Dedicated to Peace

Cross in the re-dedicated Peace Garden at Molesworth

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- Plus news, reviews, events and prayer diary
Exciting news! The webshop is now up and running. You can order goods and pay online.
https://christiancnd.org.uk/shop/

We will be looking into new tee-shirts in the near future so look out for those, also cotton shopping bags. You can also buy the usual pens, stickers, badges etc.

You can also sign up or renew your membership online using one-off payments via PayPal or by direct debit via Go Cardless.

But if you don’t want to sign up for a PayPal account, what then? You can still pay online using your debit or credit card without opening an account by going to the ‘Donate’ page.

Click on the ‘donate’ button, which will take you to a PayPal page which invites you to either ‘donate with PayPal’ or ‘Donate with a debit or credit card’. Select the latter and you’ll be able to donate without setting up an account. You will need an email address though.
This issue reaches you in the midst of political turmoil. It is good to have the moral certainty our faith gives us!

We know Creation is under threat from climate change but also under threat from nuclear extinction, either by accident or design. Many of us will have taken part in demonstrations against both of these and you will see in this journal reports of some of the activities our members have supported.

The Hiroshima and Nagasaki anniversary commemorations give us an annual reminder of the horrors of the effects of nuclear war and the Arms Fair protests show how making money can blind people to the consequence of the manufacture and marketing of weapons, from small hand guns to nuclear bombs.

Come along to our AGM and Conference, at Brentwood Cathedral on October 26th, (see page 4) meet fellow campaigners and be inspired to find new ways to work to make this world a better and safer place.

From the Office cont...

And do drop me a line to tell me you’ve paid a membership fee or ordered goods rather than made a donation. Unless it is a donation of course!

You can also phone in with your card number. Or you can put your card details on the sub renewal form when you get it in the post.

We still accept cheques, postal orders, bank transfers (let me know if you do a bank transfer out of the blue to remind me to update the database) and standing orders (which I check with each bank statement). Contact me for a standing order form.

We will even accept cash — cash in the post is not really recommended but if you’re in the area and want to drop into the office with some cash please do. I am in the office Monday and Tuesday mornings but anyone in the CND office will take an envelope on our behalf (make sure it’s marked for my attention!)

Thank you for your continued support.

Claire Poyner
christians@cnduk.org
Our 2019 Conference and AGM is taking place in Brentwood Cathedral on Saturday 26 October. As the world increasingly comes to terms with the consequences of climate change, the threat of extinction from nuclear weapons remains. In spite of the difficulties, we have a sure hope in Jesus, which motivates us to continue to work and pray for a nuclear weapons-free world.

During the day we’ll hear about work to encouraging banks, pension funds and other financial institutions to move away from funding nuclear weapons producers towards more socially constructive and beneficial activities. We’ll also hear from Teresa Allesandro, the recently appointed Director of Pax Christi about their work for peace and the vision for a better future without nuclear weapons and war.

The Conference will be a fantastic opportunity to gather with other Christians who share our vision of a world free of nuclear weapons. There will be workshops, time to pray together and lots of opportunities to meet new people and chat. The event is free, but it does help if you can register interest. Do this by contacting the CCND office.

The Conference will be followed by Christian CND AGM, which is open to all members, though only those with 10 months membership may vote. For more information or if you are interested in standing for a position, please contact the Christian CND Office.

Christian CND is marking 60 years of working and praying for a nuclear weapons-free world in 2020. The Executive Committee have been discussing ways in which we can mark the occasion, remembering our history and looking forward to the next stage of our campaigning. One of the key activities during the year will be a touring exhibition, which we hope will travel the country, giving supporters old and new the chance to reflect on our history and engage with the next steps of our campaign.

We’re excited about the possibilities for the exhibition and tour, but we need your help to make it happen.

Do you have any photos, newspaper cuttings or other information from Christian CND activities over the past 60 years that might be able to go into the exhibition? While we have an archive in the office there is bound to be some great pieces hiding away in the filing systems of members that would really add to the exhibition.

We’ll also need locations to host the exhibition. Would you local church be able to provide us a space? Could you help with the arrangements locally? Full support will be given from the Christian CND office; we can help with practical arrangements, providing speakers, press releases and anything else you might need. We are hoping to reach as much of the UK as possible with what should be a really exciting initiative.
On 3 September, Christian peace groups joined other faiths groups to protest outside the Excel Centre in the London Docklands where the biennial arms fair, where dealers come from all over the world to buy and sell weapons and crowd control equipment, takes place.

Different groups were saying ‘Stop the Arms Fair’ on each day the week before the four days bonanza (10-13 Sept).

There were different liturgies during the day led by the various faiths.

Anglicans included two Bishops, Peter Hill from Barking, and Roger Morris of Colchester (photo below), who led the litany of resistance, and peace hymns and songs, after a procession from local Ascension Church to the East Gate.

