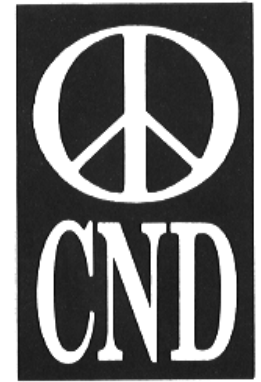


# Merseyside CND Newsletter



July/Aug/Sept/Oct 2017

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



"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children. This is not a way of life at all in any true sense."

Dwight Eisenhower USA President 1953-1961

## Anniversaries of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

**Sunday 6th August 12.30—1.30**

St. Werberg's Square Birkenhead

Please come and join Birkenhead CND reading poetry & prose, singing songs and making cranes

Contact: Joan 200 2312 joangoodier@hotmail.com

Or Cathy 378 1760 cath.page@phonecoop.coop

**Chester: Sunday August 6th**

Hiroshima and Nagasaki Flower Memorial

8.00pm The Groves in Chester by the Bandstand.

There will be readings, the dropping of white flowers on the river from the suspension bridge All welcome - bring white flowers to drop on the river if you wish:

Allison Challen: chestercnd@gmail.com

**Nagasaki Day Wednesday 9th August**

**Liverpool** St. John's Garden by St. George's Hall

10.45 for 11 o'clock 1 minute's silence followed by laying of wreath by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool

Cllr. Malcolm Kennedy

with music, verse and tributes

mcnd@care4free.net 0151 229 5282

**Liverpool Pax Christi: Aug 9th**

Street stall 2-5pm outside PRIMARK, Church St.

Contact Jan Harper <janharper1@yahoo.co.uk>

## Merseyside Peace Network

After the success of the protest at the Albert Dock on Armed Forces Day which was led by MPN including Quakers, Pax Christi, Merseyside CND, Crosby Justice & Peace Group, local churches and individuals, members prioritised actions on certain key days during the coming year marking Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days, UN Days of Peace Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> and of Non-Violence Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Prisoners for Peace Day Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, Global Days against Military Spending April 20<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup> day for remembering Conscientious Objectors. Meetings are usually held every other month at Friends Meeting House, School Lane L1 3BT [mpn2017@googlegroups.com](mailto:mpn2017@googlegroups.com)

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## MCND JOINS PROTEST OVER COUNCIL SPONSORED GUNS ON OUR STREETS!

On 24<sup>TH</sup> June, along with other members of Merseyside Peace Network, MCND joined a silent protest outside the gate of the Albert Dock. Why? Because on Liverpool's waterfront, children as young as six were being encouraged to 'play' with machine guns, to clamber over tanks and brandish automatic weapons as part of Armed Forces Day.

If this had been in North Korea, or in Eastern Europe, our media would, no doubt, describe it as symptomatic of an unhealthily militaristic society. Yet this was in our city and happened with the active encouragement of the city council. Honouring our veterans is one thing but using the occasion to indoctrinate our children into believing that war is a form of exciting recreation is totally unacceptable.

Yet, this indoctrination works. Too many of those children will become tomorrow's recruits, joining up on the carefully contrived but false promise of adventure and the chance to prove

their mettle in 'honourable combat'. We know, and the Government knows, that this is a cruel delusion - 'honour' and personal bravery have very little to do with the reality of modern warfare. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century killing is a largely technological process and the victims are, as they have been in every conflict for the past century, overwhelmingly civilians.

Today, our most effective warriors wear white coats and the horrific weapons they develop are delivered by ever more sophisticated machines to the cities and people of the developing world in countries such as Syria, Afghanistan and Libya. With the advent of unmanned drones, delivering death and destruction is fast becoming a purely scientific process. The recruitment and deployment of young soldiers is therefore becoming strategically irrelevant except as a patriotic cloak in which to mask the harsh and immoral realities of industrial warfare. Marching soldiers behind

military bands and spectacular 'fly pasts' are, in reality, a cynical and cruel joke.

We need to speak out - to explain that it is a dangerous illusion to continue to think of our modern 'military campaigns' in terms of personal combat, of military heroics, of heroes fighting to defend our homeland. To continue to describe 21<sup>st</sup> century warfare in terms of 19<sup>th</sup> century military traditions to our impressionable young people is selling them a lie and one that, too often, ends with them being blown up in the dusty streets of hostile cities among people about whom they know almost nothing.

Nuclear weapons are the ultimate extension of this 21<sup>st</sup> century industrialised warfare. All of us in the Peace Movement need to speak out urgently against the increasing militarisation of our society and to tell the truth about the reality of modern warfare.

