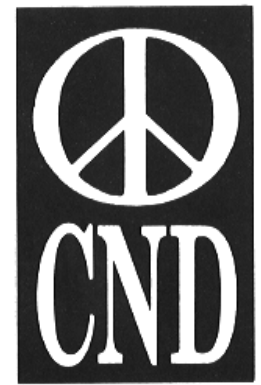
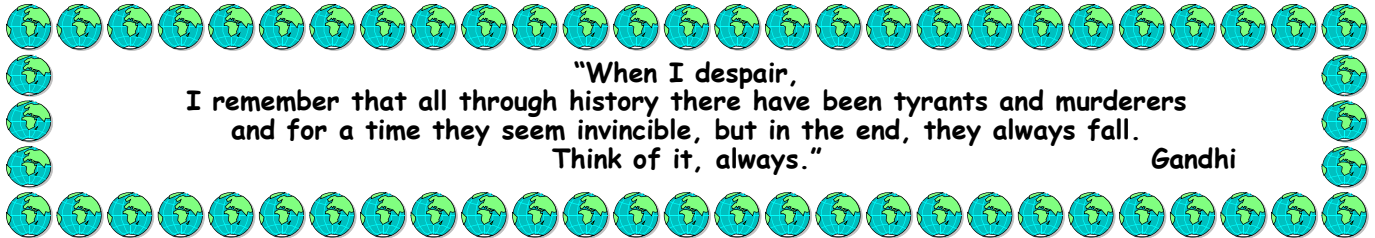


# Merseyside CND Newsletter



WINTER 2018/9

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



"When I despair,  
I remember that all through history there have been tyrants and murderers  
and for a time they seem invincible, but in the end, they always fall.

Think of it, always."

Gandhi

## TRUMP THREATENS A NEW NUCLEAR ARMS RACE !

President Trump has announced plans to withdraw the US from the Intermediate- Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty and to build up America's nuclear arsenal until "Russia and China see sense".

The 1987 Treaty banned ground-launched nuclear missiles and led to nearly 2,700 missiles being eliminated in the UK and across Europe. Though China are not signatories to the treaty, President Trump is accusing them, as well as Russia, of developing new ground-launched missiles that threaten NATO countries. Russia, predictably, has responded by warning that, if the US pulls out of the Treaty, Russia will have to increase its nuclear capability to restore a balance between the two powers. Equally predictably, our Government is unequivocally supporting Trump's threatening and irresponsible behaviour.

What makes this nuclear war mongering so outrageous and irrational is that the US, China and Russia have already enough nuclear bombs to destroy the planet ten times over!

If Trump tears up the INF Treaty, it will end the restraints on nuclear arsenals negotiated by Presidents Reagan and Gorbachev in the 1980s and

precipitate a very dangerous new round of nuclear escalation. The European Union has sharply criticised President Trump's announcement, fearing that scrapping the INF treaty will open the way for the return of cruise-type missiles to Europe and, potentially revive the spectre that a US nuclear war against Russia will be fought in Europe.

Trump's threat is alarming, but not surprising. He has long advocated increasing America's nuclear arsenal and has already proposed a massive increase in US military spending. His security advisor, John Bolton, believed to be behind this latest threat, is a well known right wing Republican and enthusiastic cold war warrior who has described both the EU and the UN as a threat to America's international interests.

CND tirelessly campaigned against Cruise Missiles on British soil in the 1980s; the iconic Greenham Common peace camp was part of that movement. We will not hesitate to do so again and with your support, alert people to this renewed threat. CND is needed now more than ever!

