



cnd cymru

campaign for nuclear disarmament

## Take 5 minutes out to Ban the Bomb

On 4<sup>th</sup> December 2006 the Government published its White Paper "The Future of the United Kingdom Nuclear Deterrent", on the future of British nuclear weapons. In March your MP will vote on the contents of the White Paper which, if implemented would mean that Tony Blair's legacy will be 'British nuclear weapons for the next 50 years'. Weapons developed, maintained, deployed and possibly used in our names and with our money.

Amidst a growing threat of worldwide nuclear proliferation, we have a few weeks before Parliament discusses and votes upon Government proposals to replace Britain's nuclear weapons system.

Those working for nuclear disarmament are not necessarily in a minority. A January 2007 'YouGov' poll shows that 64% of the British public believe that the government should support an international Convention banning all nuclear weapons. Of those presented with the statement: 'The UK government's decision to replace the Trident nuclear weapons system will encourage states currently without nuclear weapons to develop them in future', 43% agreed, 29% disagreed and 28% didn't know.\*

All will not be lost if the vote on that date goes in favour of replacement of Trident but it is important that you tell your MP clearly how you want them to vote. Spend five minutes of your time writing to your elected representative – it will be very worthwhile! This needs to be done before the first week of March, when the debate is expected. You could also take up Swansea CND's challenge to dedicate at least 30 minutes each week of 2007 to stopping Trident Replacement.

**Please use this opportunity to act against nuclear weapons. See inside for background information which could be useful for writing a letter to your MP, as well as ideas for other ways you could take action.**

### See you in Cardiff!

I think that many peoples 2007 New Year Resolution must have been to stop Trident! The Faslane 365 protest and blockade is going from strength to strength. I was with six other women elected politicians who were arrested there on 8<sup>th</sup> January, one of them from the Netherlands. Ironically we were arrested on grounds of breaching of the peace! The day before, the blockade had been by academics and lawyers and since that date there have been protests by peace groups from Dundee, Kirland and Cambridge, health professionals and Pensioners for Peace who will be celebrating St. Valentines Day at Faslane.

Well over 400 people have now been arrested since October – several from Wales and many young people. What clearer message to the government than that!

What was striking too was the number of messages of support I received from people all over Wales – many I had never met. It reflected the strength of feeling against these illegal, immoral and unbelievably expensive weapons. Recent estimates put the total bill for a Trident replacement at £76bn over 30 years. Just think of all the positive ways that kind of money could be spent to protect us against climate change and to fight the poverty and injustice in many parts of the world that make peace impossible.

Trident endangers us all. That is why CND Cymru is organising a protest in Cardiff on 17<sup>th</sup> February. Please join us to show your opposition to Britain's weapons of mass destruction.

Jill Evans MEP Chair CND Cymru

### David Morris

As 'heddwch' goes to press the sad news has arrived of the death of David Morris. David was a highly principled man, a life long pacifist who campaigned tirelessly for peace and justice. He did this through his work, as a chapel minister and as an MEP as well as in his private life. He was an active Chair of CND Cymru for 12 years.

While a student at theological college in Aberystwyth David had been an organiser of what he described as 'the first nuclear bomb protest in Wales'. This protest took place in 1957 as a response to the British nuclear weapons tests on Christmas Island. He was involved in non-violent direct action protests sitting down with hundreds of others to block the road in Queen Street, Cardiff at a Committee of 100 (Nuclear Disarmament) demonstration in 1962.

As an MEP he worked through the European Socialist Group to strengthen the cause of peace, justice and disarmament. He was always insistent that the work started by the Welsh pacifist and MP Henry Richard is not forgotten.

David was a good comrade and a great campaigner for peace and justice. David's comment that that 'we in the peace movement are always optimistic, we are never despondent, never cynical', is a maxim for us all to remember. It was a great privilege to work with David; he will be missed.

Jill Evans pledged that CND Cymru would continue with David's work for peace and justice. She said: "His passion for justice and for nuclear disarmament will be remain us, as we continue with our campaign to stop the plans for the replacement of Trident."

Jill Gough



graphic: Tad Davies

### CND Cymru Demonstration Stop Trident

**No Trident Replacement!  
Cardiff**

**Saturday February 17th**

Assemble 12.30pm at Cardiff City Hall, 1 p.m.

Invited speakers include:

Julie Morgan MP; Dai Davies MP and Trish Law AM (People's Voice) Jill Evans MEP, Chair CND Cymru; and a Church of Wales representative.