The Catholics walked from St Anne’s Church nearby, stopping four times for a specially adapted Stations of the Cross.

Quakers had come from all over the country, and sat down effectively blocking the access road.

The Buddhists chanted and Moslems also held prayers.

At about 2.30pm, the police started moving through the roadblock, to warn people that they would open the road at 3pm, and anyone remaining would be arrested.

Some people chose to remain and risk arrest. At the time of going to press, we don’t know the outcome.

So many banners, so many messages.

Never think that even with no immediate effect on an event, it does not have a cumulative effect.
Thirty five family members, friends and fellow campaigners gathered in the Friends’ Meeting House on Saturday afternoon to remember, celebrate and build on the work of Barbara Eggleston, a remarkable woman.

The title of the event, “Climb Every Mountain” was chosen as it was not only a line from one of Barbara’s favourite songs from “The Sound of Music”, but it reflected her indomitable spirit and refusal to give in to difficulties. This was the launch of what is hoped to be an annual lecture in her memory.

Valerie Flessati introduced the afternoon’s events by describing what Barbara had meant to the anti-nuclear peace movement in the 10 years from 1982 when she gave up her job as a teacher to become the organiser of Christian CND, a specialist section of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and how her energy, enthusiasm and sense of humour won her fellow campaigners from many different walks of life.

This was followed by reminiscences, and a lot of laughter, from family and friends, who added stories of their own. We all agreed, that not only was she a brilliant organiser and tireless campaigner but somebody who not only enjoyed life to the full herself
but made sure those who worked with her did too. As someone remarked: “I never knew Barbara, but I wish I had!”

The main speaker of the day was Bruce Kent, who looked at the way the main Christian Churches are now unanimous in their condemnation of nuclear weapons, not only their use but also saying that their possession cannot be justified morally. He drew attention to last year’s resolution of the Church of England Synod calling on our Government to engage with the new United Nations Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons, and the unequivocal statement of Pope Francis.

The meeting finished with a shared tea and the opportunity for people to meet, remember and plan ahead.

Valerie’s talk is reproduced in full on pages 14-16.
This year marks the 74th anniversary of the dropping of nuclear bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima (6 August) and Nagasaki (9 August). Hundreds of thousands of people died and were horrifically injured, while millions continue to live with the consequences of the bombs to this day.

Christians have always played a key part in remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki and in attempting to bring people together in reconciliation. Christian CND has been marking the days in prayer, as well as attending events, for decades and this year members around the country were involved.

In Coventry Christian CND Co-Chair Martin Tiller participated in annual commemoration at the Cathedral. Christian CND Exec member Geraldine Ellis helped Beryl Lankester organise the event in Maldon, Essex while others attended services in Oxford, London and Nottingham.

In Scotland Christian CND member Revd David Mumford was among those gathering in the grounds of St. Anne’s Episcopal/Methodist Church in Dunbar to pray for reconciliation and disarmament across the world. The newly formed Aberdeenshire Christian CND was well represented at the local commemoration in St Andrews Cathedral.
A reading for Essex Christian CND’s Hiroshima Day event. [This passage was written between 1961 and 1962]

In a world where another Hitler is very possible, the mere existence of nuclear weapons constitutes the most serious problem the world has ever confronted. The atmosphere of hatred, suspicion and tension in which we all live is precisely what is needed to produce Hitlers. It is no exaggeration to say that our times are Apocalyptic. We seem to have come to a point at which all the hidden, mysterious dynamism of the history of salvation revealed in the Bible has flowered into a final and decisive crisis. We seem to be assisting in the unwrapping of the vivid symbols of the last book of the New Testament.

It is a serious error to imagine that because the West was once largely Christian, the cause of the Western nations is now to be identified, without further qualification, with the cause of God. The Christian is, and must be, by their very adoption as a son or daughter of God, a peacemaker. It is sheer madness to think that Christianity can defend itself with nuclear weapons. The fact that we now seem to accept nuclear war as reasonable is a universal scandal.

Moral passivity is the most terrible danger of our time. The furious speed with which our technological world is plunging toward disaster is evidence that no-one is any longer fully in control – and that includes our political leaders. The dropping of the A-bomb at Hiroshima is devastating evidence of the way well-meaning men, scientists and leaders of a victorious nation, were guided step by step – without realizing it – by an inscrutable yet simple ‘logic of events.’ They thought in all sincerity that the bomb was the simplest and most merciful way of ending World War II: and perhaps all wars, forever.

The first duty of the Christian is to take the stand that all-out nuclear, bacterial or chemical warfare is unacceptable as a practical solution to international problems. There is simply no ‘good end’ that renders such a risk permissible, or even thinkable on the level of ordinary common sense. The fact that such a choice might be made with the highest motives and the most urgent purpose would do nothing whatever to mitigate it. For we come face to face with something much more subtle and demonic than material evil.

