



Drop Stitches not Bombs!



Dancing at the Yorkshire CND orange milestone

Despite dire weather warnings the sun beat down on us yet again for the grand finale of the Wool against Weapons campaign. This mammoth campaign was an ambitious attempt to get people all over the country (and world!) knitting pieces to create a seven mile long pink scarf to link the two nuclear weapons research and warhead production factories at Aldermaston and Burghfield.

Radical knitting groups were formed, 'Knit-Ins' held, scarf unrollings organised, and press photo-calls arranged up and down the county in the months running up to the big scarf

demonstration on Nagasaki Day, 9th August. Before anyone even arrived on the day, the campaign had been a huge success, with thousands of people engaging with the issue of Trident replacement through the medium of wool.

See inside for more reports on Yorkshire CND's busy summer of campaign events

It became clear quite early on the day of the demo that there was a LOT of wool, way more than the seven miles needed to stretch between Aldermaston and Burghfield Atomic Weapons Establishments. By the time our Yorkshire coach arrived, there were barely any gaps to fill, and so both sides of the road were draped with wool, and along the bases at both ends.

Yorkshire CND organised a milestone, one of the coordination points along the route. We were really hectic all day, offering cups of tea, much-needed shade, and a sit-down, with some great music, a sing-song, and the Bard of Bury performing radical poetry. The atmosphere on the demo was fantastic, although unlike most demos, we were very spread out, and had little sense of what was happening at other spots along the route. To see a brief BBC video of the whole route, along with other media coverage go to <http://s.coop/pinkscarf>

The pieces of scarf will now be sown into blankets, to be sent to various places, including refugee camps in Syria, an orphanage in Thailand, local homeless shelters and other places.

For more photos, look at [Facebook.com/YorkshireCND](https://www.facebook.com/YorkshireCND)

The Rev Suzanne Vernon-Yorke, new chaplain in residence at SoulSpace above the CND office



**Upcoming - *Keep Space for Peace week* *Day of Dance*
Peace & Craft Fair *Rob Newman* - see inside for details**

Festival Frolics for Peace

We have had an incredible time campaigning this summer at festivals all over Yorkshire and Derbyshire. From North Allerton all the way down to Matlock, we have taken our tent full of activities, games and petitions to meet CND supporters old and new. Our first stop at Peace in the Park in Sheffield started the summer off with a lot of sunshine (and a bit of rain!). From there we went to Willowman Festival in North Allerton, Northern Green Gathering in Ashbourne and finally the very rainy but equally amazing Y-Not Festival in Matlock.

The amount of support from everyone of all ages was overwhelming and has given us real motivation to continue with our outreach plans. If you would like to see the pictures from our summer adventures head to the Yorkshire CND Facebook page and let us know where you think we should

visit next year.

Georgia Gwynne

[Huge thanks to Georgia for all her hard work on pulling together what has been an amazing Yorkshire CND tent at all these festivals.]

And more....

Yorkshire CND did a talk at Shambala Festival on 'The 100 Billion Pound Question'. 25 people attended with varying levels of knowledge, from someone who

was on the first Aldermaston march to someone who didn't know what CND meant.

Yorkshire CND also did two workshops at Peace News Summer Camp, one alongside Bruce Kent, discussing how we could campaign better against Trident in the next two years, and one discussing Franco-British cooperation on nuclear weapons and campaigning with Dominique Lalanne, from Mouvement pour une Alternative Non-Violente.



Bikes not Bombs and Independence from America Demo

It was a very soggy collection of Yorkshire CND cyclists who arrived at Menwith Hill (the US Spy Base in Yorkshire) for the Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases' annual Independence from America Day demo. Our spirits were not at all damp however, as we'd enjoyed

a fantastic cycle ride through lovely countryside, spreading our message about nuclear disarmament. The specially designed leaflet which pointed out the hopeless underfunding of cycling provision in the UK when compared with Trident was given out to people in Leeds and on route. We had left in lovely sunshine from Leeds, where we had made our presence felt among all the Tour de France shenanigans. We stopped by a beautiful river for a spot of lunch, and met up with more cyclists, grown-ups and children in Harrogate, before the heavens opened.

