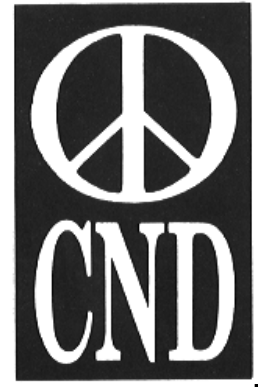
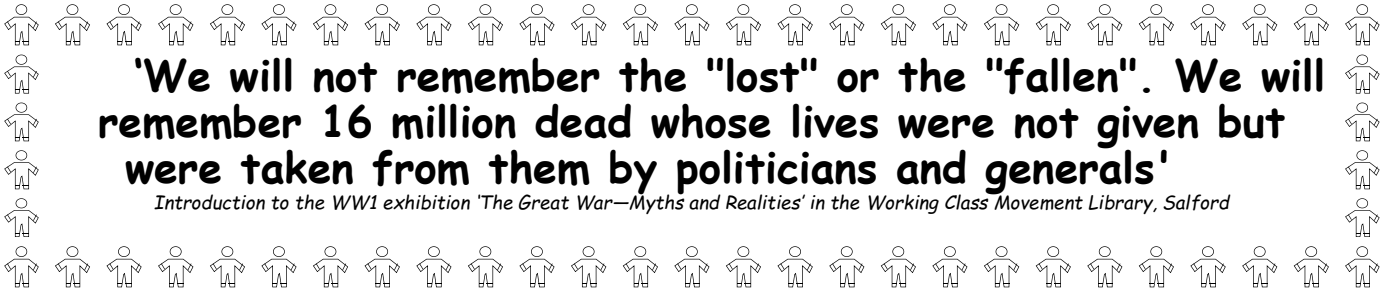


Merseyside CND Newsletter



October/November/December 2014

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



'We will not remember the "lost" or the "fallen". We will remember 16 million dead whose lives were not given but were taken from them by politicians and generals'

Introduction to the WW1 exhibition 'The Great War—Myths and Realities' in the Working Class Movement Library, Salford

**ACT
SPEAK
VOTE**

DISARM!



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

Action A.W.E. is calling for a month of non-violent direct action on each of the 31 days in March 2015 at Aldermaston and Burghfield to highlight the imperatives of nuclear disarmament and to halt the production of yet more warheads.

Merseyside C.N.D. would like to be a part of this but to do so we need enough people to form an effective blockade. We're asking for your help!

If you would like to join a Merseyside group at Aldermaston and Burghfield then please contact the office as soon as possible.

Happening just two months after the blockade the next general election will be critical in determining whether or not the U.K. commits itself to a new generation of immoral, obscenely expensive and ultimately useless nuclear weapons, because, in 2016 the new Government will make its final decision on Trident renewal.

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Housmans Peace Diary 2015

with World Peace Directory
The Housman's Peace Diary 2015 looks at the origins of the Women's League for Peace and Freedom in 1915, as women campaigned against the First World War, and at women's peace campaigning in the century since.

The week-to-an-opening diary includes a fresh choice of questions, and a new selection of daily anniversaries for celebration, thought, or protest. It also includes an updated directory of national and international peace organisations worldwide.

More details www.housmans.co/php or call Housmans on 0207837 4473. Also available from Merseyside CND



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Disarm provides us with an opportunity to stop billions of pounds being wasted on these weapons when the N.H.S., schools and transport system, amongst many other services, are being desperately under-funded.

We want to make clear to all the parliamentary candidates that we will no longer tolerate our money being spent on weapons of mass destruction. Britain must join negotiations on treaty which

prohibits the possession of nuclear weapons and requires their complete and unconditional eradication. Such a treaty already has the support of the United Nations and almost all of the countries in the world but it is up to us to make sure the United Kingdom is on board.

Disarm's pledge states that "I pledge to:
"work with a group of people, pick a date and take non-violent direct action at Aldermaston or

Burghfield Atomic Weapons Establishment in March 2015; "follow up our action at AWE with local activities, contacting election candidates about halting the renewal of Trident, and committing Britain to join on-going international efforts to negotiate a global treaty to ban all nuclear weapons."