We face the moral responsibility of global suicide.

The Hiroshima Day Sermon, Doctor Atomic, is enclosed with this mailing.
RAF Molesworth was, along with Greenham Common, chosen to host US Cruise Nuclear Missiles in the 1980s. Protests began soon after the announcement and a Peace Camp was established, with many Quakers and other Christians among those involved. Areas of the old airfield was used to grow wheat, with more than 30 tonnes sent to Africa in the mid 1980s.

The Eirene Chapel, named after the Greek word for ‘peace’ was built by people of all faiths and none and hosted daily vigils and acts of worship. The Ministry of Defence quickly cordoned the chapel off and eventually it was demolished to much fanfare, including a visit from Michael Hessletine.

The nuclear missiles left later in the 1980s and the last protestors left the peace camp in 1990. Since that time a Peace Garden has stood outside the base as a reminder of the history of the place and provide hope for a future without war, where bases like RAF Molesworth are no longer needed and the fences can be taken down once and for all.

On Saturday 29 June the Peace Garden was rededicated as part of a special event at Molesworth to remember the history of peace witness at the site. During the event on Saturday Bridie Wallis and Ian Hartley, two individuals who has lived at Molesworth during the camp, shared memories of their time there. There was also a message from Christian CNDs Bruce Kent, who famously cut through the base fence in full view of the security forces during one protest.

The cross from the Eirene Chapel, built during the protests, remains at the site. Prayers were said for world peace and a future without nuclear weapons. Canon Jonathan Young, who had been at Molesworth 39 years earlier and Revd Stuart Dennis also read from the Bible, bringing Jesus’ message of hope and peace.

The Peace Garden has been restored thanks to the work of Molesworth Peace Garden Group, local volunteers who were involved with actions at Molesworth in the 1980s, and a donation from Christian CND. If you get the chance to visit the Peace Garden, RAF Molesworth is located around 10 minutes from the A14 and has parking for a small number of cars.
Imagine a beautiful stately home in Sussex, surrounded by acres of peaceful rolling Downland. Then imagine 20,000 Christians descending on it for a weekend of camping and (mostly very loud) worship music led by some of the best Christian bands. Also imagine a big marquee with about 150 different Christian organisations each running a stall to tell festival-goers about their particular interest and calling. You have just imagined... Big Church Day Out!

Christian CND were there in May for the second year. Five of us (L to R, Sarah, Martin, Michael, Rebecca and Patricia) ran a stall to make people aware that nuclear weapons are an issue for Christians. Our stall featured a big picture of Gare Loch in Scotland, where the Trident submarines are based. It all looked beautiful and peaceful until you pulled a string which, through a system of pulleys, made a nasty black submarine rise from the depths and change the tone completely. It was a great talking point. We also had a picture of a bare tree at the beginning of the weekend. Children were invited to write a prayer for peace on a paper leaf and stick it on. By the end of the weekend our tree was covered with joyful greenery.

Several new members joined Christian CND there and then, and others signed up for email updates. We had many great conversations with people, and who knows how many of the seeds we planted will bear fruit in people’s prayers and future involvement.

If you would like to help Christian CND run a stall at a Christian event like this in 2020, let us know!
34th Peace Pagoda Celebration

It was a beautiful day in Battersea Park when the 34th Anniversary Celebration of the London Peace Pagoda took place on 22nd June. The ceremony included Interfaith prayers for World Peace, and messages and speeches. Michael gave the first address and was followed by 4 other speakers including Japanese against nuclear, UK, and Paula Walker, the local Labour councillor.

After devotional music and dance, congratulations were sent to Bruce Kent (celebrating his 90th birthday that day) and messages read from Cardinal Vincent Nichols and. Bruce and Valerie.

At the end of the three hour ceremony, everyone enjoyed the refreshments provided.

We always enjoy this celebration, to be together with such good people from a variety of Faiths and our good friend Rev Nagase.

Patricia and Michael Pulham

Reverend Angela

Reverend Angela Rayner, or as the local paper put it, “Rev..rev..rev..rev .. Reverend” with a picture of CCND member, Angela Rayner, on her electric scooter, taking the Good News to the people of Kings Lynn. She was ordained as an Anglican priest at Petertide in Norwich Cathedral.

Patricia and Michael Pulham were very happy to be present at her first Mass in Kings Lynn Minster the following day. So our love and congratulations to Angela and our prayers for a fulfilling Ministry as Curate.