**Demonstration and rally  
Stop Trident / Stop the War in Iraq  
London**

**Saturday February 24th**

Assemble at Speakers' Corner, Hyde Park 12.00pm

Rally in Trafalgar Square starting at 2:30 pm

For more information see [www.cnduk.org](http://www.cnduk.org)

Buses leaving from many parts of Wales

see page 6 for contacts or phone:

Ray Davies Vice Chair 02920 889 514 or

CND Cymru 01495 773 180

**CND Cymru works for international peace and disarmament and a world in which the vast resources now devoted to militarism are redirected to the real needs of the human community and the environment**

# Questions and Answers about Replacing Trident

## What is this Trident anyway?

Trident is Britain's nuclear weapon system. It consists of 4 nuclear-armed submarines, one of which is on operational patrol at all times. Each Trident submarine carries 48 nuclear warheads, each of which can be sent to a different target. Each warhead has an explosive power of up to 100 kilotons, the equivalent of 100,000 tons of conventional high explosive and 8 times the power of the atomic bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima in 1945, killing over 100,000 people.

CND Cymru believes that Trident is illegal, immoral and a waste of resources. It does nothing to increase world security and it undermines international efforts to stop the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

## Why does the Government want to replace it?

Because the whole system will wear out sometime between 2025 and 2030.

## What do they want to replace it with?

No one knows. They will need a new launch platform, new missiles (probably leased from the United States like our present ones) and new nuclear warheads.

## What will that lot cost?

No one knows exactly – anything between £25 billion and £76 billion.

## Who will this new Trident be aimed at?

No one knows. It will be useless against 'terrorists' who are said to be the new enemy. No other country is threatening us with nuclear weapons. In fact, to think of using it is insane.

## Surely they are an insurance policy for an uncertain future?

This is just what the Government says but it is a very odd insurance policy which actually increases the risks that it is supposed to protect the insured person against.

## What do you mean?

If by replacing Trident, Britain shows the world that it thinks security depends upon the possession of nuclear weapons into the far future, then other countries without them can make the same arguments. This increases the likelihood of accidents or crises. Since India and Pakistan armed themselves with nuclear weapons both countries (along with the rest of the world) have become more dangerous places.

## Have any countries actually got rid of their nuclear weapons?

Yes: South Africa, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Belarus.

## How many countries now have nuclear weapons?

At least eight, and possibly nine. They have about 30,000 nuclear warheads between them. Each of those 30,000 warheads has more destructive power than the bomb which destroyed Hiroshima in 1945. Radioactive fallout and resulting environmental and social collapse resulting from nuclear weapons use would cause even more death and destruction.

## Have there ever been accidents or moments of tension and panic when nuclear weapons might have been used?

There have been plenty of dangerous accidents and several moments of crisis when leaders or military advisors wanted to use them. We have, says Robert McNamara, who was once in charge of US nuclear policy, 'been very lucky'. We cannot rely on luck to hold out forever.

## What about this nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty?

This was signed in 1968 and it agreed three things:

1. That every signatory is entitled to have nuclear energy without limits.

2. That those without nuclear bombs at the time would not try to get any.

3. That the five countries who then had nuclear bombs would negotiate the elimination of all nuclear weapons.

## So is Iran in violation of the NPT?

No, but it may be in violation of a subsequent voluntary agreement entered into with the International Atomic Energy Agency about inspections.

## Are countries with nuclear weapons in violation of the NPT?

Yes, since no negotiations aimed at the abolition of nuclear weapons have ever even started. All we have had are negotiations aimed at nuclear weapon good housekeeping – not so many nuclear weapons, rules about test explosions, and agreements not to put them into space, for instance.

## Has the International Court of Justice had anything to say about all this?

Certainly. In 1996 the Judges of the Court said unanimously that 'there is an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control'.

## How does that ruling affect the possibility of Trident replacement?

For Britain to decide to replace Trident, and at the same time refuse to start abolition negotiations, cannot possibly demonstrate the 'good faith' demanded by the International Court Judges.

## How could negotiations on abolition start?

Easily, if there was the political will. Already there is a detailed draft treaty lodged with the UN which could be the basis for starting discussions. It covers all the difficult issues:

observation, inspection on demand, control of nuclear material, criminality and the like.

## Does that mean that international inspectors might want to have a look at the British bomb factory at Aldermaston or the nuclear submarine base at Faslane?

Of course. Threats to the planet and all life on it - AIDS, climate change, shortage of water and energy sources, injustice, poverty, conflict and the danger of war, and especially nuclear war – are all global. Solutions have to be global as well. This country cannot be above the law.

## Why don't nuclear weapons abolition negotiations start?

Because there currently is no political will. Most people do not realise that it is perfectly possible to start abolition negotiations. The top people in the nuclear weapon countries still think of nuclear weapons as status symbols or even as useable weapons of war. This is insanity. It is like storing dynamite in your cellar as a means of protecting yourself against burglars. You will go up with the burglar. Wherever and whenever nuclear weapons are used, they will release radioactive and other dangerous materials which will go wherever the wind takes it.

