

ploughshare plus



news update from Christian CND

May 2007

Christians working and praying for a nuclear weapons-free world

Peace Pentecost 27th May 2007

TONGUES OF FIRE: Speaking Truth to Power



Note: Although this takes a 'slot' in the schedule of the Faslane365 organisation, it is not being done as a blockade but as an Act of Witness and Celebration.



We go to Faslane to speak Truth to Power. Ungodly power lurks at this place. On the Feast of Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. We proclaim the Truth that sets us free and confront all that would destroy God's work. We witness to His great love, rejecting reliance on nuclear weapons.

Churches in Scotland began the series of announcements against Trident from churches throughout the UK all last year. We go to Faslane to celebrate this too and to gather strength for the campaign ahead.

Faslane Trident Nuclear Weapons Base

2 p.m. Service Main Gate
Fix your Statement on the fence at Faslane
Wave red and yellow streamers to look like tongues of fire
Interfaith Procession
Pray for peace
Peace Picnic

If you can go to Faslane before or after Pentecost you can join in with these:

Saturday 26 May: Anglican Pacifist Fellowship Walk of Witness, meet main gate at 12.15 pm

Monday 28 May: walk with Footprints for Peace from Helensburgh to Faslane. Ceilli Monday evening, blockade Tuesday morning.

Practical details

Peace Camp

There is room for 10 in the Bus and caravans at the Peace Camp. £2.50 per night. Caroline and Kelvin Gascoyne will stay there from the Friday 25th May and invite others to join them.

YHA Loch Lomond. Unfortunately full Saturday night but we have reserved 10 places for the nights of Sunday 27th and Monday 28th May.

Possibilities of Church floor with Footprints for Peace in Helensburgh; info@faslane365.org 0845 45 88 365, otherwise B&B.

Get in touch, Caroline Gilbert, 01865 241 290; maasgilbert@hotmail.com
Michael Pulham 01435 862 451.

Footprints for Peace

Footprints for Peace organise 'Interfaith Peace Walks Towards a Nuclear Free Future' to raise awareness of nuclear disarmament.

They start on 12th May in Dublin, arrive in Glasgow on 27th May, and will visit Faslane, Sellafield, Menwith Hill, Milton Keynes, AWE Aldermaston, and in London for Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days. Details appeared in the January Ploughshare, and we are reprinting the map here.

Footprints for Peace ask those near the route to join in, either by walking a mile alongside the walkers, or just to say 'hello'. If you are planning a group to welcome the walkers, why not inform your local papers and get the local press photographers along. If you can get local dignitaries to come along too, (Mayor, Councillors, church leaders, leaders of other faiths) so much the better!

For more information look at website: www.footprintsforpeace.net or contact Kelvin by email: kelvingascoyne@hotmail.com, mobile phone: 07916 375950



An appeal from the Executive Committee

To members and friends of Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

Many of you give over and above the regular subscriptions each year and have supported past appeals. We are very grateful for this extra help. Particularly at the present time when so much has been happening in connection with the opposition to the renewal of Trident.

You will realise from the reports in Ploughshare that this campaigning must continue to build upon what has been achieved and change the decision of parliament. Our funds are now barely adequate to sustain

this work which involves office costs, printing, postage, travel and accommodation for our representatives, and much else besides. If you are able, we appeal to you to consider one or more of these options:

- a) send a donation now to the office (cheques to CCND)
- b) increase your standing order to CCND before the next payment is due
- c) add something extra as a donation when your next subscription falls due.

Many thanks and best wishes in peace.

Local groups

There was a time when CCND had quite a few local groups. We can and should resurrect local groups! If you are feeling isolated, or that you would like to contact like minded people in your area, perhaps to form a group or perhaps just to talk and pray, compare notes, meet up, write letters, please get in touch.

There are quite a few of our members who have ticked the 'please pass my details on to other members' box on their membership forms, and are waiting to hear from CCND members in their area. (Note, we have promised that *only* CCND members will get these contact details, and only if members have specifically agreed to this. Not only is this a promise, but doing otherwise may contravene data protection regulations!)