The photo shows them flanked by Angela and partner, Sue Bruno, after the service.
Oxford Christian CND at the Elder Stubbs Allotment Festival 19th August

Me and Mike shared a stall with others at the Elder Stubbs Allotment Festival. I hoped to reconnect with some of the remnants of Oxford Christian CND. Elder Stubbs Allotments are between Florence Park and the top of the Cowley Rd. The houses round about were built for the workers in the Morris car factory. Restore, the mental health charity running this annual festival, is just further down the Cowley Rd. There are stalls for worthy causes, food and music, pony rides, ice creams. This year the scouts had a climbing tower to climb wearing safety harness (children only). Oxford Christian CND was next to the ice cream van.

Our aim in doing it was to try to connect again with local Christian CND members, so Claire sent out an email to those that were fairly local.

Our secondary aims were to push along the ‘Don’t Bank on the Bomb’ and the ‘Treaty Compliance Campaign’; that’s the one where cities sign up to the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, even when their countries, e.g the USA, where California is signed up, France, where Paris is signed up, the UK, where Manchester & others are signed up.

The stars of our stall were undoubtedly the ‘Don’t Bank on the Bomb’ bouncy balls. The queue for the ice-cream van provided some bouncers and, for those of more mature years, (over 8) Michael Gilbert’s plants. He sold them all and covered our costs. We got rid of our leaflets and I took some round to the other worthy stalls. On my way back I came face to face with our Mayor and Mayoress, (Elise Benjamin, who used to be our councillor) Green Party both of them, so I reminded them of the Treaty Compliance motion.

One new person signed in my book to help with ‘Don’t Bank on the Bomb’.

Was it worth it? How can we be better? It’s a start.

And it didn’t rain after all. We owe definite thanks to Janey Carline with her bouncy balls, family to bounce, and especially her gazebo, which was a great comfort in the background.
Imagine a time when the hottest political topic is not Brexit but nuclear weapons. A time before the internet, twitter or mobile phones, when nuclear disarmament is making newspaper headlines every single day.

In the 1980s the Cold War was getting colder. Tory Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was cosying up to the right-wing Republican US President Ronald Reagan. She had agreed to increase Britain’s nuclear capacity by replacing Polaris with Trident missiles and to host Cruise missiles at Greenham Common and Molesworth.

The country was divided by bitter controversy which turned pretty vicious at times. CND groups were springing up in every town and even village. For the peace movement it was an exhilarating, heady and hectic period of intense activity.

Can any of you remember what was happening this very week in 1982? On 6 June there was a massive demonstration in Hyde Park because, guess what, President Ronald Reagan was visiting as a guest of the Queen! But some of us were in New York instead. Bruce (Kent) had booked 50 seats on a plane to take a peace movement contingent to the UN Special Session on Disarmament. On 12 June we took part with delegations from many other countries in a million-strong march through New York.

Rather to everyone’s surprise, in 1982 Britain also fought an old-fashioned war in the South Atlantic. Opponents were very unpopular. The visit of Pope John Paul to Britain – scheduled for May – nearly didn’t happen because of it. Archbishops from Britain and Argentina were summoned to Rome, the visit went ahead, and the Pope made a stirring speech in Coventry calling on everyone to play their part in building the ‘cathedral of peace’.

It was in the first week of June 1982, against this background, that Barbara Eggleston gave up her teaching job to become national organiser of CCND, and she held that key position for ten or so years. She had been involved with CND from about 1977 when she was a student at the LSE and a member of the Young Liberals. In fact, she and Guy met at a CND demonstration, and meetings of the tiny Christian CND executive committee took place in their flat in Finsbury Park. One of the first events Barbara took part in was a vigil outside Westminster Abbey during a service to mark the 30th anniversary of NATO. I think there were about 5 of us at that!

Some of you will remember the Government pamphlet Protect and
Survive immediately refuted by E.P. Thompson’s response Protest and Survive. The first major sign of Christian CND’s revival came in 1981 when 900 people took part in ‘Profess and Survive’ – that was probably Barbara’s clever title – a Christian CND Rally in Coventry Cathedral.

Barbara’s personality and gifts made a huge difference to CCND and the wider peace movement. On her serious side she was really thoughtful about the meeting point between religion and politics. She embraced the tradition of linking peace themes with the theology, worship and symbols that were familiar to Christians. So – Ash Wednesday was spent outside the MOD, or scattering ashes in an act of nonviolent civil disobedience inside the base at Upper Heyford... The calendar included Holy Week pilgrimages from Greenham to Lakenheath, Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days commemorated at different nuclear bases, Holy Innocents Day in December...and so on. In 1983 CCND held its first ‘Peace Pentecost’ with guest speaker Fr George Zabelka, who had repented of his role as US chaplain to the atomic bombing crew in 1945.

In 1985 2000 Christians encircled the MoD with a peace ribbon of patches from all over the world. Over the years we heard a sequence of inspiring visitors from abroad: Rosalie Bertell, Setsuko Thurlow, Jim Wallis, and many others.

