

April / May 2024

# KINGSTON PEACE NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF KINGSTON PEACE COUNCIL /  
CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

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## Protest over Gaza Closes British Museum

The British Museum closed its doors to visitors Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March as hundreds of protestors gathered outside, demanding that it end its partnership with BP - and sought to draw a link with the conflict in Gaza.

A new UK-based protest group calling itself **Energy embargo for Palestine** called on members of the public to boycott the museum while it continues to receive sponsorship from the oil giant. In a statement published on the website Jacobin the protestors pointed to oil exploration licenses granted to companies including BP by Israel since the start of the war on Gaza.

A banner was held up outside the museum's entrance claiming **"Sponsored by BP=sponsored by colonial genocide"**

Chaired by the former Tory chancellor George Osborne, the British Museum signed a new £50million, 10year partnership with BP last year. The deal is intended to fund an ambitious redevelopment of its Bloomsbury building, but it has sparked criticism from climate campaigners who have called for it to sever all links with fossil fuels. Yesterday's gathering appeared to mark a fresh front in the criticism of the museum, as it brought together campaigners against the climate emergency and protestors against Israel's continuing military offensive in Gaza.

A spokesperson for the museum said "The British Museum respects people's rights to express their views and allows peaceful protest onsite at the museum as long as there is no risk to the collection, staff or visitors". And a source at the museum confirmed they had closed their main entrances on the advice of the Metropolitan police, and that visitors who had arrived before the 3pm closure could remain inside, and those with booked tickets for later in the day could swap these for another day.

*Thanks to The Guardian 25 March for this information.*

Every two weeks the huge Saturday demonstrations for Gaza continue. And on most of the in-between Saturdays there are local demonstrations and fund-raising events in many towns and cities all around Britain. The appalling cruelty and unwarranted demonization being visited upon the Palestinian population of Gaza really inspires us to do whatever we can to help.

The latest demonstration was on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March. This followed what should have been good news as a UN resolution had just been passed although America abstained. This followed another attempt this time called by the USA itself for a ceasefire - albeit temporary, but this was vetoed by China and Russia, no doubt due to their major problems with the USA over other issues.

However since this resolution was passed Israel has ignored it and continued to bombard Gaza from the air, killing many more civilians, also causing death through starvation, lack of water and shelter.

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**Jews on the march!** From a small group of seasoned protesters, a lively and creative coalition of Jewish groups has come together to form a growing, visible bloc in solidarity with the Palestinians on all the protests against Israel's war crimes in Gaza. *Ruth Lukom reports in the Morning Star 16-17 March (edited)*

WE'RE sick of writing letters to the Guardian! Much good it did anyway! It was only the Guardian which ever reported that it had received a letter from "Several Jewish activists who have condemned..." So many atrocities, so many wasted words in print! The Establishment Jewish press snorted in derision. The mainstream shrugged and ignored it. There was no Jewish left or any significant Jewish dissent as far as they could see. **And yet the British Jewish left has always been active**, whether as trade unionists, councillors, Labour Party members or campaigners on local health or environmental issues. They marched with CLPs or trade unions. They marched as LGBT or stood on picket lines. They were elected as union reps and addressed meetings. **But they weren't there as Jews. It simply wasn't relevant.**

The exception to this was groups like the Jewish Socialists' Group (JSG) who have always proudly asserted their right to organise as part of a wider labour movement. Our banner and presence attracted curiosity, which was good, because any conversation about the place of Jews in the fight for justice and equality is enlightenment. The banner was there for the NHS and for migrant campaigns and in solidarity with trade union disputes. Please remember that some of us have been on these marches since the world shuddered at the thought of Ronald Reagan as US president.

The events of October 7 have led to a marked shift in responses to our presence. For that we must thank Suella Braverman, most mainstream politicians, and their adoring lieutenants in the Jewish press. Our marches were "hateful" and "full of Hamas supporters." Central London was "rampant with Jew-hating militants." Photos of the demos were scoured for hours so that a bone-headed placard or two could be used to discredit the hundreds of thousands who were calling for a ceasefire.

