



Mid-Somerset CND & Peace Group

Newsletter
May 2013

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

Annual General Meeting

Monday 20th May
SEAGER HALL, UNION STREET
WELLS, SOMERSET, BA5 2PU
7.30 pm.

NO TO TRIDENT RENEWAL Public Meeting in Wells



Both Tessa Munt M.P. (centre) and Professor David Webb, Chair National CND (right) gave excellent talks, to a small meeting in Wells on Saturday 23rd March. Tessa stressed that we need to make the renewal of Trident a major issue for the next General Election. David reported that public opinion was now against the renewal and considered it not only unaffordable in a recession, but also in-effective in the modern world. It did not prevent any of the recent acts of terror and protects us from no-one. It solely benefits the arms companies who make the bombs. He also in response to question, said that jobs would not be lost by its cancellation, the skilled workforce could readily be employed if government instead invested in the alternative energy industry.

All agreed that the challenge was to convert this political support into action, specifically to win the Labour Party to join the Lib Dem and Green MPs in voting down the proposal to renew Trident. Interestingly both Dave and Tessa indicated that privately several Tory MPs are also opposed to the renewal.

Bruce Kent's "Rant in Wells"



As part of his national speaking tour "*Time to Scrap Trident: - Stop fooling with nuclear weapons*" Bruce Kent Vice-President CND visited Wells on Thursday 4th May. No one else has his capacity to draw a crowd on a quiet lunchtime. Over 25 stopped to listen to his "rant" (his word) on stopping Trident. He was also supported by Tessa Munt MP, Michael Eavis and Andy Merryfield (Labour Party). The event also attracted coverage in the local press and letters to the editor.

Music Festivals 2013

This year Mid-Somerset CND & Peace Group will have a campaigning stall at several music festivals in the South West. Already confirmed Sunrise (May 30th – June 2nd) and Glastonbury (26th – 30th June). We are looking for committed local CND members to help run these stalls. Please do not apply if you are just interested in attending the festival.

Applications to drbevismiller@gmail.com
Please attach a brief c.v.

Time to Scrap Trident: Stop fooling with nuclear weapons National Protest at AWE Aldermaston



This year a contingent from the group attended Aldermaston on Easter Monday, to highlight our opposition to Britain's Trident nuclear weapons system – since that's where the nuclear bombs are made. Those who attended had a good day out and heard some impassioned speeches from Bruce Kent and Jeremy Corbin MP. Sadly there was not enough in attendance to fully surround the base, but all the entrance gates were effectively picketed.



Bruce and Tessa in Wells 4th May

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Future Events to mark Hiroshima August 3rd & 6th

Saturday August 3rd:

We have permission from the Dean of the Cathedral to again have a CND Stall on Wells Cathedral Green. We aim to be there 11am until 3pm. Please come and support us.



Tuesday August 6th,

We are hosting from 11.30am an art exhibition in Wells Museum on the experiences of children living through the Fukushima nuclear accident by the artist Geoff Read. His work as a co-artist gives children experiencing difficult circumstances, ways of expressing and communicating their thinking and feeling to a wider audience. At the time the triple disaster of 11th March 2011 struck, Geoff had been living in Fukushima with his 8-year-old son for two years. Strong Children is a continuing collaborative art project.

<http://strongchildrenjapan.blogspot.co.uk>

In conjunction with the exhibition we will be organising on the Cathedral green (and in the Museum if the weather is bad) an origami workshop to make peace cranes and boats along with brush painting.

In the evening there will be a reception in the Wells Museum at 7.30 pm to hear a Geoff Read talk about his work and experiences in Fukushima. **Following the reception we aim to float 68 origami boats on Bishops Palace moat to commemorate the 68 years since the first atomic explosion Hiroshima in 1945.**