## So is it time to start nuclear disarmament?

Of course. We should begin by telling the world now that we are not going to replace our existing Trident system when it comes to the end of its life in twenty years time AND that we are going to call for the start of nuclear weapon abolition negotiations immediately.

## Replacing Trident with a new nuclear weapons system would:

- \* be immoral
- \* encourage nuclear proliferation
- \* cost billions of pounds
- \* break international law
- \* undermine arms control treaties



Faslane November 2006

## Block the Builders return to Britain's bomb factory

With three months before the government looks likely to commit Britain to 50 more years as a nuclear weapons state, the protest group Block the Builders (BtB) returned to Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) in January.

Meanwhile, massive work to upgrade AWE continues without pause. A recent industry report suggested that construction firms are expecting £12bn to be spent on the nuclear warhead factory over the next 12 years. This is a curious situation since it is claimed that no decision has been made on a future warhead. Block the Builders will continue their regular monthly obstruction of construction traffic entering the base. A spokesperson said "We continue to call for a halt to building work at AWE. This massive development project completely undermines any faith in the so-called 'debate'."

## Block the Builders

Formed in 2004, Block the Builders is a non-violent direct action group which takes practical action to slow construction work at AWE and at the sites of companies with

construction contracts with AWE. This has taken the form of a monthly, publicly-announced blockade of AWE, combined with unannounced actions at AWE and contractor sites, and events in conjunction with other groups such as the recent Greenpeace/BtB mass weapons inspection. The December 2006 blockade saw roads around the site closed for two hours and seven people arrested.

**heddwch action: every month at Aldermaston: new camp to add further pressure to the Block the Builders campaign. Contact 0845 4588 368 or [www.blockthebuilders.org.uk](http://www.blockthebuilders.org.uk). Action on February 12th Be There.**

## Useful Addresses:

**Tony Blair,**  
10, Downing Street,  
London SW1 2AA

**Des Browne,**  
**Secretary of State for Defence,**  
Old War Office,  
Whitehall,  
London SW1A 2EU

**Your MP,**  
House of Commons,  
Westminster  
London SW1 2AA

**Your AM,**  
National Assembly for Wales,  
Cardiff Bay,  
Cardiff CF99 1NA

## heddwch action:

Contact your MP and AM and urge them to do whatever they can to dissuade the government from its intention to update the Trident nuclear weapons system with a new version.

If you do not know the name of your MP, simply ring your Local Authority, ask for the section dealing with Electoral Registry and give them your postcode. This information is sufficient for them to readily identify your MP. They should also give you the address of his or her Surgery. Otherwise you can simply enter your postcode at the website [www.writetothem.com](http://www.writetothem.com).

If possible please let CND Cymru have a copy of any replies you receive. A British CND MP Lobby pack is available from British CND (020 7700 2393) or email [enquiries@cnduk.org](mailto:enquiries@cnduk.org).

If you are a member of a Trade Union encourage your local branch to submit a resolution opposing Trident Replacement. Contact CND Cymru (contacts page 6) for a draft resolution.

Write to your local or national newspapers about the issue and/or don't be afraid to take part in radio 'phone-ins'.

Organise a Public Meeting and/or invite a CND Cymru speaker to your group, trade union, political party or other meeting. (contacts details page 6)

Take part in the Silent leafleting and protest in Cardiff on February 17th (see details on Page 6) and/or attend the 'No Trident - Troops out of Iraq' demonstration in London on February 24th. Buses are going from many parts of Wales. (see page 6) Bring along your friends, relatives and colleagues!

Take non-violent direct action at Aldermaston Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) For the past 55 years, Britain's nuclear weapons have been researched, developed and produced by this 'factory' - the most recent being Trident - with extensive help by US nuclear weapons laboratories and nuclear manufacturers. Go to a 'Block the Builders' action on the second Monday of every month. See [www.blockthebuilders.org.uk](http://www.blockthebuilders.org.uk)

Get involved with Faslane 365 - join the next group of happy Welsh peace campaigners (see story page 5). Contact Jan Jones (South) 01792 830 330, Genny Bove (North East) 0845 330 4505 [wrexhamsaw@yahoo.com](mailto:wrexhamsaw@yahoo.com), Phil Steele (North West) 01248 490 715 [phil\\_steele@btinternet.com](mailto:phil_steele@btinternet.com), or CND Cymru see page 6.

Sign the petition opposing Trident replacement on the 10 Downing Street website: <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/trident/>

Urge your MP to sign EDM 579 tabled by Jon Trickett MP calls on the government to "extend the period of consultation on Trident Replacement to enable all political parties and other organisations with a legitimate interest to undertake full discussion and consultation which will enable them to present their views and make representations to Honourable members before a debate and vote." Please contact your MP and encourage her/him to sign this EDM.