Despite the horrifying reality of the bombardment of Gaza and the murder of Palestinians in the West Bank, most of their energies were devoted to vilifying the left. And "protecting Jews." Because — as we were told by the very many non-Jewish politicians and commentators — any attack on Israeli forces is an existential threat to any Jewish person worldwide. Suella and Rishi and Dave and Keir and David L and Lisa have all got our backs!

In late October, Sisters Uncut staged a sit-down protest in Liverpool Street station during the rush hour. Over 500 people sat down on the concourse and chanted "Free Palestine" and "End the Occupation." Draped over the first-floor handrail was a huge "Jews Against the Genocide" banner. **The utter confusion of the media's celeb Jewish spokespeople to a loud, visible, Jewish presence was delightful.** Simon Schama, the esteemed historian, didn't bother examining the footage all over social media and misquoted the chants as "intifada." Suella has gone for now. The rhetoric has quietened as the slaughter intensified and the Israeli leadership openly announced its genocidal intentions. The "Israel-has-a-right-to-defend-itself" parroted by all our political leaders gave way to the mealy mouthed "a humanitarian intervention." Our newly formed Jewish Bloc - including, among others, the Black-Jewish Alliance, Na'amod, Jews for Justice for Palestinians, the Jewish Socialists' Group, Jewish Voice for Labour and Jewdas as well as individual Jews and activists who have come together - is now a recognised presence, no longer a curiosity. We are getting an entirely different and sometimes quite moving response to what we have previously encountered. **It is a combination of gratitude and relief as we have vindicated what everyone knew in their hearts: that what they were reading and hearing in mainstream media about British Jews being united on Israel and Palestine was a lie.** As more groups joined, our Jewish Bloc began organising more methodically. Someone came up with our **watermelon/star logo**, which has been picked up everywhere.

Before a mass demo, we talk online and arrange a meeting place which is notified to our protesters.

*Great to see the huge gathering of Jewish protestors and their banners at the march on March 30<sup>th</sup> Ed*

## **Palestine Solidarity Campaign AGM 24 February 2024**

The AGM commenced with a minute's silence - it was an emotional day but also an uplifting one - the situation in Gaza is horrific and this was referred to many times, but there was also reference to good news stories and encouraging signs, for example 375,000 emails were sent to MPs, in advance of the shambolic ceasefire vote in parliament the previous Wednesday.

The treasurer's report revealed the enormous number of recent donations, turning a potential 'end of year' deficit into a considerable surplus. PSC's membership has grown by 25% and 300,000 people are now receiving emails - there were 75,000 before, and many new branches have been set up. PSC was said to be the most influential organisation for Palestinians in the world, and London the centre of Palestinian resistance to the Israeli occupation.

**Ben Jamal stated that the main focus of the Annual Plan had to be BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) and that no stone should be left unturned in the fight against the Government's anti-boycott bill, currently in the House of Lords.**

**Current and future campaigns:-**

**McDonalds, Barclays and Pret**, (*this is a new unwelcome one to me as they are planning to open 40 branches in Israel! Ed.*) Boycotting Puma was successful.

**Public Bodies**, e.g. **Local Governments** - pension scheme investments into arms companies and Barclays - can BDS be used here?

**Eurovision** - an attempt must be made to expel Israel from this competition

**FIFA** - can Israel be expelled from FIFA?

**Media/Academic institutions** - many have shares in Israeli firms.

In addition to BDS, PSC should continue to challenge the damaging IHRA (International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance) definition of anti-Semitism and the uses to which this is put, in particular in universities.

A very upsetting speech was given to the AGM by **Ghassan Abu Sitta**, a Palestinian surgeon - he did not believe that Israel would step back now from its genocidal project, enabled almost in its entirety, by the West.

A second speaker was more encouraging - **Dr Shahd Hammouri**, Lecturer in Law. She referred to the recent ICJ interim ruling, and to the previous hearing in 2004. She reminded us that all states have a clear duty to ensure that the ICJ's rulings are complied with immediately. If States do not do so, they risk being taken to the ICJ as well. She was less encouraging about the International Criminal Court, which recently issued an arrest warrant for Vladimir Putin - no arrest warrant has

been issued for Benjamin Netanyahu.

