

# Network *for* Peace



Continuing the work of the National Peace Council

February 2024

Dear Friends

Happy New Year all. Not going too well so far is it? We'll have to see what we can do about that.

Don't forget; get your events in early — avoid clashes (as much as possible).

If there is a sub renewal letter with this newsletter, please make sure the person who pays the bills gets it. If you would

like to pay by standing order, contact me and I will send you a form (or you can download one from the website). If you would like to receive the newsletter by email please let me know. **If you are not renewing, please let me know.**

Thank you for your continuing support.

In peace

*Claire Poyner, Co-ordinator*

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## News

### Add Your Name To CND's Newspaper Adverts

CND plans to publish a full page advert in The Guardian in early March, to coincide with the Chancellor's Spring Statement – a strong statement to government and to all political parties that every pound spent on nuclear weapons is an abhorrent waste with no benefit to society. Please help get this ad to print: make a donation using the form on this page and we'll add your name to it.

If 750 people donate £20 we'll have enough to fund the ad, but any amount will make a difference.

We must receive your donation by 9th February for your name to appear. You can donate online:  
<http://tinyurl.com/4pbe3h7k>

By phone: 020 7700 2393. By post: 162 Holloway Road, London, N7 8DQ.

## Events

### 3 February

#### HALIFAX. Centenary of E.P.

Thompson. To celebrate what would have been Thompson's 100th birthday, Calderdale TUC (with support from the Society for the Study of Labour History, Yorkshire CND and the Independent Working Class Education Network) are holding a day-long conference with Matthew Roberts, Sheila Rowbotham, Julian Harber, Gawain Little, Colin Waugh, Kate Hudson, Katrina Navickas and others. Tickets are free, so please only order if you are certain to come. 9.55am - 3.30pm. Trinity Sixth Form Academy, Halifax HX1 1UN Followed by a social at the Graystone Unity Pub from 4.15 - 6pm. <https://tinyurl.com/2x344onm>

**MANCHESTER.** For a Nuclear-Free Middle East. Greater Manchester & District CND AGM. As well as motions and elections, we will be joined by Ellie Kinney from the Conflict and Environment Observatory

(CEOBS) to discuss the ongoing situation in the Middle East and the climate consequences of the assault on Gaza. 22A Beswick Street M4 7HR. <https://gmdcnd.org/>

### 6 February

**MILTON KEYNES.** Stop Bombing Gaza! Stop Bombing Yemen! With Chris Nineham, a founder member and vice chair of the Stop the War Coalition. 7pm. Centrecom First Class Learning, MK9 3BJ Info: <https://fb.me/e/6v78cLp9Z>

### 8 February

**ONLINE.** Christian CND and friends gather twice a month on Zoom to prayer together. 8pm. See website for links.

<https://christiancnd.org.uk/events/>

### ONLINE. WILPF webinar:

Connecting the addiction to war and militarism with campaigning for peace, climate justice and the abolition of war. With David Collins is a former Royal

Marines Officer, active with the Veterans for Peace USA Climate and Militarism Group, and an Executive Committee member of the Movement for the Abolition of War. 7pm. <https://tinyurl.com/ytl2ce8r>

### 9 February

**SHEFFIELD S1 4RH.** Yorkshire CND & Dman and Friends Presents: Make Love Not War. 11pm at Sidney & Matilda, Rivelin Works, 46B Sidney St. <https://ra.co/events/1838241>

### 10 February

**LEYTONSTONE.** Class, 'Race' Inequality & Repression: A Marxist Social, Political & Academic Autobiography. Speaker: Dave Hill. Dave, a long-time Marxist academic (currently a professor) & political activist from an East End working class background, has been involved in direct action, especially in anti-racist & anti-fascist actions, & in the electoral arena fighting numerous local & parliamen-

tary elections for Labour (1973-1987) & for the Trade Unionist & Socialist Coalition (2010-2023.) 7.30pm: Entry. Buffet. Please bring an item if you can: vegetarian or vegan only. No entry before 7.30pm. 8pm: Talk & discussion till about 10pm; back to buffet. Free entry. Donations invited. Raffle. To confirm the talk will be as shown: [roskane@btinternet.com](mailto:roskane@btinternet.com) Open to all. No booking, just turn up. St John's Church Hall, High Road, Leytonstone E11 1HH. <https://newsfrom-nowhereweb.wordpress.com/>