We have had lots of new members over the past year. Many of them joined us after joining CND, and may well be involved with local CND groups, and would love to meet Christians in their area as well. If you haven't ticked the contact box, but would still like to contact local CCND members, please let me know. Perhaps you already organise vigils, or are running a stall, writing to local church leaders, local papers, MPs, etc and you may like others to join you but don't know where to find them. Get in touch with the office - we may be able to help!

New members in: **Redcar, Northants, Bristol and Oxfordshire**, would like to get in touch with YOU if you live nearby. No obligation to form a local group and start vigilling in the Town Square! If you do, that would be nice (and please let us know, we'll mention it in *Ploughshare*) but just knowing that small local groups are praying, writing letters, discussing the issues with their churches, is a big help! Inspire others, and be inspired yourself!

We can provide leaflets, churches packs, sample letters for MPs, local papers, even badges, pens and other items for stalls, etc.

Write, email or ring (only here on Wednesdays) Claire in the office: christians@cnduk.org 020 7700 4200, 162 Holloway Road, London N7 8DQ.

Interfaith Forum

A report on the Interfaith Forum on 17 February will appear in the next full issue of *Ploughshare*.

Obituaries

Janet Bloomfield

Janet died suddenly on 2nd April. A long-time CCND member, Janet was instrumental in setting up Abolition 2000. She was Chair of CND 1993-1996, vice-president of the International Peace Bureau, was British co-ordinator of the Atomic Mirror and was a consultant on UK Security Policy to the Oxford Research Group.

Janet was a wonderful supportive mentor to me when I first started working for Abolition 2000 UK, when quite frankly I felt a bit lost with my sparse knowledge of disarmament issues. Not much better now, really, but few of us can compare with the likes of Janet Bloomfield when it comes to expertise, not just on nuclear disarmament either. I remember at a party discussing with Janet the latest events on *Battlestar Gallactica*, and which was the best *Star Trek* spin-off, *Voyager* or *Deep Space Nine*. (Really, it's surprising how many peaceniks love science fiction!) Janet will be greatly missed.

Our sincere condolences to her family.

Claire Poyner

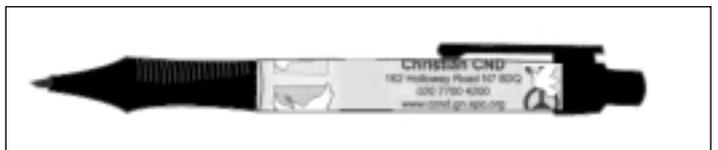
Helen Trask

We express our sadness and gratitude for the life and work of Helen Trask, who died peacefully on 31st March. Helen was very much involved in work against nuclear testing in the Pacific alongside Angela Needham. Our thoughts and prayers are with her friends and family.

New pens!

We have new pens in stock. Retractable blue ink with a rubber grip, very nice to use! Emblazoned with two peace doves and our logo, address etc on a blue background.

£1 each plus post & packing (40p for single item - or 10% if ordering more).



Last few long handled cotton bags left! Get yours now before we run out! We still have plenty of the short handled type in stock .£3 each.

12 May - 6 August: Towards a Nuclear Free Future. The Interfaith Peace Walk Towards A Nuclear Free Future is an opportunity for all people to come together in a non-violent, spiritually motivated action to end the nuclear industry and reclaim the future. Dublin to London via: Faslane, Sellafeld, Menwith Hills & Aldermaston. Anyone wishing to take part or help out in anyway should contact: Marcus Atkinson: marcus@footprintsforpeace.net ka@footprintsforpeace.net For more information: www.footprintsforpeace.net

Sunday 13 May: Ceremony to mark the International Conscientious Objectors' Day. 1pm to 2pm, Peace Garden, Manchester. With speakers (tbc), peace poems, laying of flowers dedicated to individual conscientious objectors, two mins silence and songs. Organised by Quaker Peace Group Manchester. For more info contact 0161 834 5797

Monday 15 May: International Conscientious Objector's Day. <http://www.wri-irg.org/co/15may.htm>
Ceremony in Tavistock Square, London at 12 noon with Chris Cole, Fellowship of Reconciliation. Info: PPU 020 7424 9444.

