



cnd cymru
campaign for
nuclear disarmament

summer 2012
number 57

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Whatever languages we speak, we all want Peace,

Heddwch, Salaam, La Paix,
Pyong'hwa, Maluhia, Pingan,
Shalom, Síocháin, Nabad Da,
Mír, K'é, Béke, Der Frieden,
Bak, Fois, La Pau, Pax, Saanti,
Khanhaghutyun, Däilama,
Pokój, Kiñuiñak, Boóto, Amani,
Barish, Tsumukikatu,
Tlamatcanemiliztli, Irini....

heddwch 

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The content of heddwch does not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of CND Cymru. We welcome debate and discussion. Please send any comments or contributions to the editor.

cnd cymru

CND Cymru works to rid Britain and the world of all weapons of mass destruction, for peace & human & environmental justice.

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Carwyn, Leanne and Milford - 1 Welcome to Wales?

CND Cymru roundly condemned the claim made by First Minister Carwyn Jones that Britain's nuclear-armed submarines would be 'more than welcome' in Wales if they were to be expelled by an independent Scotland.

His comments came amid uncertainty over the future of the Trident nuclear weapons system. Alongside economic and strategic problems which have dogged the proposed replacement of Britain's nuclear-armed submarines, the possibility of an independent Scotland expelling the fleet from the Clyde naval base has caused consternation in Westminster.

The First Minister's statement, which included the suggestion that Milford Haven could be used as a base for the nuclear fleet, was instantly slammed by many MPs and AMs across the political spectrum. Simon Thomas AM said:

'He clearly has no grasp on reality if he believes that the people of Wales

want nuclear weapons stored in Wales. It would be far better for Wales for the Westminster government to do what Plaid Cymru has long called for - scrap the Trident project completely and spend the massive cost on plausible job creation schemes to boost our economy.'

This response was echoed by anti-nuclear campaigners, who described Mr. Jones as 'flailing in the dark' for an answer to the economic problems in Wales.

This is a misguided and unsubstantiated call from Carwyn Jones. If he thinks that this is a solution to economic problems in Wales

then he is flailing in the dark. Replacing Trident would cost more than £100bn over its lifetime and the only answer lies in scrapping it now, cancelling its replacement and investing the money saved in effective job creation and public services. In making such a bizarre statement he is simply showing how out of step he is with the people of Wales.

Following the First Minister's comments Labour and Plaid Cymru MPs Elyn Llwyd, Martin Caton, Jeremy Corbyn, Paul Flynn, Jonathan Edwards and Hywel Williams tabled Early Day Motion 230 calling for a Nuclear Weapon-Free Wales.

Carwyn, Leanne and Milford - 2 Time for Unity

CND Cymru Vice Chair John Cox reflects upon the recent flurry of headlines around the possibility of basing Trident and/or its replacement in west Wales in the event of Scottish Independence.

I doubt whether Carwyn Jones fully thought through the implications of his ill-judged 'welcome' to the possibility of Trident being stationed in Milford Haven. His aim was to suggest that Plaid Cymru was not as concerned about job creation as he is. His remarks were aimed directly at the new Plaid Cymru leader Leanne Wood who, on several recent occasions, has caused him acute and visible discomfort by challenging his policies from the left.

What he did not foresee was two consequences, both important and, had he given it serious thought, equally predictable. The first is that Plaid Cymru, under its new leader, welcomes any opportunity to argue against nuclear weapons (or nuclear power as they have done in response to similar ill-advised taunts about Wylfa B and job creation). So Plaid Cymru, using the procedures of the National Assembly, has been more than ready to argue in principle against the possession of nuclear weapons.

The second consequence, less public but more decisive, was that most Labour AMs made it clear that they did not agree with the First Minister on this matter (and three Julie Morgan, Mark Drakeford and Mick Antoniw did so publicly). Whilst it would have been great if their opposition had been made public by voting for the Plaid Cymru motion (opposing what the First Minister had said), the political divide in the National Assembly made this unrealisable and, in the event, the National Assembly voted that this topic was 'none of our business'!

Which, of course, begs the questions: 'So why did the First Minister raise the issue in the first place?' or 'So why was it acceptable for Jane Davidson, whilst a Minister, to declare her opposition to Trident in the National Assembly?' or for, in

the not so distant past, several Labour AMs and Ministers to speak in the National Assembly against nuclear weapons.

Although the hypothetical issue raised by Carwyn Jones will be raised again in October when an e-petition (see page 3) is presented to the National Assembly. I hope that all of us, peace campaigners and AMs, will shift our focus to the genuinely real threat of Trident replacement.

Perhaps the most encouraging features of the debate in the National Assembly was that all speakers from the LibDems, Plaid Cymru and Labour (other than the First Minister who said literally nothing about the topic being debated) were opposed to Trident replacement - whether stationed in Scotland, Wales or England. Hopefully, this anti-nuclear unity can be expressed in other ways than a conventional motion at the National Assembly.

Carwyn, Leanne & Milford - 3 Over to you

h e d d w c h * a c t i o n

Trident and Trident Replacement - this is the big one and there's plenty for every heddwch reader to do! There are just 4 precious years for all of us to stop Trident replacement:

1. Add your voice and focus attention on those who will make the decision. Ask your MP to sign Early Day Motion (EDM) 96 - 'TRIDENT REPLACEMENT'.

As spending cuts beginning to hit harder, the demands are growing to cut the £100 billion Trident replacement programme. If they have already signed, why not write and thank them - and they'll know you're watching!

www.act.cnduk.org/lobby/63 (on line) or

www.theyworkforyou.com/

Or: Your MP, House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA

2. At the same time please ask your MP to sign Early Day Motion (EDM) 230 - 'NUCLEAR WEAPON-FREE WALES'.

www.theyworkforyou.com Or: Your MP, House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA

3. Oppose Trident moving to Wales - sign (and ask your friends and relations to sign) the e-Petition:

'The First Minister Carwyn Jones has said that the UK's nuclear fleet (Trident) would be more than welcome in Milford Haven if an Independent Scotland decided that they were no longer welcomed there.'