### 14 February

**LIVERPOOL.** Ash Wednesday - Disarming the Heart. A public outdoor witness for Nuclear Disarmament to begin the Christian season of Lent - Join Pax Christi Merseyside, Campaign For Nuclear Disarmament and other peace groups for an annual walk and prayer through the streets of Liverpool. Calling for nuclear disarmament and promoting active nonviolence. Beginning 1.30pm at the Steps of St Lukes Church, Top of Bold Street, Liverpool City Centre. An act of repentance for our possession and intended use of nuclear weapons. Open to all. Contact Jan Harper 07591082195 [Janharper20211@outlook.com](mailto:Janharper20211@outlook.com) for further details

### 16 February

**LONDON.** Book Launch: Dear Lettera 32 by Cat Chong. Celebrate the publication of Cat Chong's 'Dear Lettera 32', the first physical publication by PermeableBarrier, an online journal of art and poetry. Cat Chong, one of our most exciting young up and coming poets, will be joined by special guest readers. £12 with book, £2 without. 7pm. Housmans Bookshop, 5 Caledonian Road. <https://housmans.com/events/>

### 22 February

**LONDON.** Why War? War reporters question the repetitive coverage of persistent conflicts, highlighting the importance of reporting on underlying dynamics such as corruption, bad governance, and meddling by those who profit from it. And, the role of war reporting and its ability to generate empathy beyond the lens. With Corinne Dufka, Director, Sahel Human Rights Watch and Lindsey Hilsum, International Editor, Channel 4 News. 6pm. The Conduit, 6 Langley Street, WC2H 9JA. <https://tinyurl.com/yqfyprns>

### 23 February

**LONDON.** Book Launch: Of Talons and Teeth: A Novel by Niall Griffiths. With the novelist Niall Griffiths to celebrate the publication of his new novel Of Talons and Teeth: an historical novel set Wales before the Industrial Revolution, as human love tries to flower amidst squalor and serfdom. Niall will be in conversation with the brilliant Gary Budden, one of the country's finest writers of weird fiction and psychogeography (and hybrids thereof.) £10.99 with book, £3 without. 7pm. Housmans Bookshop, 5 Caledonian Road. <https://housmans.com/events/>

### 27 February

**LONDON.** Book Launch: "Mick Lynch: The making of a working-class hero" With Professor Gregor Gall on the publication of his new book about Mick Lynch, the celebrated trade unionist and General Secretary of the RMT. £20 with book, £3 without. 7pm. Housmans Bookshop, 5 Caledonian Road. <https://housmans.com/events/> **ONLINE.** Avoiding a Broader Middle East War - Building Bridges for Peace between Israel-Palestine. Uniting for Peace AGM Time: 17:00 - 18:00 (UK time). Conference Time: 18:00 - 20:00 (UK time). Free Public Event - All Welcome to Join. Please register by emailing to [vijay@vmpeace.org](mailto:vijay@vmpeace.org).

### 5 March

**WORLDWIDE.** International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness. A day to seeks to promote better awareness and understanding of disarmament issues among the public, especially young people. <https://www.un.org/en/observances/disarmament-non-proliferation-awareness-day>

### 7 March

**ONLINE.** Christian CND and friends gather twice a month on Zoom to prayer together. 1pm. See website for links. <https://christiancnd.org.uk/events/>

### 8 March

**WORLDWIDE.** International Women's Day. <https://www.internationalwomensday.com>

### 9 March

**LEYTONSTONE.** 'World peace starts in your own heart': The Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP). Speakers: Leasa Lambert and Arthur Charlton.

AVP was originally a programme developed together by Quakers and prisoners in a US prison in 1976. It is now a thriving international organisation running weekend workshops in many countries, in prisons and community settings. Leasa & Arthur from Walthamstow are both experienced AVP facilitators & will show us some of the lively ways they teach. 'World peace starts in your own heart.' How peaceful are you? Leasa has been a social worker & is a university Quaker chaplain. Arthur is a retired architect. Both are constantly active in movements for a better world. 7.30pm. See 10 February for details of venue etc.