Peter Wilson Co-Chair Merseyside CND

## STOP ARMING SAUDI. WILL YOUR M.P. TAKE A STAND?

*"It is now hard to imagine what crime the Saudi government would need to commit in order for the UK government to condemn them".*



- The thousands killed by the war in Yemen? Schools and hospitals bombed; weddings, funerals, and a bus full of school children, on their way home after a picnic.
- The world's worst humanitarian disaster, killing tens of thousands more? 13 million people face starvation if the war does not end; the worst famine in 100 years.
- The systematic denial of basic rights in Saudi Arabia; the freedoms curtailed every day? The women's rights campaigners facing execution for peaceful human rights advocacy?
- The brutal murder of a journalist inside the Saudi consulate in Turkey?

We are at a critical moment. As the pressure mounts, will your MP take a stand? [caat.org.uk/stop-arming-saudi-take-a-stand](http://caat.org.uk/stop-arming-saudi-take-a-stand)

# CND Conference 2018 report

Barbara and Dave Hardcastle, Janet Laycock, and Cathy Page attended this year's conference held in sunny Bristol.

The first day was the AGM and officers elections and Treasurers report. Dave Webb remains chair.

**The day continued with policy Debates.**

*We were reminded that We won the Nobel Peace Prize. Every one of us. Badges were on sale saying: "I won the Nobel Peace prize, I can, you can, we can."*

Dave and I asked two questions/observations

1) we should approach our government and challenge them about what contingency plans they have for the citizens of the UK in the event of nuclear war?

2) How can we understand the horror of nuclear war? We read about it we see pictures but the reality is something we can't imagine. Even listening to the Hibakusha will never prepare us for the devastation we'd suffer..

**Day 2 was an open session**

**Protest and Resist lessons from History.**

A very thought-provoking puppet show relating to conscientious objectors in WW1. Really unexpected but very moving and informative, would be a great asset for taking around schools.

**Workshops**

**Grass roots campaigning** -(Janet and Cathy see below)

**Nuclear power**—Barbara

The Nuclear Power workshop was really worth attending, the knowledge of the panellists was incredible. From the polluted mud of Swansea Bay being dumped into Cardiff Bay to the ever strong connection between Nuclear Power and Nuclear weapons.

**Protest and Resistance** - walking tour of Bristol—Dave Very informative tour of Bristol sites connected with Anti -War and Peace activities prior to the outbreak of WWI and CO activism during the war and the splits the war caused in the Suffragette and Trades Union movements. Conducted in Bright Sunshine brilliant!

**Other workshops:** -Defence diversification; Non-Violent direct action  
Barbara Hardcastle

## Reflections on CND Conference 2018

I hadn't been to conference for many years so didn't know quite what to expect. Wow - I was really enthused.

The first afternoon (I missed the AGM/financial report etc in the morning) was all about resolutions to campaign on various topics over the next year.

**Resolutions 1 and 2** were all about the UK/US special relationship in particular the nuclear special relationship and how we are bound into the US nuclear policy. After several other discussions on resolutions I realised that many things are tied into this relationship. 60 years ago we signed a Mutual Defence Agreement (MDA) which is still in force and due to be renewed in 2024. As most of you know our Trident system is reliant on the US Missiles to fire our warheads. But there are more ties than just this.

**Aircraft carriers** - At vast expense we have built some new aircraft carriers these are to carry the 45 F35B bombers which we have purchased also at vast expense. (We are planning to order a further 90 some of which may be the F35A which can be fitted to carry nuclear bombs. RAF Marham will be the main NATO training and maintenance area for these weapons). These new bombers are supposedly having 'a game changing capability to penetrate the most sophisticated air defence systems.' This policy now entails the US going in for new smaller nuclear weapons which could be useable! So Conference asks CND to raise the profile of these issues in

preparation to challenge the renewal of MDA, in particular in debates around UK defence policy. **Action: -We need to request our MPs to demand a debate on the special relationship**, including the failure of both governments to engage with the UN treaty on Nuclear Prohibition.