We owe it to our young people.

*Peter Wilson Co-chair MCND  
Photo John Usher*



### "This is Belonging"

This is a not so subtle campaign by the MOD to attract young people from relatively poorer areas into the Armed Forces. A briefing document obtained by Child Soldiers International shows that the MOD is particularly focusing its recruitment on 16-24 year olds, in mainly Northern towns and in poorer districts. 'The campaign, launched earlier this year, includes 30-second films showing fictional scenes of young soldiers in various training and combat situations helping and supporting each other, facing challenges with

camaraderie and good humour. The films were disseminated via social media, TV, and cinema. The target audience is those with mean income £10k.

Rachel Taylor from CSI says "there's a reason why 16 year old boys are a great target for recruitment. At that age adolescents are primed into risk-taking behaviour, into wanting to prove themselves as men, into wanting to establish an identity, a sense of belonging, which is really played upon in the current advertising campaign."

From an article by Steven Morris  
Guardian 10.7.17

### MOD in junior schools

The armed forces are also now regularly going into junior schools—again increasing the militarisation of our children. The schools apparently welcome them as they improve discipline and so improve results.

At the same time we don't want guns on our streets—somewhere there is a mismatch. To sort out your national arguments with guns is legal but to sort out your personal disputes with guns is murder'



# UN Ban on Nuclear Weapons

CND has been campaigning for the global abolition of nuclear weapons ever since its foundation in 1958, so the news today that the United Nations has agreed a treaty which can make exactly that happen is very welcome. The challenge for everyone now is to persuade the nuclear armed states to sign up.



More than 130 states took part in the talks, and we hope many of them will be joining when the treaty opens for signature in September. Given the UK's persistent boycotting of the process it's unlikely that we'll be one of the first states to sign, but the work to bring the government into the fold starts now.

The treaty contains many of the key features that CND has been calling for in a ban treaty. It is a strong and comprehensive text which has the potential to bring the world closer than ever to achieving a world without nuclear weapons.

Article 1 is a comprehensive ban on nuclear weapons and other related activity. The list of prohibitions includes the use, stockpiling, testing, production, manufacture, stationing and installation. Article 1 also bans assisting with the prohibited acts, such as the United States leasing the Trident missiles to the UK to carry nuclear warheads.

It will also be illegal to allow nuclear weapons to travel through territorial waters or airspace.

Articles 3 and 4 set out how the meeting of obligations are measured, including the verification of the irreversible destruction of nuclear weapons and the programmes to develop them. There are provisions to strengthen the safeguards and a prohibition on them being weakened.

Articles 6, 7, and 8 require states to provide assistance to victims of nuclear weapons, either through their use or through testing. It is also a requirement that action is taken in contaminated areas. There is also a requirement to encourage other states to join the treaty, and for regular meetings to review the progress being made.

While states will be encouraged to join the treaty at the first opportunity, likely to be in September, there are provisions in Article 4 for states to join at a later date. The nuclear weapons states would have to remove their weapons from operational status and eventually destroy them. This would have to be done through plans which would need to be submitted for approval.

The treaty is a significant pointer towards changing international attitudes to nuclear weapons. Previous treaties prohibiting chemical and biological weapons helped to stigmatise them in the minds of the public. Can you imagine being part of a chemical weapons alliance, as the UK continues to be part of NATO, a nuclear alliance?

While we welcome the treaty, it's important to be realistic. Given that the UK parliament voted almost a year ago to give the £205bn project to replace Trident the green light, it is unlikely that Theresa May will be signing up to the treaty any time soon. CND will continue to work with all our partners in Parliament and across civil society to oppose the replacement of Trident, as well as raising awareness of the Global Ban Treaty and the potential it has to bring about positive change.

## Tell Theresa May to support the ban

On the 7th July 2017, more than 120 countries agreed to an historic United Nations treaty to ban nuclear weapons. The treaty follows decades of grassroots campaigning across the world. CND has been calling for a global ban on nuclear weapons since its founding in 1958 and we are delighted at the development. More than 130 countries took part in the first round of discussions, with many citing the previous prohibitions achieved on chemical weapons, biological weapons and cluster munitions.

The UK government has continually boycotted the process, despite claiming that it plays a "full and active role in the UN First Committee on disarmament and international security". As the first round of talks got underway the UK ambassador chose to stand

shoulder to shoulder with Donald Trump's representative as they denounced the efforts to bring about a nuclear free world.

