

ploughshare plus

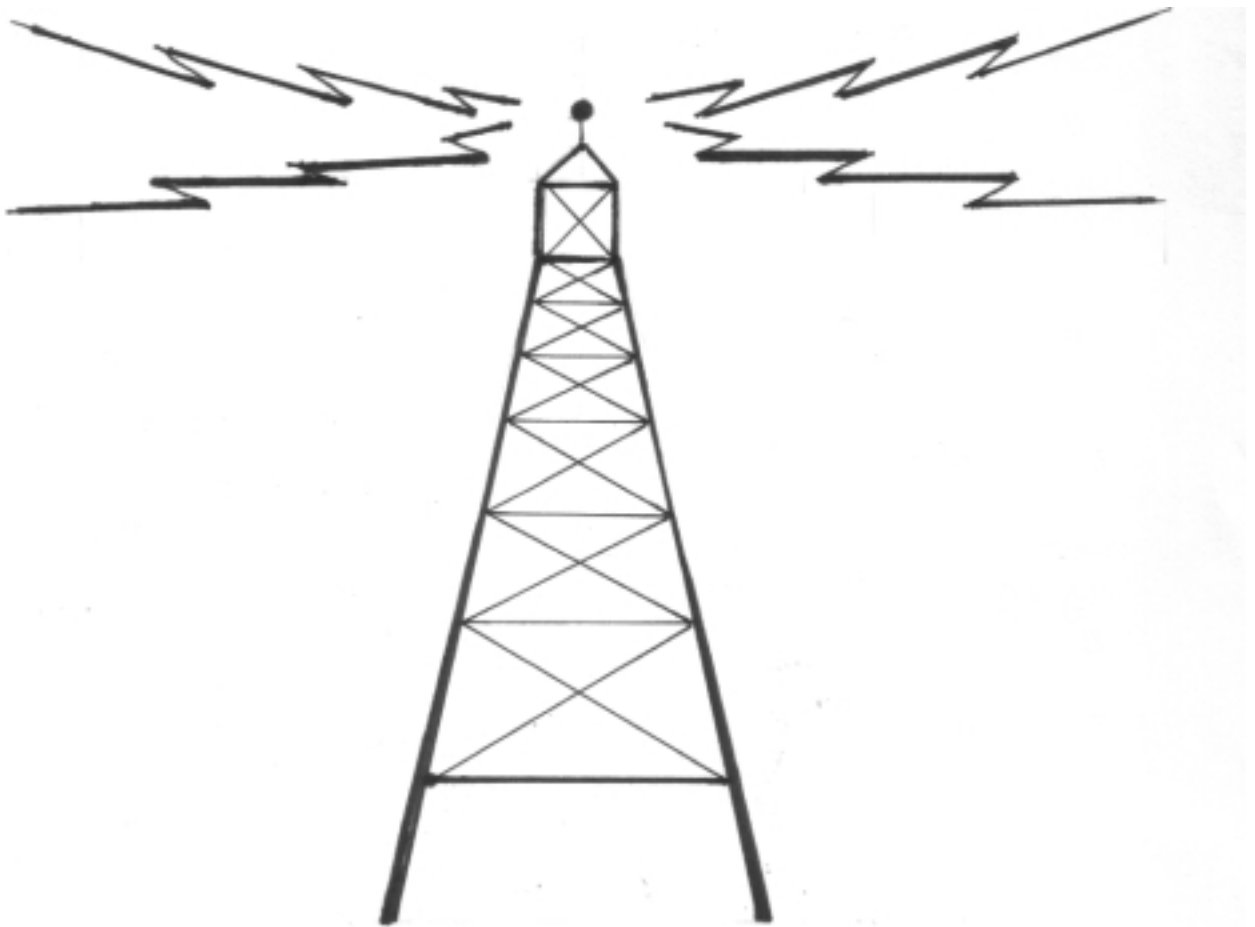


News update from Christian CND

March 2011

Christians working and praying for a nuclear weapons-free world

Calling all Members



Dear Members,

The Members of Christian CND are its backbone and you are one of the vertebrae! We are asking you and all the other Members to help with your suggestions. Please make use of the enclosed green sheet to give us your input.

The sheet contains all sorts of statements you may or may not agree with! That is because we want to

stimulate thought. All you have to do is mark the boxes. There is also space for your ideas.

Do please do your best to return the sheet. Though we expect some of it will make you smile, it is a serious exercise. Please try to provide us with as full a response as possible. It will help us a lot. Thank you.

Your Executive

Ash Wednesday

See on the enclosed flyer, more details about the forthcoming Ash Wednesday event on 9 March. Annual liturgy of Repentance and Resistance to Nuclear War Preparations at Ministry of Defence in Central London. Meet at 3pm in Embankment Gardens WC2 (turn right out of tube station). Sponsors: Pax Christi, Christian CND and London Catholic Worker.