### 10 March

**SHEFFIELD.** Yorks CND Strategy Meeting. 1pm. The Rutland Arms, 86 Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS. <https://yorkshirecnd.org.uk/event/ycnd-strategy-day-2/>

### 11 March

**EVERYWHERE.** Fukushima Day. <https://kicknuclear.com/> **ONLINE.** Christian CND and friends gather twice a month on Zoom to prayer together. 8pm. See website for links. <https://christiancnd.org.uk/events/>

### 18 March

**ONLINE.** Christian CND and friends gather twice a month on Zoom to prayer together. 1pm. See website for links. <https://christiancnd.org.uk/events/>

### 21 March

**WORLDWIDE.** International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. <https://www.un.org/en/observances/cnd-racism-day>

### 11 April

**ONLINE.** Christian CND and friends gather twice a month on Zoom to prayer together. 8pm. See website for links. <https://christiancnd.org.uk/events/>

### 13 April

**LEYTONSTONE.** East London Wild Birds Rescue. Speaker: Margaret Winniak. Margaret, an Australian, has lived in east London for the last 38 years. In 2017 she became a volunteer for London Wildlife Protection, where she began rescuing pigeons, crows & other birds. In 2023, Margaret formed East London Wild Bird Rescue, a community interest company created to protect & care for wild birds, educate

local people about wild birds in east London, to provide education on humane ways to control urban bird populations & one day, open a rehab centre. Margaret's talk will enlighten us on how we can live in harmony with the wild birds that surround us. 7.30pm. See 10 February for details of venue etc.

#### **22 April**

**WORLDWIDE.** Earth Day. Visit the official Earth Day site to learn about the world's largest environmental movement and what you can do to make every day Earth Day.

<https://www.earthday.org/>

**ONLINE.** Christian CND and friends gather twice a month on Zoom to prayer together. 1pm. See website for links.

<https://christiancnd.org.uk/events/>

#### **26 April**

**WORLDWIDE.** Chernobyl Day. Remembering the world's worst nuclear disaster.

<http://www.chernobyl.info/>

**BROMLEY.** Bromley CND Chernobyl Day stall. Bromley Market Square. 12-1.30.

#### **2 May**

**ONLINE.** Christian CND and friends gather twice a month on Zoom to prayer together. 1pm. See website for links.

<https://christiancnd.org.uk/events/>

#### **Monday 15 May**

**EVERYWHERE.** International Conscientious Objector's Day.

<https://www.ppu.org.uk/>

**LONDON.** CO Day Commemoration in Tavistock Square. 1pm.

<https://www.ppu.org.uk/>

#### **11 May**

**LEYTONSTONE.** The Shrewsbury 24 Campaign -We Never Gave Up!

Speaker: Eileen Turnbull. Eileen is the researcher & secretary of the Shrewsbury 24 Campaign, formed in 2006 to overturn a miscarriage of justice. The 24 were North Wales building workers, prosecuted in 1973-74 for alleged picketing offences during the national building workers' strike. Six received prison sentences ranging from 4 months to 3 years; 16 were given suspended prison sentences. Through years of research, Eileen discovered the crucial fresh evidence that persuaded the Criminal Cases Review Commission to refer the case back to the Court of Appeal. In 2021 three

judges quashed all the pickets' convictions. 7.30pm. See 10 February for details of venue etc

#### **24 May**

**WORLDWIDE.** International Women's Day for Disarmament.

<https://www.womenpeacemakersprogram.org/>

#### **4 June**

**WORLDWIDE.** International Day for Children as victims of war.

<http://www.unicef.org/gmfc/>

#### **8 June**

**LEYTONSTONE.** Britain and the Legacies of Slavery. Speaker: Keith McClelland. In this talk, Keith (a co-founder of the original Legacies of British Slave-ownership project) will examine British slave-ownership in the Caribbean c.1763-1838 & the importance of it in the shaping of modern British society. This talk will examine the slave-owners - one very important means by which the fruits of slavery were transmitted to metropolitan Britain. Keith will place this in the context of the wider history of the slavery business & its legacies in Britain past & present. 7.30pm. See 10 February for details of venue etc

