



The Good.....

The tide may be turning against Trident. Despite the depressing general election result in May, a combination of political developments presents opportunities for the campaign against nuclear weapons.

Only a year ago, we were in the position where all three major parties in Britain were in favour of Trident renewal. Since then the meteoric rise of the SNP has introduced another major party, this time vociferously opposed to nuclear weapons. Even the one surviving Labour MP in Scotland has said he is opposed to Trident.

Jeremy Corbyn unexpectedly looks likely to win the Labour leadership election. By the time you are reading this we may well know the result, so it is pointless for us to speculate here. Jeremy, Vice Chair of National CND, has made his anti-Trident opinions crystal clear during the leadership election and over his entire career. At a recent speech on Hiroshima Day, he outlined plans for a Defence Diversification Agency to redeploy the highly skilled workforce in the nuclear weapons sector following a decision to scrap Trident. Whatever the outcome of the Labour leadership election, and whatever machinations



Scottish CND described George Osborne's announcement on 31st August that £500 million would

be invested in Faslane as 'an insult to Scotland'. "The Scottish Parliament voted against Trident renewal in 2007 and 2014. In May Scots elected 59 MPs, 57 of whom stood on a platform of rejecting Trident. But Osborne is turning a deaf ear to our views and those of our elected representatives."

We would also add our voices of outrage to those of the SNP, who slammed the announcement because it

happen beyond this, it has been truly

heartening to see the surge in support for an alternative to militarisation, austerity politics and the neo-liberal agenda. This has to have a lasting impact on the Labour Party and the wider political context, and the opportunity to debate Trident in a more public way is only to our benefit.

The Liberal Democrat's stance on Trident is also in a state of flux. They will debate Trident at their UK conference on 21 September, and it seems possible that they will oppose it. The Green Party and Plaid Cymru are all also both opposed to nuclear weapons.

It seems increasingly likely that the Trident maintenance decision will be next March, leaving us only six months to seize the opportunity that these political developments present.

ALL HANDS TO THE DECK!!



.....the Bad

pre-empted the democratic vote in parliament on Trident renewal. The Chancellor's announcement at Faslane was presented as an expansion of its infrastructure to accommodate all the UK's nuclear and conventional submarines which will be based there from 2020. However, when questioned by BBC Scotland Osborne acknowledged that the £500 million expenditure was "partly to ready Faslane for Trident replacement". This serves to close down the much-needed debate in parliament and present a fait accompli. **Yorkshire CND is organising a solidarity visit to Faslane Peace Camp - see inside for details**

and the frankly unbelievable!

When many people in the country continue to view Tony Blair as a war criminal, and even former Labour MPs admit they were duped around the issue of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, Labour leadership candidate Liz Kendall has said on Channel 4 recently "I do not believe we were knowingly misled over weapons of mass destruction". Along with Tony Blair's interference into the leadership debate, this surely must be an own goal for those on the right of the party.

Hiroshima & Nagasaki -Yorkshire Remembers

This August saw the 70th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Yorkshire CND convenor Dave Webb was in Hiroshima to represent CND (see letter from Hiroshima opposite), and back home, events were held across the region to commemorate the tragedy. Perhaps it was because it was a special anniversary, or perhaps it is due to the increased profile of nuclear weapons, but this year, all the events were extremely well attended.

In **Sheffield**, Bruce Kent spoke alongside the Mayor at Sheffield CND's peace picnic held in the Japanese Garden. With music from a local choir and band the 'Cojones', over a hundred people commemorated the event and also had a great time. A stall was also held by **Rotherham** CND the following Saturday marking Nagasaki Day.

In **Bradford** the annual Hiroshima Day commemoration at the Norfolk Peace Gardens was very well attended and was complemented by the hosting by the Peace Museum of a post event reception. **Calder Valley** CND for Peace & Justice organised a commemoration in Hebden Bridge on Nagasaki Day, attended by the Mayor, which included peace songs with Calder Valley Voices and others, poetry composed by local poets particularly for the occasion, and other readings.

