



Yorkshire CND in AWE Burghfield Blockade

On Monday 19th May, workers arriving at the construction gate at AWE (Atomic Weapons Establishment) Burghfield were met with a human peace blockade. A group of us from Yorkshire CND, working with others from Action AWE and Put Down the Sword, a Christian peace group, arrived at the base at 7.20am and managed to lock ourselves together using concrete 'lock-ons' and arm tubes before the MoD police could respond. The gate was blocked for four hours, with all construction vehicles and workers having to be redirected.



Yorkshire CND and friends in the blockade at AWE Burghfield

AWE Week of Action 1-7 July
Concerned citizens across the country will demand that police investigate the crimes- being planned and prepared for at (AWE) Aldermaston and Burghfield. It has been done in Reading, Plymouth and elsewhere - how about your Yorkshire town? For more info and briefing pack see actionawe.org.

Operated by a consortium of Jacobs Engineering Group, Lockheed Martin and Serco, AWE Burghfield plays an integral part in the final assembly and maintenance of nuclear warheads for use in the Trident system. The new development at Burghfield is being built at a cost to the taxpayer of almost £2 billion, despite the fact that parliament has yet to vote on whether or not to replace Trident.

Amy Clark, 19, a Peace Studies Student at Bradford University explained why she felt it was important to make a stand "Public money is already being spent in its millions toward the renewal of trident. The final decision must be made by 2016 so it's time to act now to stop it." Phil Wood, 20,

also at Bradford Uni managed to do a mobile phone interview with a local radio station with both arms in 'lock-ons'! Stories about the blockade featured in several local newspapers, the Morning Star, local radio and Christian media, as well as huge amounts of support and attention on social media.

For Amy, Phil, and several of the others, this was their first Non-Violent Direct Action, and although the fantastic weather certainly helped, they said that it was an empowering experience that they would be keen to repeat. **If anyone is interested in taking part in future Yorkshire CND actions, please get in touch with us at the office.**

For more info and photos, see www.yorkshirecnd.org.uk or actionawe.org

Bikes not Bombs Cycle Ride – Friday 4th of July

Join Yorkshire CND as we celebrate the 'Grand Depart'. We've taken the slogan 'be part of it' literally and we'll be doing our own cycle route from Leeds to join CAAB's 'Recycle the Bases' demo at Menwith Hill
More inside.....



wool against
weapons

Yorkshire's radical knitters are building up to the big human peace scarf event at Aldermastone on 9th August. Yorkshire CND is organising transport and local events - see inside for more info.....

Bikes not Bombs

On Friday 4th July, Yorkshire CND will be cycling with an anti-nuclear message through the streets and lanes of Yorkshire. We're doing our own cycle route from Leeds to Harrogate the day before Wiggins and Co. do theirs; joining CAAB's 'Recycle the Bases' demonstration at Menwith Hill, then camping over for the night to watch the cycle pass the following day.

Sound good?



We'll be cycling at a steady pace to Harrogate with lots of rests, but you will need to be relatively fit. As we can't get the motorways blocked off for us, we'll be using Sustrans cycle routes, off road where possible and taking in the scenery.

If you want to get involved but don't feel confident in a 30 mile cycle, join us in Harrogate for the Stage 2 cycle – a leisurely and family friendly 7 mile cycle up to Menwith Hill, which should take us less than an hour. Or join us to set off in Leeds, and go as far as you feel comfortable. We'll have a support vehicle and a bike mechanic on-hand should disaster strike!

 **No faith**
in Trident

Lobby of Parliament - 11th June

To mark the last day of Bruce Kent's No Faith in Trident Tour, CND have organised a mass lobby of Parliament. If you can make it down to London on that day, please arrange a meeting with your local MP via the CND webpage or 0207 7002393 and read the lobbying briefing.

While we want to ensure that Yorkshire is represented in London, we know that not everyone will be able to go, so we will also be organising a virtual lobby locally, to ensure that we get at least 100 letters and emails to Yorkshire MP's on that day to show the depth of feeling back here.