Contact Merseyside CND if you are interest and state whether midweek or weekend would suit you better.

Prisoners for Peace Day 2014

1st December

As we did last year Merseyside C.N.D. will be sending cards and letters to prisoners of conscience who across the world have been jailed for promoting peace and human rights. These include Liu Yuandong who has been imprisoned in China since Feb 2013 for protesting against North Korea's atomic bomb tests, Megan Rice of *Transform Now Ploughshares* who was sentenced to three years for sabotage of a nuclear complex at Oak Ridge Tennessee and countless who refused to take part in compulsory military service.

We encourage everyone to send a card or letter! If you would like to do so then please follow these guidelines from War Resisters' International:

- Remember to send your card in an envelope;
- Include a return name and address on the envelope;
- Be chatty and creative: send photos from your life or drawings;
- Let the prisoners know what you are doing to stop war and war preparations;
- Avoid writing anything that might get the prisoner into trouble;

- Try not to begin your correspondence with "You are so brave, I could never do what you have done";
- Remember that the prisoner may not be able to reply;
- Remember-next year it could be you ...

The Merseyside C.N.D. office will have plenty of cards available for you to send so please call in between 11am and 3pm on Monday 1st December!

A list of prisoners to whom you can write can be viewed at <http://www.wri-irg.org/node/4718>



Britain Needs a Pay Rise

People are currently facing the biggest squeeze on their incomes since Victorian times, and wages have fallen in real terms every year since 2010. We believe that as growth returns to the UK economy, everyone should get a fairer share in the recovery. The time has come for Britain to get a pay rise.

The march starts on Embankment, with form up from 11am. We

suggest joining from the rear at Blackfriars to avoid a crush further up Embankment. After moving off, the march will go along Embankment to Northumberland Avenue, across Trafalgar Square, along Regent Street to Piccadilly Circus, and then along Piccadilly to Hyde Park Corner, where it will enter the park. The rally in Hyde Park will start as the march reaches the stage.

Public service workers across the UK are walked out on a one day strike on July 18th, in protest at continuing pay freezes and caps that have meant the average public sector worker is now £2,245 worse off in real terms since this government took office. In local government, where almost two thirds of the workforce are paid below £21k a year and around half a million workers are paid less than the Living Wage, workers will have experienced a real terms pay cut of 18% by the end of 2014.

The sustained attack on public

sector pay and pensions has played havoc with their living standards and seems to have no end in sight.

Ministers revealed this week that pay restraint looks set to continue into 2018.

Pressing the government to give public service workers a fairer pay deal is a key part of our campaign, and many of the workers marching and striking today will be on the streets of London with us on 18 October, calling for a raise in the nation's pay packet, and to see it shared out more fairly.

For more information please visit <http://britainneedsapayrise.org>

Scientists for Global Responsibility Conference 2014

4th October, 10:00–16:30
Halton Mill, Halton, Lancaster, LA2 6ND

Living with Environmental Limits: From Science to Practice

Come and discuss how we can both tackle climate change and improve our quality of life. Part of the event will involve tours of cutting-edge eco-homes and community-scale renewable energy technologies.

Main speakers:

The case for urgent and radical carbon emission reductions

Dr Maria Sharmina, Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Manchester

'How can we live well within natural

limits? Case studies of One Planet Living'

Sue Riddlestone OBE, Chief Executive, BioRegional

Parallel sessions:

Community renewable energy: overcoming obstacles

Sustainable living: what does it look like?

Tours of Lancaster Cohousing and local renewable energy technologies

For more information go to:
<http://www.sgr.org.uk/events/living-within-environmental-limits-science-practice>

John Hamilton Lecture by David Boulton

Objection Overruled: Conscriptio and Conscience in World War I
7pm, 9th October, Friends' Meeting House, School Lane, Liverpool

David Boulton is a member of the Society of Friends (Quakers) and the British Humanist Association. The author of *Objection Overruled: Conscriptio and Conscience in WW1*, he was a founder member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, editor of its journal *Sanity*, and a

member of Michael Foot's editorial staff on *Tribune*. David was Head of News and Current Affairs at Granada Television and is a former President of the Friends Historical Society.