A Hiroshima commemoration was the first event for the new **York** CND, and this went very well, with a cello performance, a reading by the Mayor, and the lighting of candles outside York Minster. In **Leeds** the Peace Offerings choir stepped in at the last minute to enhance the annual event, which was also well attended. **Keighley** also held a commemoration event on Hiroshima Day. In **Huddersfield** (Red & Green Club) and **Hull** (ArtsLink Centre), showings were held of the film 'Black Sun of Hiroshima' which paints a new picture of the events leading up to the bombings and challenges the myths that have grown up around them. Discussions were held after both events. There will also be a film showing in **Harrogate** of the War Game, on 8th October - details on the back page.



Mayor of York lighting the peace candles



Peace choir in Sheffield with the SCRAP quilt in the foreground



Some of the speakers in Hebden Bridge



Peace Offerings Choir and campaigners in Leeds

UN Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons - 26th Sept

Achieving global nuclear disarmament is one of the oldest goals of the United Nations. It was the subject of the General Assembly's first resolution in 1946 and has been prominent on the UN agenda ever since. It has been supported by every United Nations Secretary-General.

Yet today, some 16,000 nuclear weapons remain. Countries possessing such weapons have well-funded plans to modernise their nuclear arsenals. As of 2015, not one nuclear weapon has been physically destroyed pursuant to a treaty, bilateral or multilateral, and no nuclear disarmament negotiations are underway. Meanwhile, the doctrine of nuclear deterrence persists as an element in the security poli-

cies of all possessor states and their nuclear allies. This is despite concerns worldwide over the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and their manufacture.

These facts provide the basis for the General Assembly's designation of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. This Day provides an occasion for the world community to reaffirm its commitment to global nuclear disarmament as a high priority. It provides an opportunity to educate the public—and their lead-

Local group Action

Yorkshire CND is encouraging local groups to engage with the UN Day by doing a stall or leafleting in their area on Saturday 26th September.

We will have a standard leaflet about the day to which you can add the details of your local group and activities. This will be downloadable from our website, or available by contacting the office.

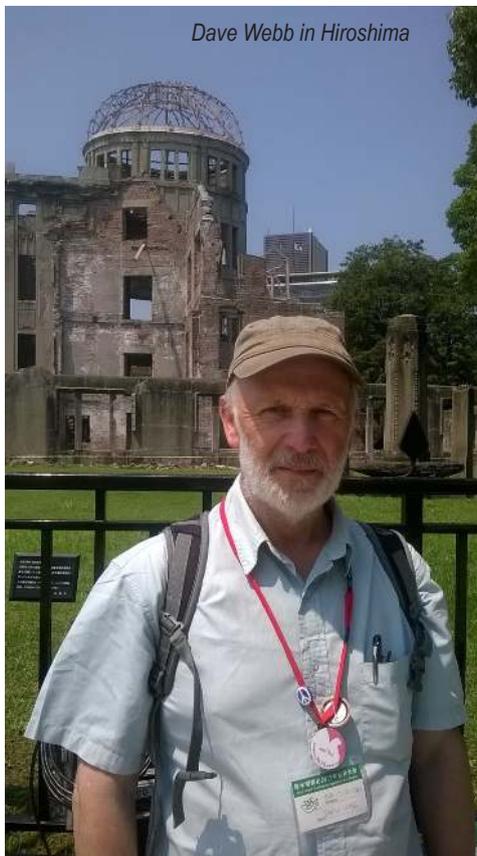
Please let us know your plans, and send us a photo/tweet/or facebook link.

ers—about the real benefits of eliminating such weapons, and the social and economic costs of perpetuating them.