Successive UK government have stated their support for multilateral nuclear disarmament, but fail to take action to match the rhetoric. Theresa May has a chance to bring about a more peaceful world by banning nuclear weapons.

CND has been campaigning for global abolition of nuclear weapons for decades and will continue to urge the government to sign up to the treaty once it is finalised.

Please add your name to the calls for Britain to support the ban on nuclear weapons, and discuss with your local MP.

## Scrap Trident Join the Global Nuclear Ban stalls

We have been running these leafleting and petition signing sessions all around Merseyside, every couple of weeks throughout 2017 the most recent being on July 14th in Liverpool and 15th in West Kirby as part of CND's Group Challenge. Usually we stay about 2 hours at a busy time approaching local shoppers to put the case against renewing Trident and for a world-wide ban on Nuclear Weapons as there is on Biological & Chemical weapons and on Landmines.

The Nuclear Weapons Ban should soon be ratified at the UN and it's important to explain to people many of whom are completely unaware of this development what a big step forward for the safety of the world this will be.

Please can we come and help run a stall in your area? Contact MCND or Birkenhead or Wallasey CND for the next steps! See P6 for their contact details.

# Calling all students

Hello!

I'm Katie, and have just started in the CND office as a Campaigns Assistant for July and August.

We'd really love your help on a campaign Youth and Student CND have been pushing. They have had some great successes recently with getting University Student Unions to pass motions against trident (at Manchester, Bristol and UEA); one students union even added a clause that they would pay for buses for any students wanting to attend Anti-Trident demos! It seems to be a really effective way of getting big symbolic support for disarmament in places where there isn't already a university group in place.

Can you help us get in touch with more students unions in Merseyside, as we really think a push from a local group would help get momentum going for support for disarmament on campuses. Any active anti-war/peace groups, or Green or Labour Party groups are definitely worth getting in touch with to encourage them to put pressure on their union. You could propose holding a group event and/or ask them to table an anti-trident motion to their union AGM. Whatever you feel is the best way to get the message across! If you already have links with groups on campuses, that's great. (Please let Katie or MCND know)

We've got a 'books not bombs' motion already drafted that unions can use, which allows a union to declare themselves '**Against £205 billion being spent on replacing Trident in the wake of education cuts.**' <http://cnduk.org/get-involved/events/item/2094-draft-motion-for-student-unions> so the process should be simple for any groups or individuals who want to propose something. We can send you any of the Youth and Student 'books not bombs' campaigns literature too, if you think that would be helpful for organising events.

These are the contact details for universities in your area, none of whom yet have CND groups on campus or whose unions have passed anti trident motions;

Universities are on summer breaks at the moment, so if you don't hear quickly back from people, don't be deterred! They'll all have new teams of Union officers and recently elected society execs who will be finding their feet, but this will hopefully therefore be mean new groups of student activists keen to make an impact early on in their roles!

Please to get in touch with any thoughts or questions you have on this plan. Thanks for all your help, and please do keep me updated on how you get on!

Looking forward to speaking to you soon,

**Katie Clark**  
Campaigns Assistant  
Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)

Edge Hill University	Edge Hill University Students' Union, Liverpool L39 4QP	01695 657301	<a href="mailto:supresident@edgehill.ac.uk">supresident@edgehill.ac.uk</a>
Liverpool Hope University	Liverpool Hope Students' Union, Liverpool L16 9JD	0151 291 3707	<a href="mailto:union@hope.ac.uk">union@hope.ac.uk</a> ; <a href="mailto:pres@hope.ac.uk">pres@hope.ac.uk</a>
Liverpool John Moores University	Liverpool Students' Union, Liverpool	0151 231 4902	<a href="mailto:president@ljmu.ac.uk">president@ljmu.ac.uk</a> ; <a href="mailto:vpactivities@ljmu.ac.uk">vpactivities@ljmu.ac.uk</a>
University of Liverpool	Liverpool Guild of Students, Liverpool L3 5TR	0151 794 6868	<a href="mailto:thebase@liv.ac.uk">thebase@liv.ac.uk</a> ; <a href="mailto:pres@liverpool.ac.uk">pres@liverpool.ac.uk</a>

## Disarming the Nuclear Argument By Timmon Milne Wallis- book review

Since the UN has now passed a new treaty to ban nuclear weapons, which the UK has boycotted, the arguments for holding onto nuclear weapons are growing weaker by the day.