These were big events to organise and Barbara was very good at it: creative, imaginative, inclusive, her energy and enthusiasm bringing people on board. They combined drama, symbol and theology in a way that communicated with the public and the media. She was fearless in pursuing both ‘dialogue’ and ‘resistance’. The dialogue was represented by CCND’s presence at synods, the British Council of Churches, parliamentary lobbies, a letter to all the US and RAF chaplains, contact with staff at the nuclear bases and so on.

In 1985 Christian CND sought a High Court injunction to prevent the Diocese of Peterborough from selling land to the Ministry of Defence for the expansion of the Molesworth cruise missile base. After an ‘in-court’ settlement the Church of England withdrew the sale.

‘Resistance’ also took the form of nonviolent direct action and Barbara was arrested on many occasions, arguing in court that for Christians to put their faith in the false security of nuclear weapons was idolatrous. She was a clear thinker and a persuasive speaker.

Barbara’s influence within CND as a whole was extremely positive. She was based in the office at Goodwin Street, taking a full part in CND council and conference, and contributed another voice of sanity whenever CND’s internal politics were becoming acrimonious. The sizeable Christian contingent helped to maintain a spirit of unity and
nonviolence at CND demonstrations throughout the 1980s. Christian CND also showed that CND really was a pluralist, broad-based organisation despite its detractors.

Barbara’s brand of religion was not pompous, pious or penitential and this challenged the stereotypes of many CND activists. I can think of several individuals who would never have taken part in anything religious but happily joined CCND events because they were drawn by Barbara’s relaxed style and knew that despite the serious purpose everything would be fun with her around.

Her religious faith was steadfast and searching. With the Dominicans she established a ‘Peace Preaching’ course to provide theological training for peace activists. And in 1989 she helped to start Dominican Peace Action (DPA), typically mixing a programme of prayer and study with summer camp activities for children and adults.

Her interest in Jewish/Christian history and reconciliation was also deepening. One of Barbara’s heroes was Franz Jägerstätter, and in 1993 she and Guy (with baby Patrick) joined a Pax Christi group on a visit to Jägerstätter’s village of St Radegund in Austria. Three years later she organised the DPA pilgrimage from Canterbury to St Radegund, and then on to Prague, Dresden and Cologne tracing resistance to the Second World War.

As requested, I’ve concentrated on Barbara’s role within Christian CND. But there is so much more to say about her zest for life – friends, parties, travel, good food and wine, her irreverent delight in the tacky side of religion. ‘The Sound of Music’ was at the mild end of that! That so many people wanted to come today is testimony to how much she has meant to us. We count ourselves lucky to have been her friends. Barbara had sparkle, and to think of her makes me smile. She was one of the funniest people I’ve ever known. Her life continues to be a source of joy.

Many of the people in this room were at the heart of church peace campaigning and I’ve brought a few of the things we produced at the time. Bruce was General Secretary of CND. Clare Prangley was chair of Pax Christi and I was General Secretary. Roger Ruston was a member of the Dominican community in Oxford. He wrote this pamphlet for the Justice and Peace Commission. Angela West wrote this office of prayers which we used to say on our overnight vigils at the Greenham Common peace camp. Patricia Pulham, living in Chester at the time, went to prison for nvda against nuclear weapons. Canon Paul Oestreicher was a member of the Church of England panel that produced this book...
The annual National Justice and Peace Network (NJPN) Conference at Swanwick in Derbyshire took place on 26-28 July. The subject ‘Church on the Margins’ was more ecumenical in flavour than previously, most of it organised by Church Action on Poverty. Incredibly stimulating, with fantastic speakers and workshop leaders, and though it was not on our usual agenda, we could get some more tips on successful and engaging conference activities and organisation, particularly for a two-day event.

Here are two pictures of engagements at our stall. The Gare Loch photo backing our stall surprised people when pulling a string caused a submarine to rise up in the loch. To the left of the stall, Martin projected a number of slides with church statements and nuclear weapons facts.

We gave out quite a lot of ‘goodie bags’ containing fans, badges and membership forms, so who knows?
Getting to know MPs is really worthwhile, as if you can influence them, you may influence decisions made in Parliament.

You may not be an expert but you are a voter and MPs care about what you say. A constituent has more influence than a powerful lobbying group.

1) Writing to your MP
Most people start this way. You can find out a bit more about your MP on Wikipedia, including if they have a particular religious faith, which can be useful to know when you are basing your argument on morality.

It is good to build up a relationship by keeping in contact. Writing to them to thank or congratulate them when they have taken a particular course of action you approve of, is often a good way to begin, before you ask them to take a particular stand on the nuclear weapons issue.

A personal letter, particularly one sent by post, has more influence than an email, which itself has more influence than a printed campaigning post card, though all these actions are worth taking.