Letter from Hiroshima

Walking along beside the river in Hiroshima on the evening before the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombing. An amazing experience. It is a warm, still night following a scorching hot day. There must be thousands of people around the area of the memorial park. The city is full tonight. Groups of people form round small exhibitions, displays, memories. Some are encouraged to snapshot their thoughts and impressions on a rice-paper stretched across a section of bamboo and leave them hanging from a tree or installation for others to share. People gather to hear talks, watch the dancers, listen to music. The messages are all the same – peace and a world free from nuclear weapons. The music ('Where have all the flowers gone' in Japanese) floats over a sign lit up with the words "One Dream", over the still, reflective river. The same river that will carry hundreds of lanterns tomorrow night in remembrance of the many thousands of burnt, scarred and mortally injured who tried to seek out that same river 70 years ago.

How can we still, even now, knowing what happened here, threaten to inflict that kind of suffering on millions of people? How can we still think we have a right to possess weapons with that kind of inhumane destructive power? Of course, the vast majority of people don't want this and that's why representatives of peace and human rights movements from around



Dave Webb in Hiroshima

the world arrived here a few days ago to remember the past and discuss ideas and plans for building a peaceful future, forever free from such fears.

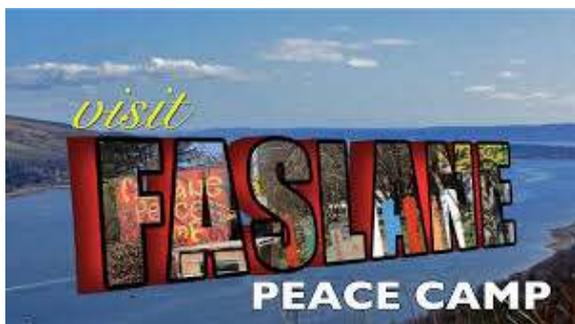
These events are always a mixture of passion, compassion and hope. The Japanese people (and especially the few remaining Hibakusha) are, as always, staunchly resolute in their desire to see a nuclear free world. During this visit so far I have seen protests against military bases around the country. The people in Okinawa

have much to protest about, their small island is host to nearly 74% of total US military bases in Japan. Another large base extension is underway into Henoko Bay to replace the Futenma air base, construction of which has been stopped for a while because of mass protest from local people, continuously for 4000 days.

The US has pushed hard on Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to force through a law through parliament to allow Japanese armed forces to fight alongside its allies. This is a reversal of Japan's renunciation of war as laid out in Article 9 of the constitution and is made against the fervent wishes of the Japanese people. It is a terrible betrayal and has seen Abe's ratings sink.

The internationals gathered here bring messages of solidarity and determination alongside stories of their own difficulties with governments moving to the right, increasing military spending and the growing beat of war drums. All are saying more or less the same thing – that we need to build a huge international movement that links nuclear weapons and military spending with campaigns on climate change, poverty and human rights to demand an alternative to austerity, militarism and war. It is extremely unlikely that we can survive another 70 years of existence with nuclear weapons on the Earth so we have to do it – and of course we can make a start by scrapping Trident!

Dave Webb



Yorkshire CND Visit to Faslane Peace Camp - 23-25th October

Faslane Peace Camp is the UK's longest running protest camp alongside the nuclear weapons base on Gare Loch, north of Glasgow. Now in its 33rd year, it is a collection of brightly painted caravans, whose residents provide a constant reminder to the powers-that-be of the opposition to weapons of mass destruction. Yorkshire CND will be organising a solidarity

visit to Faslane peace camp on 23rd-25th October. There'll be a workshop about the history of the peace camp, and perhaps one on taking action against nuclear weapons if participants so desire. We'll probably also do some sort of vigil outside the base, but also find time to enjoy the breathtaking scenery.

This is a hugely subsidised trip - only £20 or £10 concessions, with accommodation and some food provided. *Contact the office soon to book as places are limited.*





Independence from America Day demo in pictures: Clockwise from top; Les Vegas and the International Playboys of Rhythm playing as the sun set; boogying with CAAB Coordinators Lindis & Brigid; group photo outside the gate.



CAAB News

The annual Campaign for Accountability of American bases 4th July Independence FROM America Day demo was really fantastic as you can see from the photos. Don't miss it next year!