The 4th July demo was, as usual, extremely well organised, and considering the awful weather, well attended. Hot food awaited our tired, wet,



saddle-sore cyclists, provided by Bradford's 1 in 12 club. Fascinating speeches from US activist, David Swanson, MI5 whistleblower Annie Machon, and Caroline Hughes along with music with Roy Bailey, E.Lancs Clarion Choir, and other artists also helped keep us going until we retired to dry off around our fire at the camp we'd set up at the welcoming house of nearby Quakers, Robert and Angela.

We hope to make this an annual trip, offering us a chance to bring in keen cyclists new to CND, support the annual demo, and bring existing campaigners together to do something fun and politically useful at the same time.



NHS not Trident

Yorkshire CND joined the People's March for the NHS as it passed through the region last month. Marching from Harrogate, we then set up the People's Budget stall at the rally as the march arrived in Leeds. We caught up with the march again as it went from Sheffield to Chesterfield, and CND supporters are pictured in the eye-catching NHS not Trident T-shirts at the rally in Chesterfield.

The march will finish as Action for Peace goes to press, but more info can be found at <http://999callfor NHS.org.uk/>

No to NATO

Yorkshire CND supporters travelled down to Newport in Wales to attend the first demonstration against the NATO summit, with one of us staying over to attend the Peace Camp that is currently set up in a park in the town. Around 2000 people from as far away as Belgium, Germany, Scotland and many from Wales, marched through the town, and listened to speeches from the platform set up right in the main shopping street. Membership of NATO binds European nations – including the UK - to internationally unpopular US foreign policy. NATO membership forces non-nuclear countries to host US nuclear bombs in their countries, near their populations. NATO is the military alliance in Afghanistan, and NATO expansion into Eastern Europe is increasing tensions with Russia.

As Action for Peace goes to press, campaigners are participating in a week of alternative summits, actions and events, culminating on Thursday 4th September with a march on Celtic Manor, the huge resort in Newport where the summit is taking place. A contingent from Bradford are planning to travel down there, and for a report from them on the action, see our facebook page - facebook.com/



Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days

Peace campaigners and officials gathered in Bradford on 6th August for a poignant service to mark the 69th anniversary of the dropping of the nuclear bomb in Hiroshima. That bomb killed an estimated 140,000 people. Three days later another atomic bomb was dropped on the city of Nagasaki killing a further 70,000.

The Lord Mayor of Bradford Councillor Mike Gibbons, chaplain of the University of Bradford Reverend

Suzanne Vernon-Yorke, Owais and co-chair of Yorkshire CND Dave Webb, were among those who read poetry, messages from the Mayor of Hiroshima and accounts of victims of the disaster.

The service, organised by Yorkshire CND, concluded with a wreath of white flowers being laid by the Mayor and a peace candle lit on a memorial stone to the Hiroshima victims by Bradford peace campaigner Brenda Thomson.

Hiroshima Day was also commemorated in Keighley, with local CND and peace campaigners taking part in a quiet reflection, with the Lord Mayor of Keighley in attendance.

In Leeds, the annual Nagasaki Day memorial took place as usual, with the participation of the Lord Mayor. Alasdair Beal represented Yorkshire CND (as many of us were at Wool against Weapons), and gave a brilliant interview to BBC Radio Leeds.

Gaza 2014

After 50 days of destruction in Gaza, Israel and Hamas along with Palestinian Authority agreed a long term truce on the 27th of August which entailed a multilateral ceasefire, the opening of Gaza's borders which the Palestinian Authority would become responsible for and Israel extending the fishing limit of Gaza's coast. The seven week attack on Gaza has cost the lives of more than 2,100 people, most of whom were civilians, women and children. At least 11,000 people were injured and thousands displaced with homes and whole districts destroyed. The truce is clearly a welcome step but the precarious reality of the ongoing occupation in Palestine begs many questions for the future. How long will this truce last? And what about the pro-Zionist support for Israel which enabled it to attack Gaza in this way? What do the events of the past two months show us about the representation of the Palestinian plight in mainstream politics and media? In order to begin to answer such questions, we must look at the particulars of this Gaza 'war' and the position of many politicians in the UK.

