August 25th is, at present, a free day. For those travelling by minibus from London, we envisage leaving Illogan at around 5pm to enable return to the big smoke before 10 pm.

THE WELLBEING CENTRE and its LOCALITY Set up as a unique alternative health centre, managed by local trustees and run on a day-to-day basis by the indefatigable Denise, the Wellbeing Centre is at the heart of "tin country! A converted school, it provides large meeting room, kitchen for self-cooking and some sleeping space. There is room for a couple of TENTS in the garden. A mile through deep peace Illogan woods brings you to the gorgeous, rocky, sandy Porthtowan beach.

TRANSPORT from London will be by minibus, leaving Friday night, returning Monday afternoon. Once you book, we will give exact times. Costs depend on numbers - the range will be between £15 and £25. We can pick up and drop off, en route of course anyone who wishes, could travel by TRAIN or NATIONAL EXPRESS coach - but unless you leave quite early Friday evening, you will have to travel through much of the night.

FOOD ETC. You are asked to bring some food with you and be prepared to chip in £5 - £10 for essentials and other costs.

SUBSIDIES. As usual, we will operate a fares pool - but please let us know in advance if you need subsidising and how much for.

ACCESS FOR DISABLED: If notified in advance we can arrange for minibus with provision for a wheelchair. Access at the Centre is good.

Please return to PARTIZANS, 218 Liverpool Rd, London NI ILE

BEFORE AUGUST 18th

Name ................................ Address .......................................................... Phone ................................

I/We will be coming on the Cornish Tin Weekend. I/We will/will not need transport from London. I can bring a tent □. I will need help with fares etc □

Please send further details.