Since then, at one of the weekly demos (every Tuesday 6-8pm), an American driver leaving the base drove at the demonstrators, knocking over Barbara Penny and causing her to be hospitalised with a broken leg and head injury. After pressure the local police force are going to take up the case, but more people are needed on the gates. Please come along if you can.

On Tuesday 6th October, Yorkshire CND will be organising a trip to the Demo as part of Keep Space for Peace Week. Contact us to book a space

Keep Space for Peace 2015

As members will know, Keep Space for Peace Week is usually marked with demonstrations at the Yorkshire bases linked with Missile Defence, Menwith and Fylingdales. This year, we will be taking a trip up to Menwith on the Tuesday demo 6th October, and also organising an event at Fylingdales, but timed to coincide with Bruce Gagnon's visit to the UK.

Bruce Gagnon is coordinator of the Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space. Beginning as the state coordinator of the Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice, Gagnon has worked on space issues for more than 20 years. Valuable resources on the moon and planets form the next battleground for corporate profit, he says, and "defense" programs such as "Star Wars" actually are conceived as offense. "The U.S. intends to control...and dominate space and deny other countries access," says Gagnon, adding that the nuclear threat used to seize this control threatens everyone on Earth and diverts funding from the common good.

He will be in the UK for a week, beginning the 16th November, and will attend the Menwith Hill weekly demo on Tuesday 17th November after speaking at Bradford or Leeds Universities earlier in the day. On Friday 20th, Yorkshire CND will organise an event at Fylingdales, the details of which have yet to be confirmed. For more information contact the office, or better still, sign up to our fortnightly email list which you can do from the front page of our website www.yorkshirecnd.org.uk, or be emailing us and asking to be added.





The UK government published a National Security Strategy ('A Strong Britain in an Age of Uncertainty') and a Strategic Defence and Security Review in 2010.

At the time, CND responded by questioning how the vast spending on Trident can be justified when the threats it is designed to combat had been officially classified as falling outside the top rank of security concerns faced by the UK.

The current government is now working on the 2015 National Security Strategy (NSS) and Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) and they want your input.

CND encourages you to remind the government that nuclear weapons do not keep us safe.

<https://surveys.mod.uk/index.php/424914?lang=en>

Fundraiser's Column

Hello, I'm Michelle Atkinson, the new events and fundraiser worker. I am originally from a teaching background but have spent many years campaigning for the environment in my spare time. I am looking forward to meeting members, recruiting new ones and bringing further funds into the organisation to help with the forthcoming campaign against renewing trident, a cause which I am passionate about.

Upcoming:

Day of Dance - Saturday 17th October, Victoria Hall, Saltaire. Another vibrant day full of exotic costumes, and even more exotic dances.



You can choose from a wide variety of dances, from Hula dance to Latin American, from South Asian contemporary to clog dancing. This year if you want a breather from the dancing, we have Yiddish singing, how to tell a story, dru yoga and massage. There is something for everybody. A family ceilidh and programme of evening events round off the day. As usual, volunteers will provide a vegetarian cafe with some delicious food. At the last day of dance, a dancer enthused "Attending Day of Dance is always a great highlight of my year". So please dust off your dancing shoes and come along, all will be made very welcome and you don't need a partner. Website: <http://saltairedayofdance.blogspot.co.uk/>

Peace & Craft Fair - Saturday 28th Nov, Victoria Hall, Saltaire

The annual Peace and Craft fair is a great time to get Christmas presents, to find out about local groups and taste some fabulous vegetarian food at the Peace Cafe. Over 80 stalls and a great atmosphere makes this an event not to be missed.

We would welcome any volunteer help with these events - michelle@yorkshirecnd.org.uk

Tell the Tories they are wrong on Trident! - 4th & 7th October

Our friends across the Pennines at GM&D CND are in full scale mobilisation for the arrival of the Tory Party Conference, with a range of run-up events as well as organising a Scrap Trident Bloc on the TUC national demonstration on the 4th October. Let's get over there and support them! Full details below:

Placard-making session, 17th September, 2.30pm-5pm, MERCi, Bridge 5 Mill, 22a Beswick Street, Manchester M4 7JR contact Pam on pamflynn@cooptel.net or call 01612738283.