This book summarises in clear and simple terms why nuclear weapons make no sense in the 21st century and why the rest of the world is now determined to get rid of them once and for all. Peace activist Timmon Milne Wallis is involved in the talks on behalf of the Quakers of Britain. In Disarming the Nuclear Argument he explores the truth behind the nine nuclear weapon states' attachment to their weapons. He pits facts, figures and logic against the

major arguments for the necessity of nuclear weapons programmes and finds that each one comes up wanting. How much do nuclear weapons actually cost? How safe are nuclear weapons, even if they are never used? Have nuclear weapons really kept us safe since the end of WW2? Are nuclear weapons legal under international law? A copy of the book has been given to all the UN missions including those currently boycotting the talks.

The book is publicised by Luath Press in association with Quakers in Britain. Publication date 24.7.17 at £10.99. Perhaps we should give a copy to all our Trident supporting MPs.

## Peace Education

CND Peace Education was set up to encourage independent thinking and debate, so as to enable young people to form their own opinions on nuclear weapons and peace issues.

We offer free, cross curricular workshops and assemblies to schools and colleges across England, and free teacher training sessions on exploring controversial issues in the classroom. We directly encounter 4,000 students every year, as well as distributing thousands of our free teaching packs which will reach even more. Recommended by the Times Educational Supplement and the Guardian Teacher network, our sessions and resources are highly praised.

With lots of new peace education volunteers freshly trained, we want to deliver even more sessions in schools. Do you know teachers you can put us in touch with? If so, please email: [peaceeducation@cnduk.org](mailto:peaceeducation@cnduk.org) or phone 02077002393

Together we can empower the next generation.  
Owen Everett

The following from Merseyside CND are going to Manchester to start training later this month Barbara Hardcastle & Angela Loveridge (Wallasey CND) and Cathy Page & Joan Goodier (Birkenhead CND) - contact mcnd if you'd like more information on how they went about this: [mcnd@care4free.net](mailto:mcnd@care4free.net)

# Fetes, Fairs and Festivals

## Tranmere Festival

Birkenhead are holding a stall at the Tranmere Festival in Victoria Park on Sunday 30th July. We are planning to have things to attract children and adults, plus plant sale and book sale. Any help with this would be welcome. Cathy: 378 1760

## Peace News Summer Camp

**27th–31st July Diss, Norfolk**  
A family - friendly and renewably - powered camp working for radical social change with US author and activist Betsy Leondar-Wright speaking on class and classism. Book at [www.peacenewscamp.info](http://www.peacenewscamp.info). The camp costs £20-£135 depending on income. Food: £6-£12 per day. Payment by cheque, online or by phone: 0207278 3344. Send cheques to: Peace News Summer Camp, 5 Caledonian Rd. London N1 9DY [peacenewscamp@gmail.com](mailto:peacenewscamp@gmail.com)

## Wirral in Bloom show Sat/Sun 12/13th August Birkenhead Park

Birkenhead CND will be running 12th and Wallasey CND 13th with a table in the big marquee by the Pavilion. Join us in promoting CND's aims and provide a bit of fun for the children. Contact either group if you can help. See P6 for contact details.



## National Justice and Peace Network Annual Conference

21st-23rd July Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire DE55 1AU  
'A Sabbath for the Earth and the Poor: The Challenge of Pope Francis'. Book at [www.justice-and-peace.org.uk](http://www.justice-and-peace.org.uk) Tel: 020 7901 4864

## Wirral Earth Fest

**Saturday 9th September**  
St Bridget's Church and School grounds, West Kirby. CH 48 3JT  
'A New Earth is Possible'  
The aim of Wirral Earth Festival is to bring together community groups and individuals from around the region who share a 'people and Earth -friendly' outlook to celebrate, network and exchange community information to promote environmental sustainability and personal well-being. For more info. or to book a pitch (closing date Aug.13th) Contact: [sue.povall@gmail.com](mailto:sue.povall@gmail.com)



## CND AGM & Policy Conference 2017 Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October Arlington Conference Centre, London, NW1 7HE

Elections of officers and Council members  
Review of campaigning activities and finances  
Policy and strategy debates to decide our overall direction for the coming year. All CND members eligible to attend, join in discussion and vote

## Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October CND International Conference 2017 'Confrontation or Cooperation?

## Nuclear abolition in dangerous times'

As the world faces greater challenges than ever, most states are working to consign nuclear weapons to the dustbin of history.

Join us to discuss the prospects for disarmament, as well as the wider international context: NATO, missile defence, Trump, China, war and intervention - and what we do about it all!