## Resolution 3 - Global Ban

Update on signatories - 69 countries have signed so far and 19 of those have ratified it including Austria, Iceland, San Marino and the Holy See!! All the NATO countries are being discouraged from signing it! Conference resolved to up the campaigning on this issue in particular getting our government to engage with it in accordance with its commitments under the Non-Proliferation Treaty. **Action We must all encourage our MPs to sign the ICAN parliamentary pledge in support of the global ban.** This is "We, the undersigned parliamentarians, warmly welcome the adoption of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons of 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017 as a significant step towards the realization of a nuclear-weapon-free world. We share the deep concern expressed in the preamble about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from any use of nuclear weapons and we recognize the consequent need to eliminate these inhumane and abhorrent weapons. As Parliamentarians, we pledge to work for the signature and ratification of this landmark treaty by our respective countries, as we consider the abolition of nuclear weapons to be a global public good of the highest order and an essential step to promote the security and well-being of all peoples."

## Resolution 4 - Nuclear risks

The risks of nuclear war have not been so relevant for many years till President Trump arrived on the scene. But despite him the Koreans are now talking to each other. Most countries are standing firm against Trump's withdrawal from the Iran deal despite threats on trade. Many groups worldwide are making peace initiatives of their own.

**Resolution 6 NATO expansion** - When the Berlin wall fell part of the agreement with the Warsaw Pact countries was that we didn't expand into their countries - Instead NATO has gone out of its way to encourage all the Warsaw pact countries to join NATO thereby being a threat to Russia which in itself is destabilising in Europe.. NATO has started to expand into S. America - in particular Colombia despite S America and the Caribbean being a nuclear free zone. Conference requests CND to produce more up to date info on NATO expansion and to discourage the Government from agreeing to NATO expansion.

**Resolution 7 - Church of England motion** to support the global ban. Along with most Churches in the World Council of Churches the C of E has at last taken a stand against nuclear weapons! **Action- It is up to us to engage with Christian organisations to explain the UN Treaty on Nuclear Prohibition to them.** This could be through your local church, Mothers Union, and non-church groups such as Women's Institutes, Soroptimists, etc

## Resolution 8 - Nuclear Power.

Nuclear Power has no basis for its existence other than the nuclear weapon programme ; nuclear waste - government is encouraging communities to have waste dumps in their area. **Action -We need to campaign against this in our communities.**

Other resolutions referred to CND updating info on diversification from the Arms trade and the existence of UK and US bases worldwide.

# Remembrance

## White Poppies are for a culture of Peace

### What will we be remembering?

Armistice Day marked the day the fighting stopped on Nov 11th 1918. The Annual ceremony was cancelled in 1939 when a few weeks previously British troops once more landed on mainland Europe and the fighting resumed. The public meaning of the Armistice—victory and warning against future wars—was dependent on there being Peace. The declaration of another war so soon after the last shattered that meaning. Since then the meaning of Remembrance Day has become fluid; in a new guise and periodically refreshed to meet new PR challenges, Remembrance Sunday has come to serve as a justification of war and exhortation to eternal vigilance—the passing of the torch—and selling red poppies which are now the corporate logo of the British Legion. Today for some Remembrance Day has private significance; for the rest of us its public face is a spectacle appropriated for specific financial and political purposes.

**As we mark the centenary of WW1** we are urged to think deeply about that war. We would do well to note that by the time Armistice Day was cancelled in 1939 it had already changed profoundly from its original public conception as time for mourning and reflection on loss of life into a self-validating day out for the military, a powerful recruitment tool for the Ministry of War and lots of 'victory' parties.

**In 1914** the British government proclaimed they were fighting German militarism, but not a year has gone by since then when the British Military have not been engaged in fighting somewhere in the world. No other country can boast of or be shamed by such a record. Militarism is alive and well in today's Britain.

