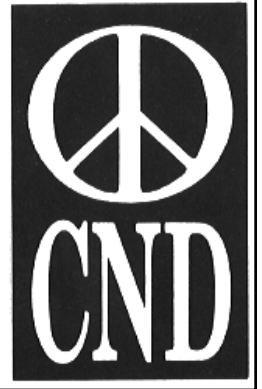


Merseyside CND Newsletter



Jan/Feb/Mar 2015

151 Dale St. Liverpool L2 2AH 0151 229 5282 mcnd@care4free.net www.mcnd.org.uk

If only I had known I should have become a watchmaker"
Albert Einstein, on his making possible the atom bomb



Wishing everyone a peaceful 2015 and hope for the banning of UK Nuclear weapons

Merseyside CND AGM

151, Dale St, Conference Room 4

Wednesday Jan 14th

2.00-3.00pm Film Show:

War Game - World War 1

Animated Special which follows the story of Will, Lacey and Freddie - three young Suffolk lads who leave their idyllic country lives to fight in the trenches of World War I and find themselves taking part in a historical football match.

3.00-5.00pm AGM Business

Business includes reports from officers and groups followed by the election of officers,

If you intend to come to the meeting please let Andy MCND Secretary know via the office so that he can send you the relevant papers the week before. Email: mcnd@care4free.net or collect by hand or by post.

To vote at the AGM you must be a paid up member of Merseyside CND or of an affiliated local CND group. There will be a short ordinary Co-ord after the AGM to discuss immediate campaigning issues like 'Wrap up Trident' Jan. 24th, the General Election and how to organise ourselves, the Burghfield Lockdown, part of the month of action at Aldermaston from Mar 2nd and how to mark the 4th anniversary of the disaster at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Station and more besides.....

MASS DEMO in LONDON to **WRAP UP TRIDENT**

SATURDAY 24 JANUARY 2015, 1.00 PM



JOIN the **PEACE SCARF** round Parliament and the Ministry of Defence, followed by a **RALLY** with speakers and music in Parliament Square.

SUPPORT PEOPLE, HEALTH, JOBS
SCRAP TRIDENT AND BAN ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Merseyside and Chester CND have decided that individuals will book their own transport and meet at an agreed place in London for all North West groups to gather as a block. Details of this will follow—please let the office know if you are interested in going.

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- P2 General Election Campaign
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Burghfield Lockdown
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This is a shortened edition due to pressures of the season. Bah! Humbug!

General election campaign against Trident replacement

'The Government elected in May 2015 will preside over the Trident replacement vote in Parliament in 2016. There has never been a more crucial time to show the strength of opposition to wasting over £100bn on a Cold War weapons system - while health, education and welfare are slashed. 'We're mobilising groups and individuals around the country to hold meetings, stalls, public ballots, which have already proven hugely successful, and hustings of parliamentary candidates: to make sure Trident is a huge issue ahead of

the general election.

'Most people are appalled when they see the enormous sums being earmarked for new nuclear weapons - especially when they see local hospitals and libraries closing. Parliamentary candidates must understand that scrapping Trident and cancelling its replacement is a vote-winner.'

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.

CND welcomes UK attendance at landmark nuclear weapons conference

CND welcomes the government's decision to attend a landmark conference on nuclear weapons in Vienna next week. The decision is a victory for CND supporters who have sent thousands of emails to MPs urging the government to join 150 countries to discuss the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons.

This is the third such conference in the last 18 months, reflecting growing international momentum towards the elimination of nuclear weapons. MPs from across the political spectrum called on the government to attend the Vienna conference, which even the nuclear-armed US administration declared it will be participating in.

The UK government was slammed for not attending the previous two conferences in Norway and Mexico. Former Conservative Defence Minister James Arbuthnot MP stated 'We should be there. I cannot understand why we are not', while former Liberal Democrat Defence Minister Sir Nick Harvey MP described the decision as a 'disgrace'. The UK's decision reflects a U-turn following pressure to attend and comes at a time when global momentum towards a nuclear-free world has increased dramatically. New research on the impact of a nuclear exchange has shown that a resulting famine could kill billions, and the International Committee of the Red Cross has stated that it could not coordinate a humanitarian response to a nuclear blast.

