

ploughshare plus



News update from Christian CND

March 2013

Christians working and praying for a nuclear weapons-free world

Around the World for Peace

Our Embassies Walk will take place on 21 March and letters have gone out to various London embassies. We hope to visit the embassies of the official nuclear weapons states, the other de facto nuclear weapons states, the New Agenda Coalition and a few other countries who are making worthwhile and interesting moves to help the NWS disarm.

Letters have gone out, and already we have some firm appointments to meet spokespersons from the embassies. We have had one refusal from the Israeli embassy - the ambassador is very busy! This is sad as we have had interesting meetings with a spokesperson at the embassy in previous years, and we have told them that. Wonder what we've done wrong?

In the past, we have had very warm welcomes at embassies such as the US (but only since Obama's elec-

tion!), Russia, China and Ireland (see pic, below), but it often changes from year to year.



Everyone is welcome on the walk and you don't have to do it all. If you are not so knowledgeable, don't worry as we will provide some info sheets.

We meet at the Dick Sheppard Chapel in St. Martin in the Fields, Trafalgar Square for a short liturgy at 10 am, followed by a briefing.

There are three separate walks, each taking in 6 embassies. You can take a bus or tube between some of the stops if you like...it's not a sponsored walk and

you don't have to walk all the way!

Please do join us. Note that some of the embassies may require names in advance so the earlier the better. You will find the details of each walk on our website.

NPT PrepCom

PrepCom is in Geneva this year, from 22 April - 3 May. CCND will be there 20 - 27 April and you are welcome to join us (at your expense; sorry!). However you MUST let us know as soon as possible as names have to be registered well in advance, within the next two weeks, so don't delay.



Nuclear Weapons - April Fool!

Plans are shaping up for the event on 1 April. Entitled: "Time to Scrap Trident: Stop fooling with nuclear weapons", the event organised by CND will draw attention to the fact that 2013 will be a year of continuing activity at AWE Aldermaston. Designed to highlight the site's atomic bomb-making function as we head towards the 2016 decision point on whether or not Trident should be replaced. Vast sums of money are being poured into developments at Aldermaston, even before any decision is taken on Trident.

This year we will be going to Aldermaston to highlight our opposition to Britain's Trident nuclear weapons system. We'll be saying Scrap Trident and cancel plans to replace it. We'll be gathering around the base in our thousands with music, colour, and speeches.

Bring banners, placards, knitting, poems... and anything else you can think of to decorate the fence with to show what you want to spend the money on rather than Trident.

Also bring pots, pans and musical instruments, as we will be surrounding the base with the sound of protest. We hope you'll join us for an inspirational day of protest against Britain's illegal and immoral nuclear weapons!

TADLEY GATE: THE FAITHS GATE

Christian CND will be coordinating events here. Everyone is welcome to join us.

At 12.00 noon the "Alleluia" that was symbolically buried on Shrove Tuesday will be resurrected during an Easter liturgy. We have invited other faiths to contribute from their own faith traditions.

Afterwards we will plant flowers and decorate the fence with our own messages of peace.

We will finish by processing to the Main Gate to wave Bruce off on his "Scrap Trident Tour."



Timings: 12pm protest begins.

12.30-2pm speakers tour gates.

2pm Base surround sound – surrounding the bomb factory with the sound of protest.

Speakers Jeremy Corbyn MP; Paul Flynn MP; fashion designer Katharine Hamnett; Bruce Kent; Kate Hudson; Pat Arrowsmith; Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp speakers, international guests plus more to be confirmed.

Please let as many people as possible know about Aldermaston 2013. For example: other local peace groups, Quakers and other faith communities, Green Party and other political organisations, trades unions and churches, other campaigning groups like Stop the War Coalition, Amnesty, CAAT and climate change groups. Leaflet appropriate events in your local area, hold a stall on your high street, submit letters and articles to your local press and organise a film showing or public meeting to highlight the need to abolish nuclear weapons.

Other action you can take

If you can't come to Aldermaston there are other things you can do. There is a CND petition at the printers which will be available shortly.

Cancel Trident Replacement - sign EDM 96

MPs have tabled Early Day Motion 96 Trident Replacement which calls on the Government to cancel plans to replace the Trident nuclear weapon submarines, arguing the case on both security and spending grounds.

Please contact your MP and ask that they add their name in support.

The Scrap Trident Tour

The Aldermaston event will launch the national Scrap Trident tour through April and beyond. CND Vice-president Bruce Kent will be touring the country, campaigning to Scrap Trident.

He's working with a range of different organisations to highlight the wasteful spending on Trident when so much investment is needed to eradicate poverty, boost people-friendly development and make our world a safer and more peaceful place to live.

Here are the dates and places so far:

1st April: AWE Aldermaston, Berkshire - launch of the tour!
 2nd April: Bristol
 3rd April: Tavistock, Devon
 4th April: Wells, Somerset
 5th April: Reading
 11th April: Bradford & Leeds
 13th April: Bath
 16th April: Nottingham
 17th April: Leicester

18th April: Derby
 20th April: Peterborough
 23rd April: Merseyside
 24th April: Manchester
 25th April: Sheffield
 26th April: Brentwood, Essex
 27th April: Norwich
 29th April: Reigate & Redhill, Kent
 30th April: Kingston-upon-Thames

And a couple in May:

6th May: Chesterfield
 20th May: Kingsbridge, Devon.