Non-Violent Direct Action training, 17th September, 7pm - 9pm, Friends Meeting House, Manchester. All welcome from any campaign.

To register, email gmdcnd@gn.apc.org or call 01612738283.

Party conference demo, **4th October 2015**, Meet at All Saints Park, Oxford Rd, Manchester at 11.30am. Please invite as many people as possible to join us in saying 'Scrap Trident, No to Replacement!' If you can volunteer for CND on the day, please email gmdcnd@gn.apc.org or call 01612738283. Yorkshire CND will coordinate train travel from our end - get in touch for details.

7th October - Yorkshire CND is organising a day of action/ leafleting on the topic of Trident. We will meet late morning near the Tory Conference. Contact us for exact time and location.



Upcoming Events

Every Tuesday - demonstration at the main gate of Menwith Hill, from 6pm - 7.30pm

Sat 12th Sept - Yorkshire CND trip to protest DSEi in London - report in next issue

21st Sept - International Day of Peace - event at University of Bradford (tbc)

26th Sept - UN Day for Elimination of Nukes - see inside for details.

4th October - Demo at Tory party Conference in Manchester - details inside

6th October - Yorkshire CND solidarity trip to CAAB Menwith Demo. Contact office to book a place.

7th October - leafleting and action on Trident at Tory Party Conference. Details to be announced, or contact us in the office.

8th October - BOOK LAUNCH *Vol 2 of the Guide to Civil Resistance, bibliography of nonviolent action compiled by April Carter, Howard Clark and Michael Randle. Bradford University in the Peace Studies Commonroom at 5.15pm*

8th October - Film Showing, The War Game, Harrogate Friends Meeting House, 7pm

17th October - Day of Dance (see inside)

17th & 18th October - CND National Conference and Trident Strategy day in London (see below).

23-25th October - Yorkshire CND solidarity trip to Faslane Peace Camp. See inside.

8th November - Remembrance Day Songs for Peace at Bradford Cenotaph 1pm

20th November - Demonstration at Fylingdales with Bruce Gagnon, see inside

28th November - Peace & Craft Fair, Saltaire



**CND AGM
and Policy Conference**
17th October 2015

This is National CND's policy conference that provides members with the important opportunity to decide overall direction for the coming year so please do come along and contribute.

<http://www.cnduk.org/about/cnd-conference>



**No Trident Replacement:
Strategising for success in 2016**

18th October 2015

By October we may be just months away from the Parliamentary decision on Trident, due in early 2016. This second day of CND's annual conference will be open to all and will provide an opportunity to discuss and assess our progress since May's general election and further develop our strategy to get rid of Trident. 0207 7002393 to register or email officemanager@cnduk.org by Friday 9th October, 12pm.

Local CND & Peace Groups/

NEW! York CND group - contact denisecraghill@talktalk.net

NEW! Rotherham CND - jon.smith@blueyonder.co.uk

NEW! Bradford & District - cartins@gmail.com

NEW! Upper Calder - new group, next mtg 24th June 7.30pm Hebden Bridge contact kathypitt725@hotmail.com or 07980 291478

Huddersfield Peace Group c/o Charlie Fairbank, fairbankcharles@gmail.com, Tel: 01484-846183

Leeds CND - contact Adam 07503 749944 facebook.com/groups/966628673353518/

Middlesbrough / Teeside CND - hussainsam03@gmail.com

Hull CND - Angela Needham, 07737 249461, angela_needham@homeopathy-soh.org

Keighley Peace Justice & Environment Network - contact Sylvia on 01535 596808 robinandsylvia@aol.com

Grassington & District Peace Group - Richard Hargreaves, strand@hawkswick.net

Sheffield CND - crippskath@gmail.com 0114 2680726 <http://www.sheffieldcnd.org.uk>

Are you subscribed to our email announcements list? A fortnightly email keeping you up to date between newsletters - cath@yorkshirecnd.org.uk

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