'We oppose having these WMDs in Wales and urge the Welsh Government to oppose the idea of allowing the UK's nuclear fleet to move to Wales.'

<http://tinyurl.com/cm3b4uf> or contact the National Assembly Information Line t: 0845 010 5500, Textphone: 0845 010 5678 if you are not able to sign it on line.

4. Write to your Assembly Members and ask them to oppose any plans to move Trident to Wales. Your AM, National Assembly, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff CF99 1NA.

To find out who your AMs are see

www.senedd.assemblywales.org or t: 0845 010 5500.

5. Last but not least: Presentation of Petition to the National Assembly - Put October 16th (12pm to 4 pm) in your diary!

We need to mobilise and jointly organise a visible and newsworthy demonstration outside the National Assembly to show the strength of public support for a Nuclear Free Wales. Trident

Ploughshares, CND Cymru and Knighton Action for Peace and Justice are working together to build a Trident submarine model and place it on the steps of the Senedd; explain why it cannot come to Wales

and then for some Red Welsh dragons and perhaps modern day Rebeccas to demolish it! A choir will sing the powerful 20 minute Trident Oratorio. We need as many people as possible to come along. If you are a singer or know of any choirs who might be interested, can build a model submarine, or can persuade your AM or MP to be there or want to help in any way at all, please contact Angie Zelter, 6 Church St, Knighton, Powys, LD7 1AG t:01547 520 929. e: reforest@gn.apc.org



Can't Vote, Can't Drink, but...

For many of us, the phrase 'child soldiers' conjures up an image of Kalashnikov-toting youngsters in Sierra Leone, or from the Democratic Republic of Congo. But I have revised my view recently, as the unacceptable policies of the United Kingdom in recruiting young people to our armed forces have become clearer to me.

The UK is the only European Union or NATO country to allow 16 and 17 year olds to enter the army, navy or air force. This is a practice opposed by the United Nations. Indeed, such splendid isolationism on the UK's part has seen it judged by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, which has asked that the Westminster government reconsider its policy.

Yet the practice continues unabated. It manifests itself in schools through special armed forces presentation teams which carry out 'awareness-raising' activities, offering lesson plans, away days and careers talks on what armed forces life could offer children.

This of course is recruiting by any other name. And a recently launched campaign, with a petition to the National Assembly, aims to change the situation in Wales. Established by concerned individuals and supported by CND Cymru, Cymdeithas y Cymod, the Unitarian Church and others, the initiative seeks to encourage debate about the issue at the Assembly's Petitions Committee and beyond.

One of the more unacceptable aspects of the current regime is limited discharge (cooling-off) periods for young people to change their minds once enlisted. And there is increasing

evidence that schools in poorer areas of Wales, and ethnic minority communities, are particular targets for such recruitment activity. Thus Flintshire schools have received many recent visits, while there have been none documented in the Vale of Glamorgan.

It is at the discretion of headteachers whether armed forces teams are allowed on school premises. But the seriousness of the position is shown by the NUT teaching union voting to oppose military recruitment activities that employ 'misleading propaganda' and a 'marketised version' of life for young people in the armed forces, rather than spell out its risks as well.

Stephen Thomas
CND Cymru Chair

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The devolved status of education in Wales has led to the call for this practice to be outlawed here.

www.assemblywales.org/epetition-list-of-signatories.htm?pet_id=754

Please sign up and put pressure on our politicians in Cardiff Bay to review this matter. The petition remains open until UN Day, 24 October 2012.

A paper version is available as a Pdf:

www.cymdeithasycymod.org.uk/deiseb-recrwtio.pdf

Suffer the Children

BAN MILITARY RECRUITERS FROM WELSH SCHOOLS



A Sound of Death and Squander

Residents living near Aberporth are regularly subject to the abhorrent noise of the Watchkeeper 'drones' or 'unmanned aerial vehicles' flying above their homes.

Ironically, since officials at the 2009 airspace 'consultation' had informed local residents that these flying machines would make no noise. The constant buzzing, often for hours on end, may not be as piercing or sudden as that of the low level military jets in mid Wales but the purpose is just as sinister, and a constant reminder of how Wales is being used and abused to further the cause of government-sponsored 'remote killing'.

Weapons company Qinetiq is developing the drones to spy on and target victims in Afghanistan – or wherever else our Government decides to use them. Residents are also concerned that the spying equipment is being 'tested' on the people and properties on the ground below.

Over £26 million of taxpayers money spent on developing Parc Aberporth could have been better spent on real jobs for local people, energy efficiency measures for homes and public services. Instead, fewer than 35 people are employed at Parc Aberporth testing and guarding these offensive killing and spying machines. We are told that in future MoD Watchkeeper drones may also be armed and then will be able to target and kill anyone whom the operator wishes – as judge, jury and executioner.

heddwch action

Military drones do not play a part in the Wales we voted 'yes' for. Please contact your AMs and MP (contact details p.10) give them room to think again and choose better, more environmentally and morally sustainable ways of investing the fruits of our precious labours.

A CND Cymru Briefing 'Drones Over Aberporth' is available. See p.10 for details.

Jobs lost at Gwent arms factory

Over 100 jobs are to go at Glascoed BAE Systems munitions factory near Usk. The factory currently employs 620 people. BAE Systems blames increased automation and reduced demand for ammunition from the MoD for the cuts which they say are vital to allow them to 'drive better value for customers and increase competitiveness'. Ironically, in 2006, in an effort to make its killing equipment more environmentally friendly the company announced that it was to manufacture 'insensitive shell explosives' at Glascoed. These shells do not blow up accidentally and have an unlimited shelf life.



Bradley Manning - Locked up for two years

To mark the anniversary of the day Bradley Manning was detained by the US two years ago, the Welsh support group took the Plant Seeds of Truth: Free Bradley Manning project to a seedling swap in Bala, Gwynedd.

Here they encouraged people to take a packet of sunflower seeds and be part of a collaborative political art project.

Many in Bala had never heard of Bradley Manning before or were aware of his Welsh connections; some had not even heard of WikiLeaks.

Bradley Manning was arrested in 2010 on suspicion of sharing the grim truth about US wars with WikiLeaks who went on to share it with the world.