Contact the CND office on campaigns@cnduk.org or 020 7700 2393 for more info.



Reports and photographs of the very successful "Burying the Alleluia" on Shrove Tuesday and the Ash Wednesday Witness at the MOD will be in the next *Ploughshare*.

The 2013 Pilgrimage for Peace and Economic Justice

<http://www.justpeacepilgrimage.com/>

A briefing pack is being written and should be up on the website very soon.

<http://www.justpeacepilgrimage.com/>

People can phone the Edinburgh Peace and Justice Centre to request one be sent to them in the post when it's ready 0131 229 0993.

For everyone intending to start their pilgrimage on Iona, the website lists places to stay on the island. Early booking is advised as accommodation on Iona is limited and the Iona Community have a busy schedule of events of their own this summer.

The hope is that offers of support and hospitality will be coordinated by churches and local Quaker networks along the way, including where possible the use of village hall facilities and Meeting Houses to provide basic overnight accommodation.

The itinerary was in the last issue of *Ploughshare*. If you haven't got a copy ask the office for the relevant page or you can download it from the website.

Further details from: Andrew Greaves, Garden Cottage, Ingoe, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE20 0SP. Tel: 01661 855111. 07425931511.

27 February: Action AWE Campaign Launch! Action AWE is excited to announce its public launch will be held in: The Conference Room, Reading International Solidarity Centre (RISC), 35-39 London Street, Reading, RG1 4PS. 7.30pm. Info: 0845 4588 362
info@actionawe.org

5 March: Early Morning Aldermaston Project: "taking our message to the workers" Help the workers dump the weapons! Meet at Tadley Gate, 7.30am. If you would like to join a group presenting a clear and polite message to Aldermaston staff as they arrive for work, please contact Martin: martin@nuclearmorality.com

9 March: Solidarity Walk for Fukushima, Nuclear Free Japan & World. 12noon start at Hyde Park Corner, organised by Japanese Against Nuclear, Kick Nuclear & CND.

11 March: Candle Service for Fukushima, Nuclear Free Japan & World. Outside Japanese Embassy in London 101-104 Piccadilly London W1J 7J. contact@JANUK.org

11 March: Public Meeting: Remembering Fukushima. Speeches from experts and Fukushima evacuees on the current situation in Japan and the implications for UK new nuclear build. 7.30pm House of Commons, Committee room 8.

20 March: NJPN Open Networking Day. Speaker: Bishop William Kenney CP, President of Justice & Peace Europe, on The Future of Europe. 10.30 at St Paul's Comprehensive School, Phoenix Drive, Leadenhall, Milton Keynes MK6 5EN. Info: NJPN 39 Eccleston Square London SW1V 1BX 020 7901 4864
admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk
www.justice-and-peace.org.uk

CCND goods

Pack of 24 A4 sheets of Interfaith quotations on peace as used at the Creation Conference £1 a pack

CCND stickers New! 10 stickers for 50p, 50 stickers for £2

Legacy leaflet Free

Churches' pack Free

T-Shirts £12 each.

Cotton bags £3 each.

Picasso Greetings Cards. £2.50 for six.

Other CCND items available: Church Porch Poster, badges, enamel brooches, window stickers, pens and a history of CCND.

Send orders with cheque made out to Christian CND to:

Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament
162 Holloway Road, London N7 8DQ

21 March: Embassies Walk. in London. See front page. All welcome.

1 April: (April Fool's Day and also Easter Monday). CND gathers round Aldermaston to tell the government to stop fooling with nuclear weapons. Christian CND will be at the Tadley Gate to resurrect the Alleluia and hold an Easter service.

13 - 15 April: Scrap Trident Weekend. Glasgow Demonstration Saturday 13th April. NVDA Training & Workshops Sunday 14th April. BIG BLOCKADE to SHUT DOWN FASLANE Monday 15th April.
http://notonatoscotland.org.uk

22 April - 3 May: NPT PrepCom in Geneva. CCND & CND will be there. See front page.

19 May - 20 July: Pilgrimage for Peace and Economic Justice. Beginning at Iona at Pentecost (Sunday May 19th) 2013, finishing at the Palace of Westminster in London: an act of witness and communal celebration, drawing strength and inspiration from historic centres of prayer along the way. See <http://www.justpeacepilgrimage.com/> for details and dates or ring Andrew Greaves, 01661 855111 07425931511.

6 - 9 August: Paris & Burghfield 4 day Fast. A 4 day fast in sorrow at the destruction caused by the US nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki that caused the deaths of hundreds of thousands of civilians and destroyed these 2 cities in 1945. Preliminary programme in Burghfield: Tuesday 6th August - Fast begins at main gate of AWE Burghfield - with Hiroshima shadow painting.

Wednesday 7th August - Peace Crane Walk from AWE Burghfield to AWE Aldermaston and back. Thursday 8th August - Slow Walking Meditation around AWE Burghfield.. Friday 9th August - Nagasaki Lament at AWE Burghfield. <http://actionawe.org/paris-burghfield-4-day-fast-6th-9th-august-2013/>

6 August: Hiroshima Day. Commemorations around the country. Send us details of your events and your photos for inclusion in *Ploughshare!*

9 August: Nagasaki Day. As above. Let us know about your events and send us your photos!