



Mid-Somerset CND & Peace Group

Newsletter
December 2014

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

Please come and support

Carol Singing

20th December

11.00 – 13.00

Outside Wells Library

This year we are supporting the charity
Medical Aid for Palestinians
(<http://www.map-uk.org>)

Trident Campaign:

2015 and 2016 will be crucial for our campaign against Trident. Firstly there will be a general election, which may result in a hung parliament with Plaid Cymru and The Scottish National Party holding the balance of power. Both of these parties have stated that the decision to not renew Trident will be a non-negotiable component of their support for any minority government. Secondly Parliament will have finally to make the decision about its replacement.

CND has therefore launched a General Election Campaign for 2015. It has three main activities:

1. Lobby all your local candidates
2. Organise a peoples ballot on Trident
3. Host hustings for all your local candidates on Trident.

Our local group plans to support all three. If you can help than please get in touch.

We have produced a power point presentation on different aspects of Trident and nuclear weapons. This is to be used as a resource when speaking to other local groups. In October it was premiered to music students at Strode College, in Street, a successful session. If you are a member of an association, group or political party who would be willing to host us then please get in touch.

Mid Somerset CND & Peace Group invite you to

Get Involved

**Battle of
the Bands**

Winning band to
receive a session in a
recording studio

**Poster Art
Competition**

Winning artist receives
£100 of their choice of
Art materials

To be held on 21st March 2015

At the Red Brick Building, Glastonbury

With headline act

Seize the Day

To obtain an entry form and competition rules contact
secretary@midsomcnd-peacegroup.org.uk
Entries for the Battle of the Bands must be submitted by January 1st.
Closing date for the poster competition is March 1st.

We have also inaugurated a Get Involved Event for Bands and Artists with a Battle of Bands and Poster Art Competitions. Flyers have been distributed to schools and colleges and youth organisations in the area. Again if you know of anyone who might be interested to "Get Involved" then please get in touch.

Recent activities

On **Hiroshima Day** we floated candles on the Bishops Moat in Wells. We displayed the Hiroshima Photographic Exhibition on the Cathedral Green, and later at The Red Building in Glastonbury.



On September 21st we remembered **Harry Patch**, the “last Tommy” who later in his life, spoke very forcibly against war.



Tessa Munt MP & Sali Money, Treasurer Mid-Somerset CND & PG who spoke at the event

One World Week was celebrated in Wells by Oxfam pulling many campaigning organisations together for an event in Wells Town Hall, there were stalls and information, this was also an excellent networking event.

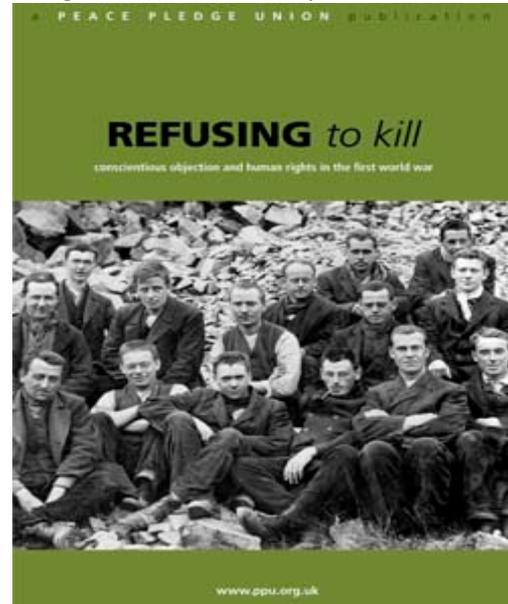


**Reminder next group meeting January 5th
Monday at 7.30pm in the Kings Head, Wells.**

Claiming a Date

International Conscientious Objectors Day is on 15 May. In Tavistock Square in London a ceremony is held at the Commemorative Stone, during which the names of representative people who '*maintained the right to refuse to kill*' are read out and a white flower is laid on the Stone for each of the 50 people remembered. In 2015 we aim to organise a similar event. While millions killed and died at the height of the First World War, sixteen thousand men in Britain stood up for the right to refuse to kill other human beings. They believed there were better ways to deal with disputes than the slaughter of war. Many suffered terrible human rights abuses for their beliefs.

Refusing to Kill follows the story of conscientious objectors through the First World War. From the moment they received call-up papers to the day they were released from prisons, army units and work camps they faced personal dilemmas, violence, humiliation and hardship. Original letters, court-martial statements, diaries, documents and poetry bring their dramatic story of resistance to life.



A free Activity CD (Key Stages 3 and 4) is available for teachers and students. In addition to Questions & Activities based on Refusing to Kill, the CD includes Teachers' Notes, National Curriculum links, the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a play script of a Tribunal hearing for use in English and Drama, plus copies of original documents from the First World War.