

ploughshare plus



news update from Christian CND

September 2008

Christians working and praying for a nuclear weapons-free world

Bell, Book and Candle

Supporting Trident Ploughshares' "Big Blockade"

Vigil and procession at AWE Aldermaston 27 October 2008

All-night candle-lit vigil at Tadley Gate, AWE Aldermaston, from 9pm Sunday 26th October to 7am, Monday 27th October, broken into 2 hour watches.

Followed by: 7 am. Procession round base starting with short liturgy. People asked to bring bells, Scripture quotes on placards or Bibles, etc. and candles or lanterns. At each gate there is a stop for a rest and a liturgy at a set time so that people can join at any time during the procession. Although some people will walk all the way, others might choose just part of the circuit, or need to use a car. Should finish at about 4 pm with final prayers.

The idea is to support the Trident Ploughshares blockade with a Ring of Prayer and to provide an alternative witness for those not wishing to take part in arrestable actions.

The liturgy will be based on the "Adomnan" liturgy from Iona.

Members, are you poised for action?

Our government was going off on holiday when a senior defence official informed the arms industry of its plans to spend £3bn to replace our 160 nuclear warheads.

Won't parliament have a say? It looks like we all need to start writing to our MPs! Why should progress on disarmament be so jeopardised?

Michael Pulham

CCND AGM

27 September 2008

Jackson's Lane, 269a Archway Road, Highgate, London N6 5AA

The agenda for our AGM on 27th September has yet to be finalised. However, we have booked a room between 10.30am and 4pm at Jackson's Lane Centre and we have the agreement of Anna Liddle, CND's Education Worker, to provide one of the excellent workshops on Peace Education. Please join us for what will be an interesting day. You don't have to register in advance, though if you are definitely coming it would be helpful to let us know so we know how many chairs to put out!

Jackson's Lane is opposite Highgate Underground station (on the Northern Line), if you want to avoid the stairs, look for the exit sign 'Escalator to Archway Road'. The venue is wheelchair accessible. Parking may be available in Shepherds' Hill. There is a cafe in Jackson's Lane where we will have lunch and other refreshments.

Although we weren't able to have a stall at Lambeth Conference, some of our materials were on display on the APF stall. Our grateful thanks to the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship for kindly agreeing to take some publicity leaflets.

Very many thanks to all members who have sent us an extra donation with their subscription renewals. We know you don't want the money to go to the Post Office or Royal Mail so we haven't sent you individual thank-yous! So please consider this a special 'thank you' for all your kind support!

The next full *Ploughshare* will go out in November. But it's not too early to order your Christmas cards. Our robin design has been used again, this time on a smaller card with added colour! Cards measure 14.75 x 10.5 cm and come in packs of 6 for £2.50.

Meet the members, Meet the Exec!

We would love to be in closer contact with members! Would you be willing to host a short meeting of members in your area, (invitations can go out from the office) with a couple of CCND Exec members? You won't have to hire a hall, just someone's living room will probably suffice.

You won't have to arrange an agenda (unless you want to) or think of a topic to discuss, this will be an informal get-together. The idea is for Exec members to get to know CCND members, but also we hope that a small local CCND group may evolve out of these meetings (although that is in no way compulsory!).

This is also a chance for YOU to get to know others in your area. There would be no cost to you as Exec members will be covering their own expenses. If you think this would interest you please contact the office.

Local members?

New members in Inverness, and Greater Manchester are looking to contact local members. If you are planning an event, or would like to get in touch with these new members, please contact the office.