The final speaker was **Husam Zomlot**, the Palestinian ambassador to the UK - encouraging and upbeat as usual.

Thanks were then given to **Kamel Hawwash**, PSC Chair, who is standing down from this position. He was presented with a picture celebrating his recent trip to Jerusalem.

*Thanks to Carol Clisby for this report.*

**Received today (22 March) from American Muslims for Palestine:-** "It's our job to stop arming Israel. The U.S. must follow Canada's moral example."

**Canada has announced a complete suspension of all new arms export permits to Israel, effective immediately.** This long - overdue freeze will remain in place indefinitely until the Canadian government can ensure that any military exports are used in full compliance with Canada's strict export laws, which prohibit weapons transfers that could abet civilian harm or violate international humanitarian law.

Canada's decision reflects growing international outrage over Israel's bloody genocide in Gaza and the growing consensus that military aid to Israel fuels atrocities and undermines peace. This bold move by Canada marks a pivotal moment for the international community to re-evaluate their complicity in perpetuating injustice through unconditional military support to Israel. As more and more voices worldwide demand accountability and an end to impunity, the United States must also urgently re-examine its practices of providing billions in weapons to Israel with no strings attached.

For too long, the U.S. has been arming Israel to the teeth and shielding it from any consequences at the United Nations. Weak attempts by the Biden administration to entice or persuade the extremist Netanyahu government to change its behaviour have utterly failed. Stern statements from top U.S. officials like Secretary Blinken and Senator Schumer have fallen on deaf ears among the Israeli leadership.

It is clear that the decades-long U.S. policy of appeasing Israel as it tramples on Palestinian rights has only emboldened Israeli impunity and made a just, lasting peace more remote than ever. To truly promote human rights, international law, and equality for Palestinians, the U.S. must stop trying in vain to change Israel's behaviour and instead cut the pipeline of unconditional military aid to Israel.

*NB This would be even better news if Canada were also suspending arms sales under existing contracts. Ed*

**Free Julian Assange – the campaign continues.** Revealing war crimes is not a crime.

**WikiLeaks editor and publisher Julian Assange is facing a 175 year sentence for publishing truthful information in the public interest.**

Julian Assange is being sought by the current US administration for publishing US government documents which exposed war crimes and human rights abuses. The politically motivated charges represent an unprecedented attack on press freedom and the public's right to know – seeking to criminalise basic journalistic activity. If convicted Julian Assange **faces a sentence of 175 years**, likely to be spent in isolation which would drive him to commit suicide.

The latest protest outside the High Court for Julian's appeal hearing against extradition which is ongoing was quite brief, as the judges came out early to announce a further delay. Dame Victoria Sharp and Mr. Justice Johnson dismissed most of Julian's legal arguments, but said unless assurances were given by the US he would be able to bring an appeal on three grounds. The US had three weeks to give these assurances, with a final hearing potentially taking place in late May. It was further reported that the decision is now expected on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Apparently of the three issues still under consideration the main one is that the US will need to guarantee that Julian will not be executed. Unless this is assured, the extradition will be refused. (However the danger will still be of continued unfair and unjustified imprisonment if the extradition is allowed.)

**In the meantime he continues to be held in Britain's high-security Belmarsh prison without conviction.**

His failing health, the smear campaign waged against him, and the impact on free speech if he is prosecuted in the US are all explored in **Kym Staton's powerful and thought provoking new documentary, "The Trust Fall", available on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)** which features graphic images of violence. Filmed over two years and narrated by Susan Sarandon, Roger Waters, M.I.A, Tom Morello and Jonathan Oldham, it features the video of the Collateral Murder incident which put a target on Assange's back and is the basis of the espionage charges he is being accused of. **It shows US soldiers laughing as they kill around a dozen civilians**, including two Reuters journalists in 2007 in New Baghdad, Iraq, and injuring two youngsters. It makes harrowing viewing. **In a**

**never-seen-before and heartbreaking interview, 10-year-old Sajad Mutashar, who was one of the victims, recounts those events in which he witnessed his father being gunned down.**

It also features insightful interviews with the late John Pilger, former Vietnam war whistleblower Daniel Ellsberg who died last year, Tariq Ali, the political activist and journalist, as well as an array of experts and members of Assange's family including his wife Stella.

