



CND Conference 2012

CND Conference, 2 International conferences

I particularly wanted to attend the CND International Conference on 13th October 'Building towards a nuclear free Middle East' because it concerned two initiatives from the first Preparatory Committee of the Nuclear Non -Proliferation Treaty that CCND attended in Vienna last April/May.

The first was that there should be a Conference on a Nuclear Free Middle East, (a resolution on a Nuclear Free Middle East comes up every time at the NPT) to start trying to address the 'issues' there... (like the place is in flames again, Armageddon approaches again) hosted by Finland, hence Helsinki Conference. So we had their UK Ambassador Pekka Huhtaniemi to address us. The Conference was meant to start in November; the important thing was to try to get the States involved to attend; Israel obviously being particularly tricky; Sharon Dolev of Israeli Disarmament Campaign wanted it delayed further till after the Israeli

election; like everyone else the Ambassador was holding his breath for the US one. The Ambassador hoped to start a process, which would most likely be slow. I should imagine it is certainly now on hold again until all the international community descending on Israel have managed something in the way of a ceasefire...so Sharon Dolev will have her wish perhaps.

Rebecca Johnson spoke on the second conference, 'on humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons' early March 2013 in Oslo. This is back to where we all came in on nuclear weapons; that the consequences of their use are inhumane. ICAN has been pushing this; it's another route, like the Legal one, to get at all the nuclear weapon states, manufacturers etc etc; so it would be really good to build up a strong case to clobber them from this Oslo Conference.

Congratulations to CND for a really good conference.

Caroline Gilbert

Teutates Campaigning

The CCND resolution to CND Conference on the Teutates Treaty (see *Ploughshare* September 2012) was carried unanimously.

Following from this, we have some exciting plans for 2013. We are proposing various events to highlight the joint research facilities at Aldermaston and Valduc. Some of these plans include:

1. Weekly vigils at Aldermaston during Advent. Leaflet enclosed.
2. Stations of the Cross during Lent, linking Burfield to Aldermaston
3. Big Demo at Aldermaston during Easter 'Holy Fools Day'
4. Action linked with the NPT PrepCom, such as the Embassies Walk, and the Conference in Geneva which will draw attention to this breaking of the NPT. We also hope to organise a fringe meeting on Teutates in Geneva.
5. Involving the French peace movement in this campaign by inviting them to join us at Aldermaston on 1 April, and to share in organising the fringe meeting.
6. In August we are planning a visit to Valduc via the Paris Fast 6-9 August. This is in response to an invitation from Movement de la Paix to take part in the fast.

Some prayers and poems for peace from:: <http://peace.mennolink.org/prayersforpeace.html>
 You can sign at this website to be notified when a new prayer is posted.

Prayer for Peace

God,
 We are people of your peace.
 Our hearts break at the news of suicide bombings
 and government-ordered assassinations.
 We weep for the victims of drug wars and domestic
 abuse.
 We encourage groups in conflict--Israelis and
 Palestinians, Muslims and Christians--to use dialog
 instead of weapons.
 We long to be people of your peace.
 May our hearts also break for the hatred we feel and
 express toward others in the body of Christ.
 May our tears also flow for the victims of harsh words
 and closed doors within the Church.
 May your Holy Spirit encourage us to listen well instead
 of wielding power in harmful ways.
 Let the light of our peace witness grow ever brighter as
 we seek to follow the way of Christ ever more faithful-
 ly.
 We pray in the name of the Crucified One,
 the Resurrected One.
 Amen.

*Joanna Harader,
 pastor of Peace Mennonite Church, Lawrence, KS*

Blessed are the peacemakers

O God, I pray for peace, justice, and mercy
 for all the people of the Holy Land.
 Through my words, actions and thoughts
 make me an instrument of Your peace. Amen.

God of mercy, make us free

God of all peace,
 Creator of peace,
 you are un-making our need to hide,
 our impulse to show that we are right,
 to fight and destroy, thinking we can make ourselves
 safe,
 believing we can make ourselves free.

You unmake our lie that calls these efforts honorable,
 necessary, heroic.
 You show us your wounded, resurrected son, with
 whom
 you are remaking us, remaking your world.
 We bless you for your kindness and your creative love.
 Thank you for not leaving us to keep trying to save
 ourselves.
 Thank you for living in our skin and feeling pain and
 showing
 that death is swallowed up in your uncontainable life.