**Militarism is not** just the outward show of bellicose rhetoric, medals and soldiers proudly marching through

towns when returning from wars, or the parading in front of the monarch is serried ranks. It is the cast of mind and belief system that privilege the age-old values embodied in war fighting. A cast of mind that sends princes and prime ministers to sell weapons to even the most unsavoury despots, a cast of mind that funds research and production of ever more devastating weapons and associated technology. A cast of mind that believes that people trained to kill can provide an especially beneficial role model in schools and pass on their values to young people. A cast of mind that without us apparently noticing is eyeing our cities as battlegrounds to be surveyed and patrolled where we are viewed with suspicion and have to prove our innocence. The distinction between policing, intelligence and the military becomes blurred, as does the distinction between war and peace and local and global operations.

**War has become** the dominant metaphor to describe much of the world around us—war against drugs and crime, war against terror, against insecurity. These are not just a sloppy use of language but reflections of stealthy militarisation of a wide range of policy debates as well as popular culture.

**The deeper inspiration** for the white poppy lies in the widespread movement against war and militarism in the early years of the 20th century. It urges us to challenge militarism and work for a culture of peace. It urges us to have the courage of the conscientious objector of WW1 to resist the temptation to participate in the war machine.

*"There can be no compromise with war; it cannot be reformed or controlled; cannot be disciplined into decency or codified into common sense, for war is the slaughter of human beings, temporarily regarded as enemies, on as large a scale as possible."*

Peace Pledge union

### Remembering WW1 Conscientious Objectors

**Walton Prison 1pm 11th November**  
68 Hornby Rd. L9 3DF close to both Rice Lane and  
Walton railway stations

On March 26th 2016 peace activists from Merseyside Peace Network marked 100 years since conscription was enacted during WW1. This was a tribute reading of some of the names of the Conscientious Objectors (COs) who were incarcerated in Walton Prison. On Nov 11th this year we will be back at Walton Prison again remembering the COs who continued to be incarcerated after the armistice. The suffering that these COs endured must never be forgotten. The last of the COs were still being called up and imprisoned as late as 1919. We will read out the names of those who were imprisoned at Walton and the names of COs who are currently jailed throughout the world. This is in advance of us marking Prisoners for Peace Day on December 1st.

Martyn Lowe [mpn2017@googlegroups.com](mailto:mpn2017@googlegroups.com)

### MCND Remembrance

Our annual laying of white poppy wreath will take place at 4pm on Sunday 11th November in the Peace Garden behind St George's Hall. There will be readings and music.

### Prisoners for Peace Day Saturday 1st December

All over the world conscientious objectors and anti-war activists are being imprisoned by authoritarian regimes for refusing to carry out their Governments' orders to kill innocent people. Please join us on 1st Dec to show your support by writing a card or letter to a prisoner. Or have a letter writing party, invite friends and neighbours round to send a card to a peace prisoner. There is a list of prisoners on the War Resisters International website [www.wri-irg.org](http://www.wri-irg.org). Further info on [mpn2017@googlegroups.com](mailto:mpn2017@googlegroups.com)

### CND conference continued

#### Day 2 - Grass roots campaigning

Four speakers discussed what they were doing and all present had a chance to make contributions about what they as individuals or part of a group were doing. Hereford Peace Council, although having only a very few activists, had decided to get all other interested groups involved in a 'peace' train from Chester to Newport,

collecting messages (letters or petitions) calling on the Government to sign the Global Nuclear Ban Treaty. See page 4. The moral was that even if you are only a few activists- there are allies in other campaigning groups who will help. Other speakers were talking about involving students perhaps via other groups again such as Greens. All recognised the difficulties of having few activists but also campaigning with other campaigning groups.

Cathy Page

## Peace Boat Visit to Liverpool

What an amazing day. It started at 9am at the Pier Head cruise terminal where members of local Peace groups greeted the 4 Japanese visitors.

After a short walk and talk describing the Three Graces and the UNESCO World Heritage Status Site we settled into Mrs. Danvers Café in the beautiful Port of Liverpool Building to finalise plans for the day.

From there we went by minibus, hired for the day, to join young members of the Japanese NW Community waiting for us in the Town Hall with Green Party Cllr. Lawrence Brown. Also joining us for the day from Manchester were Sean Morris, Secretary of NFLA and Mayors for Peace Chapter and Billy Smith a student on secondment working with Sean.