While the film questions the role of the British government in kowtowing to the US which is determined to prosecute Assange at any cost, it also puts the spotlight on the Australian government for refusing to defend one of its own. A Spanish psychiatrist who was part of a team that assessed Assange in prison reveals how he showed signs of psychological torture over a long period of time.

No British or US officials appear in the documentary, and it begs the question why Assange, a journalist, is still being held captive in a maximum-security jail, particularly given his deteriorating health, while those responsible for these war crimes remain free.

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## **The peace process in Yemen**

While we are all transfixed by the increasingly terrible events in Gaza, the suffering in Yemen continues caused by fighting and shortages approaching famine conditions. This article about the situation there comes from the latest edition of Peace News,

<https://peacenews.info/node/10893>

It has been much edited due to insufficient space here.

**The fragile peace process in Yemen, which has reduced violence in the country enormously over the last two years, is under pressure**, the UN Secretary-general's special envoy to Yemen, Hans Grundberg, told the UN Security Council on 14 February: 'Rising regional tensions linked to the war in Gaza, and in particular the military escalation in the Red Sea are slowing down the pace of the peace efforts in Yemen.'

The US is risking the peace process by listing the Houthis (who rule two-thirds of the Yemeni people) as terrorists and imposing financial sanctions on them.

*Cont'd on page 7*

## Kingston Peace Council/CND Sales

For many, many years we have been fortunate in being able to make sufficient money to make donations to like-minded causes, produce our newsletter and pay expenses. We have done this by holding sales in my garage, visiting boot sales regularly and having stalls at local fairs. The latter have been very successful financially.

Unfortunately last year we attended our last fair to be held in New Malden High Street as part of the Malden Fortnight. A drop in the number of stalls applied for and complications due to more and more council restrictions have meant that the fair will not take place this year.

We did not attend the fair on Ham Common last June as I was too late in submitting our application. We were put on a waiting list as the council's limit for the number of stalls had already been met and no-one withdrew. I applied early this year for a pitch but was very saddened and disappointed when I heard that our application was turned down. We have been attending this fair since 2008 and have always received friendly and interesting feedback from the public. When I enquired why we had been refused a pitch, I was informed that the committee wished to **keep Ham Fair "a non-political family-orientated event"** and they were not accepting pitch applications from organisations unless they were charities. I responded by reminding them that we were not affiliated to any political party and that **we are a peace organisation striving for a more peaceful world.** The final email from them states that "With armed conflict in the Middle East, and sadly other parts of the world, the Ham Fair committee now feels that Ham Fair can no longer be a platform for any campaign groups, regardless of which country or national campaign they are supporting." **It's a sad world when we can't speak about peace and justice.**

**I shall be holding a garage sale at 289 Richmond Road KT2 5DJ on the same day as Ham Fair – Saturday 8 June.**

My garage is rather full of "stuff" which is only fit for selling at this year's boot sales so we now need donations of **only good quality items**, unused and unwanted gifts for the **wonderful Ecofair at Carshalton on August 26<sup>th</sup> - Bank Holiday Monday** - and for garage sales. Please think of KPC when you do your spring cleaning or decluttering! I am happy to collect items.

**Please get in touch: <maggie@galdor.co.uk>:  
020 8549 0086 or 07770 558547**

*PSC have also been refused by Ham Fair- Ed.*

## Kingston Peace Council/CND AGM

**Tuesday 13 February 2024**

Our Annual General Meeting was held online, as all our meetings have been since Covid. This meant that members without internet access could not attend, but all members were notified in advance, and encouraged to contact us with any comments, offers of help, or matters they wanted to be raised.

Gill (Treasurer) presented a summary of the income and expenditure for the previous year. Income was slightly down, largely because we couldn't go to Ham Fair which is always very profitable. However, we were grateful for a donation in memory of our much-missed member, Jean Turner. Expenditure was almost identical to last year.