This event is free but please book by following the link to event on the Liverpool Quakers website or in writing to Lisa Hoyle at the Meeting House www.liverpoolquakers.org.uk.

Meeting House Cafe

Liverpool Quakers teamed with Blackburne House Cafe to open this eatery in late-July 2014. It's situated inside the Liverpool Quaker Meeting House. Offers seasonal food like granola and porridge, soup and fresh

bread, sandwiches and paninis, baked potatoes, quiche, and salads. Price: Inexpensive

We are a social enterprise run in conjunction with - Blackburne House cafe bar. All our profits go to good causes across Merseyside. We are open from 9.00am till 3.00pm Monday to Friday and 9.00am till 5.00pm on Saturdays. Please come and join us.

From Green to Brown

John Davies thought provoking photography exhibition *From Green to Brown* is on display in the Ground Floor cafe. We have had such a good response to the photos that we have extended the exhibition until October.

The Great War: Myths and Realities

6th August–19th December
Working Class Movement Library,
51 The Crescent, Salford, M5

The first of our series of WW1 exhibitions probes behind the myths of war and its "glories". It explores topics such as Salford's response to the outbreak of war, the strength of the anti-war movement locally and nationally, what happened to the campaign which had gathered momentum by 1914 to get the vote for women - and the realities of trench warfare.

On this anniversary of the start of the First World War the Library wants to commemorate it, but to do so honestly. The exhibition introduction states: 'We will not remember the "lost" or the "fallen". We will remember 16 million dead whose lives were not given but were taken from them by politicians and generals'.

There's also a further two accompanying talks:

1 October Winifred Letts, Salford poet - Cynthia Greenwood

Winifred Letts was born in 1882 in Broughton. She had a prolific writing career producing plays, poetry, short stories, children's books and an autobiography. She was a nurse during World War One and also worked as a therapeutic masseuse. She was not afraid of confronting people with worrying aspects of the First World War such as those who deserted from the army and those sent mad by the conflict.

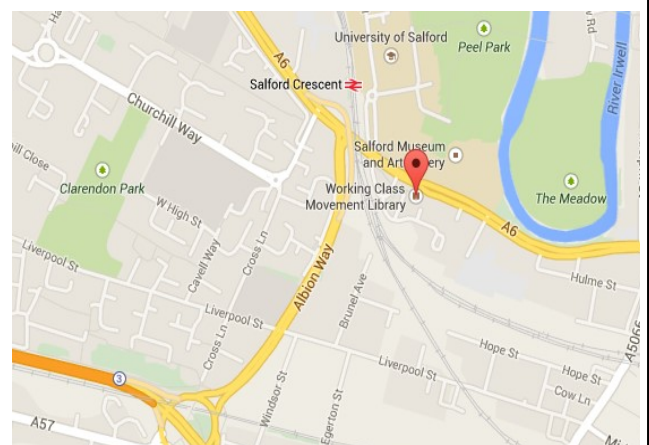
This event also marks National Poetry Day

8 October British trade unions and the First World War - John Newsinger

When the war began Britain was in the middle of a great strike wave that the Establishment regarded as of potentially revolutionary significance. In the first six months of the year over half a million workers had taken strike action for union recognition, for the closed shop and for increased pay. The war changed this. In the second six months of 1914, the

number of workers taking strike action fell to 21,000. However the unequal sacrifices that were demanded with profits rising while workers' living standards were squeezed still provoked resistance, from protests over rising food prices to South Wales miners striking for more pay, and engineering workers striking to protect their pay and conditions and in the process creating the First Shop Stewards Movement. By the end of the war the government was again worried about industrial unrest having potentially revolutionary significance.

John Newsinger is Professor in History at Bath Spa University.



Capenhurst Factsheet



- Where exactly is Capenhurst?

It is 5½ miles north of Chester, 2½ miles from Ellesmere Port, and 10 miles south of Liverpool.

- Who owns the Plant?

It is part of URENCO which operates similar plants in both Germany and the Netherlands.

- What exactly goes on in the plant?

It is a Uranium Enrichment plant and thus a key element of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle.

- How does that effect children's health?