CND's General Secretary, Kate Hudson said:

'This is an about-face by the UK government - given its failure to attend the previous two conferences - and it is absolutely to be welcomed. It is imperative, ahead of the parliamentary vote on replacing Trident in 2016, for our government to take on board the warnings this conference will present. The UK must make concerted efforts to dismantle its nuclear weapons before humanity suffers once again the devastating consequences of a nuclear explosion.

'States around the world are fed up with the faltering process of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. This state-led multilateral forum provides an opportunity to confront this reality and make real progress towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

'The UK's decision to attend the Vienna conference will not only be well-received by the international community, but it is in Britain's interest to uphold its legal and humanitarian obligations and pursue global disarmament through diplomacy and international negotiations.

'A decision on Trident replacement is due in the next parliament: a decision which could commit £100bn of taxpayers' money to a strategically redundant weapons system. At the same time, vital public services are being eroded, including the NHS. For a majority of the British public, it's a no-brainer: scrap Trident, save £100bn, and spend it on things we need.

'With global momentum towards a nuclear-free world, it has never been more important to fundamentally rethink Britain's nuclear weapons.'



Opposition to Nuclear trains

Campaigners from the North West Anti-nuclear Alliance handed out leaflets at Chester and Wigan North Western Stations to highlight the potential perils faced by the towns from nuclear waste which is still being carried by trains between power stations. They say the

services are risky, with waste sometimes being transported just metres away from passenger trains and potentially being vulnerable to terrorist attack or sabotage due to what they claim is inadequate security.

While at Wigan station, two trains carrying nuclear waste passed through escorted by a driver and guardsman.

This means of transport has been a point of controversy for years, but despite the protests of antinuclear groups and criticism from residents the railways continue to be used to take waste from power stations across Britain.

Martyn Lowe (edited)

Photo (by John Usher) shows MCND members handing out leaflets at Chester station on Nov. 26th

Adverts

Nerve 2015 Calendar

The theme of the calendar is 'Love, Hope and Resistance' and is another winner from the Nerve Collective. It's available free from News from Nowhere, and Catalyst Media office 96 Bold St. or from CND office. Donations of £1-2 are welcome. If you want us to post one to you please send s.a.e. with large stamp for £1.10

Peace Diary

Housman's Peace Diary is available from News from Nowhere. Full of great quotes and info it's well worth the price of £8.95.

Pens

We have new bios in different pastel shades, black ink, and with a torch incorporated!! Price £1 (60p members)

**ACT
SPEAK
VOTE**

DISARM!



ACT AT THE BOMB FACTORIES. SPEAK TO YOUR CANDIDATES. VOTE FOR DISARMAMENT.

The next general election (in May 2015) will be critical in deciding whether or not the UK commits to ending its reliance on nuclear weapons, and commits to negotiations on a global treaty to ban all nuclear armaments, worldwide. In 2016, the next British government will make a final decision on contracts with BAE Systems to build a new generation of Trident nuclear submarines. The British people do not want or need any more nuclear weapons.

Since February 2013, Action AWE has shone the spotlight on Britain's Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) at Aldermaston and Burghfield, in Berkshire. These nuclear bomb factories research, design, test and manufacture Trident nuclear warheads. Before a final decision has been taken on replacement, the government has already squandered billions of pounds on upgrading AWE Aldermaston and Burghfield.