Israel: A Nuclear Power

The recent fighting has re-highlighted the military capabilities of Israel as the only nuclear armed country in the Middle East. Some analysts have estimated that the attack on Gaza has cost Israel £1.5 billion and Shir Hever recently reported on the Stop the War coalition's website, that Gaza has routinely been used as a testing ground by Israeli arm companies competing in the global arms market so they can claim their 'products' are combat tested. Israel is the largest per-capita weapons exporter in the world and Hever suggests that after Israeli humiliation in the 2006 war against Lebanon, the Israeli government sought to focus its aggression on the Gaza Strip almost every 2 years. Israel's thriving arms business reiterates the need for further global checks on arms production and an increase in the efforts to curb the threat and need for nuclear weapons in Israel and elsewhere.

UK and party positions

The escalation of warfare in Gaza has yet again shown the British

public and the world the UK government's clear bias towards Israel, support which extends through all the mainstream political parties. Ed Miliband's statement on Gaza claims that he has "seen for [him]self the fear in Israel from the unjustified and appalling rocket attacks launched by Hamas from Gaza." Many such statements, rife amongst mainstream media, uphold Israel's right to defend itself without recognising the same for the occupied side. These arguments routinely misrepresent and dehumanise Palestinians, blaming Hamas for Israeli violence against Palestinian civilians.

Some notable exceptions to the pro-Israeli bias in our political system include Bradford MPs, George Galloway, and David Ward, who was criticised for expressing an understanding of why some Palestinians might feel forced to resort to violence to defend themselves.

Peace Demonstrations

The recent conflict has seen the growth of local and national demonstrations in support of Gaza across the region, the UK, and the globe. "Listen to the people of Gaza while we still can. For now, they have a direct voice to us via social media. We must listen and respond," wrote Kate Hudson, General Secretary of CND on her blog. And indeed the impact of social media and product boycotts have helped to increase awareness of the suffering of Palestinians under occupation and have boosted the calls for Boycotts, Divestment and Sanctions movement (read more on the War on Want Website). Such actions prove that grass root organisations and the general public have the influence to affect parliamentary debate and create change. Solidarity with the Palestinians needs to continue, even in times of relative 'peace'.

What you can do?

Donate to Medical Aid for Palestinians <http://www.map-uk.org/>

Join the International Solidarity Movement/ Stop the War

Write to your local MP and Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond to increase foreign pressure on Israel to

abide by international law.

Get involved in campaigns www.waronwant.org/campaigns/justice-for-palestine

For more information regarding the recent violence in Gaza:

Jon Snow and Paul Mason, Channel 4 <http://blogs.channel4.com/snowblog/watch-channel-4-news-live-gaza>, <http://blogs.channel4.com/paul-mason-blog/troops-ordered-pull-back-but-killing-stop/2058>

On the background of the Palestine situation -Noam Chomsky www.democracynow.org/appearances/noam_chomsky,

Mobeen Hussain

No Glory In War update

The 4th of August marked the beginning of the British government's commemoration of the First World War. The Department of Culture, Media and Sport organised a day full of events, services and memorials in Glasgow Cathedral and beyond. The Prime Minister said "a hundred years ago today Britain entered the First World War and we are marking that centenary to honour those who served, to remember those who died, and to ensure that the lessons learnt live with us forever." Yet, the No Glory in War campaign aims for the right lessons to be learnt from our collective tragic past, one where peace, dignity and integrity take precedent over war and the nationalistic, propagandist aims of present day governments. The No Glory in War initiative has a whole host of events and lectures in the coming months.