The best way we can think of to do this is if we can get each get two friends or neighbours to write a letter or email. While we will all know others that agree with us that Trident replacement is an immoral waste of public money, most of the UK electorate will never directly contact their local MP.

Look at www.theyworkforyou.com to find your MP and how they've voted on Trident before.

Stage 1 – Leeds to Harrogate (27.1 miles)

Meet in front of the art gallery on the Headrow in Leeds from 10.30 for coffee and cake. Set off at 11.10 (exactly 24 hours before the Grand Depart) following cycle lanes out of the city, through Roundhay Park and out of the city, stopping for lunch by the River Wharfe and then onto Harrogate where we'll be greeted with refreshments at the Friends Meeting House.

Stage 2 – Harrogate to Menwith Hill (7.5 miles)

Just one stage a day? Not for us! After a quick refreshment stop at the Friends Meeting House, we'll be cracking on and putting rubber to the tarmac in the direction of RAF Menwith Hill. Meet at 4pm at Station Approach so that we can gather people who are just coming for the second stage and set-off at 4.30 after a press call. This stage is fairly flat taking about an hour

Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases (CAAB) hold an annual 'Independence from America' day at Menwith Hill on the 4th of July, this year they'll be joined by musicians such as Roy Bailey and Peace Artistes and speakers such as Owen Jones

Accommodation

We've been offered a place to camp on an idyllic farm nearby, we can't promise 'glamping' but there will be somewhere to pitch-up with warm food and welcoming campfire. There is a country pub for those in need of refreshment after the day's exertions.

The Tour de Yorkshire passes within 2 miles of where we're camped on the Saturday and then directly past on the Sunday for those making a weekend of it.

Please get in touch with the office to register or for more info.

Wellies not War! Yorkshire CND gets into the festival mood

Yorkshire CND is putting on its wellies [surely you mean suncream! - Ed] this summer and campaigning at festivals all over Yorkshire and Derbyshire to raise awareness and educate people of all ages about scrapping Trident!



We will be holding activities and workshops over the festivals, from peace sign painting, paper crane making to knitting scarves for Wool Against Weapons.

The festivals we will be attending are Peace in the Park (14th June), Willowman Festival (18th - 23rd June), Northern Green Gathering (23rd - 28th July), Y-Not Festival (30th July - 4th August) and Galtres Parklands Festival (20th - 25th August).

If anyone is able to lend a van, or drive a van on those dates (bar Y-Not Festival) to drop off and pick up gear, we are desperately looking for help!

Contact georgia@yorkshirecnd.org.uk

Marshall Islands to sue Nuclear Weapons States - news from the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Conference

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) contains the only binding commitment to nuclear disarmament in a multilateral treaty and was originally designed to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology and to further the goal of nuclear disarmament.

It obliges nuclear weapons states to work 'in good faith' towards nuclear disarmament while non-nuclear weapons signatories

promise not to develop them.

A Review Conference is held every five years, the next being 2015, but Preparatory Committees (Prep-Com) are held in between. The purpose of the PrepCom is to assess the progress made and make recommendations to the Review Conference.

The CND delegation last month consisted of myself, Jeremy Corbyn, Ben Folley (CND Parliamentary Officer) and Luke Massey (CND Press Officer)

The most exciting event was the contribution from the Marshall Islands. This Pacific chain of islands was the site of 67 nuclear tests from 1946 to 1958. Many of

the islanders have been displaced and even more have suffered serious health and environmental effects as a consequence of these tests. What's more their islands are still used for target practice by the US. They had announced just prior to the meeting that they were



CND's event at the NPT: Scrapping Trident: political perspectives on disarmament from the UK

suings the nuclear weapons states in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) for failing to carry out their nuclear disarmament commitments under the Treaty. As Laurie Ashton, counsel to the Marshall Islands, said,

'A country that agrees to reduce antiquated nuclear stockpiles while spending hundreds of billions to make other categories of nuclear weapons more lethal is clearly still arms racing. The people of the world can see right through any argument that responsibility for stalled nuclear disarmament rests elsewhere.'