#### **20 June**

**WORLDWIDE.** World Refugee Day.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/r efugee-day>

#### **22 June**

**LONDON.** 39th Annual Celebration of London Peace Pagoda. 2pm, Battersea Park, SW11 5NJ. <https://londonpeacepagoda.wordpress.com/>

#### **26 June**

**WORLDWIDE.** International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.

<https://www.un.org/en/events/torturevictimsday/>

#### **20 July**

**LEYTONSTONE.** (NB Third Saturday). The Vi Gostling Memorial Lecture: The Front Garden: Opportunity for Great Beauty - or Carports? Speakers: Christine Eborall and John Karayiannis. Tonight is about one way to transform our daily lives. Christine will focus on the enormous amount of permitted destruction of urban front gardens since 1995 & its environmental & social consequences. A Powerpoint presentation will explain the many problems that this causes. John, a distinguished garden designer, living in south Leytonstone, will

explain the principles of the best possible front garden. We are also inviting local residents who have exquisite front gardens to bring photos of them & reveal the secrets of their unusual artistry. 7.30pm. See 10 February for details of venue etc

#### **6 August**

**WORLDWIDE.** Hiroshima Day.

#### **9 August**

**WORLDWIDE.** Nagasaki Day.

Anniversary of the execution of Franz Jägerstätter

#### **10 August**

**LEYTONSTONE.** Fascinating Aspects of India. Speaker: Janine Eagling. For anyone interested in our country's colonial history in India, this evening will provide a sliver of intriguing insight. Janine will speak about the origin of Dr Graham's Homes, a school in India's West Bengal state, that provides education, shelter & nurture to children from deprived backgrounds. Set in the foothills of the Himalayas, it was founded in 1900 for children of European men & Indian women. The talk, accompanied by photos, will cover some of the Homes' history, Janine's journey by bike to see where her grandmother went to school, the situation of the Homes today & the work of the UK fundraising committee. 7.30pm. See 10 February for details of venue etc

#### **14 September**

**LEYTONSTONE.** Priscilla Wakefield: Mother of Microfinance, and The Remarkable Anna Kingsford. Speakers: Margaret Burr and Ros Kane. 2023 was the year when only the third woman won the Nobel Prize for Economics, the 225th anniversary of the publication of Priscilla Wakefield's only volume for adults, Reflections on the Present Condition of the Female Sex in which she became the first woman to respond to Adam Smith's failure to include women in his economic theory, & the establishment of the Tottenham Female Benefit Club & Children's Bank. Margaret is a community historian in Tottenham. Ros will talk about another exceptional, brave innovator, Anna Kingsford (1846-88), born in Stratford. [www.priscillawakefield.uk](http://www.priscillawakefield.uk) 7.30pm. See 10 February for details of venue etc

#### **21 September**

**WORLDWIDE.** International Day of Peace. <https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>

## 26 September

**WORLDWIDE.** The International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, a day for public awareness and education about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and to mobilize international efforts towards achieving the common goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world. - See more at:

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/nuclear-weapons-elimination-day>

## 2 October

**WORLDWIDE.** International Day of Nonviolence. Marked on 2 October, the birthday of MK Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/non-violence-day>

## 10 October

**EVERYWHERE.** Anniversary of the 1957 Windscale Fire.

## 12 October

**LEYTONSTONE.** CLR James: An Unexpected Life. Speaker: John L. Williams. John will be talking about his new biography of the great Trinidadian historian, radical & cricket-lover: CLR James. His book brings this extraordinary 20th century life into brilliant focus as it moves from Trinidad to London to Lancashire to the USA & back again. 'CLR James was decades ahead of his time in challenging our thoughts about empire, colonialism, black history &, not least, in writing brilliantly about cricket. He finally has the biography his extraordinary influence deserves' (Barney Ronay). John is a Cardiff-born novelist & biographer; his subjects range from American crime fiction to Dame Shirley Bassey. 7.30pm. See 10 February for details of venue etc