Those in and near Yorkshire include: 20 Sept 2014: Manchester: Peace History Lecture - No Glory with John Westmoreland (see back page)

1 Nov 2014: York: The War to End All Wars? The Anti-War Perspective organised by York Against the War. Priory Centre, York.

For more events and information visit the No Glory In War website: <http://noglory.org/>

Mobeen Hussain

Keep Space for Peace Week

The two military communications bases at Menwith Hill near Harrogate and Fylingdales in the North York Moors, are key components of the US missile defence system.

This system is designed to give the US global control of space (as well as land, sea, air and information) and the ability to launch first strikes anywhere in the world without fear of retaliation. It is an integral part of a nuclear first strike and increases the possibility of a nuclear war.

US and NATO missile defence installations in Europe can be seen as aggressive moves, particularly dangerous considering the ongoing crisis in Ukraine and the deteriorating relationship with Russia. As Action for Peace went to press, it emerged that in response to NATO expansion into Eastern Europe, a senior Russian General has called for military doctrine to be redefined to include the possibility of pre-emptive nuclear strikes against foreign powers.

We need to continue to highlight the role of these bases in promoting global insecurity.

At Menwith Hill, Keep Space for Peace week will be marked with a demo organised by Campaign for Accountability of American Bases at the main gates on Tuesday 7th October.
www.caab.org.uk

At Fylingdales, Yorkshire CND and friends will meet at 1pm at Eller Beck on the A169 between Pickering and Whitby, to walk around the base and have a peace picnic. We will also be flying peace kites in solidarity with the week of action against Drones which also ends on 11th. *More info on drones at <http://dronecampaignnetwork.wordpress.com/drones-week-of-action-2014/>*

More info on US Missile Defence at www.yorkshirecnd.org.uk

Contact the office for transport to either of these events

Fundraiser's Column

Thanks to all members who continue to support us with donations and regular contributions. We will be sending out our annual appeal during the Autumn and hope you will be able to dig a little deeper at this critical time for opposing Trident replacement. If you have any ideas for fundraising locally and would like some advice or support please do get in touch.

Many thanks also to the large team of young people who have worked for us again at summer festivals. Whilst they have all had a great time they have also worked very hard day and night and raised a goodly amount of cash for the campaign.

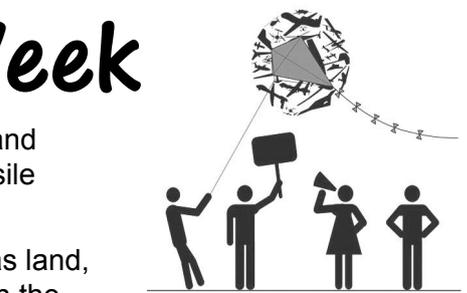
Day of Dance

The 41st Day of Dance is on Satur-

day 18th Oct. Please put the date in your diaries and tell friends and colleagues. Details & online booking at www.dayofdance.co.uk

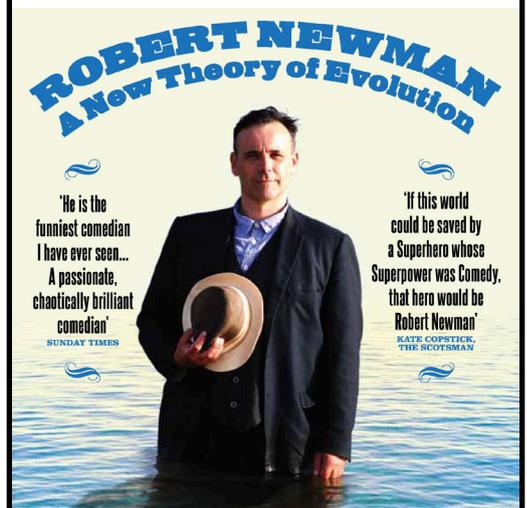
This is a very important fundraiser for Yorkshire CND as well as the chance to have a great day out in Saltaire. Along with 38 dance & song workshops (all suitable for beginners) we have a fantastic evening event with a ceilidh, klezmer and ceroc party. Members may also be interested in a special talk in the afternoon from 5pm – 7pm on the political song of the legendary Paul Robeson.