CCND Kenya

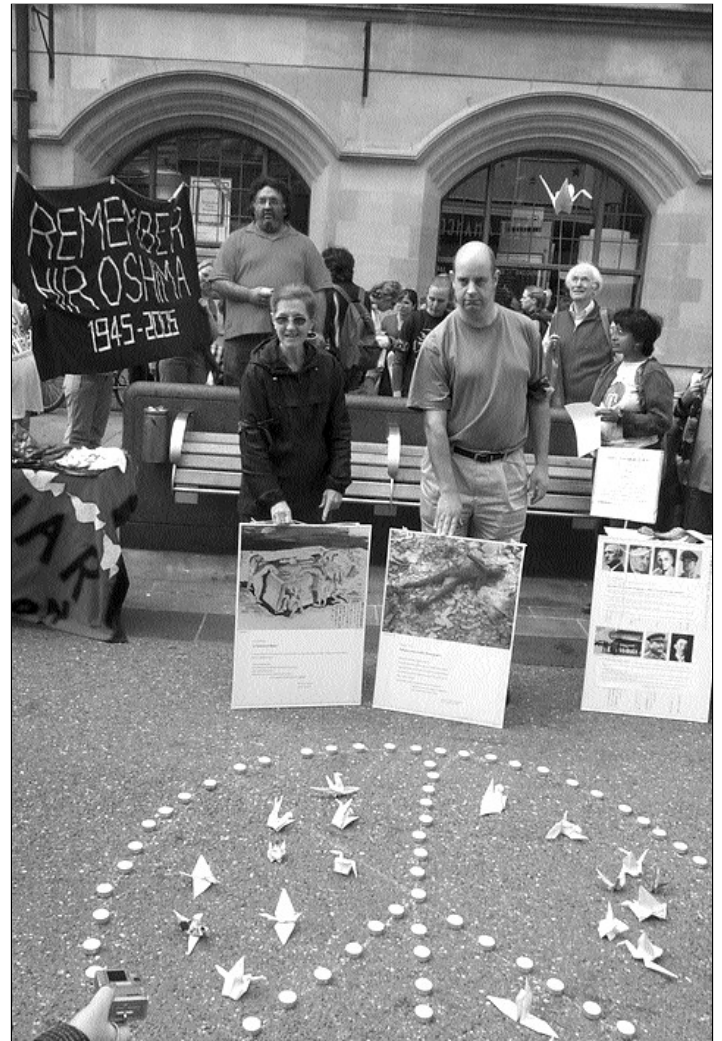
Our friends in CCND-Kenya are working on a 3 year campaign to investigate and publicise the long-term effects of underground nuclear weapons testing on communities around the world. This is being co-ordinated by co-chair Bro. Charles Osango who has been concerned over the nuclear tests conducted in Nevada test site in 1968, North Korea in 2006 - and the original series started by USA, China, France and allies.

Charles has responded to God's call by trying to find out about nuclear tests that weaken the earth. Do they cause tremors and quakes that destroy properties worth billions, health problems such as those resulting from contamination of water catchments, and lead to other social problems?

CCND-Kenya are also actively campaigning for the treaty banning underground nuclear tests and call for the CTBT to be in force by 2010.

<http://www.cndkenya.org/>

Hiroshima Day in Oxford



Paper cranes and tealights in Oxford
Photo: Kaihsu Tai



Making paper cranes in Oxford.

Photo: Kaihsu Tai

August 6, 2008

Another August 6, and the horrors of 63 years ago arise undiminished in the minds of our Hibakusha, whose average age now exceeds 75. “Water, please!” “Help me!” “Mommy!” - On this day, we, too, etch in our hearts the voices, faces and forms that vanished in the hell no Hibakusha can ever forget, renewing our determination that “No one else should ever suffer as we did.”

Because the effects of that atomic bomb, still eating away at the minds and bodies of the Hibakusha, have for decades been so underestimated, a complete picture of the damage has yet to emerge. Most severely neglected have been the emotional injuries. Therefore, the city of Hiroshima is initiating a two-year scientific exploration of the psychological impact of the A-bomb experience.

This study should teach us the grave import of the truth, born of tragedy and suffering, that “the only role for nuclear weapons is to be abolished.”

This truth received strong support from a report compiled last November by the city of Hiroshima. Scientists and other nuclear-related experts exploring the damage from a postulated nuclear attack found once again that only way to protect citizens from such an attack is the total abolition of nuclear weapons. This is precisely why the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the International Court of Justice advisory opinion state clearly that all nations are obligated to engage in good-faith negotiations leading to complete nuclear disarmament. Furthermore, even leaders previously central to creating and implementing US nuclear policy are now repeatedly demanding a world without nuclear weapons.