## 3rd Week in October (usually)

**COUNTRYWIDE.** Week of Prayer for World Peace. <https://weekofprayerforworldpeace.co.uk/>

## 24 October

**WORLDWIDE.** United Nations Day. <https://www.un.org/en/observances/un-day>

## 24 - 30 October

**EVERYWHERE.** Disarmament Week. <https://www.un.org/en/observances/disarmament-week>

## 9 November

**LEYTONSTONE.** The Biografiend's

Tale. Speaker: Frances Wilson. Knowing how tawdry the biographical process can be, many writers & artists on their deathbeds, including biographers themselves, refuse their executors to allow a biography to be written. So how do biografiends, as James Joyce described the species, defend themselves? Speaking from her 30-year experience as a writer of biographies, teacher of biographies, & reviewer of biographies, Frances Wilson explores the moral quagmire. Frances is a critic & author of six biographies including, most recently, *Burning Man: The Ascent of D H Lawrence*. She is currently writing a life of Muriel Spark, who famously fell out with her first biographer. 7.30pm. See 10 February for details of venue etc

## 11 November

**COUNTRYWIDE.** Remembrance Day. Nearest Sunday is Remembrance Sunday.

## 25 November

**WORLDWIDE.** International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. <http://www.unwomen.org/en>

## 29 November

**WORLDWIDE.** International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. <https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-of-solidarity-with-the-palestinian-people>

## 1 December

**EVERYWHERE.** Prisoners for Peace Day. <http://www.wri-irg.org/co/01dec.htm>  
10 December

**WORLDWIDE.** Human Rights Day. The Day marks the anniversary of the Assembly's adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948. <https://www.un.org/en/observances/human-rights-day>

## 14 December

**LEYTONSTONE.** The Great Survivors: Valence House Museum. Our Speaker: Mark Watson. Dagenham's Valence House is a treasure trove of local history. Mark has been there for 32 years as interpretation & outreach officer, running the education service for schools in Barking & Dagenham & surrounding boroughs, looking at national history subjects through the lens of local history, using play-acting, role-play, giant room-sized board games, art, music, cooking, old-style object handling & dressing-up to make learning fun & interactive.

7.30pm. See 10 February for details of venue etc

## Weekly, monthly events in UK

### Second full weekend of every month

**ALDERMASTON.** Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp(aign) Second full weekend of every month. Women welcome to join us in protesting at the UK's nuclear weapons factory. Camp or visit for the day. 07946676761 or on Facebook.

### Every Friday.

**Brighton.** Women in Black vigil 1-2pm at War Memorial, Old Steine, Brighton [brightonwib@11qp.co.uk](mailto:brightonwib@11qp.co.uk)

### Every Wednesday

**LONDON.** Women in Black Silent vigil against militarism and war. 6-7pm Edith Cavell Statue, St Martin's Place, London WC2. <https://www.facebook.com/womeninblack.london>

### Every Friday

**LONDON.** No More Fukushimas! Weekly vigil, 10am-12.30pm, outside the Japanese Embassy 101-104 Piccadilly, London W1, in solidarity with Japanese anti-nuclear protestors. Organised by Kick Nuclear, and Japanese Against Nuclear UK. Held every Friday since August 2102. Info David, 020 7607 2302 or [www.januk.org](http://www.januk.org)

### Every Tuesday MENWITH HILL.

Witness and protest Tuesday evenings at the Nessfield Gate of the Menwith Hill surveillance base, from 6pm to 7.30pm. <https://theMHAC.uk> Contact Sarah Swift for further details [sswift64@gmail.com](mailto:sswift64@gmail.com) or ring 07902173148.

### First Saturday of every month

**NORWICH.** Vigil for Peace. 12noon. Outside St. Peter Mancroft Chantry Rd, NR2 1QZ.

### Third Thursday each month

**Online.** London CAAT meetings. 6.30pm. Currently they are organising around the #StopArmingSaudi campaign. For more information about the group, to request to be added to their group email list, or to confirm details of the next meeting, please email [london-caat@riseup.net](mailto:london-caat@riseup.net).

*Let us know if you've started regular events up again.*

**mail@networkforpeace.org.uk**