Embassy Walk 2011

Although there is no NPT Conference this year we want to keep our embassy contacts going and intend to make individual appointments, at mutually convenient times which will be on different days, rather than walking round all of them in one day.

If you would like to be included in a meeting with any one (or more than one) particular embassy, please let us know. We envisage arranging these embassy meetings sometime in April/May.

'Sheroes'

Our long-awaited 'Sheroes' booklet will be available shortly. It's a 20-page illustrated A5 booklet about our Peace Women (as mentioned in Ploughshare several times), featuring articles about Barbara Eggleston, Helen Trask, Judith Dawes, Janet Bloomfield, Pauline Condon and more. Some of the articles have had to be edited, longer copies will be made available to anyone who's interested.

It is a first edition, and we hope that if you are inspired, more articles about CCND's Peace Women will follow. If you feel like contributing, please do so.

To order your copy, please send your name and address with a cheque made out to 'CCND' for £2, to our office at 162 Holloway Road, London N7 8DQ.

Cut Trident; not jobs, education, health

26 March 2011

Join CND's Cut Trident contingent on the TUC's March for the Alternative. As the government slashes vital public spending we want an end to waste on nuclear weapons and war. We want sustainable growth for Britain not money spent on Trident.

Scrapping nuclear weapons would save us over £100 billion! Instead, we could invest in the development of marine energy technology and other forms of sustainable energy, providing alternative employment for defence workers and creating tens of thousands of new jobs. It would help meet our carbon emission targets and help meet the TUC's commitment to the creation of 1 million climate jobs.

CND have produced a flyer; there is one enclosed with this mailing. If you can use more - for your stalls, meetings, church notice boards, etc. - please contact CND, 020 7700 2393. There is also a 'Let them eat Trident' poster available in A3 (£1.50) or A2 (£3), featuring David Cameron dressed as Marie Antoinette (below)!

Assemble 11am on Victoria Embankment, London to march to a rally in Hyde Park.

Find Christian CND with the CND contingent; look for our banner.



Cut Trident Petition

We have slightly adapted the CND 'Cut Trident' petition. We added a church statement and our name, address and logo in the hope that some may find it more acceptable for church use, though the actual wording is the same.

It will be included with the CND petition for handing in. There's a copy enclosed; please photocopy it first if you think you'll need more than one or contact us for more copies if you've used the only one! There is also a copy on the website to download.

Obituary

Elizabeth Hawtin

CCND member Elizabeth Hawtin died suddenly on 21 November last year. Our condolences to husband David and the family. David says: "Elizabeth's commitment to CCND was deep. Both within church circles and in the wider community, she was a strong witness - challenging yet graceful. I was proud of her for being loyal, in season and out of season."

AWE Aldermaston actions

A proposal from Oxford CND

Our proposal is that we organise a significant presence at the Tadley Gate at Aldermaston during the time the staff are leaving: that is from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm each week from the week beginning 7th March to the week beginning 18th April.

There could be a variety of styles – not necessarily religious – and a different group would be responsible for each week, though all peace movements – and other people both locally and nationally – would be notified and invited.

The day of the week is still negotiable, but Mondays would be my favourite. I think it should be the same day each week, whichever proves the most popular. However, if we get enough response, there might be more than one day in a week.

The seven weeks might be covered, for example, by some of those in this list taking one week each

St. Michael and All Angels Fellowship Group, New Marston, Oxford
 Oxford CND
 CANA (Clergy against Nuclear Arms)
 Reading Quakers and/or CND
 Chaplain to Reading University
 Queens College Birmingham
 Oxford Stop the War Coalition
 Oxford Quaker Meeting
 Campaign against Arms Trade
 Oxford University students (perhaps through OxASH)
 Oxford Brookes students (through the Chaplain)
 Fellowship of Reconciliation

Pax Christi Oxford
 Oxford Food not Bombs
 Oxfordshire Peace Campaign

A copy of this letter is being sent to all these groups.

Please pass on to any other group you think might be willing to respond.

All would be invited to come each week, but each group would be responsible for only one week. Transport would be variously organised as appropriate by the organising group.

Would you please reply to the co-ordinator, David Paterson davidpaterson129@hotmail.com / 01865 726 842 /07765 416 801

Please specify which day of the week you prefer, and which weeks you would be available to cover.