2) Visiting an MP
You can go to your MP’s local surgery or go with others to the Houses of Parliament to take part in an organised Lobby. Either way, write to ask for an appointment first. For particular help see pg. 13 in our CCND “Churches’ Guide. Nuclear Weapons, what can Christians Do?” You can access this on our website or contact us for a free copy. And please tell us how you get on.
Pugwash training day — DIY Video — Create compelling videos to spread the message

British Pugwash and Christian CND are co-hosting a media training day that will focus on how to produce compelling videos to promote a cause, explain an issue and reach new audiences.

Pugwash is working with ShortForm Media (https://www.shortform.co.uk/), a video production company that creates content for charities, to design a workshop for Pugwash/Christian CND members and others in the peace movement to create great online content with affordable (and easy to use!) equipment.

Details:

DIY Video Day, Sat 9th Nov 2019, Methodist Central (Manchester)

This workshop is perfect for anyone who wants to engage their audience with smart video content but doesn’t know where to start. At the end of the workshop you will be equipped to begin making your own video content with the minimum gear required.

The workshop will cover:

- Breakdown of video production
- Planning for your shoot
- Getting the best out of limited equipment
- The importance of Sound
- Shooting and lighting Interviews
- Shooting Events
- Editing software that won’t break the bank
- How to get the best out of your footage
- Assembly/music/graphics/captions
- Best formats for web upload
- How to push your video online

How to book:

Spaces are limited. If you would like to apply, please complete a short form on the website.

Attendance is free for members of British Pugwash, SYP UK and Christian CND. A small fee will be applied to non-members. We especially welcome individuals whom work for or volunteer with arms control groups.

If you have any questions, please contact syp@britishpugwash.org

NB. We want you to get as much as possible from this workshop. In the application form, you will be asked what you hope to achieve by attending. Your responses will help us tweak the content of the day.

To book go to: http://tinyurl.com/y2yv44lq
Dear Ploughshare

At 91 I couldn’t attend the Westminster Witness against the improper Abbey event on 3rd May, but I’m contacting you, as invited, sending compliments on your May issue thereon. As a lifelong member and for two decades on the governing body of the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship, I am grieved that most open criticism of that event came from secularists. My brother writes from the USA saying that ‘once more the institutionalised religion in the CofE has deviated from the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ’,

I have written to the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, asking her to call on the House of Bishops (who were largely silent) to stress our baptismal vow ‘to renounce the devil and all his works’ and to say that Paul at Ephesians 5 wrote ‘Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness’.

As with slavery so with H-bombs, Lincoln’s words apply: ‘We have temporised with this from the necessities of our condition, but this black foul thing can never be consecrated to God’s holy purposes.’

I have sent APF an overview for our Anglican Peacemaker newsletter, and will urge our AGM to seek acceptance that deterrence is heretical.

Frank McManus,
Todmorden
June 2019
Everyone knew Walter Wolfgang. I knew him from the 1980s onwards as a member of Richmond and Barnes CND, when we lived in Kew and met in our house there. He was exactly the same there as anywhere else, as for instance when he hit the headlines by being thrown out of the Labour Party Conference in 2005, for heckling the Foreign Secretary Jack Straw over the Iraq War. Carol Turner in London Region CND newsletter PeaceLine. writes ‘A man who always spoke truth to power’.

An organiser of the first Aldermaston March, Vice- President of CND. Born in Germany, sent by his parents to England to escape the Nazis in 1937, British citizen in 1948, joined by his parents after the war. Mike & I were very happy to get to his funeral. The small synagogue was packed. It was rather like a country non conformist chapel, or Quaker Meeting House, no lavish Torah scrolls to be revealed, just thin red brick, plaques on the walls, wooden benches, and thin service books. Here Walter had come every Sabbath, in later years been brought by London Region members. The Rabbi explained the service as we went along. Then we went out by the big doors to bury Walter at the end of the line of graves, over looking London, which he loved. We were glad we had made it. Walking away, everyone (Jeremy Corbyn, a lifelong friend sent a message) was there, Kate, Bruce, Ken Livingstone, a Mayor of London.

Caroline Gilbert

Maureen Tullett, 1922-2019

Christian CND member Maureen Tullett died in March this year.

Her son Graham writes: Both Maureen and my father Arthur, were for most of their long lives committed members of the Methodist Church and very much involved in campaigning for peace, disarmament and victims of injustice, as well as giving help and support to those around the world in distress and hardship.

Family commitments (me and my two brothers) prevented them from joining the Aldermaston Marches, but they did take part in the ringing of the three bases and also joined part of Bruce Kent’s walk around London when they were free to do so.

The thanksgiving service in April took a retiring collection for the Methodist Relief and Development Fund in memory of Maureen.
Exec has met twice since the last Ploughshare. Our “May” meeting was actually on 1 June and was naturally quite focused on the various events coming up over the summer. There was a sense of excitement as we tried to prepare for all these great opportunities.

