



Mid-Somerset CND & Peace Group

December 2016

<http://www.midsomcnd-peacegroup.org.uk/>

Come and join us

Carol Singing

December 17th

Outside Wells Library,
in aid of Refugee Aid From Taunton



United Nations landmark resolution

On 27th October, the UN agreed to launch negotiations in 2017 on a treaty outlawing nuclear weapons. This historic decision heralds an end to two decades of paralysis in multilateral nuclear disarmament efforts. At a meeting of the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, which deals with disarmament and international security matters, 123 nations voted in favour of the resolution, with 38 against and 16 abstaining.

Sadly, given that they are signatories of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the United Kingdom, the USA, France, and Russia voted against. Interestingly China abstained.

Work with young people

MSCND & PG continued our outreach to local young people when we once again took our stall to the Strode College Freshers' fair, on September 7.

Approximately 80 students stopped at our stall, to talk or to read our materials, and many bought badges. A good and unexpected outcome was that many more of them seem to have heard of CND and be aware of the Trident issue, than we have found in past years. Perhaps this was a result of the July vote on trident in

Parliament? Although the vote was disappointingly to renew, if it brought the issue to more young people, that is a good start for future campaigning.

Two of our group returned to the College in December talked to A Level politics students and in 2017 we aim to have a week's presence with our stall in the refectory.



.Hiroshima Anniversary 2016



This year's Hiroshima commemoration was well received both during the day on Cathedral Green and at the evening vigil where we floated candles on the Bishops Palace moat.

Harry Patch

We again marked United Nations International Peace Day by laying a wreath on Harry Patch's memorial.



One World Fair

A worthwhile day was had at the third annual Wells One World Fair, on Saturday October 8. We talked with at least 70 people, and many took our literature. We had a lively sale of badges, cards and t-shirts. Most of the chats reflected agreement with the on-renewal of Trident. There are still people who stop and say, 'I didn't know that CND is still going.' Now they know!

At the follow-up planning meeting, it was agreed that we should continue to participate in this Fair. It is a good opportunity to raise awareness

We Survived the Glasto Mud and the Tolpuddle Martyrs Festival in 2016

Many thanks to all who worked very hard running our campaign stall. This is always one of our most useful activities, given we meet such a large number of potential supporters.



Glastonbury Town Council affiliates to Mayors for Peace

A very welcome development this year was the decision by Glastonbury Town Council to affiliate to the Mayors for Peace based in Hiroshima. Hopefully in 2017 this will be celebrated with some joint action.

A new venture for the group was to have a stall at Glastonbury Frost Fayre, not our normal campaigning, but we sold over £100 of goods and re-made contact with a lot of old supporters of CND who didn't know we were still active!

If you know of any group that is willing for us to come and talk about Trident, please get in touch. This year we made a presentation to Wells Labour Party which was very well received and provoked much debate.