

# Salisbury CND Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Newsletter - March 2019 <a href="http://www.cndsalisbury.org.uk">http://www.cndsalisbury.org.uk</a>

Greetings from Salisbury CND. You <u>can</u> make a difference - together we can help work for a safer nuclear-free world for the future. Visit the Salisbury CND website (address above) for information on events, links to other campaigning organisations, etc.

Our **Facebook** page is at: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/pages/Salisbury-CND/583212191799930">https://www.facebook.com/pages/Salisbury-CND/583212191799930</a>. Please circulate this information around your friends and contacts as widely as possible.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Southern Region CND AGM - Saturday 30th March**, at Quaker Meeting House, 51 Wilton Road, SP2 7EP- doors open 1.00pm, refreshments, then start at 2.00pm.

Our speaker will be **Lindsey Holbrook on 'Peace Education'** - the training by National CND and experiences in schools. All welcome!

**Salisbury CND Public Meeting & AGM - Tuesday 18th June**, at Quaker Meeting House, 51 Wilton Road, SP2 7EP, doors open 7.00pm for start at 7.30pm.

Our speaker will be **Amy Keegan, National CND Parliamentary Campaigns Officer.** She will talk on **Can Parliament deliver a Peace agenda?** and other current CND topics.

**Market Stall - Saturday 27th July 2019 - The Maltings -** awareness raising, fund-raising, bric-a-brac and books. Find out more – call Caroline on 01722 321865 or email us.



# Hiroshima Candle Float - Tuesday 6th August 2019 - Fisherton Bridge, Salisbury

The Candle Float is always a very special occasion. Do mark it in your diary and come to join us at 8.45pm as the light fades and witness hundreds of candles floating gently down the river in memory of all the victims of nuclear weapons.

Find out more – call Caroline on 01722 321865 or email us.

If it is raining the Candle Float will not happen - but come along anyway for a drink and chat at The Kings Head pub with like-minded people!



# **EXCITING ANTI-NUCLEAR SALISBURY FESTIVAL PROGRAMME: 24 May to 9 June 2019**

An astonishing number of events highlighting the dangers of nuclear weapons through film, drama and talks, including **Rebecca Johnson**, veteran Greenham campaigner, founder of ICAN (Nuclear Ban Treaty initiative) and Nobel Peace Prize 2017 winner, hosting a three day discussion 'Our Fragile Home' on 31st May, 1st and 2nd June. Brochures are free and readily available.

# Oxford CND invite you to their Action for Peace Event – Braziers Park – 21-22 September 2019 (UN International Peace Day is 21st September)

Braziers Park is between Wallingford and Reading. Mark these days in your diaries, think about coming for some or all of the weekend events and bring your friends. Very good speakers will be coming, more details later. It's a lovely easy-to-get-to site; please make up the audience and participate in 'Action for Peace'.

Initial outline – to explore the meaning and debate the ethics of our **Trident** 'nuclear deterrent', its costs and risks, the **INF Treaty** that US and Russia are tearing up, the **UN Nuclear Ban Treaty** supported by 122 non nuclear states and winner of the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize.

Try a NVC(non-violent communication) or NVDA (non-violent direct action) workshop, hear the stories of peace activists' past successes, get involved in peace-building for the future.

A new film <u>War School</u> reveals a government strategy to normalise weapons and war in schools. Also the 2018 Edinburgh Fringe sell-out performance of <u>Conchies</u> about conscientious objectors who refused to fight in WWII and set up a community to escape persecution and live cooperatively. More sessions still being booked, plus live music in the barn – an exciting line up of high profile peace/ protest musicians Saturday night. Campfire singing, storytelling, vegan/veggie hot food, , poetry walk, quiet meetings and meditations.

Programme and Tickets will be available from March. Tickets include camping on our beautiful 14 acre secluded eco-campsite).

http://www.cndsalisbury.org.uk/events/129-oxford-cnd-un-international-peace-day

### **NEWS & COMMENT**

Labour CND's Annual Conference. Feb. 2019: Tim Sedgwick-Jell attended in a personal capacity. Should Labour become the next party of government, this Conference gave us hopeful signs for peace and disarmament. The Keynote Speech was by Fabian Hamilton MP who outlined "A Peace Doctrine for Labour". As he is the shadow Peace and Disarmament Minister this suggests that it will soon be official policy, with himself as Minister. We heard through Skype from Marion Hobbes, who had one the same job for New Zealand's Labour government, stressing that the Minister needs to be in the Foreign Office rather than be compromised by the vested interests in the MoD. Fabian stressed the need to prevent wars rather than pick the pieces up after them, let alone fight them.

There was much discussion on Defence Diversification (a strategy for converting arms and defence jobs to civilian use). It seems likely that a motion to this effect will reach Annual Conference in the Autumn and, if passed, become official Party policy.

Newly elected MPs Emma Dent-Coad, for Kensington, and Lloyd Russell-Moyle, a graduate of Bradford University's Peace Studies course, were impressive speakers, committed to the aims of CND.

<u>Green MEPs Protest</u>: three Green MEPs – including one from the UK – were arrested on 20th February after breaking into a Belgian military airbase to protest against its stockpiling of American B61 nuclear bombs.

The MEPs – **Molly Scott Cato**, Michèle Rivasi and Tilly Metz – unfurled a banner on a runway for F-16 fighter jets at the Kleine Brogel base in the east of the country calling for a nuclear-free <u>Europe</u>, before being taken into custody. Another Green MEP, Thomas Waitz, was arrested in a demonstration outside the base, along with 11 other activists from the Belgian peace group <u>Agir pour la Paix</u> (Act for Peace), three of whom also scaled a 3.5-metre fence to get into the base.

The protest follows the <u>US withdrawal</u> from the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty earlier this month. <u>About 150 US nuclear weapons</u> are thought to be scattered across Europe in Belgium, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands, compared with <u>more than 7,000</u> at the peak of the cold war. But campaigners fear this number could rapidly rise in any new arms race, with **each B61 bomb**having an explosive yield of up to 340 kilotons, **23 times more powerful than the bomb that devastated Hiroshima.** 

Molly Scott Cato, the MEP for South West England, told the Guardian that the protest would be "a balance of risks and purposes". She said: When you're talking about the potential end of the world, your own personal safety is put into perspective — and we are talking about weapons that could kill millions of people. Nuclear weapons offer no solution in this era and no rationale for defending the people in the south-west who I represent, one of whom died this year because of a Russian secret forces attack. How are nuclear weapons supposed to help Dawn Sturgess?" referring to the woman



police believe was killed by Novichok in Wiltshire last year.

MEPs in Brussels enjoy some immunity from prosecution but it is not clear whether this would cover state security laws, which carry potential five-year prison sentences.

# **CONTACT DETAILS and MEMBERSHIP FORM**

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# SALISBURY CND MEMBERSHIP FORM

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If you are unsure if you have already paid, please email pgloyns@aol.com or call 01794 390482