This legal case is particularly relevant to the UK as we are the only nuclear weapons state

that has signed the NPT and recognises the ICJ.

The CND delegation had meetings with ambassadors from Austria, Norway, Mexico and the UK and we discussed a range of items with them, including the conferences on the "Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Weapons" and the legal challenge of the Marshall Islands.

We also shared experiences with anti-nuclear weapons campaigners from civil society groups in the US, Japan,

Italy, France, Germany and more.

One of the civil society inputs to the Conference Assembly was a "Statement on the role of parliamentarians" and CND Vice Chair Jeremy Corbyn MP was asked to present it as Co-Chair of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament UK Section. The statement called for civil society, parliamentarians and government to increase cooperation and ensure success for nuclear disarmament.

They end with a quote from UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon: "the achievement of a nuclear weapon free world is a global good of the highest order" – as the weakest link in the chain of nuclear states, the position of the UK at the NPT Review Conference next year will be crucial. If the UK makes the courageous decision to finally get rid of nuclear weapons it would show the way to the other nuclear states – as the UK parliament did with its decision for no military intervention in Syria last year. Wouldn't that be something!

Dave Webb

Lynx donates to CND after misuse of symbol

Unilever has caused quite a controversy by using the iconic CND symbol in its latest Lynx advertising campaign. General secretary Kate Hudson argued that the corporation's use of the symbol was "a flagrant co-opting of decades of activism". The CND symbol, designed in 1958 by Gerald Holtom, has never been copyrighted.

CND is happy for symbol to be used by other organisations to promote unity for peace yet when used in a commercial capacity for profit CND does ask for a donation. Under pressure from CND supporters, who deluged social media sites, Unilever did eventually make a donation stating that "in recognition of its historic link with the universal peace symbol, we are making a donation to CND's charitable trust to help fund their non-campaigning peace education programme in schools."

Mobeen Hussain

Ukraine Crisis - what does it mean for our anti-nuclear campaigning?

Proponents for nuclear weapons have been quick to seize upon the ongoing crisis in the Crimea as justification for the retention of our nuclear deterrent. The 'unpredictability' of future geopolitical conflicts has long been an excuse for maintaining Trident, and the spectre of a new Cold War with Russia only adds to this. Plus, say the nuclear lobbyists, if Ukraine had held onto its nukes instead of repatriating them to Russia in the 1990s, it is much more unlikely that Russia would have invaded. As Milan Rai, co-editor of Peace News says in his recent article "This may be an uncomfortable truth, but we think it must be faced by those who want to advance nonviolence....we have to have answers to the questions that arise."

There is not the space to reprint Milan's article 'Nukes, coups and referenda: myth and reality in the Ukraine crisis' in full here, but it is definitely worth reading for an in-depth discussion about the Ukraine and nuclear weapons, and helps provide those answers.

For those who don't already subscribe to Peace News, it is available on their website <http://peace-news.info/node/7651>, or if you wish to order a copy, it is in April 2014 issue.

Another good article is MP Jeremy Corbyn's in the Morning Star - www.jeremycorbyn.org.uk/?p=1982, or watch his appearance on the BBC on this edited video <http://www.counterfire.org/index.php/video/17089-jeremy-corbyn-on-the-big-question-should-the-west-go-to-war-over-the-ukraine>

Fundraisers Column

Thanks to everyone who helped us celebrate the 40th Day of Dance in style on 26th April. A great day was had by all including a fantastic Evening Event with a new swing/jive band, The 309s, going down especially well— and we raised thousands of pounds for Yorkshire CND! The next Day of Dance will be on Sat. 18th October – details will be on www.dayofdance.co.uk soon – please put the date in your diaries –for dancing and for helping out too if you can. Food coordinator: we are in need of someone to coordinate the refreshments on the day – please get in touch if you could help with this, which makes a big contribution to the funds raised.