A civic reception followed with the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Cllr. Christine Banks, (seen right with Ms Michiko Tsukamoto) including a grand tour of the Town Hall.



Next stop was Liverpool College, Mossley Hill where we were warmly welcomed for lunch by a group of about ten Sixth-formers who were given first hand descriptions by Michiko Tsukamoto of her experiences as a child in Hiroshima when the bomb fell and her family's harsh life in the years that followed. This was a good introduction for Cathy and Barbara who will be talking



to the whole V1 form next month as part of Merseyside peace groups Peace Education project.

In the two hours before the meeting at 4.30pm we had a whistle stop tour of Liverpool, visiting both Cathedrals, going down Hope Street and past the Peace Garden and through Sefton Park, so beautiful at this time of the year. Some of the visitors wanted to see the John and Yoko exhibition at the Liverpool Museum, so we made our way there and they were delighted with it.

Believe it or not we hadn't really had a chance to have a proper meal, so two of the group went food shopping before we all collapsed and grazed in the minibus as we headed back for the final event.

The meeting was held at the Jack Jones House. We thank PCS Union for all their help in putting on this important event which attracted a good turn-out. The visitors brought with them a very impressive exhibition, sponsored by

Mayors for Peace (we hope to get a copy for future events). It must be said that the emotions when hearing the memories of the Hiroshima survivor had many people in tears.

Barbara Hardcastle



For more information about Hiroshima and Nagasaki survivors and to hear their stories go to:

<http://hibakushastories.org/>

This was part of the 99th. "Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project" since 2008 taking Hibakusha (survivors of the atom bomb) all over the world giving personal testimonies about the effects of atom bombs and calling for nuclear abolition. "As the average age of the Hibakusha is now more than 80 years time remaining for them to directly send out their urgent message is very limited". We count ourselves lucky to have heard them speak. Ed.

## Hereford Peace Council Peace Train to London

It was pleasing to see a good number of peace groups turning up at Chester Station to meet the Peace train as it made its way through the Welsh border land collecting messages of peace at stations along the way, asking our government to become a signatory to the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

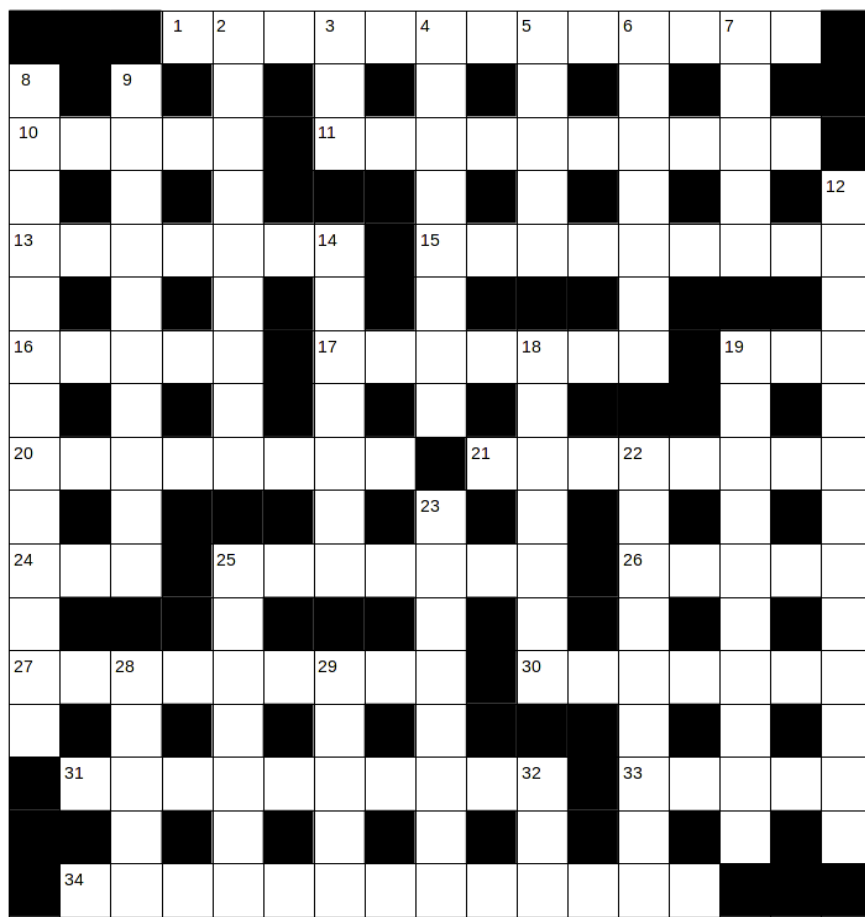
It was exciting to see the Nobel Peace medal and have my photograph taken with it (only a replica as the real one is solid gold). Also good to have the local press at this event. Some stations gave it a Mayoral reception.. Barbara Hardcastle seen here with Rebecca Johnson founder of Acronym Institute for Disarmament Diplomacy and members of the steering group of International Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons ICAN winner of Nobel Peace Prize 2017