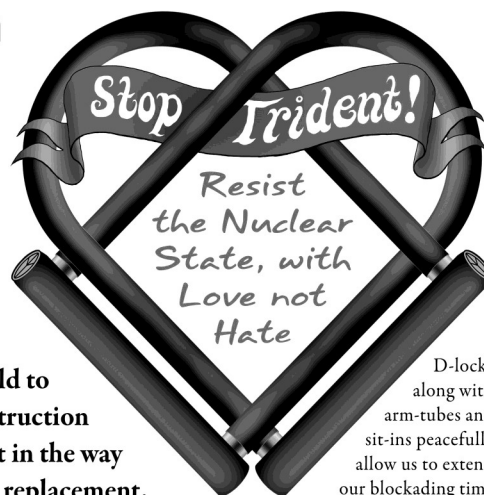
To stop them wasting even more of our much-needed public resources, the British people have to act, speak and vote against Trident replacement. It is wrong to spend money on Trident, which is inhumane and would cause a terrible humanitarian catastrophe if detonated - by accident or intention. Our security requires properly funded education and the NHS, not making more deadly weapons of mass destruction.

We want to make clear to all candidates that we will no longer tolerate our money being spent on WMDs. We want Britain to join negotiations on a treaty that will prohibit nuclear weapons, and require their total elimination. Such a treaty is already backed by the UN and most nations in the world, and could be achieved in the next few years. We should make sure the UK is on board, not wasting our money on replacing Trident.

Burghfield Lockdown

**Mon 2nd March
2015 starting
7am at AWE
Burghfield
Berkshire UK**

**You are invited to a mass
nonviolent blockade of the
two gates at AWE Burghfield to
peacefully disrupt the construction
of nuclear weapons, and get in the way
of preparations for Trident replacement.**



D-locks along with arm-tubes and sit-ins peacefully allow us to extend our blockading time

AWE Burghfield works alongside AWE Aldermaston (they are only 7 miles apart) to build and maintain the nuclear warheads that are deployed on Trident submarines. Our Lockdown will demand that plans to replace Trident are scrapped, and will call for a global ban on nuclear weapons.

Action AWE will host a convergence centre in Reading and can offer support before the action with forming affinity groups and non-violent direct action training. A briefing pack will be available on-line soon.

Billions of pounds are already being spent upgrading AWE Burghfield, pre-empting Parliament's 'decision' on Trident replacement in 2016.

Burghfield Lockdown is the beginning of a month of action at the Atomic Weapons Establishments called Act, Speak, Vote -> Disarm! It is our intention to put nuclear disarmament high up on the agenda for the May 2015 general election.