18 - 20 May: Building Bridges ... Breaking Boundaries. A Joint ARSP (Action Reconciliation Service for Peace)/ FoR (Fellowship of Reconciliation) Seminar to look at the boundaries we face and the bridges we build within our peace work. Residential weekend for 18 to 30 year olds, and will be held at Yardley Hastings, Northampton. For more information please contact Martha Beale on Martha@for.org.uk, 01865 748 796 or at Fellowship of Reconciliation, St. James Church Centre, Beauchamp Lane, Oxford, OX4 3LF. www.asf-ev.de www.for.org.uk

Saturday 26 May: Walk of Witness. The Anglican Pacifist Fellowship will hold Sung Communion and Prayer-Procession

Radstock, Bath BA3 5SW www.ammerdown.org, centre@ammerdown.org, 01761 433709.

29 - 30 May: The Footprints For Peace group will blockade as part of Faslane365 and part of the Dublin - London 07881 425 531 footprintsforpeace@faslane365.org <http://www.faslane365.org/>

Saturday 2 June: 22nd Annual Multifaith Pilgrimage for Peace, London. Organised by Westminster Interfaith, tel: 020 7361 4740.

10 June: Stop the Arms Trade Week Day of Prayer organised by CAAT Christian Network. Leaflets and information packs will be available from April. Contact CAAT, 11 Goodwin Street, London N4 3HQ, 020 7281 0297, alun@caat.org.uk www.caat.org.uk/getinvolved/christian/

Wednesday 20 June: Musicians Against Nuclear Arms Concert for Peace. Sir Thomas Allen accompanied by Roger Vignoles. St James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, London W1. Contact MANA Administration, 71 Greenfield Gardens, London NW2 1HU. <http://www.mana.org.uk/>

Wednesday 4 July: Annual 'Independence FROM America' day. Organised by Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases (CAAB), 9 Swarcliffe Road, Harrogate, HG1 4QZ. Tel no: 01423 884076 - mobile 07949897904 E-mail: office@caabuk.plus.com www.caabuk.plus.com

20 - 22 July: Called to be Peacemakers. 29th Annual Justice & Peace Conference. Organised by the National Justice & Peace Network with the assistance of Pax Christi & Fellowship of Reconciliation. Hayes Conference Centre - Swanwick, Derbyshire. Main speakers: John Dear SJ, a Jesuit priest and peace activist and Zoughbi Zoughbi, a Palestinian Christian born and raised in Bethlehem and director of the Palestinian Centre for Conflict Resolution. Also Bernadette Farrell, composer, liturgist and musician who is committed to justice and peace and work on social justice projects. Please book by 18th Mary by applying to the NJPN administrator, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX with a £20 deposit cheque made out to NJPN. Tel: 020 7901 4864 Email: Administrator www.justice-and-peace.org.uk/

6 August: Hiroshima Day.

Wednesday 9 August: Nagasaki Day.
Nagasaki Day - Peace walk from Westminster Cathedral (7.30pm) to the London Peace Pagoda followed by the Floating Lantern Ceremony at sunset.

Monday 10 September: Candle Lit vigil against the DSEi Arms Fair. ExCel Exhibition Centre, East London. Please bring a candle to a silent vigil for the victims of the arms trade. Details nearer the time. Organised by Newham faith groups and East London Against the Arms Fair (ELAAF) Postal address: c/o The Community Involvement Unit, Durning Hall, Earlham Grove, E7 9AB.

Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

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christians@cnduk.org <http://ccnd.gn.apc.org/>

27 May: Tongues of Fire; Speaking Truth to Power. Peace Pentecost celebration & liturgy at Faslane. To coincide with the arrival of the Footprints for Peace Interfaith Walk (see above May - August). Planned events include: All day vigil by main gate, Interfaith procession of Faith statements against Trident, Liturgy to include the burning of nuclear symbols, Fastening of Faith statements to fence, Peace picnic and party.

at the Main Gate of Faslane, Scotland on Whitsun Eve at 12.15pm. All invited and welcome.

Monday 28 May to Friday 1 June: Discovering Celtic Christianity with Sister Elizabeth Rees, a writer and lecturer on Spirituality, and author of 'Celtic Saints, Passionate Wanders', 'Celtic Saints in the Landscape' and other books on Celtic Christianity. Two field trips are being planned: one to Wales and one in Somerset. For more information, contact The Ammerdown Conference and Retreat Centre,