We who seek the abolition of nuclear weapons are the majority. United Cities and Local Governments, which represents the majority of the Earth’s population, has endorsed the Mayors for Peace campaign. One hundred ninety states have ratified the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. One hundred thirteen countries and regions have signed nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties. Last year, 170 countries voted in favor of Japan’s UN resolution calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons. Only three countries, the US among them, opposed this resolution. We can only hope that the President of the United States elected this

November will listen conscientiously to the majority, for whom the top priority is human survival.

To achieve the will of the majority by 2020, Mayors for Peace, now with 2,368 city members worldwide, proposed in April of this year a Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol to supplement the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. This Protocol calls for an immediate halt to all efforts, including by nuclear-weapon states, to obtain or deploy nuclear weapons, with a legal ban on all acquisition or use to follow by 2015. Thus, it draws a concrete road map to a nuclear-weapon-free world. Now, with our destination and the map to that destination clear, all we need is the strong will and capacity to act to guard the future for our children.

World citizens and like-minded nations have achieved treaties banning anti-personnel landmines and cluster munitions. Meanwhile, the most effective measures against global warming are coming from cities. Citizens cooperating at the city level can solve the problems of the human family because cities are home to the majority of the world’s population, cities do not have militaries, and cities have built genuine partnerships around the world based on mutual understanding and trust.

The Japanese Constitution is an appropriate point of departure for a “paradigm shift” toward modeling the world on intercity relationships. I hereby call on the Japanese government to fiercely defend our Constitution, press all governments to adopt the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol, and play a leading role in the effort to abolish nuclear weapons. I further request greater generosity in designating A-bomb illnesses and in relief measures appropriate to the current situations of our aging Hibakusha, including those exposed in “black rain areas” and those living overseas.

Next month the G8 Speakers’ Meeting will, for the first time, take place in Japan. I fervently hope that Hiroshima’s hosting of this meeting will help our “Hibakusha philosophy” spread throughout the world.

Now, on the occasion of this 63rd anniversary Peace Memorial Ceremony, we offer our heartfelt lamentations for the souls of the atomic bomb victims and, in concert with the city of Nagasaki and with citizens around the world, pledge to do everything in our power to accomplish the total eradication of nuclear weapons.

Tadatoshi Akiba
Mayor, The City of Hiroshima

3 September: Remembering Franz Jägerstätter with Gerry McFlynn. 7pm at Housmans Bookshop, 5 Caledonian Road, London N1 9DX Tel: 020 7837 4473 Free entry. Nearest tube: King's Cross. www.housmans.com/events

3 September: Depleted Uranium: Iraq's nuclear nightmare. With Doug Weir, Campaign Against Depleted Uranium. 8pm in Conway Hall, Red Lion Square. London Region CND Council meeting before at 7 - 8pm. 020 7607 2302. david.lrcnd@cnduk.org www.londoncnd.com

Tuesday 9 September: Public meeting: Who rules the world? Global challenges and the role of the UN in peacekeeping, human rights and international law. Action for UN Renewal Annual Erskine Childers Lecture. With Lord Hannay of Chiswick (Former UK Ambassador to the United Nations). 7.00 - 8.30 pm. Free. All welcome. Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ. Contact Vijay Mehta, Action for UN Renewal. 0207 377 2111. info@action-for-un-renewal.org.uk www.action-for-un-renewal.org.uk

Thursday 18 September: Musicians Against Nuclear Arms (MANA) 25th Anniversary Concert for Peace. 7.30pm at St Cyprian's Church, Glentworth Street NW1. Nearest tube Baker Street. Guest speaker Kate Hudson, CND Chair. Tickets £12/£10 from MANA Administration, 71 Greenfield Gardens, London NW2 1HU. 020 8455 1030.