Henry Richard

'The world is growing weary of war. The nations are groaning under the burden of military expenditure and military servitude and are longing to be delivered'.

This spring, CND Cymru, joined others across Wales to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Henry Richard MP (1812 -1888). Born and raised in Tregaron, he was elected MP for Merthyr Tydfil in 1868. A commemorative Peace Fair addressed by Mererid Hopwood and Bruce Kent along with several other events was held in Tregaron and Merthyr. Another took place at Henry Richard's grave in Abney Park Cemetery in London. Gwyn Griffiths launched his new book 'Henry Richard - Apostle of Peace and Welsh Patriot'.

'A bayonet has no aptitude for the discovery of truth; gunpowder has no quality of moral discrimination; a Krupp gun or a torpedo has no particular relation to righteousness. All that these can do, if you use them to the day of doom, is to decide, not who is right, but who is the strongest, the most skilful, the most wealthy, the most pertinacious.'

heddwch action

CND Cymru has produced a free, easily accessible and bilingual briefing paper by Tony Simpson about Henry Richard. See p.10 for details.

Peace Pilgrim in Cardiff

As Peace Pilgrim Maxim Laithwaite walks 1200 miles without money, through the Britain and Ireland this summer he hopes to raise awareness

heddwch action

Anyone can take part in the project: sow a sunflower seed, take a photo when the seedling is a few inches tall and again when it blooms. Then send your photos, along with details of where in the world you live, to pricoddepink@gmail.com.

The final exhibition will be installed at Fort Meade, Maryland, US during Bradley Manning's court martial. If you would like seeds sent to you, contact wiseupforbm@yahoo.com

Keep in touch with the campaign:

www.wiseupforbradleymanning.wordpress.com

A bilingual Bradley Manning briefing is available from CND Cymru- see p. 10.

for Global Truce 2012 which marks the UN International Day of Peace on 21st September.

He expects to reach Cardiff in August and will be looking for succour and support as he is relying entirely on the kindness of strangers for food and shelter.

'Placing the success of the journey in the hands of the communities and people along the journey highlights the same spirit that our societies need to find peace. It also raises important questions about the relationship between poverty and peace' he told CND Cymru.

heddwch action

Max will be walking down Offa's Dyke and then on to Cardiff in August to early September. If you can help with accommodation and support please contact him on: 07899960221

e: peacedaypilgrim@gmail.com
www.twitter.com/peacedaypilgrim
www.facebook.com/peacedaypilgrim
www.peacedaypilgrim.com

Chernobyl – when will we ever learn?

Côr Cochion and CND Cymru commemorated the 26th anniversary of the world's worst nuclear disaster, the explosion at Chernobyl nuclear power station on 26th April.

CND Cymru Vice Chair Ray Davies reports: Songs of peace drifted across the Hayes in Cardiff, and the message was 'No more Chernobyls! No more Fukushimas! A man who approached us had just returned from a visit to Chernobyl where the exclusion zone, particularly the mossy areas, is still dangerously radioactive.'

◀ Wales has made a strong connection with the people affected by Chernobyl – especially in Belarus which was contaminated with 90% of the radionuclides. Hundreds of children from the stricken area, many suffering from cancers and other medical problems have enjoyed life saving holidays and medical treatment in Wales.

Chernobyl, and now Fukushima - the truth about nuclear power is set before us yet the Welsh Government and British politicians still support the development of Wylfa B nuclear power station.

The people of Wales say loud and clear: No to Wylfa! No to Hinkley C!

Israeli Women's Football match

Several anti Israel protesters were ejected and many refused entry at a football game between Wales and Israel held in Wrexham on 20th June. The protestors were drawing attention to the fact that the Israeli authorities refuse visas to Palestinian footballers to travel to competitions, as well as to the restrictions on movement both within the West Bank and between the West Bank and Gaza. They also focussed on the plight of Palestinian footballer Mahmoud Sarsak, then in prison but now freed from the Israeli prison where he was incarcerated for 3 years without charge or trial. Palestine Solidarity Campaign President Betty Hunter, said: 'The sporting boycott against South Africa was one of the most effective tools employed in ostracising that state and exposing its Apartheid regime and disregard for human rights.'

'We support an international sports boycott of Israel until it abides by international law and ends its occupation and oppression of the Palestinian people.'

heddwch action

www.occupiedpalestine.wordpress.com

more photos: <http://tinyurl.com/csv6cau>



Ejected - no Palestinian shirts allowed

Old and strong she goes on and on Cardiff to Brawdy 1982

In 1981, the Women's Peace Camp at the USAF base at Greenham was born of the march from Cardiff to Greenham Common to protest against the siting of US nuclear armed ground launched Cruise Missiles. The following summer, Greenham Women - 'Women for Life on Earth', decided to take the protest to another US Base - this time on the west coast of Wales at Brawdy*.



Photo: Ian Campbell

Thalia Campbell remembers:

Over 125 women and children including many from the 1981 March to Greenham decided to walk from Cardiff to the US base at Brawdy. The route took us through the Welsh mining valleys. We zigzagged up and down the valley sides and were warmly hosted in chapels and village halls by local councils, trade unionists, women's organisations, political parties and peace groups. We had a welcome in the Chapel in Ystradgynlais where Greenham stalwart Eunice Stallard lived and an emotional welcome in Onllwyn Community Hall with songs speeches, prayers and food.

A group of us arrived in advance (in a furniture van) to blockade the gates of Brawdy and the local bobby on a bike caught up with us. Later still, the USAF fire brigade turned out and began laying hose to wash us away. Our local policeman said to them 'I will arrest you if you do; they are not on American soil, they are in Wales'. The Americans withdrew.

The march and our supporters caught up with us after a large rally with speeches on the beach. A separate march from Aberystwyth arrived. Banners were raised; a web was woven across the gates; there were speeches and poems; even the police had tears in their eyes. Anyone could have their say. As in the Welsh Revivalist tradition, it ended in a mass weep-in. Christian CND set up a wooden cross on the verge opposite the base and others

planted a cherry tree.

For 4 hours, 14 singing and chanting women chained themselves to the huge military anchor outside the base.