Creator of peace, when will you bring wars to an end?
 We wait again for you to pour out your Spirit on your
 people,
 and we are afraid, sometimes, that our trust in you is
 not what is needed,
 that we'd be better off finding our own way to free-
 dom.
 Thank you for calling us and sharing your peacemaking
 work with us.
 We pray for our brother and sisters worshiping you in
 many places;
 we pray with Jesus that we may be one in you.
 We await your empowering presence once more,
 and we are grateful to belong to you.
 Give us trust in our worry,
 and courage in our uncertainties.
 Let us see and hear your Holy Spirit coming among us,
 and let us follow Jesus
 as if we had nothing to lose.

Amen.

*Samantha E. Lioi is Associate Pastor of Formation and
 Mission at Whitehall Mennonite Church, north of Allentown,
 PA and a member of Zume House, a budding intentional
 Christian community in Allentown.*

The 2013 Pilgrimage for Peace and Economic Justice

<http://www.justpeacepilgrimage.com/>

Beginning at Iona at Pentecost (Sunday May 19th) 2013, finishing at the Palace of Westminster in London: an act of witness and communal celebration, drawing strength and inspiration from historic centres of prayer along the way...

The 2013 Pilgrimage for Peace and Economic Justice has its origins in an Inter-Faith Service for Justice and Peace held at Hexham Abbey, Northumberland in January 2012, organised by Northumbrians for Peace, and SCANA (Scottish Clergy Against Nuclear Arms)'s second annual Easter Week Act of Witness outside the gates of the Faslane Naval Base in March 2012.

A principal aim of the 2013 Pilgrimage is to focus public attention on the Coalition Government's proposal to spend many billions of pounds renewing the Trident nuclear weapons system, while continuing to slash NHS, education and social welfare budgets; including vital financial support for some of our most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities across the UK.

The model for the organisation and staging of the pilgrimage is the way the Olympic Torch was carried throughout the country in relays, ahead of the London 2012 Games.

Against the backdrop of the ongoing economic crisis, the hope is that the Pilgrimage's journey throughout the country will be like lighting a series of beacons in the centres of spiritual and political power visited en route: from the birthplace of Christianity in Britain at Iona to the Trident nuclear submarine base at Faslane, the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh and onwards via a succession of English cathedral cities to the UK's seat of government in London - a significant act of witness affirming our collective faith in a non-nuclear, more equitable future for all.

As the Pilgrimage makes its way southwards, there will be numerous opportunities for local churches, Quaker Meetings and other groups along the route to promote discussion in the news media about the justification for Trident's renewal, and related wider issues of social and economic justice.

You are invited to join in by walking some of the way between Iona and London next year? And if you can, in helping to arrange hospitality for participants in the Pilgrimage as it passes through your home area...

The organisers welcome your thoughts and suggestions - about the Pilgrimage's objectives and organisation, about Trident, the content of the website, or any other aspect of this project you'd like to comment on.

***NB** there is a webform on the website but no phone number or address to write to as yet. I have asked for these details and will let CCND members know as & when. In the meantime if you have any urgent issue to raise on the subject and do not have internet access, contact CCND and we will forward your message on.*

Provisional route of the 2013 Iona - London Pilgrimage

After leaving Iona on Whit Sunday, May 19th 2013, the plan is to proceed southwards via Faslane, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Holy Island (Lindisfarne), Hexham, Durham, York, Selby, Lincoln, Cambridge, St Albans and London/ Westminster. A variety of public events and acts of witness are being planned at key points along the route. See website for list, or contact CCND office for a paper copy.

The proposed route from Iona to London has been broken down into individual stages of approximately 10-15 miles, so that supporters of the Pilgrimage can come out and join it for an hour or two, for the day, or however long you can manage as it passes through your area.

Unavoidably in the initial planning, some stages have ended up being longer than anyone would have wished! The organisers would welcome any suggested modifications to the route that would help make these longer stretches more manageable.

The hope is that offers of support and hospitality will be co-ordinated by churches and local Quaker networks along the way, including where possible the use of village hall facilities and Meeting Houses to provide basic overnight accommodation.

Every Wednesday: Vigil for nuclear disarmament at Faslane, Scotland. 4 - 5pm, Faslane (North Gate). Organised by Faslane Peace Camp, Helensburgh CND and Trident Ploughshares vigil for nuclear disarmament. 01436 820901.

Every Thursday: Oxford. Stillness In The City: Lunchtime Stillness Peace. Twenty minutes' stillness will start or finish with a short reading or some brief practical guidance. Stay to bring and share vegetarian lunch after this if you like. Peace House, 19 Paradise Street. 1:15pm. Organised by: FOR, InnerSpace Oxford and Oxford Mindfulness Centre. Contact: silence@for.org.uk 01865 250781

28 November, 5 December, 12 December, 19

December: Advent Vigils at Aldermaston. A different group is organising each day: 1pm - 2pm.