Saturday 20 September: Protest against the cost of the war. Assemble: All Saints, Cavendish Street, (Oxford Rd), Manchester. M15. 12.30pm. Called by Stop the War Coalition & Greater Manchester & District CND. <http://www.manchesterstopwar.org/> <http://www.gmdcnd.org.uk/>

Sunday 21 September: International Day of Peace. <http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org/> www.peaceday.org

22 September: Opposing US Missile Defence: A European Perspective. With Lubomir Zaoralek MP Czech Social Democratic Party Shadow Foreign Minister and: Jeremy Corbyn MP, Katy Clark MP, Tony Benn, Kate Hudson, CND Chair. 7pm at Novotel, Dickinson Street Manchester. Organised by CND, www.cnduk.org. 020 7700 2393.

Wednesday 24 September: Book launch: 'Thank You Greenham' with Kate Evans, Frankie Armstrong and Rebecca Johnson 7.15pm at Housmans Bookshop, 5 Caledonian Road, King's Cross, London N1 9DX Tel: 020 7837 4473.

4 October: No to US Missile Defence at 'RAF' Croughton as part of Keep Space for Peace week. Contact 07967 392229 oxonpeace@yahoo.co.uk

4 October: As part of the international week of protest called for by the Global Network Against Weapons and Power in Space (www.space4peace.org) the Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases is organising a demonstration at the American base at Menwith Hill, near Harrogate North Yorkshire, 12md-4ish. 01423 884076 www.caab.org.uk

4 - 11 October: Keep Space for Peace Week. www.space4peace.org/ www.yorkshirecnd.org.uk

18 - 19 October: CND Annual Conference, University of Westminster, Regent Street, London. Info: www.cnduk.org/conference officemanager@cnduk.org 020 7700 2393.

24 - 26 October: Called to be Peacemakers Conference 2008 for 18 to 30 (ish) year olds who want to be challenged, gain practical skills and meet others who share their concern for peace and conflict issues. Venue: The Hollowford Centre, Derbyshire. The centre is fully wheel chair accessible and they have a portable hearing aid loop. Info: Martha Beale at: Fellowship of Reconciliation, St. James Church Centre, Beauchamp Lane, Oxford, OX4 3LF. Tel: 01865 748 796 Email: martha@for.org.uk. <http://www.for.org.uk/C2BP2008>

25 October: Public Meeting in Blackfriar's Hall, St. Andrews Hall Plain, Norwich, NR3 1AU at 7.30pm. Guest speaker is Caroline Hurford, the Head of the UN World Food Programme in the UK, on the challenges facing the World Food Programme in managing disasters. Tel: 01603-722880 bededog@btinternet.com Accessible venue.

Monday 27 October: The Big Blockade. Meet from 1pm on Sunday 26 October, or at the blockade on Monday. See website for non-violence and safety rules. www.trident-ploughshares.org blockawe@yahoo.co.uk 07804 640643.

CCND vigil and procession. See front page.

28 October - 14 November: Vigil for a nuclear free Scotland at the entrances to the Scottish Parliament, every day parliament is sitting. From 8am to 10am. We would like to encourage as many groups as possible to get involved and to keep the vigil/reminders going for at least a few weeks and preferably for longer. Please contact Angie at reforest@gn.apc.org if you are interested in taking on a date, or helping in any way.

CCND goods

Pack of 24 A4 sheets of Interfaith quotations on peace as used at the Creation Conference £1.50 a pack

Legacy leaflet Free

T-Shirts £12 each.

Cotton bags £3 each.

Picasso Greetings Cards. £2.50 for six.

Christmas Cards, £2.50 for six.

Badges, 30p, enamel brooches, £1.50, window stickers, 30p, pens, £1, and Waking the Sleeping Giant, a history of CCND, £2.50.

Send orders to:

Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

162 Holloway Road, London N7 8DQ

Tel: 020 7700 4200 Fax: 020 7700 2357 Email:

christians@cnduk.org Web: <http://ccnd.gn.apc.org/>



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