Meanwhile, a small group of women posted a message in the base post box to Ronald Reagan, deploring the fact that he was on holiday instead of at the UN disarmament talks. US personnel had to climb over the walls with all their belongings to gain access to their base as we had blockaded their only entrance. Each shift they carried two mainframe spools of computer tape. After 4 days the police decided to remove us. They put our sleeping bags and belongings on the wide verge opposite the base and carried us with good humour and gently deposited us on our sleeping bags.

*NAVFAC Brawdy (US Naval Facility) on the west coast of Pembrokeshire, was one of a number of SOSUS (Sound Surveillance System) US stations that monitored a growing chain of undersea microphones designed to pinpoint and track Soviet submarines in the Atlantic and perhaps further afield. In 1993 when a whale researcher obtained recordings of whale song from the base, he was told that US Navy technicians were able to track an individual whale for 40 days by which time it had reached Bermuda.

More stories:

Greenham: <http://tinyurl.com/cle3f5o>

Brawdy 1981: <http://tinyurl.com/buae5yq>

Goodbye Trident?

A Scottish CND plan for disarming Trident missiles within days of Scottish independence and ridding Scotland of nuclear weapons within two years has been pronounced credible by leading international experts on nuclear weapons⁽¹⁾ and backed by Scottish government ministers.

'Disarming Trident - A practical guide to de-activating and dismantling the Scottish-based Trident nuclear weapon system'⁽²⁾ explains how all Vanguard-Class submarines armed with Trident missiles could be recalled to the Faslane naval base on Gareloch, and have their warheads disarmed within a week. After eight days, all nuclear missiles could be disabled. Within four years all 220 nuclear warheads at Faslane and the nearby Coulport armaments depot on Loch Long could be removed from Scotland and dismantled. A majority of Scottish opinion is opposed to the Westminster government's plans to keep Trident.

'Almost 60 years since the first British nuclear test in October 1962, we are now for the first time in a position where we can seriously consider the practical steps which need to be taken to dismantle Trident,' said Scottish CND coordinator, John Ainslie.

'We could, in days, remove the risk that Trident could ever be used in anger. Within two years Scotland could be free of all nuclear weapons, and two years later all of the warheads could be completely dismantled.'

Dismantling Trident would save the Westminster government from wasting £100 billion on nuclear weapons over the next 50 years. There is nowhere in England or Wales where Trident could be successfully and safely relocated⁽³⁾.

(1) Those endorsing the SCND report as credible:

Bruce Blair: leading expert on de-alerting nuclear forces & former launch control officer for US Minuteman nuclear missiles.
Richard Garwin: US nuclear weapons expert who designed the first H-bomb.
Professor Frank von Hippel: former White House nuclear adviser.
Professor William Walker: St Andrew University.

Professor Malcolm Chalmers: Defence Policy Director at Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies.

(2) Disarming Trident

<http://tinyurl.com/c7zcnq6>

(3) Trident Nowhere to Go

<http://tinyurl.com/c7zcnq6> also available from CND Cymru - see Contacts p 2

Scottish CND

www.banthebomb.org



Happy Birthday Faslane Peace Camp

Direct actions including blockades, walks, theatre productions and banner drops tookplace over 30 days to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the setting up of Faslane Peace Camp.

In a public display three Faslane Peace Campers dropped a banner which read 'Nuclear Disarmament. If Not Now, When?' from a gantry crane in Glasgow.

A camp spokesperson said 'Scotland could hold the key to nuclear disarmament'.

More information on the 30 day campaign and events e: faslane30@riseup.net

Money for Nothing

Faslane Peace Camp has highlighted the travesty of the £1.1 billion contract awarded to Rolls Royce for reactor work on Britain's nuclear submarine fleet and the £350 million contract awarded to BAE Systems, Babcock Marine and Rolls-Royce in connection to the design stages of any Trident replacement.

The camp has sharply condemned the over simplified argument that jobs in the local area necessarily take priority over international treaty and humanitarian obligations and public safety issues. The 3,000 jobs that would allegedly be created at the base if Trident replacement is given the go ahead in 2016 would cost the taxpayer over £100billion, and each job would be created at a cost of over £330,000. This assumes that these will be new jobs and not transfers from the relocating of Ministry of Defence facilities from elsewhere, such as Devonport. According to Rolls-Royce, their £1billion contract will create 300 new jobs, meaning each job will be worth £30million. Moreover, using the Conservative Government estimates on the cost of replacing Trident, Scotland's annual contribution of £153million will actually put around 3,000 public sector jobs at risk if the plans are approved.

For many of us the jobs issue is a 'red herring'. Nuclear weapons are immoral,

illegal and maintain a world order of power that is unjust and unfounded. Their very existence as part of an acceptable defence strategy represents a lack of morality and a violence at the very heart of our society. The stationing of these weapons, with the capacity to irreparably damage life on this planet, 30 miles from the major city of Glasgow, yet hundreds of miles from the south east of England speaks volumes about the British Government's disregard for life and indeed too for the people of Scotland.

They Can Run, but They Can't Hide

As testing, spying and targeting for killing equipment on 'Watchkeeper' MoD drones continues over Ceredigion, Powys and North Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire, the MoD Air Warfare Centre recently held a symposium on drones, behind the barbed wire of the Shrivenham Defence Academy in England. Attendees heard how the British drone program has so far clocked up 34,000 drone hours, fired 281 Hellfire missiles and killed 1,800 people.

International Law governing conduct in war enshrines the principle of distinction, which requires parties of a conflict to distinguish between combatants and civilians and to ensure civilian immunity from acts of violence. The evidence emerging from Pakistan and Palestine is of high civilian casualties.

Noel Sharkey, Professor of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics at Sheffield University highlights: 'The further away you are the easier it is to kill... this fact is dramatically changing the nature of war'. Following a raucous Bristol Against the Arms Trade and Bath Stop The Drones protest in Bristol, and a packed out public meeting in Bath, the Clarion Events UAV (Drone) conference - scheduled to be held in Bath Assembly Rooms had to be moved out of town to deepest darkest Wiltshire.