Children have a greater vulnerability to radioactivity than adults. At Capenhurst there is a primary school within 150 metres of the URENCO plant.

Where is the Uranium mined?

The Uranium is mined in counties such as Australia, Canada and Namibia.

- How exactly does it get to Capenhurst?

It is shipped by sea to Ellesmere Port, and then taken by Road to Capenhurst.

- What Happens next?

It is enriched and converted in to uranium Hexafluoride.

- Where exactly is the enriched Uranium transported to?

Once enriched it goes by road to the Springfields plant at Preston where it's converted into fuels rods.

- By Road?

Yes by road. The company which transports this uranium Hexafluoride by road is Advanced Uranium Asset Management Ltd. These loads are so dangerous that there is a prohibition on them being transported through the Mersey Road Tunnels.

- So what happens to the depleted Uranium?

There is very little which can be done with it and so it is currently stored in drums at the plant. It is this depleted Uranium which has been used in ammunition shells, and is thought to be the cause of Gulf War Syndrome.

- So isn't anyone doing anything about that?

The Campaign Against Depleted Uranium (CADU) is working on the issue. There are many health dangers which come from an exposure to Depleted Uranium, especially if it is stored as a uranium Hexafluoride.

- That sounds very dangerous.

Yes, very much so! Normal functioning of the kidney, brain, liver, heart, and numerous other systems can be affected by uranium exposure because, in addition to being weakly radioactive, uranium is a toxic metal.

- How does that effect children's health?

Children have a greater vulnerability to radioactivity than adults. At Capenhurst there is a primary school within 150 metres of the URENCO plant.

- Ok. I can see all the potential dangers, but doesn't the Capenhurst plant produce urgently needed local jobs?

Not so! About 450 full-time employees work at URENCO. That's a quarter of what it used to be. There's a much higher number of jobs which can be created by a major programme of energy conservation, and the use of safe power sources like solar or wind power

- So how many new jobs will be created by the use of these clean energy technologies and the use of good thermal insulation?

In the period 2012-2013 the global number of people employed by the solar industry increased by 14%. 103,000 people were working in the UK renewable energy sector in 2012/2013.

The UK wind, wave and tidal industries employ 18,465 people. At the present rate more than 70,000 jobs could be created in these industries over the next decade. There would be many more such jobs if money was not being used to subsidise the nuclear industry.

- But wouldn't that mean building big ugly wind turbines in the middle of the countryside?

Not necessarily so. Ideally energy should be generated near to where it is being used. The ugly power lines which cross the countryside lose power in transmission over long distances, and so there should be less of them in use. Vertical Wind Turbines and solar panels are ideal for use in our city centres. While home insulation and other energy conservation measures will cut the amount of power we need to produce.

The Rethink Trident Statement:

As Britain faces the deepest public spending cuts in living memory, the country can ill-afford to be spending in excess of £100bn on replacing Trident with a new generation of nuclear weapons.

Britain's security needs are not met by nuclear weapons which can do nothing to combat the threats posed by terrorism, climate change or cyber warfare. If countries like Britain justify their retention and replacement of nuclear weapons on the grounds of an uncertain future, it increases the likelihood that non-nuclear states will seek to use the same rationale to justify developing their own weapons systems.

Instead of wasting over one hundred billion pounds on new nuclear weapons, there are many forms of socially useful spending to which the funds

could be put: combating child poverty and youth unemployment; providing affordable homes; investing in education and the NHS, as well as putting serious resources into renewable energy, to name just a few. It is clear that it is Trident replacement which should be cut - not these vital areas.

We believe the Government should cancel the replacement of Trident. This would allow for the existing skilled manufacturing base to be re-orientated towards providing for the needs of a post-carbon future, with the potential for significant investment in green jobs.

The Government must be a leading participant in current global initiatives to significantly reduce holdings of nuclear weapons, with the aim of achieving a nuclear-free world.

Cancelling the programme to replace Trident would have a transformative effect on the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty process, greatly boosting the chances of agreeing a timetable for multilateral global disarmament.

Our security does not exist in a vacuum: we must work for genuine

global security which can only be achieved through the abolition of nuclear weapons. Cancelling plans to replace Trident would be a momentous step in this direction, for Britain and the world.