It was agreed to continue standing orders to London Region CND, Campaign Against Arms Trade and Stop the War Coalition, and membership/affiliation fees supporting Palestine Solidarity Campaign, CND, Movement for the Abolition of War, Conscience, Scientists for Global Responsibility, and Network for Peace. We continue to support the Kingston Refugee Housing Scheme but they hadn't requested any money in 2023.

The Treasurer's report was approved, with thanks, and Carol was thanked for examining the accounts.

Gill was re-elected as Treasurer/Membership Secretary. No nominations were received for the posts of Chair or Secretary so the work for these will continue to be shared. The following were willing to continue in their roles: Fundraising co-ordinator Maggie Rees; KPN editors Rosemary Addington, Phil Cooper, Gill Hurlle; Literature Secretary Rosemary Addington; Press Officer Phil Cooper; Stall Organiser Angie Cooper; Schools Liaison Officer Mary Holmes. We still have a vacancy for Webmaster-Gill is willing to continue with the job for the time being, but we shall be investigating channels for attracting someone to this role. **Offers of help with all these jobs would be welcome!**

Hilary had circulated a *Brief review of activities Feb 2023 – Jan 2024*, (as reported in our newsletters) and Martin B remarked that it's wonderful how much KPC manages to achieve for such a small group, but urged us to seize every opportunity to involve new people. Gill commented that fewer people within our group are now active. It's accepted that people can't be active in every organisation they belong to but it was suggested that we might conduct a survey to ascertain how members might be willing to participate.

*Cont'd. on page 6*

## Kingston Peace Council/CND AGM

*Cont'd from page 5*

Regarding actions in the coming year, the horrendous events in Gaza will continue to take up a lot of time for the foreseeable future, and there will be more protests at Lakenheath with the threat of the return of US nuclear weapons to British soil, and with military funding increasing and the Domesday clock at 90 seconds to midnight, we will doubtless be kept busy. We shall as usual commemorate Hiroshima in August, celebrate Peace Day in September and mark Remembrance with the distribution of white poppies. It seems no longer realistic to plan public meetings except in conjunction with other groups with a shared message.

## CLOSE GUANTANAMO NOW!

**WEDNESDAY 8th May 2024: MONTHLY VIGIL, 1pm-3pm in PARLIAMENT SQUARE, facing Houses of Parliament**

**The UK Guantanamo Network vigils call for the closure of Guantanamo.** The vigils take the form of a two hour static protest opposite Parliament holding photos of those still detained and placards. We engage with passers-by, hand out leaflets with actions to take and serve as a visual presence to those working in Parliament. Please let your MP know when you are taking part in the vigil and ask them to come over to the 'Square' and stand with you for a while as a show of solidarity, demonstrating their support for our campaign.

If you are not able to get to the vigil then you can still write to your MP and tell them about the situation of the 30 detainees still forcibly held in Guantanamo. Some of these have been cleared for release, but this does not happen.

Monthly vigils, usually on the first Wednesday of the month,\* will continue to take place until Guantanamo is closed. The vigils are generally held at Parliament Square, **with each sixth vigil taking place near or outside the US**

**Embassy.** Convenor Sara Birch says "The Guantanamo Network welcomes all who want to see Guantanamo closed down joining them".

*\*The next vigil is on 8<sup>th</sup> May as 1<sup>st</sup> is May Day.*

## International Military Helicopters 2024 Arms Fair protest

A second arms fair took place at Twickenham RFU Stadium at the end of February. Kingston Peace Council/CND members joined protestors from Richmond and Kingston PSC, CAAT, Pax Christi, Stop the War, the local Amnesty group, Jews for

Justice for Palestinians and many others to say 'no' to this deadly fair.

Once again letters are being sent to the Rugby Football Union pointing out the scandal that a sporting venue should be used for such an event - **International Military Helicopters 2024** was sponsored by arms companies Leonardo, Lockheed Martin (Sikorsky) and Boeing among others, and had hundreds of delegates. **Equipment from these companies is currently being used by Israeli forces attacking Palestinians in Gaza, including targeting systems (Leonardo) and warplanes (Boeing, Lockheed Martin).**



Thanks to Martin Birdseye for his many wonderful posters.