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Find out more

www.dronearsuk.wordpress.com

Bro Emlyn Peace and Justice:

www.bepj.org.uk

www.thinkdefence.co.uk/2012/06/watchkeeper-then-and-now

Over £21million of taxpayers' money has been spent on developing the drone testing site at Aberporth. Watchkeeper drones alone cost the British public over £800 million. A maximum of 35 people (including security guards) are employed on site.

Please contact your elected representatives (see p.10 for addresses) and suggest wiser ways of spending our money - seriously addressing global warming, learning new ways of resolving and pre-empting conflict non-violently and investing in a fairer, more just world to name but three.

Jeju Island

The South Korean Government continues to construct a naval base in the fishing village of Gangjeong on Jeju Island. As previously reported, the island is located strategically in the Korea Strait. The potential for Jeju to become a military target in the event of any armed conflict in this tense region would increase exponentially with the addition of a naval base. Since plans for the naval base were announced five years ago, 94% of Gangjeong residents have voted against the base and used every possible democratic means to block its construction. There has been little in depth media coverage of the protests. Gangjeong is surrounded by three UNESCO World Natural Heritage sites and nine UNESCO Geo-Parks and the island is designated as a Global Biosphere Reserve. Construction accelerates daily with the dredging of the island's seabed and its coral ecosystems now underway. It is widely understood that the Jeju Island naval base will serve as a port of call for the U.S. military sea-based component of its ballistic missile defense system. This is not only an environmental or peace issue but one of human rights and free speech. The campaign against the base is strong across all elements of the local community and many arrests have been made. Police and construction workers have even assaulted elderly members of the community, who make up a large portion of the activists.

heddwch action

Knighton resident, peace activist and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Angie Zelter is amongst those who have been arrested in ongoing protests against the building of the new naval base. She is available to give talks about the campaign. Contact Angie e: reforest@gn.apc.org t: 01547 520 929 www.savejejunow.org www.facebook.com/groups/UKJejuGangjeong

CND calls for nuclear-free zone in the Middle East

The 2012 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Preparatory Committee Conference (PrepCom) was held against a background of concern about the fate of the 2012 Middle East Conference, the nuclear crisis with Iran, and the outcome of elections in the United States. Personalised messages from CND supporters calling on delegates to take 'concrete action' towards a Weapons of Mass Destruction-Free Zone (WMDFFZ) in the Middle East and to make further progress on global disarmament were presented to the conference chair Ambassador Peter Wolcott.

189 countries voted at the 2010 NPT Review Conference for steps to be taken towards implementing a WMDFFZ in the Middle East. The result was the scheduling of a landmark conference to take place later this year aiming to bring together all states in the Middle East and begin face-to-face negotiations towards outlawing nuclear weapons and other WMDs in the Middle East. WMD-Free Zones have been implemented in other regions of the world such as South America and Africa. There is currently no more crucial region or time for this to come about than now and for the Middle East. By ignoring their own disarmament obligations and continuing to replace and modernise their nuclear arsenals, nuclear weapons states encourage further proliferation and make the world a more dangerous place.

Brief news from Fukushima

On June 29, more than 150,000 people surrounded the official residence of Japanese Prime Minister to appeal against the restart of any of the Japanese 50 Nuclear Power Plants, temporarily shut down for regular inspections or under repair. An independent Japanese Parliament inquiry has reported this summer that the crisis at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant was man-made and not a natural disaster and fundamentally the result of a long-corrupt regulatory system that allowed

Tokyo Electric Power Co. to put off critical safety measures. People in Fukushima, who cannot leave the prefectural (district) even if they wish to do so, for financial or family reasons are monitored by Fukushima Prefectural Medical School.

Radioactive Caesium has so far been found in urine samples from 141 infants and young children in Fukushima Prefecture: all had been fed locally grown fruit and vegetables. There are also reports of children developing thyroid abnormalities*. Incineration of radioactively contaminated rubbles continues in Fukushima, Tokyo, Chiba, and a few more areas.

Security at Fukushima Daiichi and other Nuclear Power Plants is controlled by Magna BSP, an Israeli military firm. European Union energy ministers have started considering the results of 'stress tests' performed on Europe's 147 nuclear reactors.

* When compared with examinations of 120,000 people in Gomel, (near Chernobyl) 1991-1996, Fukushima has a 36 times higher rate of thyroid abnormalities than did Gomel.

Thanks to Makiko Sato for the information. Also see: www.tinyurl.com/bregnlh

heddwch action

Tell your elected representatives that a better, sustainable future is possible. Nuclear power is not the answer. Greenpeace 'Critical Review of the EU Stress Test Performed on Nuclear Power Plants': <http://tinyurl.com/cmmvmsl>



Shannon Airport

Regular Shannonwatch protest vigils continue at Shannon in Ireland.

On average 600 US troops still land every day at Shannon airport which has been used as a stopover point for CIA rendition planes and the US military on their way to/from Iraq and Afghanistan for almost a decade.

Without the permission of the Irish people, U.S. military use of Shannon and Irish airspace costs the Irish state in excess of €4 million euro a year in policing arrangements at the airport, the use of the Defence Forces to provide additional security, and air traffic subsidies to the U.S. military. Ireland is not a member of NATO but supports the most militarised

nation on earth - the US, and Shannon airport ferries weapons and troops to its war zones. If an invasion of Iran were to take place, Shannon and Ireland would almost certainly be involved.

Shannonwatch observes that the only thing that the people of Ireland have learned is that 'all they are offered by the political elite is perpetual war and perpetual austerity'.

heddwch action

Learn more and support

www.shannonwatch.org

www.facebook.com/pages/Shannonwatch/268685181500

Irish Peace and Neutrality Alliance:

www.pana.ie

The new 'China syndrome'

The 'China syndrome' was a 1970s term describing the scenario for a catastrophic reactor meltdown into the earth's crust – 'all the way to China'. As the new Chinese bid for Wylfa is considered, the phrase may bring to mind another scenario – a catastrophic meltdown of democratic accountability.

Phil Steele of PAWB (Pobl Atal Wylfa B/ People Against Wylfa B) points out that democracy and transparency have been the first casualty of the drive for 'new nuclear'.

