

ploughshare plus



News update from Christian CND

March 2012

Christians working and praying for a nuclear weapons-free world

Spring is on its way

Please join us at some of our forthcoming events

Easter at Aldermaston

Our traditional event at AWE Aldermaston is on 9 April this year.

There will be a symbolic digging up of the Alleluia and Liturgy. Starts at 12noon at West Gate, Tadley Roundabout, processing anti-clockwise around the base.

Bring daffodil bulbs to plant. All welcome. Ring 0***** on the day if you need help finding us, or if you'll be joining us later. For lifts or advice on getting there on public transport, ring *****

Jubilee Party 3 June:

Celebrate the Jubilee (as we are all encouraged to do with two whole days off!) in style! Please come to our Queen's Peace Party and celebrate our campaigns for peace and nuclear disarmament. You don't have to be a Royalist - republicans can join our 'Queen's Peace Party' too!

Come and celebrate the Jubilee with a party for peace and disarmament! Come in fancy dress/posh frocks (dressed as a queen?). Best hat or crown competition. There will be a short service at 1.30pm - secular event starts at 2pm. Exact location tba. All welcome!

Obituary

Raymonde Hainton (Ray) died peacefully on February 19th at the age of 90. She founded a branch of the United Nations Association in Hounslow in 1956 but only became active in the antinuclear campaign in 1980 as the threat of Cruise missiles loomed.

A weekend conference at Woodbrook inspired her to set up the Tavistock Peace Action Group which flourishes to this day. Following her removal to Exeter she became Secretary of Exeter CND, a post she held for 20 years. Even after leaving Exeter for Northampton to be nearer her daughter she continued to lobby local MPs and take part in the regular vigil at Croughton military base.

On her 90th birthday she took part in an anti cuts demonstration carrying a 'cut Trident' placard from her wheelchair. There will be a Quaker Memorial Meeting in Northampton on Sunday April 22nd 2pm.

Quilting for Peace

The article in the last issue of *Ploughshare* clearly struck a chord.

We have been sent two gorgeous quilts which can be used as banners from Robert and Ann Alwyne (thank you!) and this lovely message from Jean Wyatt:

"Thank you, thank you Patricia! Received Ploughshare today and sadly read all the actions that I'm not fit enough to share - so was absolutely thrilled to suddenly find QUILTING FOR PEACE - something so very dear to my heart ... So I have started rounding others up: to contribute to the CCND Quilt for Peace."

Please keep in touch - send us your ideas and progress on Quilting for Peace and send us your squares!

Embassies Walk 2012

This year's successful walk took place on 12 March. Our intrepid walkers had several meetings with representatives in London embassies and will report back, with photos we hope, in time for the next full *Ploughshare*.

CHURCHES CALL TO REJECT TRIDENT

The Methodist Church, the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the United Reformed Church on February 14th launched a campaign entitled "Better off without Trident". They are urging the government not to shackle the UK with £55 billion in commitment to Trident over the next 15 years. Press release: <http://www.ekkle-sia.co.uk/node/16294> Download report from: <http://tinyurl.com/83owara>.

ARTFUL NUCLEAR FINANCING

Feb. 19th. Father Sean McDonagh, writing in 'The Universe', lists the various ways true costs are masked and passed on to taxpayers. Google UCS (Union of Concerned Scientists) to see their Report on this subject.

9 February - 1 April: The Tricycle Theatre's continuing season, explores the Nuclear Bomb and its proliferation from 1940 to the present day, and the dangers we face. More details can be found on the website: <http://bit.ly/p7gTB5> Box Office: 020 7328 1000. www.tricycle.co.uk

22 March: Chain Reaction: do all nuclear programmes stand in the way of nuclear weapons abolition? Challenges Facing Global Abolition. A Panel Discussion with: Kate Hudson (General Secretary, CND) Historic links between nuclear power and nuclear weapons: key current problems and challenges; Dominique Lalanne (Abolition 2000 Europe) The Anglo-French partnerships: nuclear power and nuclear weapons; Peter Burt (Nuclear Information Service) Anglo-French nuclear cooperation: the implications for NATO, for Europe and for global abolition; Shirin Shafaie (SOAS / CASMII) The current situation in the Middle East and the Arab world. 19:00 - 20:00 at Friends House, 173-177 Euston Road London NW1, <http://www.abolition2000uk.org/mail@abolition2000uk.org>

23 March: A Thorn in their Side Book Tour and public meeting. Anti-nuclear campaigner Hilda Murrell, aged 78, was found brutally murdered in a copse outside Shrewsbury. The police insisted a panicking petty burglar abducted Hilda in her own car before leaving her to die of multiple injuries and hypothermia. Nephew Robert Green has uncovered a mass of evidence (including counter DNA), not presented at George's trial, which should have acquitted him. Cmdr Robert Green with Michael Mansfield QC keynote speaker, Chair Bruce Kent. University of London Union, Malet Street, Room 3E at 7.30pm. Contact: enquiries@cnduk.org 020 7700 2393. <http://tinyurl.com/6rmcmqv>

Great, grey slug

Great, grey slug
Slowly sliding down the loch
Destruction at your heart
Death you nurse.

Denial of God's love
Secret letter in your womb
Enlisted souls
Entombed within.

Off to hide
In silent depth
But poised to shame
The glory that is man.

Michael Pulham, with apologies to all slugs.

15 May: International Conscientious Objectors' Day. Annual ceremony in Tavistock Square, London at 12 noon.

21 May: Franz Jagerstatter, Martyr for Peace, Feast Day. Resource and prayer materials available from Pax Christi office and see more here <http://www.paxchristi.org.uk/pubs.HTML>

2 June: Day of Prayer against the Arms Trade. Organised by CAAT Christian Network, supported by Pax Christi and Network of Christian Peace Organisations. CAAT: 020 7281 0297. <http://www.caat.org.uk/getinvolved/christian/>

17 June: "Sport in the service of peace". Preliminary notification of a service to be held at Chelmsford Cathedral, New Street, Chelmsford CM1 1TY, on at 2.30 p.m. We hope you can attend. In ancient Greece the original Olympic Games were preceded by a fifty day holy truce and it was followed by a 50 day truce. This was not only to allow competitors to travel in safety to Olympia but because the Games were regarded as a sacred event. This is an invitation to celebrate One Hundred Days of Peace to promote a culture of peace in our communities. Further details: Jonathan Barker Tel: 0789 693 4881.

7-8 June: 100 Days for Peace - Olympic Peace Legacy. Launch of 100 Days for Peace. Overnight Vigil at St Martin-in-the-Fields starts at 11pm. On 28 October there will be Closing events for 100 Days of Peace - A lasting legacy of Peace for everyone. <http://www.peacelegacy.org.uk/> 100 Days of Peace, 4 Vincent Road, London, N15 3QH 020 8888 4222 office@peacelegacy.org.uk

Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

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