

# Ploughshare Plus



## News update from Christian CND

November 2018

*Christians working and praying for a nuclear weapons-free world*

## CCND Conference & AGM

On Saturday 6 October Christian CND members and supporters gathered in Coventry for our annual Conference and AGM. The theme for the day was “Nuclear Ban Treaty: Hope for a Nuclear Weapons-Free World”. Delegates arrived at the stunning Coventry Cathedral from all over the country. Coventry has long been an inspiring and important place for Christian peacemakers given its role in reconciliation since the terrible damage from bombing raids during the Second World War.

The day started with Canon Sarah Hills, who leads Coventry’s work on reconciliation and the Community of Cross of Nails. As well as giving the official welcome, Canon Sarah spoke about the history of Coventry Cathedral, through the bombings and into the rebuilding work in the 1960’s. The designer of the new Cathedral said he sought “a more Christ-child like building for a more peaceful world”. Canon Sarah also spoke about the work of the Community of the Cross of Nails, which has partners around the world, each Christian organisation doing work on reconciliation and peace in their own communities.

The next speaker was Ben Niblett, an experienced campaigner currently working at Tearfund. Ben shared his campaigning experiences, working for an evangelical organisation seeking to engage Christians in campaigning on what can sometimes be difficult issues. Ben spoke about the need to have a clear vision of who the decision makers are in a campaign, and how they will be targeted. He shared some of the different approaches taken in campaigning on climate change when trying to appeal to different audiences.

The afternoon session started with the reading of a message from the Bishop of Coventry, who was unable to join us for the day. The afternoon speaker was Janet Fenton from Northern Friends Peace Board. Janet has been

involved in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons for some time, and spoke first about how the Treaty came into being, and the work which civil society played. Janet also spoke about the reactions to the Treaty from the nuclear-armed states, including the UK, which have been putting pressure on other states not to sign or ratify the Treaty. Janet gave an update on the status of ratifications; with 50 needed before the Treaty comes into force there are currently 19 complete, with many more states in the process of completion.

The group then broke into workshops for the final part of the day. Two of the workshops covered elements of campaigning, taking forward the Church of England Synod motion locally and engaging Christians in campaigning. Another group spent time praying in the ruins of the old Cathedral, both for what is happening in the UK but also elsewhere in the world.

Christian CND would like to thank Coventry Cathedral and St Michael’s House for hosting us, as well as our speakers and workshops leaders and especially everyone who attended the day.

The brief AGM resulted in the recruitment of two new members of Exec; Rachel Leather (Methodist) and David Maxwell (Quaker). Welcome to both!

Caroline Gilbert and Martin Tiller were elected Co-Chairs.

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### Grants Committee needs you!

You don’t need any experience in administering a grant-funding organisation but if you do that would help!

We have a small committee set up to look at applications for a small (up to £100 each) grant from our Estella Newsome Legacy. We need another committee member. The committee will meet up whenever we have an application.

Please get in touch if you’re interested.  
christians@cnduk.org or 020 7700 4200.

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### Burghfield Blockade

24 October 2018: There was a successful and non-violent blockade at Atomic Weapons Establishment Burghfield, nuclear warhead factory and R&D centre for over five hours. The last resister was not cut free from her lock on until about 5.0pm so disruption continued for the working day, starting at 6.30am. Internet and media coverage was better than some other nva actions I have taken part in. Feedback was positive. AWE workers and people going to other work places were leafleted and read our banners and posters. Some even engaged in brief conversation about what the blockade was all about. There were nine arrests and two vehicles impounded. Court dates are Thursday 22 November and Wednesday 28 November, both at Reading Magistrates Court.

See <https://tridentploughshares.org/> or ring 0345 4588 361 for further details.

**10 November:** Future Wars: The Impact of New Technologies. Conference about the impact of new technologies on future wars, and the new challenges we'll face as a result. Room BA18 Birkbeck University of **London** WC1E 7HX. [information@cnduk.org](mailto:information@cnduk.org) 020 7700 2393. <https://cnduk.org/events>

**10 November:** Remembrance is not Enough. A special service of more than just Remembrance on the eve of the centenary of WW1. The guest speaker is Anglican theologian Andrew Shanks. 2.30pm Mill Hill Chapel, City Square, **Leeds** LS1 5EB. <http://tinyurl.com/y96ae8ln>

**11 November:** Remembrance Sunday. Events around the country.

**11 November:** White Poppy Ceremony, **Bromley**. Assemble outside Primark at the Church Rd side at 10.30am.

**11 November:** Remembering the Conscientious Objectors (COs) of World War 1. We will read out some of the names of those COs who were imprisoned at Walton during the First World War, and some of the names of COs who are currently jailed throughout the world. 1pm at Walton Prison, 68 Hornby Road, **Liverpool** L9 3DF. [mpn2017@googlegroups.com](mailto:mpn2017@googlegroups.com)

**11 November:** No More War – Lets Make Peace Happen. 1pm @ Tavistock Square, **London** WC1. A ceremony of Remembrance and Peace 100 years after the First World War. 2 – 5pm @ Friends House, Euston Road, **London** NW1 2BJ. Drop by to meet peace activists and find out about current peace campaigns. Café, live music, films, books, stalls, with children's programme led by Woodcraft Folk.

**11 December:** Pax Christi Advent Peace Service and Christmas Market. Followed by an alternative Christmas market with fair-trade goods. 7 – 9.30pm. St Aloysius Church Phoenix Rd **London** NW1. <http://paxchristi.org.uk/news-and-events/events-calendar/>

**1 December:** Prisoners for Peace Day. This day is a chance for you to demonstrate your support for individuals in gaol for refusing to join the military or who have taken nonviolent actions to disrupt preparation for war, by writing to those whose freedom has been taken away from them because of their work for peace. 020 7278 4040 <http://www.wri-irg.org/>

**6 January 2019:** London Region CND Annual General Meeting. Details tba. [Carol.turner500@gmail.com](mailto:Carol.turner500@gmail.com)

## CND Conference , Bristol, 20th October.

Our CCND Resolution to CND Conference 20th October in Bristol, calling on CND to congratulate the C of E on the Synod Motion on Nuclear Weapons went through, no one against, with 3 devout Atheists abstentions. So letters should have arrived by now at Lambeth Palace & Church House conveying these congratulations from the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament to the Archbishops' Council. We did well as soon as I had spoken, several people said they would do something about publicising the Motion in their localities.

After that all our TPNW Treaties, 50 or more went & most of the leaflets relating to the Motion, from our CCND Stall. Unfortunately our workshop did not happen as it was in the lunch time and the Conference program over ran.

Bristol CND have done well in getting the Wills Memorial Building for the CND Conference. This was achieved partly through their work with local Bristol history and art, a puppet show, on Bristol Conscientious Objectors to World War 1, linking in the countrywide commemoration of the 100years anniversary of the Armistice, the end of World War 1.

The leaflet on how you can use the the C of E Motion locally, is available from Caroline, send her an email ([maasgilbert@hotmail.com](mailto:maasgilbert@hotmail.com)) or phone the office, and will be on-line.

*Caroline Gilbert*

### 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

Vanunu House, 162 Holloway Rd, London N7 8DQ Tel: 020 7700 4200 [christians@cnduk.org](mailto:christians@cnduk.org) <http://christiancnd.org.uk/>