For more info about the Hereford Peace Council go to: [http://www.findgroups.org.uk/browse\\_groups/group/214](http://www.findgroups.org.uk/browse_groups/group/214)

Also see page 5 for Chester CND photo and report



# Winter 2018 Crossword



## Across

1. Cat lovers (13)
10. Weak acid (5)
11. Self-absorbed (10)
13. Venezualan city (7)
15. Percussion instrument (9)
16. Type of average (5)
17. ....of Love, 1955 novel (7)
19. Thus is was written (3)
20. Least difference between high and low water (4,4)
21. Sweet Italian liqueur (8)
24. *Hedera* (3)
25. What a builder does (when in Rome?) (7)
26. Despise (5)
27. e.g. Williams, Murray, Wade (6, 3)
30. Corrected errors (in a document) (5,2)
31. Female equestrian (10)
33. Inhabitant of Mexico, 1300 – 1521 (5)
34. Not a people person (13)

## Down

2. Present office holder (9)
3. Poetic tribute (3)
4. Inhabit again (8)
5. What a bell does (5)
6. Crying (2,5)
7. The best of the best (5)
8. Concealers of details (13)
9. Canon of a cathedral or church (10)
12. Class of drugs (13)
14. Fame (7)
18. High mass, low volume (7)
19. Decide when (3,3,4)
22. Is seen again (9)
23. Grass (8)
25. Point of contact between two chromosomes (8)
28. e.g. Klein, Watts, Campbell (5)
29. Northern Lapwing (5)
32. Short sleep (3)

## Answers to Summer 2018 Crossword

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | T | O | M | I | C |   | H | B | O | M | B | S |
| D |   | N |   | N |   |   | E |   | A |   |   | A |
| O | N | S | O | N | G |   | B | A | L | D | E | R |
| R |   | I |   | A | A | R | O | N |   | M |   | T |
| N | U | D | I | T | Y |   | R | I | Y | A | D | H |
| O |   | E | P | E | E |   | N | E | O | N |   | E |
|   |   |   | P |   |   |   |   | K |   |   |   |   |
| A |   | B | O | H | R |   | B | E | E | T |   | E |
| C | R | A | N | I | A |   | E | L | L | A | N | D |
| U |   | L |   | R | I | V | A | L |   | I |   | I |
| M | I | L | T | O | N |   | R | I | F | L | E | S |
| E |   | E |   | K |   |   |   | O |   | O |   | O |
| N | O | T | I | O | N |   | S | T | Y | R | O | N |

**Chester Stop Arming Saudi Silent Vigil Saturday, Nov. 24th 12.30-1.30 at The Cross, Watergate St. by St. Peter's Church** As usual if you can, please wear black..