## Here's a bit of good news for a change (and it ought to make you laugh!)

*From the Morning Star, 16<sup>th</sup> March.*

### GLASGOW Wonky Wonka auction raises £2,250 for Palestine charity

A Palestinian aid charity has won the only golden ticket to be found in Glasgow's car-crash "Willy's Chocolate Experience." The show went viral last month for all the wrong reasons after Wonka fans paid £35 a head for "surprises at every turn." Instead they were shocked to find it consisted of some jelly beans, a bouncy castle and some confused actors impersonating Oompa Loompas while milling around some weak props. The show was cancelled after some frustrated attendees called the police.

Those props were later found dumped in a bin, and the finder passed them to the city's Monorail record shop. **Here they raised £2,250 for Medical Aid for Palestine** in an online auction.

Store manager Michael Kasparis said: "We were all watching it like you'd watch the end of a football game. "It was £900 and then jumped to £1,050, then one second before it closed it was £2,050 and it came through at £2,250. We'd thought if it goes into four figures we'd be very happy so it was a pretty amazing result. It's a charity we've all donated to and that we all care deeply about and so it was kind of a no-brainer when we thought to auction the items for them."

The picture shows one of the backdrops.



**And locally, Richmond and Kingston Palestine Solidarity group** recently held a charity sale in the United Reform Church Hall in Kingston which raised a sizeable amount of money for the Palestinian children's charity Hope and Play. All donated goods - toys, books, clothes, jewellery and more, plus wonderful refreshments. They still have items they are hoping to sell on E-bay, so there isn't a final figure in but it should be around £8,000. Thanks to all.

## The peace process in Yemen

*Cont'd from page 4*

Adnan Hashem, a researcher at the Yemen and Gulf Centre for Studies (in Aden, Yemen) told *Al Jazeera* that the financial sanctions will not impact the Houthis: 'All that the Houthis own is inside Yemen, and they do not have cash or properties outside Yemen.'

The Houthis, or Ansar Allah, have been attacking Red Sea shipping since November in order, they say, to pressure Israel to allow food and medicine into Gaza. In response, the US and UK have been attacking Houthi positions.

'The escalation in the Red Sea has resulted in the direct suspension of a deal that was anticipated to be announced in recent months,' Ahmed Nagi, a senior Yemen analyst at the International Crisis Group, told the *New York Times* on 5 February.

That peace deal is desperately needed, as six million people in Yemen are just one step away from famine, according to the UN: 'The risk of a large-scale famine in the country has never been more acute.'

The US escalated the Red Sea conflict by relisting Ansar Allah as '**pecially designated global terrorists**' (SDGT), meaning the disruption of financial flows between Yemen and other countries, which may harm commercial trade, humanitarian operations, and money sent home from Yemenis abroad.

One key part of the UN roadmap to peace is organising salary payments for public sector workers in Houthi-controlled territories who haven't seen any pay for many years. This payment will not now be possible because of the SDGT label.

A US source told the *New York Times*: 'Officials could issue an additional license that would facilitate the payment of the salaries *if* the Houthis pursue the path of peace'

In other words, the US is putting the Yemeni peace process at risk, and withholding urgently-needed back pay from a million public-sector workers in Houthi areas – **when they could achieve the same protection for Red Sea shipping by forcing Israel to obey the world court by stopping its attacks in Gaza and 'enabling' enough food, medicine and other critical supplies into the territory.**

## KINGSTON PEACE COUNCIL / CND

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Please offer if you could help as  
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are sharing these jobs.

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**Disclaimer:** The views expressed in  
this edition are not necessarily those  
of Kingston Peace Council/CND

**Our Regular Stalls in  
Kingston Market Place take  
place on 1st and 3rd  
Saturdays of the month,**  
outside the gates of All Saints  
Church Kingston, in the market  
place.