\* [www.yougov.com](http://www.yougov.com)

# Five Minutes to Midnight

**The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament has again called on the British Government to initiate international negotiations towards global nuclear disarmament, this time in response to the announcement by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists that the minute hand of the metaphorical 'Doomsday Clock' has been moved closer to midnight.**

The minute hand of the "Doomsday Clock" was moved forward on January 17th, 2007, the first such change to the Clock since February 2002. It now stands at 5 minutes to midnight. This major step reflects growing concerns about a "Second Nuclear Age" marked by grave threats, including: nuclear ambitions in Iran and North Korea, unsecured nuclear materials in Russia and elsewhere; the continuing "launch-ready" status of 2,000 of the 25,000 nuclear weapons held by the U.S. and Russia; escalating terrorism, and new pressure from climate change for expanded civilian nuclear power that could increase proliferation risks.

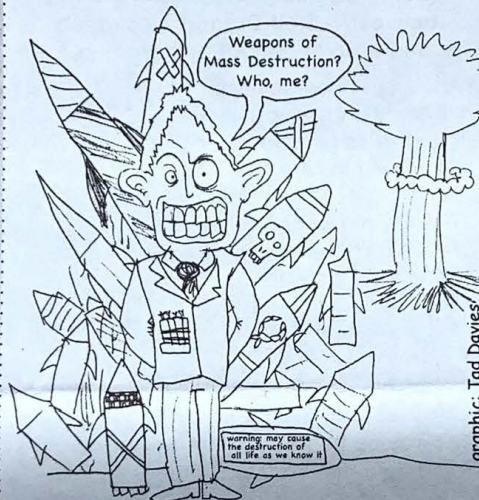
Kate Hudson of British CND said, "A decision not to replace Trident is the best way for Britain to ensure its future security. It must be taken in tandem with government

initiatives towards its stated goal of multilateral disarmament: backing a World Summit on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and working towards a Nuclear Weapons Convention banning all such weapons."

The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists was founded in 1945 by University of Chicago scientists who had worked on the Manhattan Project and were deeply concerned about the use of nuclear weapons and nuclear war. In 1947 the Bulletin introduced its clock image to convey the perils posed by nuclear weapons. The "Doomsday Clock" evoked both the imagery of apocalypse (midnight) and the contemporary idiom of nuclear explosion (countdown to zero). In 1949 Bulletin leaders realised that any movement of the minute hand could signal the organisation's assessment of world events.

First set at seven minutes to midnight - a phrase that has become part of pop culture - the clock has been moved 17 times, (sometimes away from midnight) in response to global events. The most recent shift was in 2002 when it moved two minutes forward to 7 minutes to midnight because the United States withdrew from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and terrorists were known to be seeking nuclear and biological weapons. It currently stands once again at seven minutes to midnight, the closest to danger since the end of the Cold War.

The decision to move the minute hand is made by the Bulletin's Board of Directors in consultation with its Board of Sponsors, which includes 18 Nobel Laureates. The Bulletin's "Doomsday Clock" has become a universally recognised indicator of the world's vulnerability to nuclear weapons and other threats. Additional information is available at <http://www.thebulletin.org>.



## Blair's £25 billion legacy

**CND Cymru has written to all MPs and AMs in Wales urging them to do whatever they can to dissuade the government from its intention to update the Trident nuclear weapons system with a new version.**

CND Cymru points out that "Trident replacement violates Article VI of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) obliging us "to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race... and to nuclear disarmament". In reality, Britain is not currently engaged in any negotiations for nuclear disarmament (in 'good faith' or otherwise) and, by upgrading Trident, will encourage others in the same folly\*."

The letters continue: "As you will be aware, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) opposes all nuclear weapons. Even if our use of nuclear weapons did not escalate into all-out war, the damage Britain would inflict on 'our enemy' would forfeit any claim of moral superiority. This is why our opposition to nuclear weapons has nothing to do with its cost (estimated at £25-£75 billion for the proposed Trident replacement).

Sadly, the current debate is not about its immorality. According to our current Prime Minister's delusional perceptions of Britain's rôle, we face a generation-long challenge from Muslim extremism. It is not clear how Trident fits this perspective: the 2006 Commons Defence Committee, concluded:

*"The most pressing threat currently facing the UK is that of international terrorism. Witnesses to our inquiry overwhelmingly argued that the strategic nuclear deterrent could serve no useful or practical purpose in countering this kind of threat."*

If Britain has £25 billion to spare to combat terrorism, it would be better-spent eradicating injustice wherever Britain presently is perceived as using military muscle against already alienated peoples. A programme to eradicate poverty and injustice would tackle this problem at its source - whereas, as shown by the aftermath of the invasion of Iraq, military force recruits thousands more suicide bombers and makes the situation even worse.