MoD police 'authorised' a previous protest at Aldermaston as you can see

Every Thursday: Stillness in the City, lunchtime stillness peace every week 1:15pm start. Pray, contemplate, meditate, or reflect. However you prefer. We call it 'stillness peace' and do not define it beyond this. 20 minutes stillness will start or finish with a short reading or some brief practical guidance of the enabler's choosing. Stay to bring and share vegetarian lunch after this if you like. Open to anyone. We aim to invite a range of enablers to share a helpful bit of relevant wisdom from religious, spiritual or therapeutic perspectives.
<http://www.for.org.uk/stillness> Are you practiced in leading? Want to enable this event? Contact us at:
<http://www.for.org.uk/contact/>.

7 March - 18 April: Proposal for a weekly presence at the Tadley Gate at Aldermaston during the time the staff are leaving: that is from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm. Contact David Paterson davidpaterson129@hotmail.com / 01865 726 842 / 07765 416 801. .

9 March: Ash Wednesday. Annual liturgy of Repentance and Resistance to Nuclear War Preparations at Ministry of Defence in Central London. Meet at 3pm in Embankment Gardens WC2 (turn right out of tube station). Sponsors: Pax Christi, Christian CND and London Catholic Worker.

Friday 11th - Sunday 13th March: "Called to Be Peacemakers: Creating Communities of Peace" Fellowship of Reconciliation (FoR) with Seeds for Change – student and young adult residential training. £40 includes all food and accommodation. Crossways Centre, Yardley Hastings URC, Castle Ashby Road, Yardley Hastings, Northampton, NN7 1EL. Contact: Amy 01865 250781 or amyhailwood@for.org.uk, www.for.org.uk.

Saturday 26 March: TUC March for the Alternative: Jobs, Growth, Justice demo. 11am, Victoria Embankment, London - march to a rally in Hyde Park. See <http://march-forthealternative.org.uk/> for transport. To join CCND with the CND Cut Trident contingent on the march and download flyers, order posters etc see: <http://www.cnduk.org/> 0207 700 2393.

Saturday 2 April: Zen and Christianity, A Conference with Robert Kennedy. Robert Kennedy is a Jesuit Priest and a Zen Roshi. He writes and teaches on the interface between Zen and Contemplative Christian practice. This event is being organised by The StillPoint. 10am - 4pm. OU Catholic Chaplaincy Centre, Oxford. Tickets ?25 / ?20 / ?15 from www.thestillpoint.org.uk

12 April: Global Day Of Action On Military Spending: to coincide with the release of the Stockholm International

Peace Research Institute's annual report, which will include new figures on military expenditures. On this day, people all over the world will join together in actions to focus public, political, and media attention on the costs of military spending and the need for new priorities. Contact Colin Archer, International Peace Bureau Geneva secgen@ipb.org
<http://ipb.org/i/index.html>

26 April: Chernobyl Day - 25th Anniversary.
<http://www.chernobyl-children.org.uk/>

In many towns and cities across Europe there will be a Candlelight vigil at 9pm on the eve of the anniversary, April 25th, in the shape of a giant '25'. We hope that CND supporters will join these vigils, or organise their own if there is not one near you. Please have a look at www.chernobyl-children.org.uk or www.chernobyl.org.uk for more information which will be regularly updated over the coming weeks. If you have any queries please contact Beth Saffer on 01457 852621 bethr.ccp@gmail.com

4 May: Campaign Against Arms Trade protests at BAE AGM in London. More info: 0207 281 0297; ian@caat.org.uk www.caat.org.uk

13 - 14 May: Peace History – pioneers and prophets. Organised by the Movement for the Abolition of War in association with the Imperial War Museum and the International Peace Bureau. Speakers include Diane Lees and Terry Charman from the IWM, Lynda Morris from Norwich University on Picasso Owen Hardwick, Peter Sharpe and Angela Sinclair-Loutit on 2nd World War Conscientious Objectors, Peter Van Den Dungen of University of Bradford, and Colin Archer, International Peace Bureau, Martin Bell, and many more. Full programme and booking forms available here. Contact MAW History Conference, 11 Venetia Road, London N4 1EJ. www.abolishwar.org.uk

15 May: International Conscientious Objector's Day.
<http://www.wri-irg.org/co/15may.htm>

Saturday 21 May: Franz Jägerstatter, Martyr for Peace, Feast Day. Resource and prayer materials available from Pax Christi office and see more here
<http://www.paxchristi.org.uk/pubs.HTML>

15 - 17 July: Justice at Work - a place of safety, fulfilment and growth? 33rd Annual Justice & Peace Conference. The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire. Speakers include Theologist David McLoughlin, Jon Cruddas MP, Frances O'Grady, Deputy General Secretary of the TUC and Sheila Kambobe, Deputy Director of the Jesuit Center for Theological Reflection, Lusaka, Zambia and a key CAFOD advocacy partner working on economic justice. Details from NJPN, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX. 020 7901 4864. admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk
www.justice-and-peace.org.uk

Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

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<http://ccnd.gn.apc.org/>