

# Ploughshare Plus



News update from Christian CND

August 2018

Christians working and praying for a nuclear weapons-free world

## Church of England Synod vote on nuclear weapons

The Church of England called on UK to 'respond positively to the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by reiterating publicly its obligations under Article VI of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and its strategy for meeting them...'

The debate was on 8 July at Church of England General Synod, York, on 'Ethics of Nuclear Weapons'

Stephen Cottrell, Bishop of Chelmsford opened the debate saying, 'According to 'Just War' theory there are no circumstances in which Nuclear weapons could be used, yet they exist, and could be used.' We are not telling our government what to do, we are asking them to stop telling us what they will not do and work towards developing plans that will rid the world of the danger and expense of nuclear weapons.' He quoted Pope Francis, 'Their possession is as bad as their use.' The motion calls on the UK government to 'respond positively' to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), (the Ban Treaty negotiated by 122 nations at the United Nations, New York July 7 2017, now one year old.

The debate was then interrupted by a call for a move to 'next business' (winter care for the homeless). This was decisively defeated.

The debate ranged widely from serving and retired armed forces personnel to wholehearted support for the motion. Bishop Stephen concluded the debate with St Francis 'First do what is necessary, then do what is possible and

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### CCND fringe meeting at Synod

Sean Doherty sponsored CCND for a fringe meeting on 7th July. The meeting entailed a lunchtime celebration of the UN Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear weapons. Elizabeth Minor (ICAN UK) answered questions about the TPNW.

The Treaty arose from concerns over the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons.

She brought a replica of the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to the International Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons for its achievement of the UN Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and 'its exemplary work with Civil Society.'

you will find you are doing the impossible. It was a joy and honour to bring this motion to Synod. I'll vote for peace & justice.'

Synod voted by counted vote 260 for, 26 against, 21 abstained.

CCND is delighted that the General Synod has passed this motion. The Church of England has joined all the other churches in the UK calling on the government to respond positively to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

We thank all those involved in the debate for their work in making this happen. This will strengthen all, as in our strapline 'working and praying for a nuclear weapons free world world wide'.

Our grateful thanks to all members who wrote letters, prayed, or worked in other ways to help get this wonderful result.

*See full text of the motion enclosed.*

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### From the office

I have now worked out that it is possible to take card details over the phone so if you want to renew or pay for a shop item with a card but don't have internet access, give the office a ring (Mon & Tues, 9.30 - 2pm). Do NOT leave your card details on the voicemail! If you get the voicemail message leave your number and I will phone you back.

If you do have internet access you can renew online with your card, and you do not need a PayPal account. You *will* need an account for the website, though, just fill in the web form for a new account. You can also buy things from the webshop by making a donation, then emailing me with your order. If in any doubt give me a ring and I will do my best to help.

*Claire Poyner*

### Congratulations!

To our Development Manager Russell Whiting and Hannah on the birth of their son born on Saturday 14th July. All our love to the family.

**6 August:** Hiroshima Day. 12 Noon commemoration in Tavistock Square, **London**. <https://www.londoncnd.org/>  
6- 7 pm Commemoration in **Coventry**. <http://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/>

Hiroshima Day Service at 7pm at St Edward the Confessor RC Church 5 Park End Road **Romford** RM1 4AT.

10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Pax Christi stall/information in the Piazza, Westminster Cathedral, Victoria Street, **London**.

More Hiroshima & Nagasaki events here:

<http://www.networkforpeace.org.uk/category/areas-work/hiroshima-nagasaki-days>

**9 August:** Nagasaki Day. Anniversary of the execution of Franz Jägerstätter Commemoration 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm in Crypt Chapel, Westminster Cathedral **London**. Followed by the Peace walk from Westminster Cathedral to the London Peace Pagoda, and a Lantern-Floating Ceremony at sunset. londonpeacepagoda@gmail.com tel: 020 7228 9620.

10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Pax Christi stall/information in the Piazza, Westminster Cathedral, Victoria Street, **London**.

**6 – 9 August:** International Fast for Nuclear Disarmament 6-9 August 2018. Every year, an International Fast is held in several countries worldwide between Hiroshima and Nagasaki days (6th-9th August). In the UK the fast will be followed in **Knighthon, London, Iona** and **Barnstable**. In London we will be based in Victoria Embankment Gardens. We will hold vigils on Hiroshima and Nagasaki days, and will stage various forms of peaceful protest in the Whitehall area. More info: <http://tridentploughshares.org/international-fast-2018/>  
Contacts: Marc Morgan: marcwmorgan@btinternet.com  
Dominique Lalanne: do.lalanne@wanadoo.fr  
Angie Zelter: reforest@gn.apc.org

**11 August:** Annual Hiroshima and Nagasaki commemoration in Victoria Park, Ballards lane, Finchley, **London**. Meet by the commemorative cherry tree at 11am. Contact Charles Wicksteed, finchley@traknat.org.uk

**24 – 27 August:** Greenbelt Festival. Boughton House, **Northants**. NN14 3AG. <http://www.greenbelt.org.uk/>

**21 September:** International Day of Peace. <http://www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/>

**22 September:** Nae Nukes Anywhere March & Rally **Faslane, Scotland!** International campaigners from across the world support Scotland. Scottish CND is inviting them to join us in challenging the UK Government to sign the Nuclear Ban Treaty, enter negotiations and scrap their nuclear policies. Tel. 0141 357 1529 <http://www.banthebomb.org/>  
*CCND will be there – look out for our banners!*

**26 September:** The International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, a day for public awareness and education about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and to mobilize international efforts towards achieving the common goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world. – See more at: <http://www.un.org/en/events/nuclearweaponelimination/>

**6 October:** Christian CND Conference and Annual General Meeting. Coventry. More details later.

**14 – 21 October:** Week of Prayer for World Peace. <http://www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.com/>

**20 – 21 October:** CND Annual Conference. Bristol. More details: 020 7700 2393. <https://cnduk.org/about/cnd-conference/>  
*CCND will be there with a stall and hopefully will table a resolution.*

## CCND Shop

Pack of 24 A4 sheets of Interfaith quotations £1 a pack

Legacy Guide Free

Churches' Guide Free

T-Shirts £12 each. Unisex Large and Extra Large.

Cotton bags £3 each.

Picasso Greetings Cards. £2.50 for six.

Robin Christmas Cards, £2.50 for six.

Submarine Christmas Cards, £2.50 for six/

Sowing the Seeds of Peace Communications Pack. Free

Church quotes on Trident Church Porch A4 Poster Free,

Badges 30p,

Enamel brooches £1.50

Window stickers 50p

Pens £1

See more shop items at: <http://christiancnd.org.uk/shop/>

Send orders to address below. Cheques made out to Christian CND. Please add a minimum of £2.50 for p&pp.



## Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

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