This decision on Trident replacement is about our Prime Minister's hopes for a place in history and satisfies no perceived military imperative.

**We urge you to reject any proposal to saddle Britain with this military dinosaur that could serve no useful or practical purpose and, indeed, would exacerbate the actual threats we face."**

\**Historical note:* whereas Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) vis-à-vis the USA and the USSR made military sense, no other country had to 'go nuclear' at that time. Britain began the 'horizontal' nuclear arms race and provided a precedent for France - followed by China, India, Pakistan, Israel and South Africa. Britain could discourage North Korea and Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons by unilaterally ending the horizontal proliferation that Britain unilaterally initiated in 1953 when it became (then) an independent nuclear nation.

## a letter from America



### Bush occupation opposition grows in USA

Recent polls in the U.S. show over 70% of the American people now opposing the Bush/Blair occupation of Iraq. Over 50% are saying that they believe Bush should be investigated for impeachable offences. Growing numbers of soldiers are speaking out against the war and families of GI's are increasingly calling for a cut in funding for the occupation and an immediate return of troops home.

With all that happening you'd think things were looking up these days for the American peace movement. But sadly we are seeing the Democrats, now in full control of Congress, saying that impeachment is "off the table" and that they intend to give Bush the \$100 billion he will be seeking next month to cover the cost of the occupation in 2007. So much for our democratic election victory last November bringing a big change!

Local Congressional office occupations are now set for the month of February and activists around the country will be risking arrest in order to apply pressure on the Democrats to stand up and fight for the people who just put them back in power.

Here in Maine, where I live, we are already meeting to plan the occupation of our Congress member's office and it appears we will also be focusing our efforts on both Republican and Democrat members of the House and Senate. Our Congressional delegation, like many across the country, are calling on Bush to bring the troops home and to revoke the decision to continue the funding of the occupation. This playing both sides of the street is making us more determined than ever to increase our level of opposition.

Impeachment campaigns are springing up all over the country at a grassroots level. We are now initiating a campaign to call on our state legislative body to endorse the impeachment of Bush. Increasingly we find a wide consensus of citizens calling for impeachment as they hear Bush set the stage for an invasion of Iran and endless war in the Middle East. People are starting to get the message that we need to act quickly before things get even worse.

We wish our friends in Wales the best as we move into this New Year. We need each other now more than ever.

**Bruce Gagnon** Coordinator  
Global Network Against Weapons &  
Nuclear Power in Space  
[www.space4peace.org](http://www.space4peace.org)

## Faslane jailed song bird waxes lyrical

Very early on the morning of Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November, I was arrested along with other South Waleans, while attempting to blockade South gate at the Royal Naval Base at Faslane. This is home to the weapons of mass destruction known as Trident which make us ashamed of the hypocrisy and deceit of our government and of the lack of the democratic means to end this international crime being committed in our name.

The police at Clyde Bank were so good natured and respectful that it was evident to us that they do not want Trident any more than we do. They would like to see our campaign succeed. As they were good enough to provide us with paper and pencil, I composed the following doggerel and left a copy for their office wall.

### No News is Good News

(Being an imaginary conversation  
between a Red Dragon blockader  
and a Clyde Bank Policewoman)

"Any news of our release?"  
"I'll come and let you know."  
"Can I see a lawyer?"  
"To answer frankly, 'No'"

"Thank you for the breakfast.  
Will we be here for lunch?"  
"My God, I really hope not,  
You're such a noisy bunch,  
With your 'gentle angry people',  
And your 'never turning back',  
You're enough to try the patience of a saint."

"If it was up to me  
You'd be transferred to Dundee.  
...But I'm joining CND  
To get Trident out of Scotland,  
So I never have to see  
Your like again!"

Mary Millington

### DRAWING PARADISE on the "AXIS OF EVIL" Little Wedlock Gallery, Gumfreston, Tenby

An exciting exhibition of original work by Emily Johns will be opened by Christine Gwyther AM at 2.30 pm on 31<sup>st</sup> March. This is a unique opportunity to see the work of Emily Johns who is a fine artist, and a peace activist. She travelled to Iran in the summer of 2006 with the Fellowship of Reconciliation, during a time of international tension over Iran's nuclear programme. In this unusual and stimulating exhibition of wood-cuts and lino-prints, she expresses her thoughts on the history, culture and everyday life of Iran. Emily will also give an illustrated talk about her experiences in Iran at St John's Church, Tenby at 7.30 pm on Monday April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Later in the week, she will be speaking at Narberth, Milford Haven and St. Davids.