For more information please visit www.actionawe.org/pledge

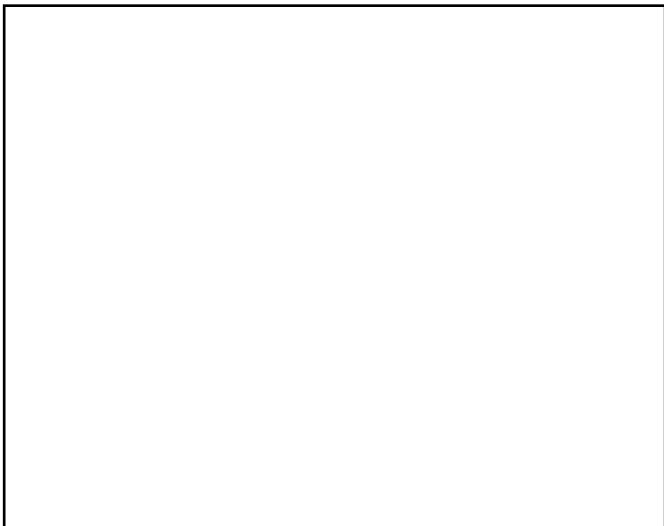
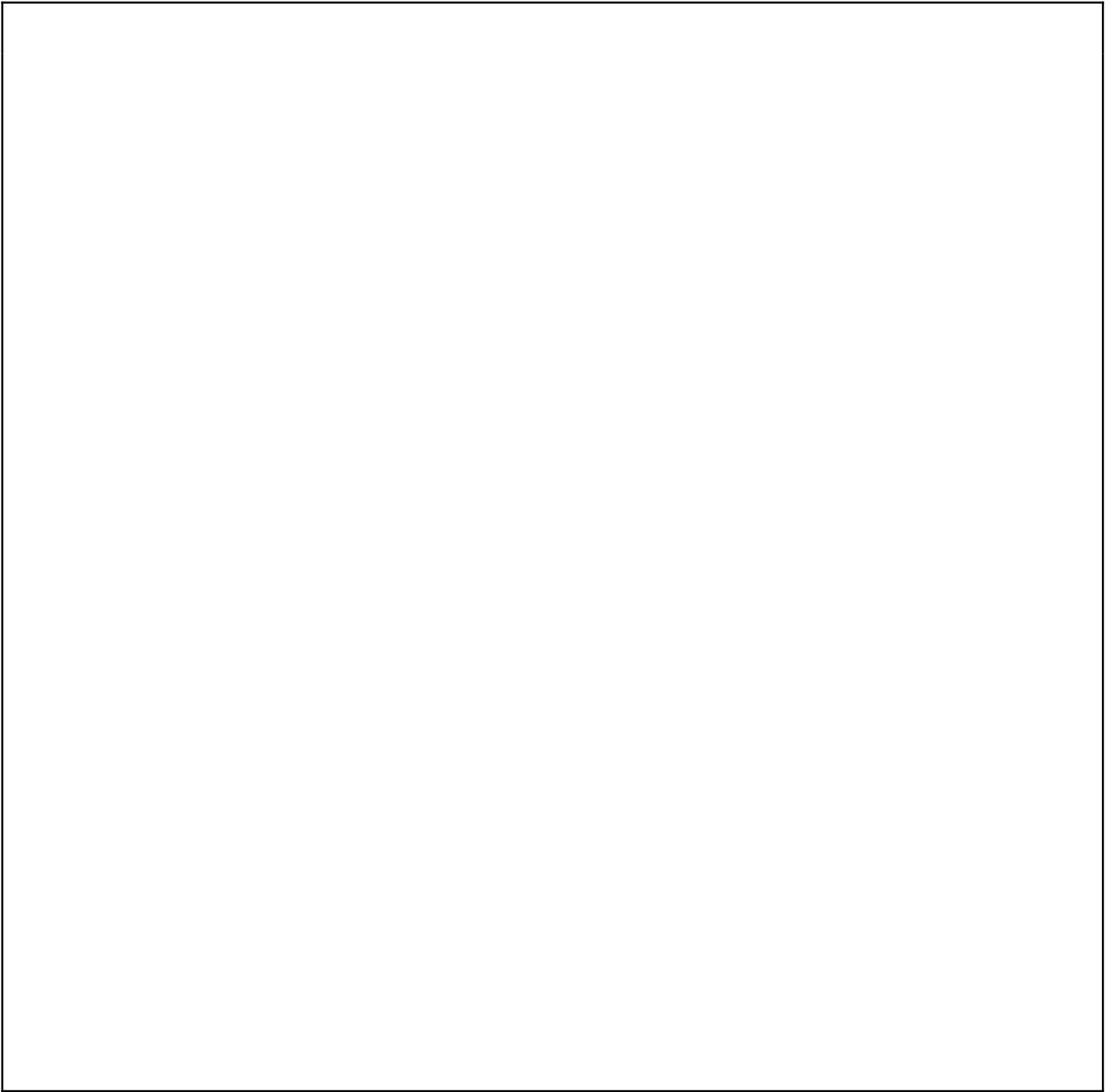
Email: info@actionawe.org or mobilise@actionawe.org