We are very much in need of volunteers to help on the day (anytime between 9am and midnight) including a special vacancy for someone (or a team of people) to coordinate the refreshments on the day – a



Rob Newman benefit

Political comedian, Rob Newman has kindly offered to do a benefit performance for Yorkshire CND, and Destitute Asylum Seekers Huddersfield. Make sure you get your tickets quick, and tell all your friends. We need to pack the house to make this a success. New Bradford Playhouse, 7.30pm, Saturday 1st November, 01274 308727



significant part of the fundraising. Please get in touch right away if you can help.

Peace Fair

There are still limited spaces left for groups or crafts people for the Peace & Crafts Fair at Saltaire on Sat 22nd Nov. As ever it will be a great day with lovely food, music and masses of ethical Christmas presents to buy – don't miss it!

We also have a special Singing for Peace workshop during the morning of the Fair led by Ana Hayrabadian, Musical Director of Bradford Voices. A chance to learn some seasonal songs for peace with a fun, inspiring tutor. 10am – noon. £7 waged, £6 conc. (includes Fair entrance). *Contact denise@yorkshirecnd.org.uk to book your place.*

Upcoming Events

20th September - Inaugural national Peace History Lecture, Manchester: 'World War One: Noble cause or capitalist adventure?' Speaker Dr John Westmoreland, Head of History at York College. Tickets £5 advance from GM & D CND 0161 273 8283, gmdcnd@gn.apc.org

4th - 11th October - Keep Space for Peace Week (see inside)

18th October - Day of Dance (see inside)

18-19th October - CND National Conference

1st November - Rob Newman benefit for Yorkshire CND (see inside), New Bradford Playhouse

22nd November - Peace & Craft Fair (see inside)

CND Conference Demonstrates.....

This year national CND conference is in London on 18-19th October but is a bit different to normal. Saturday 18th coincides with a TUC mass demo "Britain Needs a Pay Rise", that aims to highlight public spending cuts and will be a great opportunity to point out that £100 billion could be saved by scrapping Trident. CND members are being urged to join the 'Scrap Trident' bloc on the march and then stay on for the CND AGM "Britain needs to Scrap Trident: steps towards the general election" the next day.

Yorkshire CND has submitted a resolution to this year's CND conference noting that missile defence systems that deny any retaliation are an integral part of a nuclear first strike and increase the possibility of a nuclear war. US and NATO missile defence installations in Europe can be seen as aggressive moves that obstruct any further progress on nuclear arms reduction. This is particularly important considering the ongoing crisis in Ukraine and the dangerously deteriorating relationship with Russia.

US satellites and ground based command and control stations are crucial components of missile defence, global surveillance and armed drone operations and in Britain, military installations such as Fylingdales and Menwith Hill in Yorkshire actively support these activities. We are calling on Conference to help raise awareness of these bases and their role in making a nuclear war possible. We are asking CND and other groups to support "Keep Space for Peace Week" (see inside for local events).

Any national CND member can register for conference (by 10th Oct). Yorkshire CND members will be there – why not join us? Contact the office or go to the National CND web site at www.cnduk.org/about/cnd-conference for more info. Hope to see you there!

Dave Webb

Yay or Nay for Scottish Independence

A YES vote in Scotland would result in Trident being ejected from Faslane. With other suitable sites for the nuclear submarines in short supply, this is also a chance to put another nail in the coffin of Trident Replacement. The independence question isn't only about nuclear weapons, but they have played a key role, with 'Trident' trending on twitter after the latest debate between Salmond and Darling. We wait with bated breath....

Act, Speak, Vote > Disarm!

To increase the pressure on decision-makers at next year's election, Action AWE are calling for a month of action at Aldermaston and Burghfield AWE in March 2015 aiming for 31 actions in 31 days. In the build-up, we're asking people to sign a pledge, committing themselves to one day of action; see www.actionawe.org/pledge. More in the next issue

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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