Open to the public as well as members

Registration: <https://cndconference.eventbrite.com>

162 Holloway Road London, London N7 8DQ

[cnduk.org](http://cnduk.org) [officemanager@cnduk.org](mailto:officemanager@cnduk.org) Tel 020 7700 2393

## LIVERPOOL: A CITY OF PROTEST

An exhibition of protest and placards July 20th–August 13th at Constellations creative hub Baltic Triangle, Greenland St. L1 0BS, a timely exhibition featuring art and messages from a wide range of campaigns and demonstrations. The show displays Liverpool's proud protest heritage and promotes the requirement to stand up for a fairer, progressive society. Find out more here:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1220378398090138/>

Curator, Amanda Marie Atkinson, extends an open invitation to the launch event 6pm July 20th





## Pax Christi Liverpool

Next meeting will be 5th September 7pm at Sacred Heart Presbytery, Low Hill. We usually meet on the first Tuesday of each month but not in August.  
We will have a street stall on August 9th which is Nagasaki Day. 2-5pm outside Primark after attending the commemoration in St. John's Garden with our banner.  
After that we don't have any definite dates but we will be having a talk about Palestine in the autumn and also perhaps holding an event in October looking at the Season of Creation. Further information: janharper1@yahoo.co.uk

## Birkenhead CND

**Next meetings:** Tues. Aug.8th, Sept 12<sup>th</sup> and Oct.10<sup>th</sup> 8pm @ Joan's, 18, Southdale Road, Tranmere CH42 3XW  
Keep Aug. 12/13th free to help on our shared stall at the Wirral in Bloom Show in Birkenhead Park and Sept 9th for Wirral Earth Fest St Bridget's Field and Church, West Kirby CH48 3JT where we share a pitch with Wallasey CND Contact: Joan Goodier: 200 2312 or Cathy Page: cath.page@phonecoop.coop

## NERVE Magazine

Promoting grassroots arts and culture  
**Issue 27 Binning the Myths on Immigration**  
available at Catalyst Media 96 Bold St. [nervemagazine@gmail.com](mailto:nervemagazine@gmail.com) 0151 709 9948 [www.catalystmedia.org.uk](http://www.catalystmedia.org.uk)

## Merseyside CND 50 Club

Recent winners: March & April No. 43: John Middleton; May No 11: Barbara Hardcastle; June: No 29 Loretta Humphreys; Annual Draw: 1st prize no. 36 £250: Gerry Poole; 2nd prize no.16 £100: Wallasey CND; 3rd prize no. 13 £50: Val Morrison.  
Many thanks as always to all members of the 50 Club for your continuing financial support. For £5 per month you could be a winner of £50 per month or £250/£100/£50 in the annual draw. Contact office for a membership form - 0151 229 5282 [mcnd@care4free.net](mailto:mcnd@care4free.net)

## Wallasey CND

**Planning Meetings:** Mon. Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> & Sept. 8th 2pm at Barbara's 4 Taunton Road  
**Cake sales in Central Park Walled Garden:** Sundays: August 20th, Sept. 3rd and 17th  
**Wirral in Bloom:** Birkenhead Park with Birkenhead CND: Aug.12 and WCND 13th  
**Wirral Earth Fest Sept.9th.** Also shared with Birkenhead CND— Details p5.  
Stalls/ leafleting and petition signing  
Usually once or twice a month in the summer  
We also plan to hold a public debate on Trident if we can find someone to propose that it should be renewed.  
We need more offers of help from members  
If we are to keep these things going.  
Contacts Barbara 638 3967, Janet 677 1133

## Chester CND

**'Stop Arming Saudi'** - Silent Vigil, Saturday 29th July, 12.30 - 1.30 pm, the Cross (outside St. Peter's church), Chester. All welcome.  
Drop by for a bit if you can't make the whole hour. Wear black if possible.  
We are hoping to hold a vigil every last Sat. of the month. Check our Facebook page.  
**Hiroshima and Nagasaki Flower Memorial,** Sunday 6th August, 8.00 pm, the Groves, Chester. All welcome for readings, silent reflection and flowers dropped on the river.  
Allison Challen: [chestercnd@gmail.com](mailto:chestercnd@gmail.com)

## News from Nowhere,

96 Bold St. L1 4HY 708 7270  
[www.newsfromnowhere.org.uk](http://www.newsfromnowhere.org.uk)  
Support your local independent, radical and community bookshop  
Nerve available here too free or donations

## 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-£5/ family-£6/ unwaged or youth (under 22) £2.

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 Wed.  
Aug. 2nd  
CND Office  
Meetings are usually on the  
1st Wed. in month

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

This edition of the newsletter run up  
by Cathy Page and Janet Laycock.

