



Mid-Somerset CND & Peace Group

Newsletter
July 2012

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

Lest we forget HIROSHIMA & NAGASAKI AUGUST 1945

Join us on Wells Cathedral Green
Saturday August 4th 11.00 – 3.00

We have permission from the Cathedral to have a CND Stall & live music to commemorate the dropping of the first two nuclear weapons. We also are very pleased to show a powerful Bradford PeaceMuseum Poster exhibition on their affect:

Wells Cathedral Cloister
28th Saturday July – Sunday August 5th
&
Wells Library
Monday August 5th – Saturday 11th

Result of Ballot

Following the ad hoc meeting of members on March 5th 2012 which agreed to keep the group active, we sent a letter to all the existing members that we were aware of. Of 273 letters sent, 68 replied representing 23% of the membership. 95% agreed with new name and new committee and only 1% wanted us to convene a special general meeting to review the decisions of the meeting on March 5th. All agreed that in future communication with the membership would be by e-mail and the website, with the caveat that those who requested it would still receive the newsletter etc by post.

The mailing list also identified that only 98 of the membership could be considered local, the remainder being national members mainly recruited to work Glastonbury Festival. As promised we will keep those updated on how to work at next year's festival. We hope that local members will be able to join us in campaigning.

Recent Activities



Campaigning

We were very pleased to welcome Kate Hudson to Wells Town Hall on Wednesday May 23rd to give a thoughtful talk on **Iran – War is not the answer.**

Even though the attendance was disappointing we were pleased that members leafleted Shepton Mallet, Glastonbury, Street and Wells twice, giving the group a welcome street presence again. As part of the publicity we used, the worth repeating following quote:

“It seems like we never learn from the mistakes of the past, and despite the tragic failures in Iraq and Afghanistan, the West is unbelievably considering an attack on Iran with all the devastation and loss of life that will entail. Once again the cost of any attack will be borne, not only by our soldiers and the people of Iran, but by the citizens of Britain, who can ill afford the massive cost such a war would entail. Why can't our government spend money looking after its own people, rather than destroying the lives of those living in other countries?” (Roger Lloyd Pack 2012)

The focus has currently shifted to Syria, but the sentiment is still as valid. To improve our publicity for such events we aim to set up a Facebook page. **We would really welcome help from someone who knows how to do this and to act as a press officer.**

LLAMA Festival 8th – 10th June

Two of our younger members Quinn and Kama Miller took the CND stall to a music festival in Lynmouth (see picture). This proved a great success with over a hundred signing up to the **Stop Trident Campaign** and Crispin Aubrey from **Stop Hinkley campaign** speaking at the public forum. **Seize the Day** a local popular band with a strong peace/anti nuclear message also played at the festival.

We would like to increase this form of campaigning so if anyone knows of other local events which you think we could have a presence at, please get in touch. We also are looking for volunteers to support the stall. All expenses will be covered including the cost of the festival/event entrance.

International Conference: Building towards a nuclear weapons-free Middle East & CND AGM and Policy Conference

13th - 14th October 2012
Institute for Child Health, UCL, 30 Guilford
Street, London, WC1N 1EH

The International Conference
**Building towards a nuclear weapons-free
Middle East: Civil society input for a new
Helsinki process** will take place between
10:00 – 17:00. It is completely free of charge
and open to the general public so please
encourage friends and colleagues to come
along!

The AGM and Policy Conference will follow on
Sunday 14th October 2012, between 10:00 –
17:00 (with registration all day Saturday and
between 09:00 – 10:00 on Sunday)

**The local committee is allowed to send five
delegates to the AGM and depending upon
numbers will reimburse expenses incurred.**

ADVERT : AUDITOR WANTED

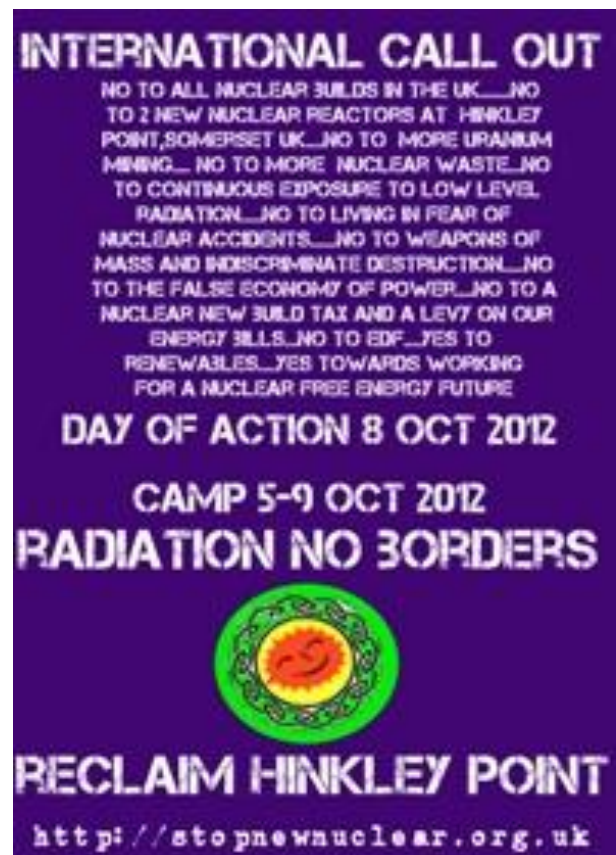
**The committee would like to
appoint a member but who is not
on the committee to act as auditor
of the our accounts**

STOP HINKLEY ... *and Stop Oldbury campaign*

Campaigning against Nuclear Power in the South West

The committee would like to make this a focus of our autumn campaigning. We have therefore made a donation of £500 to support their legal costs. We also will be supporting an information stall outside the post office
Wells market on September 22nd

This is a highly relevant local campaign, please support us. One of its aims is to build support for their day of action on October 8th.



White Poppies

We have white poppies (produced by the Peace Pledge Union) for sale and would like to promote them for use around Remembrance Sunday in November. We also wish to remember the sacrifice of those in two world wars but we also wish to learn the lesson

Never Again!

Virtual Book Sale

We have a number of peace related books in our archive which we are willing to sell. Please see our website for details.