## Chester CND - future plans

We have decided to meet bi-monthly starting on November 15th at 7.30 pm in the Quaker Meeting House, Frodsham St. Chester and on the 3rd Thursday each odd month 2019 Dec. March, May.... Meetings will be open, informal and with no pre-set agenda or minutes. Reminders will be circulated before each meeting. The group will bear in mind the prime objectives and aims of CND whilst giving support as part of the wider peace movement to other peace related causes including the monthly **Stop Arming Saudi silent vigil**. No vigil in December but there will be a candle light Peace vigil on another date that month. Check out our Facebook page or email: [chestercnd@gmail.com](mailto:chestercnd@gmail.com) for details of monthly meetings and other information

Margaret Owen

## Birkenhead CND

**Next meetings** : Tues 13th Nov, 11th Dec, 12th Feb  
8pm at Joan's, 18, Southdale Road, Tranmere CH42  
New Year party Tuesday 8th January at Liz's  
4 Quail Park, Bidston Rd CH43 6WA 7.30pm  
Further Info—Cathy Page 0151 378 1760  
cath.page@phonecoop.coop

## Wallasey CND

**Annual AGM and Party Saturday January 19th 2019**  
2pm at Barbara and Dave's 4 Taunton Rd. CH45 3JN  
**Planning Meetings: Not yet arranged as** we have had  
a very busy year (report to be circulated) and we will notify  
members by email or phone of any activities asap.  
Contacts Barbara 638 3967, Janet 677 1133

## Pax Christi

Still meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month 7pm at St  
Michaels Irish Centre, Boundary Lane Liverpool 6. All  
welcome.

Contact Pax Christi: Janharper1@yahoo.co.uk

**Peace Sunday**  
**January 14th 2018**

## Mayors for Peace

We're asking all Merseyside CND members  
living in Liverpool to visit or write to their local  
Councillors, asking that the City appoints a Mayor  
for Peace.

Founded after former Mayor of Hiroshima,  
Takeshi Araki, called on all cities to support the  
abolition of nuclear weapons, Mayors for Peace  
currently includes U.K. members such as:  
London, Manchester, Birmingham, Glasgow,  
Belfast, Dublin and Edinburgh. All have made a  
commitment that the horror of Hiroshima and  
Nagasaki should never be repeated and that  
Trident should not be replaced. We think it's  
time Liverpool was added to that list.

You can find your Councillor's details via  
<http://councillors.liverpool.gov.uk/mgFindMember.aspx?> and more information  
about Mayors for Peace can be found on their  
website: <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/>

Sean Morris Secretary, Secretary of the UK and  
Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter.  
[s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:s.morris4@manchester.gov.uk)

## Merseyside CND 50 Club

Recent winners: July: Wallasey CND; August:  
Angela Wylie; Sept: Val Morrison  
For £5.00 per month you too could be a winner of  
£50 per month or £250/£100/£50 in the annual  
draw. Apply to the Treasurer who is now Cathy  
Page through the office for a membership form  
Address/ email/telephone below and on Page 1.  
**NB Birkenhead have never won!! Cathy.**  
**Well they have but not since 2015! Janet**

## Merseyside Peace Network

The next meeting will be: Tuesday 6th  
November, 10:30 in the Liverpool Friends'  
Meeting House café, 11:00 in the meeting room.

Sadly, this will be the last meeting of the  
Merseyside Peace Network but the mailing list  
will continue and future events are planned:  
11th November, Walton Prison (see Pg. 3)  
1st December, Prisoners for Peace Day.  
15th May, International Conscientious  
Objectors' Day

**MCND Co-ord: next meeting: Wednesday**  
**November 7th 14:00 CND Office 151 Dale St. L2**  
**2AH 0151 229 5282**

For further information please contact:  
[mpn2017@googlegroups.com](mailto:mpn2017@googlegroups.com)

## 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 2AH