Dates for April will be Saturdays  
6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, and May 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

We start at 11am and have 2 or 3  
one-hour shifts. Please contact  
Angie Cooper 020-8399-5537 to  
help, [angecooper47@hotmail.com](mailto:angecooper47@hotmail.com)

(If you are new to this, you will  
always be with an experienced  
member)

## Forthcoming Events (Some online)

**Wed 10 Apr, (every Wednesday) 6-7pm.** Women in Black vigil,  
around the statue of Edith Cavell in St Martin's Place opposite the  
Portrait Gallery. They are very happy to welcome new women to  
the vigils – even if they can only come once in a while. Wear black  
if possible.

**Thu 18 Apr, 6-8 pm LSE Library, 10 Portugal Street, London  
WC2A 2HD A Celebration of the life of Pat Arrowsmith,** the  
extraordinary peace activist and organiser of the first Aldermaston  
March in 1958, the single event that most put CND on the public  
map at that time. Speakers include Steve Bell, Pat's election agent  
in 1979 when she ran as an Independent Socialist candidate against  
the sitting prime minister Jim Callaghan, in Cardiff South and  
Penarth; Francie Molloy MP for Mid Ulster, remembering Pat's  
longstanding commitment to the struggle for Irish freedom; also  
Lindsey German and Kate Hudson. After the speeches, please join  
CND for a drink to share your memories of Pat and view the  
current LSE Library exhibition, featuring items from Pat's papers.  
See <https://cnduk.org/events/>

**Tue 30 Apr, 10:30. A nuclear-free future: A day in Parliament  
with Youth and Student CND** Join Members of Parliament for a  
day in Westminster to learn more about why the campaign for a  
world without nuclear weapons is so crucial at the moment. The  
day will include a tour of Parliament, lunch and workshops with  
MPs, including Jeremy Corbyn MP. Tickets are free but  
participants must be an up-to-date member of Youth and Student  
CND to come along.

**Wed 1 May May Day** - International workers' day, celebrated  
across the world. In London, GLATUC (Greater London  
Association of Trade Union Councils) organise a march and rally  
from Clerkenwell Green. See <http://www.londonmayday.org/>

**Mon 6 May Early May Bank Holiday** – Garage Sale at Maggie's  
– 289 Lower Ham Road, KT2 5DJ. See page 5.

**Thur 9 May, 7.30pm MPD Concert for Peace, Lauderdale  
House, Waterlow Park, Highgate Hill, N6 5HG.** MPD Patron,  
pianist Julian Jacobson, and five wind playing colleagues, will  
perform a programme of music by Les Six, the group of French  
composers who sprang into the limelight in early 1920s Paris.  
Tickets: Standard £20 / Concession £15 from  
<https://www.lauderdalehouse.org.uk/whats-on/music> or pay by  
contactless/cash at the door. All proceeds will be donated to the  
peace movement.

**Fri 10 May, 7pm via Zoom: From COP28 to COP29: what we  
hope for in 2024.** Deborah Burton, Co-founder of Tipping Point  
North South: creative campaigning for global justice, will share her  
experience of the recent COP28 in Dubai with specific reference to  
TPNS events on military emissions and spending, and reflect on the  
activities throughout 2024 which will deepen awareness and action  
on both issues as we move towards COP29 in Azerbaijan.  
Organised by Movement for the Abolition of War  
[www.abolishwar.net](http://www.abolishwar.net) All welcome. Book free tickets at  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/from-cop28-to-cop29-what-we-hope-for-in-2024-tickets-863106433577>

**Wed 15 May International Conscientious Objectors' Day.**  
Events around the country. See <https://www.ppu.org.uk/events>  
In London, there will be the annual ceremony in Tavistock Square  
at 1pm. Speakers include Belarusian peace activist Olga Karach,  
Semih Sapmaz from war Resisters' International, Feminist  
historian Ali Ronan and actor and playwright Michael Mears.  
Ceremony also live on Zoom, see the PPU website on the day.

**Mon 27 May Spring Bank Holiday** garage sale at Maggie's,  
289 Lower Ham Road, Kingston KT2 5DJ. See page 5.