The sudden departure of Horizon from the troubled Wylfa B nuclear power project in March 2012 left Ynys Môn in a strange hiatus. Shell-shocked county councillors seemed surprisingly surprised that this emperor had no clothes (they evidently don't read *Heddwch*).

Soon of course the nuclear PR machine creaked back into action. The Russians would come to the rescue! 'No' said Rosatom, there are no such plans. In June it was proclaimed that the Chinese would step forward: perhaps China's State Nuclear Power Technology Corporation, in an unholy alliance with Toshiba-Westinghouse, or feasibly GE Hitachi. On 7th July it was confirmed that the China Guangdong Nuclear Power Holding Co had put in a bid for Horizon, in association with Areva, the French firm which is responsible for the notorious shambles at Flamanville in Normandy.

Ynys Môn's nuclear hiatus and the far from transparent bidding process spotlight the global power of unaccountable corporations and the way in which they dominate weak and compliant governments. The nuclear industry and national or local democracy have never been easy bedfellows.

Democracy denied

A recent report – from an independent commission set up by the Japanese Parliament – confirmed that the 2011 disaster at Fukushima 1 was man-made, being the result of a corrupt regulatory system. The relevant government agency had failed to force the provider, Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO), to implement recommended safety measures.

Have lessons been learned? The present Japanese government nationalised TEPCO in May 2012 and is now shrugging off vehement public opposition and turning its nuclear reactors back on. Human rights are the key demands of the protestors: protection from radiation, healthcare, safety and a fair deal for those affected by the disaster. Japanese politicians and power-providers have their fingers in their ears, blocking the public outcry.

In India, ongoing grass-roots protests against the nation's new nuclear programme have focussed on the Kudankulam plant in Tamil Nadu and a huge six-reactor site planned for Jaitapur, 400 km south of Mumbai. National and state governments have violated the basic tenets of democracy. There have been enforced land grabs, heedless of the local population and the environment. Indian

police have fired on demonstrators and there have been mass arrests and the freezing of assets owned by anti-nuclear groups.

Corruption of governance

Ever since 2003 the push for nuclear new-build in Britain has also been rooted in deeply anti-democratic measures. A January 2012 report (by Ron Bailey and Lotte Blair for Unlock Democracy and ACE) found clear evidence of a corruption of governance.

The information in the original National Policy Statement, presented to ministers and Parliament, was partial and inaccurate. It was not based on the full evidence available to the government, but was designed instead to support a pre-determined political decision to build the new stations. This was effectively one more 'Dodgy Dossier' dreamed up by the Blair government – matched in turn by Cameron's Tories and those nuclear renegades the Lib Dems, as they too ignore any awkward contrary evidence. The public 'consultations' were fake, because the false premise that 'new nuclear stations were necessary' trumped all other challenges. On Ynys Môn, democracy was soon taking a dive as well. The County Council seemed to be representing not the voters but the applicants – Horizon Mark 1. The boundary between the activities of this private consortium and a public elected body became harder and harder to determine. The Council held closed sessions with Horizon while doing its best to sideline and deride the opposition.

Speaking up

So what's the campaign news? PAWB has not rested after the Horizon pull-out. In April, alternative energy consultant Neil Crumpton spoke for PAWB at the RWE (part of the Horizon Mark 1 consortium) shareholders' AGM in Essen, Germany. In May Dr Gerry Wolff, another PAWB stalwart and a founder of Energy Fair, campaigned effectively in the financial press about the folly of investing in nuclear.

In June Dr. Carl Clowes launched an alternative economic plan for Ynys Môn identifying 2,500 to 3,000 alternative jobs – a positive step which attracted great interest. This debate will be taken up at the Bro Morgannwg National Eisteddfod in a presentation on the Maes Gwyrdd, scheduled for Tuesday August 7th at 11 am. At the (Magnox-sponsored!) Urdd Eisteddfod, PAWB chair Dylan Morgan



addressed a 'Callia Carwyn' event organised by Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg. 'Wise up, Carwyn' was the message for our First Minister – but it can have had little effect, in view of his even more outrageous declarations on Trident replacement, which followed shortly. So at the National Eisteddfod the message to our Carwyn remains the same: no nuclear weapons; no nuclear power stations. PAWB will be addressing a rally outside the CND Cymru Peace Tent at 11.30 am on Monday August 6th.

Have lessons been learned? The present Japanese government nationalised TEPCO in May 2012 and is now shrugging off vehement public opposition and turning its nuclear reactors back on. Human rights were the key demands of the 170,000 protestors on the streets of Tokyo on 16 July: protection from radiation, healthcare, safety and a fair deal for those affected by the disaster. Japanese politicians and power-providers have their fingers in their ears, blocking the public outcry.

The Wylfa project does not just threaten our health and our safety. The only way any new consortium can succeed in pushing this programme through is by riding roughshod over our civil rights. It is our job – and surely that of the Welsh government – to defend our democracy.

The Wastwater Gnomes

This slim, beautiful book is the first of the *Chronicles of Wastwater* written and illustrated by Lakeland artist and anti nuclear campaigner Marianne Birkby. The delightfully illustrated story explores the relationship of Wastwater in Cumbria to the nuclear industry and Sellafield, questioning the sanity of new build when just cooling the existing nuclear waste requires 4 million gallons of fresh water every single day. A 2009 Norwegian government report outlined the potential consequences of a stoppage of water to the cooling tanks at Sellafield as being of a magnitude 50 times worse than Chernobyl. That same April there was a stoppage of cooling water to the high level liquid waste tanks which gave rise to a situation described as being 'hours away from catastrophe'.

Marianne was inspired to write and illustrate *The Wastwater Gnomes* by a sponsored walk around Wastwater raising funds for children being born now who are affected by the Chernobyl disaster over 20 years on. One sponsor was a diver. Wastwater is popular with divers who bizarrely place garden gnomes at great depths risking their lives for this odd act of bravado. While they choose to dive that deep, the nuclear industry risks all our lives and livelihoods - giving no choice apart from sham consultations.