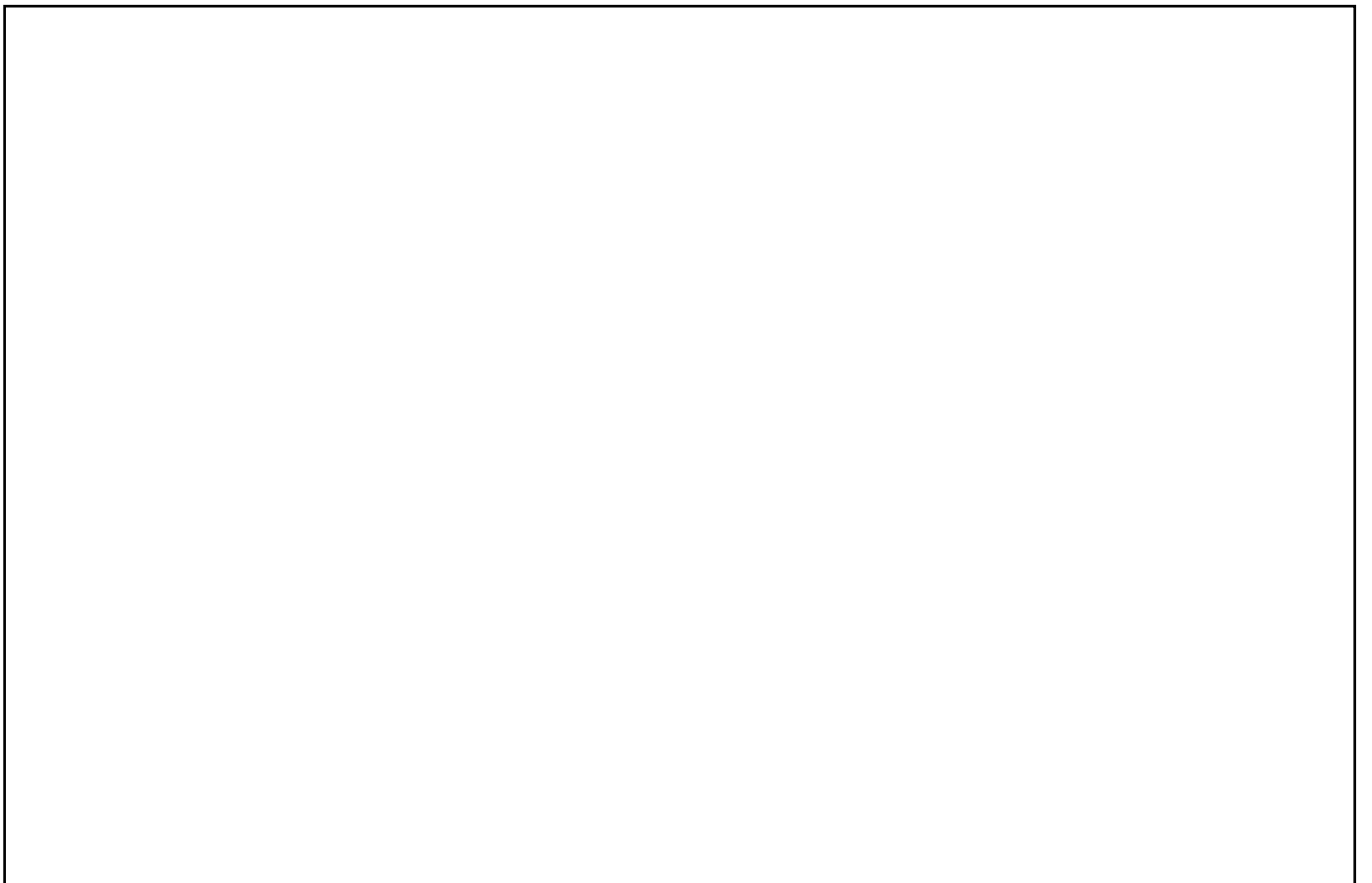