Bookings are about to open for our annual Bradford Peace & Crafts Fair on Sat. 22nd November in the Victoria Hall at Saltaire. Crafts stalls will be £40

'No Glory in War' campaign

The No Glory in War campaign launched a year ago and aims to use the centenary commemoration of the First World War in 2014 to promote peace, international understanding and co-operation. It opposes the cynical, nationalist propaganda ploy - celebrating the war with 'national spirit' that the government hopes to advocate. For example Education Secretary Michael Gove wants to have schools glorifying WW1 to rally patriots for ongoing wars.

The campaign's open letter entitled "How should we remember the First World War?" states that "far from being a 'war to end all wars' or a 'victory for democracy', [the First World War] was a military disaster and a human catastrophe.... we believe it is important to remember that this was a war that was driven by big powers' competition for influence around the globe, and caused a degree of suffering all too clear in the statistical record of 16 million people dead and 20 million wounded."

'No Glory in War' and other peace groups are organising cultural, political and educational events to provide a counter-narrative to that of the government. A full list of events is on their website <http://noglory.org> but some closer to home include:

- a project initiated by the Bradford Peace Museum. 'Choices Then and Now' is a cross curricular resource that suggests strategies for teaching about World War I, recent and current conflicts, extremism and resilience and the choices available to people then and now.
- in Manchester, a Peace History Lecture: 20 September 2014, "No Glory" with John Westmoreland, Friends Meeting House, 6 Mount St, Manchester gmdcnd@gn.apc.org 0161 2738283
- In York, a day school, The War to End All Wars? The Anti-War Perspective, Saturday 1st Nov, Priory Street Centre, York

Mobeen Hussain

ground floor / £35 first floor and stalls for campaign/ community/voluntary groups will be £20.00 each. Get in touch if you would like a booking form.

Thanks to all those who keep supporting us via donations and also the 100 Club – full details of winners will be published on the website.

Well done to Sarah and Georgia for running in the Bradford 10K and raising funds for Yorkshire CND. If you are a keen runner please think ahead to future races and register Yorkshire CND as your chosen cause. Contact us if you could help develop this aspect of our fundraising.

Denise Craghill



wool against weapons

Special feature

JOIN THE HUMAN SCARF ON 9TH AUGUST Book your place on the transport from Yorkshire NOW!

Wool Against Weapons is a beautiful and engaging craft project that is raising awareness of nuclear weapons. This year on 9th August – the 69th anniversary of the bombing of Nagasaki – we will highlight the on-going development of Britain's Trident nuclear weapons programme at AWE Aldermaston and AWE Burghfield by connecting the bases with seven miles of protest scarf. Join the rewoolution and be part of the human scarf on 9th August! THOUSANDS ARE NEEDED to join a family friendly day of mass opposition to Trident. So whether you've knitted or not, come along and be part of this inspiring action.

Make it BIG so the politicians take notice. Book a place on the transport from Yorkshire CND (get in touch to find your nearest pick up point), or book a train. Bring a picnic, water, suncream, bells to ring. Toilets, music, activities will be at milestones between Aldermaston and Burghfield.

Local Actions

If you can't make it to Aldermaston, but want to join in the campaign, there are several things to do:

- Come to the **unfurling of the scarf at RAF Fylingdales on 21st June**. Meet at 12.30 at the main entrance on the Whitby to Pickering road. Bring a picnic! Contact the office for more info and possible lifts, or if you can offer a lift.
- Knit a piece of scarf (see www.woolagainstweapons.co.uk for details or phone the Yorkshire CND office)
- Join a local knitting group - there are people knitting bits of the peace scarf all over Yorkshire. Look at the website for local contacts or the previous Action for Peace or contact the office.
- Organise a photo-call or 'Knit-In' in your local town - we can help with arrangements.
- Check the Yorkshire CND website or facebook, or add your email to our mailing list to be informed about possible other wool against weapons events (we hope to do a 'Knit-In in Leeds in July)

GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST MILITARY SPENDING

In Bradford we marked the GDAMS day of action with a 'Knit-In' in Centenary Square for Wool against Weapons. Luckily it also marked the first day of proper Spring with glorious sunshine helping us attract lots of people. Around 6 of us knitted the pieces of scarf, whilst others leafleted about GDAMS and Trident, and spoke to the many people who participated in the People's Budget stall. A fantastic photo appeared in the local paper the Telegraph & Argus, and we did two local radio interviews.