The exhibition will be open on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2 pm - 6.00 pm. From April 2<sup>nd</sup> until April 13<sup>th</sup> it will be open from 10.00 am - 5.00 p.m. daily, except Sundays. It will then move on to Narberth and Milford Haven.

contact: 01834 845 868  
[www.littlewedlockgallery.co.uk](http://www.littlewedlockgallery.co.uk)

## BANG



## "Nuclear weapons? No! Na! Non! Nein!" say the youth of Europe

The Youth of Europe are coming to Scotland. In July the growing anti-nuclear youth movement of Europe and beyond are coming together for a programme of educational events and workshops as well as action and fun in Scotland - including a visit to Faslane nuclear base.

The programme is organised to support the visit of students from Peace Boat to Britain in July. Peace Boat is a Japanese NGO acting mainly on a chartered passenger ship that travels the world on peace voyages and carrying members of the Global University. Some of the students will be stopping for two days in Scotland for action and talks, accompanied by Hibakusha - survivors of the nuclear attacks in Hiroshima and Nagasaki - who will also be speaking.

The European Youth group will attend talks with the students, as well as doing their own thing, learning and having fun - themed around the issue of nuclear disarmament. A small number from the European group may even have the chance to join Peace Boat for their eight-day trip across the Atlantic to New York where they will take part in Hiroshima and Nagasaki commemorations.

The event is organised by members of BANG (Ban All Nukes generation) the European Youth Network for Nuclear Disarmament, a European youth organisation which is open to all anti-nuclear activists aged 15-26. It is eager for new members, and is meeting in Vienna on May the 5<sup>th</sup> to plan further for a safe, nuclear free Europe.

These young people want a safe future for themselves and know that this can only happen in a world without nuclear weapons, so they are coming together to make it happen and welcome anyone else who feels the same way!

These events will take place in Scotland between July 26<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> with Peace Boat travelling on until August 9<sup>th</sup>. Any young people who would like to get involved, in the programme, the BANG meeting or the network are more than welcome. Financial help with transport costs is currently being investigated.

Emily Freeman

#### Contacts and links:

Peace Boat: [www.peaceboat.org](http://www.peaceboat.org)

BANG: [www.bang-europe.org](http://www.bang-europe.org)

For more information contact  
[emfreeman@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:emfreeman@hotmail.co.uk)



# Red Dragons and Daughters of Rebecca

The 4 days of all singing, all dancing, all blockading Welsh presence in November at the on-going Faslane 365 protest were a great success. At least 100 protestors, 2 shiny pantomime red dragons, the Rebel Clown Army from Aberystwyth, Côr Cochion Caerdydd, Côr Gobaith (Aberystwyth), the singing Plaid Cymru President, Dafydd Iwan and Rebecca's gate-busting daughters from North Wales made their way from Cymru to Scotland through the wind and wild rains to take part. Some particularly wonderful Welsh banners and flags decorated the nuclear base fences.

Blockaders and supporters ranged from 14 to 76 years old; from school students, nurses, teachers and college lecturers to retired consultants and the unemployed. Not one stereotype to be seen; just a band of deeply concerned Welsh citizens, many of whom had never taken part in such a protest before. There were 17 arrests in all over the four days, some of whom were Quakers from Northern England (now firm friends!), with whom those from Wales were fortunate enough to be 'overlapped'. Thanks to the glories of modern technology, press reports were carried on local radio stations in Wales as well as in local newspapers and the North Wales Daily Post. BBC Wales sent a reporter to film the events for 'The Politics Show' and 'Manifesto'.

Many expressed their disgust that people in Scotland have to live with this abhorrent nuclear weapons base right there in their wonderful land.

As this edition of 'heddwch' goes to press, 52 Blockading Groups have been present at the site for 74 days. There have been 493 arrests, 4 prosecutions and there were 244 days left. Participants from Wales are already planning to go to Faslane again this spring - why not get involved? See page 6 for contact details.

Everyone who took part would like to thank the generosity of the individuals and the UNISON branches who kindly contributed to the action and made it possible for them to take part. Without financial help the strong Welsh presence at Faslane would not have been possible. For more about Faslane 365 and to receive an e-newsletter see [www.faslane365.org](http://www.faslane365.org) Jill Gough



photographs: Wendy Lewis and Jill Gough

Above: Carwyn Lewis, Tad Davies, Ray Davies & dog in Bedwas, prepare Faslane fence messages



Left: A pile of Welsh activists: Pembrokeshire students Hannah, Georgia, Josh and Naomi, moments before arrest

## Faslane 365 message from Capten Ollie Cyboli

"On April 1st 2007 The Clandestine Insurgent Rebel Clown Army will be protecting Facistlane Newclear margerine base from hippies and peaceniks, baby eating communists, tree-huggers and deviants of all despicable sorts who don't revel in the astronomically expensive power of our How's-Your-Fatherland to seer the flesh from millions of foreign people whenever we feel a bit peevd. Come on, we can trust our 'leaders' to act honestly and responsibly, just consider the invasion of Iraq... Er... Please help The Clowns: they need remote controlled toys (cars, trucks, boats...) even if they're not working, we need lots of control boxes..."