Russell reported that the Christian CND Twitter account (@ChristianCND) had been viewed almost a million times since September 2017. Not bad for a small organisation.

In July Neil dialled in from Sheffield to give us an update on our finances including a first look at the 2018/19 accounts. It is so important that we use our resources wisely and honour those who have given through membership, donations and legacies. We discussed our 2020 big birthday year – we’re starting to plan a UK tour to get out into churches and encourage wider involvement. We also looked forward to this year’s Christian CND conference and AGM, and continued to discuss finding a new treasurer and other nominations for the Exec. We noted with gratitude the contribution that Rachel Leather has made to the Exec team. Rachel is now starting full-time ministry with the Methodist church so can no longer fit Exec into her already busy lifestyle, but will stay involved as a Christian CND member.

The fields are white
... Jesus used this phrase to describe a situation where there are abundant opportunities, limited only by the number of people available to get involved.

Through Christian CND, hundreds of Christians are working and praying for a world free of nuclear weapons, and we feel surrounded by opportunities to do more, but for this to happen we need a good central team – the “Exec” – to provide resources, co-ordinate ideas and guide the strategy for the organisation.

Exec members are elected annually at the AGM (26 October this year). The commitment is to attend meetings on six Saturdays through the year – these are usually in London but if that is a problem it is possible to dial in – and to join in discussions and share ideas by email between meetings. There is also the annual conference and AGM of course, which this year is in Brentwood but moves around. All expenses are paid for meetings.

As previously mentioned, this year we also need to find a new Treasurer. This role can be supported by whatever professional or admin help is needed, so there is no special qualification required – just a willingness to play a role on Exec and maintain an overview of how we spend the “talents” God has entrusted to us.

One of the two Co-Chair positions is also coming up for election/re-election this year.

Any Christian CND member can stand for any of these positions. It would be most helpful, and good for our blood pressure, if you could contact the office in advance if you are considering standing, and we can arrange a “no-obligation” chat with one of the existing team if you would like to talk it over first.
It has been our usual practice to include in *Ploughshare*, where possible, an obituary of any member who has died. Meanwhile, please spare a prayer for the following members, and their loved ones, who have died recently:

So if you are related to a CCND member who has passed away do please send us a few words about them (around 250-300 words) and a photo would be great.

Cynthia Baron, February 2019
David Paterson, 2019 (see below)
Mary Fairhurst, 2019
Coral Hallums, 2019
Maureen Tullett, March 2019

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**David Paterson**

David Paterson, who died recently was a friend and fighter known to all of us in CND and beyond. While there will be obituary elsewhere, I wish to share my personal memories. He was sharp, he was fair, he could be aggressive vis-a-vis the forces of power and gentle with folk needing help. He always gave space to others to voice their opinions. In St’ Michael and All Angels church in New Marston, the church where he made his home, he edited an unusually good parish news-letter covering controversial topics.

Oxford was very lucky to have someone with a life’s experience as an Anglican vicar in Loughborough deciding to dedicate his retirement years to help us in our struggle for peace and justice. Take the demonstration against western bombardment of Libya — he would be there. A meeting on Remembrance Day at the Peace Plaque — he would be there, leading the singing. A Muslim gathering in Summertown after the terrorist attacks in London when candles were lit for everyone killed — yes, he was there.

He was one of the three Davids – (Partridge, Platt and Paterson) with whom, come Advent, I would routinely travel to Aldermaston to witness to the Prince of Peace under the banner of Christian CND. In later years when walking had become a physical struggle, he would raise his voice while singing about the “steps on the road to peace.”

David was an unusually unorthodox Christian and a political fighter for a better world. I remember his encounters with other religions, with interfaith dialogue and with people estranged from traditional church-life, who found a home in his “Sea of Faith” network of which he was a Trustee. He was the driving force of the Oxford Council of Faiths, launched in 2008 to promote harmony in the local community.

This year’s annual Friendship Walk of Faiths from the Synagogue to the Mosque began with a minute’s silence in memory of his much appreciated participation on his motor scooter.

Annette Bygott
Good with money? We need you!

CCND needs you! After 23 years in the role our Treasurer Neil Berry is stepping down and we are seeking a replacement.

Could you offer to fill this position? Day to day finances are managed well by our office team, therefore this is largely an oversight role and not as demanding as it might sound.

You do **not** need to be a qualified accountant, just have a head for figures!

The role has involved the following elements, although there is the potential to review the precise nature of the role in the future:

1. Being a member of CCND national committee
2. Being a signatory to the account and one of the nominated persons for online banking; processing occasional transactions when the office staff is away
3. Reviewing income and expenditure transactions and producing quarterly summaries for committee meetings
4. Producing annual accounts for the AGM
5. Completing Corporation Tax returns and arranging any payment due
6. Oversight of the different bank/investment accounts holding our legacy money
7. Being a member of the grants committee

We are looking for someone to take over from the next AGM in October 2019. Neil will offer an induction/handover and will be on hand for the first full annual cycle for assistance if any is needed.