Marianne, campaigning to stop the 'dumping' of radioactive wastes in Cumbria (see: www.mariannewildart.wordpress.com e: rafi@mariannebirkby.plus.com) said: 'The industry and the state owe it to Cumbria to put all effort, time and money into looking after existing wastes rather than building new and more dangerous nuclear reactors'.

The Wastwater Gnomes - Field Sketches and Notes Marianne Birkby 2009
ISBN 978095714850 5
WildArt Books £23.87 from
www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/2945386

Eggheads and Warheads

A Biography of Joseph Rotblat
The physicist Joseph Rotblat was one of the first physicists to work on the Bomb, and one of the few to have influenced the thinking of governments on nuclear disarmament. Having braved decades of frustration, and a stream of condescending insults from leading politicians and commentators, he became a hero to many physicists as - in the words of Andrew Brown's felicitous title - 'keeper of the nuclear conscience'. Joseph Rotblat was a key nuclear physicist working on the atomic bomb in England and the Manhattan Project in the USA. Appalled

by the use of atomic bombs against the Japanese, he became an early anti-nuclear campaigner. The book describes his post-war activities under the shadow of Britain's nuclear program, his first political and media encounters, his exposure of the hazards of radioactive fallout, and his friendship with Bertrand Russell. 'Pugwash', the group that Rotblat helped form, eventually established an invaluable back-channel link that facilitated the first meeting between Gorbachev and Reagan. In this first full biography of Joseph Rotblat based on complete access to his private papers, Andrew Brown shows a profound admiration for his subject.

Keeper of the Nuclear Conscience: The Life and Work of Joseph Rotblat
Andrew Brown 2012 OUP £18.99
ISBN 9780199586585

Living the Dream

Meerkat is New Quay based Heather Summers and Miranda Betts on violin, cajon, mandolin, harmonic flute, berimbau, guitar, percussion and vocals. On *Living the Dream* they sing and play their way through 9 special tracks - about love, yearning and getting on and enjoying life and the world around us. Mixing original acoustic material, with eclectic beats, rap, and dance *Meerkat's* lyrics and musical inspiration come straight from the heart.

Listen and buy *Living the Dream* from
www.meerkatmusic.org/shop.htm
t: 01559 362 082
e: mail@meerkatmusic.org

Interesting Songs

Camilla Cancantata, community musician, composer and improviser has produced an energetic and thought provoking CD of many of her latest compositions.

Camilla sings and accompanies herself on accordion and piano.

Songs for Interesting Times is a collection of 26 hard hitting and humorous tackling topics as diverse as 'Take the Britishness test', 'Washing Line' and 'Song of the Arms Dealer'. 'The Ballad of the Maytime Mermaids' tells the story of the Trident Three who were acquitted after throwing £80,000 worth of Trident-related computers and equipment into Loch Goil. We are hoping to hear an earlier work of Camilla's, the cantata *Trident a British War Crime*, first performed in the High Court in Edinburgh, outside the National Assembly On 16 October (page 3).

Any or all of the tracks on *Songs for Interesting Times* can be downloaded at www.camillacancantata.bandcamp.com Available by post (cheque for £10.00 includes p&p) to Camilla Saunders 6 Church St, Knighton, Powys LD7 1AG e: camilla@littleweed-music.org



From Hiroshima to Fukushima

A nuclear explosion (dubbed 'Little Boy') was detonated some 600 metres above Hiroshima at 8.15 on 6 August 1945 ... a second, over Nagasaki three days later, was a plutonium bomb, dubbed 'Fat Man'. It is 66 years since those terrible U.S. experiments, which instantly killed hundreds of thousands of people, many of them civilians. Tens of thousands more suffered lingering deaths due to their injuries, caused by intense heat, blast, and radiation sickness ... As the nuclear disaster at Fukushima continues to unfold, Japanese perceptions have probed more deeply.

Sumiteru Taniguchi survived extensive injuries suffered during the nuclear bombing of Nagasaki and, at 82 years of age recently observed that 'Nuclear power and mankind cannot co-exist. We survivors of the atomic bomb have said this all along. And yet, the use of nuclear power was camouflaged as 'peaceful' and continued to progress. You never know when there's going to be a natural disaster. You can never say that there will never be a nuclear accident.'

Contents of this edition include: *Hibakusha and Fukushima* - Terumi Tanaka
Fukushima's Radioactive Elements - Helen Caldicott; *Black Rain* - Seiji Takato; *A world without nuclear weapons* - Hiroshi Taka; *The Country and the City* - Raymond Williams. And much more.

The Spokesman 114 is available from Spokesman Books at £6.00 (including p&p) www.spokesmanbooks.com t: 0115 970 8318 e: elfeuro@compuserve.com

The Spokesman is the journal of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation and features independent journalism on peace and nuclear disarmament, human rights and civil liberties, and contemporary politics.

DIARY DATES

Sunday 4 August 11am - 3 pm
OSWESTRY

Peace Picnic to mark Hiroshima Day
Wilfred Owen Peace Garden behind Sainsbury's
Oswestry Coalition for Peace
Lunch around 12pm followed by 'Remembering Hiroshima' with poems. Paper crane-making and games Bring own food.

If you want to bring a stall or activity, please ring John/Ros, t: 01939 260 444

4-11 August

NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD

LLANDOW BRO MORGANNWG

Visit CND Cymru and Cymdeithas y Cymod in Pabell Heddych, see the Bridgend Bunker (1982) Exhibition and sign the card to object to any suggestion that nuclear weapons could be based in Wales.

www.cndcymru.org

Monday 6 August Hiroshima Day
HAVERFORDWEST at dusk

Candle Floating Ceremony

67 candles will be floated on the river to represent 67 years since the deliberate dropping by the US of a nuclear bomb on civilian populations of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 1945.

Pembrokeshire Peace Group
t: 01834 845 868

e: anne.gregson@littlededlockgallery.co.uk

Monday 6 August Hiroshima Day
11.00am onwards

NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD

PABELL CYTŪN

11.00am Service to commemorate the atomic bomb on Hiroshima.
Led by Owain Llwr Evans. All welcome.
e: cymdeithasycymod@btinternet.com
t: 01286 830 913.