To find out more about the Rethink Trident Campaign and to sign the statement please go to: <http://www.rethinktrident.org.uk>

Supporting COs.

The Issue of Conscientious Objection is not a historical matter, but very much a contemporary one, and that is how the so called 'celebrations' about World War One should be viewed.

I was lucky enough to spend some of my younger days in the company of a number of WW1 COs.

I knew Harold Bing. He's one of the youngest COs to be jailed during WW1, and a co-founder of the War Resisters International [WRI].

Some 45 years ago I was on a Prisoners for Peace day march, and went with Harold to hand in a petition on the issue to the Portuguese Embassy.

In 1971 both Harold and I took part in the demonstration outside of the Spanish embassy. This was in protest about the jailing of the Pepe Beunza and other Spanish COs.

Since then -

- I have been on pickets about German, Turkish, & Egyptian COs.
- I've spent many days mailing out the annual Prisoners For Peace list.

- Been on the annual International CO day ceremonies at the CO stone at Tavistock Square.

In 2011 my South Korean friend Moon Myungjin was jailed as a CO. I picketed the South Korean embassy for his release.

Moon Myungjin is one of the bravest individuals I have ever meet. I can say exactly the same about all the COs who have and are jailed throughout the world.

Right Now.

As I write there are jailed COs in such countries as Colombia, Turkmenistan, North Cyprus, China, Eritrea, South Korea, and Israel.

You can find out about how to support them all upon the webpage of the War Resisters International.

http://www.wri-irg.org/programmes/co_alerts

To quote the founding declaration the War Resisters International:-

War is a crime against humanity. I am therefore determined not to support any kind of war, and to strive for the removal of all causes of war'.

I fully adhere to that declaration.

Martyn Lowe

Wallasey CND

Planning Meetings: Planning meeting—Monday November 3rd, 15:00 at Barbara's. 4 Taunton Rd.
Contacts Barbara 638 3967, Janet 677 1133

Liverpool CND

Liverpool C.N.D. will be holding a "Scrap Trident" stall in the coming weeks outside News from Nowhere, Bold St.

The exact date and time will be confirmed soon!

Birkenhead CND

Meetings: - Tuesday Oct 7th, Tuesday Nov 11th 8pm at Shirley's

Stall—We will be holding a stall at the Festival of Light in Prenton High School on Friday 28th from 4-8pm. A chance to talk to school children about nuclear issues.

New Year Party—Tuesday 6th January at Shirley's 8pm bring food!

Merseyside CND 50 Club

Recent winners: August—John Deacon, July—Ruth Mullins, June—Barbara Hardcastle

Thanks to all members of the 50 Club for your continuing financial support. For £5 per month you too could be a winner of £50 per month or £250/£100/£50 in annual draw.

Ask Janet for a membership form - 0151 229 5282 mcnd@care4free.net NB Some groups/individuals pay 2 memberships per month - hence have twice the chance of winning the draw!

It's not a fix—honest!

Close Capenhurst Campaign

C.C.C. has just produced two new campaigning leaflets.

One is about the relationship between Capenhurst and proposed nearby fracking site at Upton.

<http://close-capenhurst.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Upton-Anti-Fracking-Leaflet-Mid-September.pdf>

The second leaflet is **Chester Beware!** Trains pulling containers of highly-radioactive used fuel rods ("Nuclear Trains") regularly go through Chester on their way up to Cumbria.

<http://close-capenhurst.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Chester-Beware1.pdf>

These waste trains are operated by DRS [Direct Rail Services] which transports this highly radioactive waste through some of the most highly populated areas in the UK.

C.C.C. is also looking in to the issue of uranium hexafluoride (UF6).

Liverpool Pax Christi

Anti-drones leafleting session: 12:30—14:00, Wednesday 8th October, University Square, University of Liverpool (near Blackwell's)

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

MCND Co-ord: 2pm
Wednesday 1st
October

CND Office 151 Dale St.
If you receive a separate
renewal form with this
newsletter it means your
subs are due - Thankyou.

This edition of the newsletter
was run up by Cathy Page and
Andy Morton.