CCND will be there on **28 November**, contact Caroline Gilbert 01865 241 290, maasgilbert@hotmail.com ;

Clergy Against Nuclear Arms on **5 December**, contact David Partridge 01243 373611 djfpeace@aol.com ;

Oxford Pax Christi group will be there on **Wed 12**

December, contact John Prangle 01865 725 801 john-prangle@tiscali.co.uk

19 December No anchor person yet...Volunteer very welcome, otherwise whoever can just turn up. Anyone is welcome on any day. 1pm - 2pm. Tadley Gate (parking opposite)

1 December: Prisoners for Peace Day. Since the 1950s, 1 December is celebrated as Prisoners for Peace Day, to highlight the plight of those who face imprisonment for the nonviolent actions for peace - be they conscientious objectors or direct action activists. There is a permanent Prisoners for Peace list on the WRI website, and everyone is encouraged to write cards or letters to prisoners. War Resisters' International, 5 Caledonian Rd, London N1 9DX, 020-

7278 4040 & 020-3355 2364, <http://www.wri-irg.org/co/01dec.htm>

1 December: Women, peace and security past, present and future. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Autumn Seminar. Using our past to build a better future. Speakers include Madeleine Rees, WILPF International long-standing activist, Angie Zelter, Secretary General recently arrested at Jeju in Korea. Venue: Amnesty Human Rights Action Centre, 17-25 New Inn Yard. London. Contact: UK WILPF 52-54 Featherstone St, London EC1Y 8RT Ring 0207 250 1968 or e-mail office@ukwilpf.org.uk to reserve your place.

10 December: Pax Christi Annual Advent Peace Service. 7.30 Followed by alternative Christmas Market. St Aloysius Church, Phoenix Road, Euston NW1. Info: Pax Christi, St Joseph's, Watford Way, London , NW4 4TY 0208 203 4884

13 December: Holy Eucharist - Advent. St Ethelburga's continues the tradition of Christian worship with monthly services of Holy Eucharist using a beautiful liturgy from the Iona community. There is also provide weekly space for Centering Prayer. 6.30pm. St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace, 78 Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 4AG. Phone: 020 7496 1610 Email: simon@stethelburgas.org <https://stethelburgas.org>

28 December: Holy Innocents. Event at St Martin-in-the-Fields, and outside Westminster Abbey, organised by Anglican Pacifist Fellowship under the auspices of the Network of Christian Peace Organisations. Further details to follow. Info: 01908 510624.

20 January: Peace Sunday. Peace Sunday with theme Blessed are the Peacemakers. Materials available on Pax Christi website. Pax Christi, St Joseph's, Watford Way, London , NW4 4TY 0208 203 4884 www.paxchristi.org.uk

13 February: Ash Wednesday 2013. With Pax Christi with Christian CND, London Catholic Worker, Catholic Peace Action. 0208 203 4884. Pax Christi, St Joseph's, Watford Way, London , NW4 4TY

CCND AGM

The AGM took place on 27 October. Thank to all who came. Patricia Pulham has resigned as Office Co-ordinator, after around 19 years. Patricia feels in the interests of democracy, that it was time for a change. There is no replacement, so we are re-thinking how it's best to organise the various roles among the Exec.

The Exec (for the time being) consists of: Michael Pulham (Co-chair), Chris Gidden (Co-chair), Patricia Pulham, Kelvin Gascoyne, Caroline Gilbert, Angela Rayner and Sue Bruno.

The minutes, annual and finance reports are available to any member who asks for them. Further details and updates on officers will be in the next *Ploughshare*.

The afternoon session consisted of workshops on quilt-making, banner and placard making, using social media and letter-writing.

CCND goods

Still time to order your Christmas Cards,
£2.50 for six.

Pack of 24 A4 sheets of Interfaith quotations on peace as used at the Creation Conference £1 a pack

CCND stickers New! 10 stickers for 50p, 50 stickers for £2

Legacy leaflet Free

Churches' pack Free

T-Shirts £12 each.

Cotton bags £3 each.

Picasso Greetings Cards. £2.50 for six.

Other CCND items available: Church Porch Poster, badges, enamel brooches, window stickers, pens and a history of CCND.

Send orders with cheque made out to Christian CND to:

Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

162 Holloway Road, London N7 8DQ

Tel: 020 7700 4200 Fax: 020 7700 2357

Email: christians@cnduk.org Web: <http://cnd.gn.apc.org/>

Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

Mordechai Vanunu House, 162 Holloway Rd, London N7 8DQ Tel: 020 7700 4200 Fax: 020 7700 2357 christians@cnduk.org

<http://cnd.gn.apc.org/>