'CALLIA CARWYN' 11.30am

Gathering in the Peace Tent to comment on recent statements by First Minister / Government of Wales concerning Trident in Wales and on nuclear power. Chaired by Stephen Thomas (CND Cymru).
Speakers: Dylan Morgan (PAWB); Menna Machreth (Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg); Paul Flynn MP. Then peacefully processing to the Welsh Government tent to deliver our Nuclear Free Wales message.

Tuesday 7 August 11 am
NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD - 'MAES GWYRDD'

Carl Clowes for PAWB talk about 'Manifesto Môn'.

Monday - Thursday 6-9 August
PARIS --An International Fasting against Nuclear Weapons.

Four days of actions in Paris!
www.vigilancehiroshimanagasaki.com/

Saturday 8 September 2:30pm
ABERYSTWYTH Canolfan y Morlan,
Rali Ryngwladol: Dathlu 50 mlynedd o Ymgyrchu

Rali flynyddol arbennig i ddathlu hanner canmlwyddiant Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg.

Siaradwyr: Mike Parker Awdur a Darlledwr, Llywydd Plaid Cymru Jill Evans ASE, Paul Bilbao Sarria Kontseilua Gwlad y Basg, Sian Howys ac eraill. Am ragor o wybodaeth e: dafydd@cymdeithas.org t: 01970 624501

15 - 17 September
FASLANE NUCLEAR WEAPONS BASE SCOTLAND

Singing Three Day Gathering

Choirs, singers and musicians from all over Britain and beyond are invited - with workshops for those with instruments and/or just voices who don't know how to get involved in singing for peace and justice. Singing, listening drumming - and drinking tea. Don't let the Scottish weather put you off - a great time can be had whatever!
e: riseupsinging.tp@gmail.com

Monday 17 September

CARDIFF All Nations Centre

International Development Hub:

Wales International Development Summit

e: naomiblight@wcia.org.uk

t: 029 2022 8549

[www.wcia.org.uk/what%27s on/590](http://www.wcia.org.uk/what%27s%20on%20590)

20 - 22 September
WREXHAM

Three days celebrating peace with local schools and the community.

20 September - Celebrating Peace Day at St Christopher's School
21 & 22 September - from 12.00pm on library green behind Guildhall. Free event with live music, speakers, activities, give & take free stall, food sharing, information & celebration.
21 and 22 September - live music at Saith Seren cultural centre in the evening (with bar).

Performers, speakers, artists, helpers all welcome. Please get in touch. Contact: e: peacedaywrexham@yahoo.co.uk t: Genny 0845 330 4505

October 5-8

HINKLEY POINT

NUCLEAR POWER STATION

Mass Trespass

Stop New Nuclear alliance is planning a mass trespass on the site earmarked for the Hinkley C mega power station. In March, around 1000 people took part in a 24-hour blockade of the entrance to EDF's nuclear power station in Somerset. The blockade aims to highlight the fact that EDF is already trashing fragile land in preparation for construction - even though the company hasn't got planning permission and investors are looking less and less interested in putting their money into the project.

For more information, check out the Stop New Nuclear alliance's website: www.stopnewnuclear.org.uk

Thursday 4 October 7.30pm

OSWESTRY, Walford Davies Room, Guildhall, Bailey Head

Drones Talk - with Film

Chris Cole, of Drone Wars UK will speak.

Contact: John/Ros t: 01939 260 444

6 - 13 October

EVERYWHERE

Drones Week of Action & Keep Space for Peace Week

Organise an event!

www.dronewarsuk.wordpress.com

www.bepj.org.uk and/or

www.cymdeithasycymod.org.uk

13 & 14 October

LONDON

Institute for Child Health, University College, London

British CND National Conference and International Conference:

Towards a Nuclear-Free Middle East

www.cnduk.org

16 October

12pm to 4 pm

CARDIFF

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Event to formally hand over the petition 'Oppose Trident moving to Wales'

please sign it now if you haven't already:
<http://tinyurl.com/cm3b4uf>

see page 3 for details
BE THERE!!

Briefings

A new series of bilingual information briefings is now available from CND Cymru.

Titles so far:

1. Henry Richard MP
2. Bradley Manning
3. Drones over Aberporth

Numbers 1-3 are available by post. Please send a C5 (A5 size) stamped addressed envelope to CND Cymru.

For cost of larger numbers please contact CND Cymru:

t: 01239 85 11 88

e: heddych@cndcymru.org

Membership Matters!

Welcome back all those who have recently rejoined CND Cymru, and especial thanks to all those who have made a generous donation in addition to their membership. This is most welcome, especially now with our new campaigns just beginning.

Remember - CND Cymru survives almost solely because of its membership - please encourage you friends and family to join and support us! For a membership form, please contact CND Cymru (see page 2 for details).

Michael Freeman

Membership Secretary & Treasurer

This Year Wear a White Poppy and...

- *commemorate all victims of war;
- *mourn the environmental devastation it causes;
- *reject war as a tool for social change;
- *call for dialogue and peaceful conflict resolution;
- *show your commitment to building a better future; ...because remembering is important, but it isn't enough.

In recent years white poppy wreaths have officially been laid at memorials in Wales at Newport (Gwent), Narberth and Aberystwyth.

White Poppies are available in with English 'Peace' centres from the Peace Pledge Union: 25 Poppies - £15.00; 10 Poppies - £7.00; 5 Poppies - £3.50; A 100 display pack is also available but in English only. (All inclusive of p&p)

www.ppu.org.uk/whitepoppy

Peace Pledge Union,
1 Peace Passage, London N7 0BT
t: 020 7424 9444

Packs of white poppies with Welsh 'Hedd' centres are available from CND Cymru for the same prices as above. Send cheques (made payable to 'CND Cymru') with your name and address to Jill Gough (see contacts page 2).

STOP PRESS

'NOT IN MY NAME'

A new Côr Cochion Caerdydd 'Not in My Name' single has just been officially released on the Tarw Du label. All profits will go towards the Bradley Manning legal defence case and thereafter to the international peace movement via CND Cymru. A you tube video is planned (search for 'Côr Cochion Caerdydd').

www.tarwdu.com