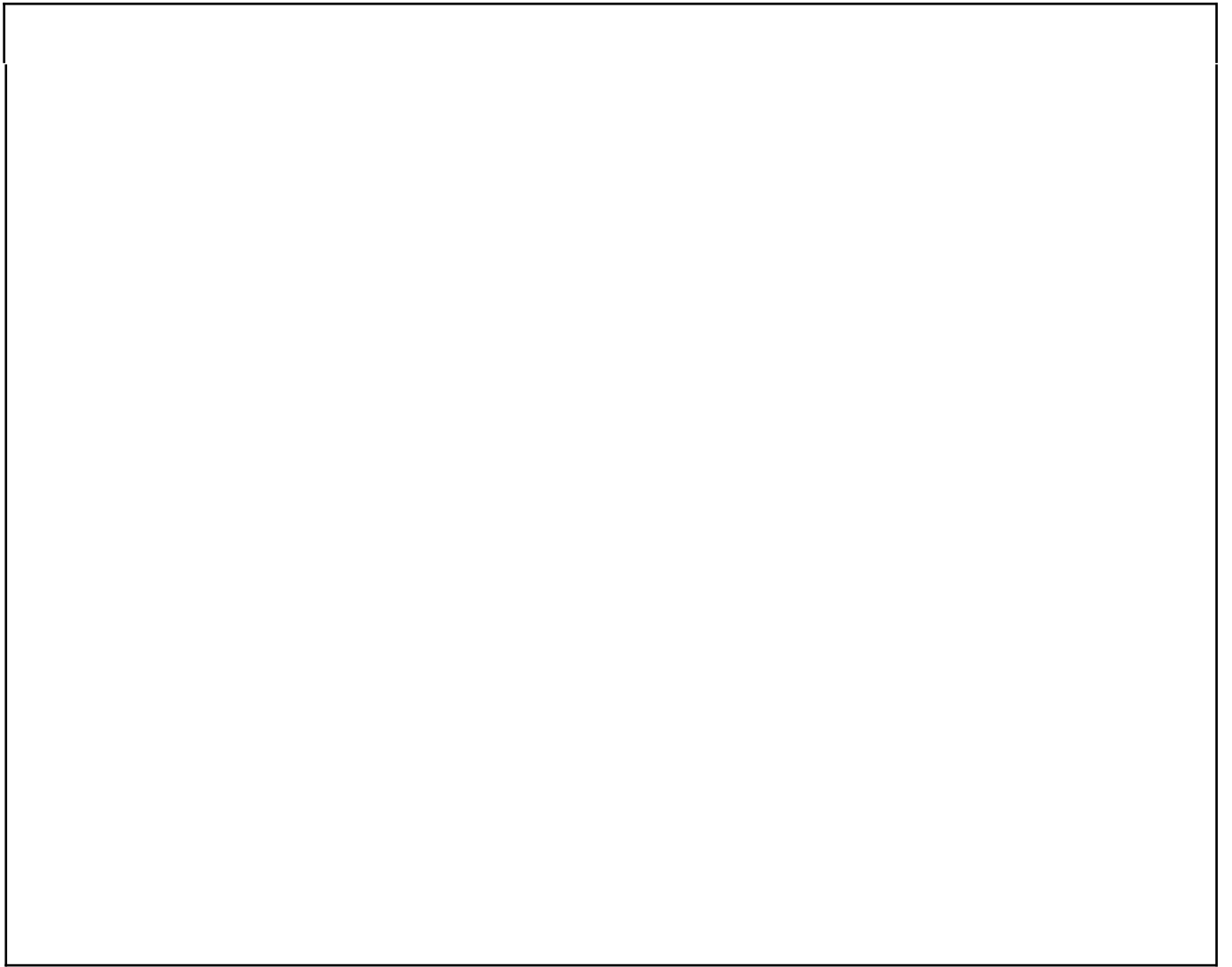
Or ring Angie: 01547 520 929