Contact Capten Ollie Cyboli on 01970 622 610

### Faslane 365 Cards

Faslane 365 Steering Group has produced a set of 4 cards in colour with envelopes to raise awareness of Faslane 365 and to raise funds. The cards are a collage of the different banners that have been brought to the Faslane 365 blockades during the first 2 months (October and November) and also include a photo of one blockade. Another set is to be produced as the months go by. If you want to order some at £2 per pack (inclusive of p&p), please send your name and address with a clear note of the number of packs required, and a cheque payable to 'Faslane365' to Faslane 365, Valley Farmhouse, East Runton, Cromer, Norfolk, NR27 9PN.



Left: Green Party MEP Carolyn Lucas, Plaid Cymru AM, Leanne Wood, & Dutch Socialist MP Krista Van Velzen, blocking the road in front of the main gateway into Faslane nuclear Weapons Base.

## MEP and AM arrested

CND Cymru Chair Jill Evans MEP was arrested along with 7 others at an elected representatives Faslane 365 blockade in January. Three elected representatives from Wales joined 30 others from a wide array of political parties (Labour, SNP, Greens, Plaid Cymru, Dutch Socialist, Solidarity, and SSP). Jill Evans commented "Nuclear weapons are immoral, illegal and a huge waste of resources. Britain has laws to prevent the taking of one person's life by another; why does the state then threaten the lives of millions of innocent people by continuing to maintain and prepare nuclear weapons for use?"

By taking part in the blockade of Faslane I am taking a stand on behalf of those people in Wales who want to create a just and peaceful world, free from the fear of nuclear annihilation." The other two from Wales who took part in the elected representatives' blockade were Leanne Wood AM (who along with Jill had been present at the All Wales November blockade) and Hywel Williams MP. Others from Wales who have joined over 70 in signing the elected representatives' statement of support for Faslane 365 actions include Cllr. Mark Strong, Martin Caton MP, Dai Davies MP, Elyn Llwyd MP, Janet Davies AM, Alun Ffred Jones AM, Elin Jones AM, Helen Mary Jones AM, Dr. Dai Lloyd AM, Janet Ryder AM, Cllr. Jaci Taylor, Dr. Dafydd Iwan (President of Plaid Cymru) and Cllr. Ray Davies.

## diary dates

### February – every Saturday:

**11am -1pm** Abergavenny opposite Waterstones leafletting and display of nuclear weapons facts and figures If you feel that you can spare some time to take part, or have any queries please ring the following numbers  
February 10th - Cath 01873 737 671 February 17th and 24th - Marian 01873 830 848

### February 13th 7.30pm

**Oswestry Friends' Meeting** House, Oak Street. **Genny Bove and Joan Meredith** will speak about their experiences at **Faslane 365**. Organised by Oswestry Coalition for Peace t: 01691 650 527 e: george.miller@virgin.net

**February 17th Cardiff Stop Trident silent vigil and march in Cardiff, followed by a short rally. Assemble 12:30pm at Cardiff City Hall, 1 p.m. march through city centre.** Invited speakers include: Julie Morgan MP; Jill Evans, Chair CND Cymru; and a spokesperson from the Church of Wales.

For more information contact: Ray Davies Vice Chair CND Cymru 02920 889 514 or Jill Gough National Secretary, CND Cymru 01495 773 180

### February 17th 2-5pm Menai Bridge A NUCLEAR-FREE FUTURE FOR YNYS MÔN

Capel Mawr School Hall, Stryd y Capel/Tan y Bonc MENAI BRIDGE Ynys Môn  
• NO nuclear rebuild • developing renewables • public health and safety • jobs in a nuclear-free economy Pobl Atal Wylfa B/ People Against Wylfa B Contact Phil Steele 01248 490 715

### February 24th London: NO TRIDENT - TROOPS OUT OF IRAQ. National demonstration

organised by Stop the War and CND. Assemble 12pm at Speakers' Corner See [www.stopwar.org.uk](http://www.stopwar.org.uk) & [www.cnduk.org](http://www.cnduk.org)

**February 24th 12.00pm Abergavenny Silent Vigil** to coincide with the London NO TRIDENT Demonstration and Rally.

**February 24th Aberystwyth Street Event** to coincide with the London NO TRIDENT Demonstration and Rally. More details: 01970 622 610