If you feel that this might be something you could take on, please contact the national office (christians@cnduk.org) for a conversation with the office staff and/or Neil.
September:
This month remember the anti-nuclear weapons work of the United Nations. Construction of its Headquarters began on 14 Sept. 1949.

13 Sept. 1959 saw the start of ‘Nuclear Disarmament Week’ in Britain.

International Day of Prayer For Peace is on the 22 September.

October:
International Day Of Nonviolence is on 2 Oct. Pray for good relationships between nations, love between peoples and between ourselves.


November:
10 & 11 Nov. Pray for the vast numbers who suffer and die because of war.


25 Dec. The Birth Of Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Find time to connect with Him and his purpose as you celebrate His Love.

28 Dec. Holy Innocents. Pray for all who die for Him and for all innocent victims of violence.

January:
1 Jan. is World Peace Day. Listen out for messages from Faith leaders and reflect on how they can inform prayer life.

Left: At Molesworth, security personnel check Barbara Sunderland (far right) is not misbehaving.


29 September: End austerity now! National demonstration at Tory Party conference. Manchester, 12 – 5pm. Meet on Oxford Road, before marching to the Castlefield Bowl for speeches and entertainment. information@cnduk.org or phone 020 7700 2393

5 October: Keep Space for Peace march and rally, 12noon. RAF Croughton, Brackley NN13 5XP. oxfordcnd@phonecoop.coop https://www.oxfordcnd.org.uk/

5-6 October: No War 2019: Pathways to Peace. World BEYOND War’s fourth annual global conference on the abolition of war. Includes a rally on the 6th at Shannon Airport, where U.S. military forces routinely pass through in violation of Irish neutrality. 9 to 6:30 Saturday October 5th, and 9 to 2:15 Sunday October 6th, followed by 3:00 to 5:00 rally and tour at Shannon Airport. Great National South Court Hotel Raheen Roundabout, Raheen, Limerick, V94 E77X. https://worldbeyondwar.org/nowar2019/

13-20 October: Week of Prayer for World Peace. Materials can be ordered from: 126 Manor Green Rd, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8LN j.jackson215@btinternet.com or maggiebrizzi@yahoo.co.uk http://www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.com

19 October: CND AGM and Policy Conference. Venue as below. For full details, including registration, please visit https://cnduk.org/cnd-conference-2019/ Christian CND will be there both days; look out for our stall and come and say hello if you’re there too!


**26 October:** Christian CND Conference and AGM, **Brentwood** Cathedral, Ingrave Road, CM15 8AT. 10.15 – 2.45, Conference, followed by CCND AGM. See page 4.

**30 October:** UN, Great Powers And World Peace. Uniting for Peace public meeting. Attlee’s Suite, Portcullis House, 1 Parliament Street, **Westminster** SW1A 2JR. vijay@vmpeace.org www.unitingforpeace.com

**3 November:** Free (for CCND members) training workshop: DIY Video – Create compelling videos to spread the message. **Manchester** See page 19.

**3 December:** No to Trump, No to NATO. Donald Trump is set to visit **London** in December for the next NATO Heads of State summit. The summit will be a crucial opportunity for our movement to oppose Trump’s nuclear warmongering and interventionist agenda. enquiries@cnduk.org 020 7700 2393 https://cnduk.org/events/

Banner at ‘No Faith in War’ at DSEI
How to join CCND

Annual membership subscriptions are:

Waged, individual: £18 (£22 household)
Unwaged individual £9, (£12 household)
Group affiliation: from £20

☐ I/we wish to be a member of CCND
☐ I enclose a cheque/PO (payable to CCND) to include the following:
  Membership: £..................
  Donation: £.................. (Thank you!)
  TOTAL: £.................. Or

☐ Enter your debit/credit card number here: .................................................................
  And the expiry date: ......................... Last three digits on the back of the card: ......
  Name as it is written on the card: ...............................................................
  Address if different to above: ...........................................................................
  Signature: .......................... Payment amount: £.......................... Or

☐ Please send me a standing order form/Direct Debit Form

☐ To help with local campaigning, I agree that my contact details can be passed on to other CCND members. CCND will never pass members’ details to anyone who is not a CCND member.

☐ Please add me to the email list (approx 2 emails a month)
  Email: .................................................................

Denomination/church position: ................................................................. (Optional)

Name: ...........................................................................................................
Address: ........................................................................................................
Telephone/email: ...........................................................................................
Postcode: .................................................................

Please return (or photocopy) to: Christian CND 162 Holloway Rd, London N7 8DQ