For more information see:

www.actionawe.org/burghfieldlockdown







Liverpool Quaker Meeting

Our Peace Group meets monthly and has had a recent focus on the growth of militarism in society as well as supporting events such as "Prisoners for Peace Day". Our next meeting is due to be held on 20th January at 6.30pm at the Quaker Meeting House, 22 School Lane. We hope to plan a session to involve the wider Meeting in a reflection of our Peace testimony. You are welcome to join us to find out more about Quaker peace work Contact Lisa Hoyle outreach@liverpoolquakers.org.uk or by writing c/o the Meeting House, School Lane, Lane, L1

Birkenhead CND

New Year Party Tues. January 6th at Shirley's 8.00pm
Next meetings: Tues 10th February, and 10th March 8.00pm at Shirley's : Flat 2, 14 Beresford Rd. Birkenhead CH43 1XG tel: 0151 652 3768

Chester CND

Venue for monthly meetings is Friends Meeting House, Frodsham St. This year we have run stalls in the city Centre, leafleted Chester Station against nuclear waste trains, handed in a Close Capenhurst petition at Capenhurst and joined in the Human Peace Scarf CND demonstration at Aldermaston
Contact: Allison Challen: chestercnd@gmail.com

Merseyside CND 50 Club

Recent winners of £50 monthly draw: Sept: Val Morrison; Oct: Tricia & Chris Brown; Nov: Rita Walker.
Annual Draw: 1st prize £250: Wallasey CND; 2nd £100: Maghull & Lydiate CND; 3rd prize £50: Neville Grundy.
Thanks to all members of the 50 Club for continuing to support us financially. Some groups and individuals pay 2 memberships per month have 2 numbers and twice the chance of winning the prizes. If you'd like to join ask Janet for a membership form - 0151 229 5282
mcnd@care4free.net

Liverpool Pax Christi

Peace Sunday: January 18th : the theme of the Pope's Peace Day message is 'slaves no longer but brothers and sisters in Christ'. We will have a stall at the Metropolitan Cathedral after the 11am service. We are happy to promote other literature on our stall particularly faith based.
Peace Sunday 2pm: Annual Justice & Peace Lecture at LACE, Croxteth Dr. Sefton Park: Jenny Sinclair will speak on the theme of 'Common Good'.

ASH WEDNESDAY: FEB 18TH public prayer/witness in Liverpool. Details to be discussed at planning meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at St.Michael's Church, junction of W. Derby Rd/Horne St. L6 5EH.
Next meeting 7.00pm Jan 6th 2014
Further info: Jan: 0151 522 1080.

Close Capenhurst Campaign

Organised 3rd co-ordinated station leafleting at Wigan and Chester in November against transport of nuclear waste on public railways. Updated nuclear submarines statement, endorsed by Radiation Free Lakeland and now on website: www.close-capenhurst.org.uk
For dates of next actions e: contact@close-capenhurst.org.uk or tel: 0151 229 52 82

Maghull and Lydiate CND

Wish all our members and supporters a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year
Contact: Sylvi: 526 7293

Wallasey CND

AGM 2pm Saturday January 10th followed by social 3.30pm at Barbara and Dave's, 4 Taunton Rd. Wallasey
Planning meeting: 2pm Monday Feb.2nd
Contacts: Barbara 638 3967, Tony 639 4968 and Janet 677 1133

MERSEYSIDE CND MEMBERSHIP FORM

To receive regular newsletters please complete form and return to address below.

Name.....Phone.....

email.....

Address.....

I/we wish to *join/ rejoin Merseyside CND.

Subscription rates: *waged-£4/ family-£6/ unwaged or youth (under 22) £1.

I/we *would/ would not also like a new member's pack at a cost of £1.

I/we understand that Merseyside CND needs funds for its campaigns and donate £_____

Total Enclosed £..... (Please make cheques payable to Merseyside CND)

Signed..... Date.....

(* Delete as appropriate)

Merseyside CND, 151 Dale St, Liverpool L2 2AHD

Merseyside CND AGM

2.00—5.00pm

Wednesday January 14th

Room 4 151 Dale St
0151 229 5282

All members welcome
See P1 for programme

If you receive a separate renewal form with this newsletter it means your subs are due – Thank you.

This edition of the newsletter run up by Cathy Page and Janet Laycock. Thanks to Catalyst Media, 96 Bold St. for duplicating.