We hope to repeat the success in Leeds soon. Get in touch if you aren't on our email lists to find out more.



Upcoming Events

Wednesday 11th June - No Faith in Trident lobby of parliament - see inside

Saturday 14th June – Yorkshire CND marquee, stall, displays, peace activities and a Knit-In at Sheffield's Peace in the Park, the Ponderosa, Netherthorpe, Sheffield.

Thursday 19th June - US Ambassador at Bradford University - CND/peace presence - contact us for details

Saturday 21st June - Unfurling the Wool Against Weapons wool scarf at RAF Fylingdales. Meet at 12.30 at the main entrance on the Whitby to Pickering road. Bring a picnic! Contact the office for more info and possible lifts, or if you can offer a lift.

Saturday 21st June - No More Austerity national demo in London organised by People's Assembly. www.thepeoplesassembly.org.uk

Friday 4th July – Bikes Not Bombs Yorkshire CND sponsored cycle ride with an anti-nukes message. See inside for details.

Friday 4th July – 'Recycle the Base' Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases, annual Independence from America demo. Main Gate of Menwith Hill, from 5pm. Music and entertainment with Roy Bailey and the Peace Artistes.

Sometime in July - Wool against Weapons Knit-In in Leeds, contact the office for more information

Saturday 9th August - Wool Against Weapons - see inside for more info

Saturday 9th August - Leeds Pax Christi Nagasaki Day event (more details to follow)

No To NATO - for the diary

This year NATO's summit is in Newport, south Wales. On 4th September, NATO, a nuclear armed alliance whose expansion into eastern Europe is provoking an unsettling arms race with Russia, will meet on the edge of this historic Welsh city. CND and other groups and individuals will oppose the summit with demonstrations and counter-conferences the preceding weekend.

More info on NATO, and on transport to the big demo and conference in the next issue - please add yourself to our email list to stay posted between newsletters.

New CND group in Hull

One of our supporters has recently started a new CND group in Hull. They've had one meeting so far, organised at quite short notice, and seven people attended. They are planning to hold further meetings and to do a street stall using our People's Budget prop. If you live in the area, please get in touch, even just with a message of support.

Angela Needham, 07737 249461,
angela_needham@homeopathy-soh.org

Local CND & Peace Groups/ Contacts

Huddersfield Peace Group c/o Charlie Fairbank, fairbankcharles@gmail.com, Tel: 01484-846183

Leeds Met Uni CND/People & Planet - contact g.gwynne7562@student.leedsmet.ac.uk

Bradford and Bradford Student CND - clarkamy32@gmail.com

Middlesbrough / Teeside CND - hussainsam03@gmail.com

Hull CND - Angela Needham, 07737 249461, angela_needham@homeopathy-soh.org

Keighley area - contact Sylvia on 01535 596808 robinandsylvia@aol.com

Leeds - contact Dave on 0113 274 1011

Grassington & District Peace Group - Richard Hargreaves, strand@hawkswick.net

Sheffield CND - crippskath@gmail.com 0114 2680726 <http://www.sheffieldcnd.org.uk>

Fund Education Not War, Sheffield Uni Group - contact Elva e.lynchbathgate@hotmail.co.uk

Upper Calder - contact Cath 07980 291478 - new group starting later in the year.

Are you subscribed to our email announcements list? A fortnightly email keeping you up to date between newsletters - cath@yorkshirecnd.org.uk

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It is also available by email, which helps us save on postage and paper - please contact the office

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