**February 24th 2.00pm Llandudno Public Meeting on Palestine** Methodist Church Hall, Mostyn Street

**March 1st London Women's International League for Peace and Freedom public meeting and lobby against Trident Renewal.** House of Commons hosted by Joan Ruddock in Committee Room 8 at 5pm e: [office@ukwilpf.org.uk](mailto:office@ukwilpf.org.uk) w: [www.ukwilpf.org.uk](http://www.ukwilpf.org.uk) / WILPF, 52-54 Feathestone St., London EC1Y 8RT t: 020 7250 1968

**March 14th 7.30pm Caernarfon Y Galeri, Doc Victoria: Music from Wales and Palestine** with Gwilym Morus, Mohamed Najem, Luke Evans and Tariq Rantasi. The Byd Mawr DJs will play in the bar during the evening. Tickets: £10/ £8 OAPs and disabled £5 children Box Office: 01286 685222 <http://www.galericaernarfon.com>

**March 19th Everywhere: Global Day of Action against the "War on Terror"** on the 4th anniversary of the invasion of Iraq. To find out what's happening around Britain on this day see <http://m19wiki.pbwiki.com> e: [m19group@gmail.com](mailto:m19group@gmail.com)

**April 10th, 2pm London, Horseferry Magistrates Court, Horseferry Road. Trial Of Peace Activists Maya Evans And Milan Rai,** charged with organising and / or participating in an "unauthorised" demonstration within 1km of Parliament during last October's "No More Fallujahs" anti-occupation camp in Parliament Square.

**April 13th - 14th London Peace History: encouragement & warnings Conference at Imperial War Museum** [www.abolishwar.org.uk](http://www.abolishwar.org.uk)

**April 17th 7.30pm Llandudno Racial Justice Evening, St. David's Church, Contact:**

**April 21st CND Cymru Cyngor** Venue and date to be confirmed All members/ delegates of paid up affiliated groups welcome. Contact CND Cymru for details.

**May 28th June 2nd Eisteddfod yr Urdd Carmarthenshire County Showground.** CND Cymru Stall Welsh speakers and Welsh learners to help please contact Del Gwynfyd Harris or Kate Gwynfyd Sidford 01974 831 575

**August 4th - 11th Flintshire National Eisteddfod 2007** Pentrehobin CND Cymru Stall/ Tent Welsh speakers and Welsh learners to help please contact Del Gwynfyd Harris or Kate Gwynfyd Sidford 01974 831 575

**Until December 2007: London Friends House, Euston Road, Turning the Tide Non-violence Training Programme.** Monthly 1-day workshops to learn about tools for radical change, or train as facilitators for activist & community groups working for social change. Workshops available as a complete course or as a one-off events. Open workshops £20 each; please book at least a week before workshop. Contact Turning the Tide, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ. 020 7663 1064/1061. e: [sophie@quaker.org.uk](mailto:sophie@quaker.org.uk), w: [www.turning-the-tide.org](http://www.turning-the-tide.org)

## Faslane 365



## A Welsh Return

The next Welsh presence at the Faslane365 blockade is planned for April . Interested?



Contact CND Cymru or  
Jan Jones (South) 01792 830 330,  
Genny Bove (North East) 0845 330 4505  
[wrexhamsaw@yahoo.com](mailto:wrexhamsaw@yahoo.com),  
Phil Steele (North West) 01248 490 715  
[phil\\_steele@btinternet.com](mailto:phil_steele@btinternet.com),  
Kelvin Mason/Lotte Reimer (Aberystwyth)  
01970 622 610 [kjm04@aber.ac.uk](mailto:kjm04@aber.ac.uk)

## February 24th Demonstration STOP TRIDENT TROOPS OUT OF IRAQ

Tony Blair said he went to war to find weapons of mass destruction. There were none. 655,000 Iraqis have died in that war. Now he wants to spend £billions on new weapons of mass destruction with the potential to slaughter millions more people.

Assemble 12 noon Speakers' Corner , Hyde Park, London see look at [www.cnduk.org](http://www.cnduk.org) and [www.gn.apc.org/wcp](http://www.gn.apc.org/wcp)

Come and demonstrate against government plans to replace the Trident nuclear weapons system with a new generation of weapons of mass destruction. The world needs to start solving problems of conflict and injustice in a better way .

Organised by CND and the Stop the War Coalition. [www.cnduk.org](http://www.cnduk.org) or [www.stopwar.org.uk](http://www.stopwar.org.uk) for latest details



## BUSES FROM WALES

**ABERGAVENNY:** Contact: Gwent Peace and Justice Group Katrina Gass t: 01873 855 760

**ABERYSTWYTH:** Lydia Bulmer t: 07813 079583

**BRECON** Contact: Mike Gatehouse Brecknock Peace & Justice Group e: [bpjg@phonecoop.coop](mailto:bpjg@phonecoop.coop) t:01874-658564

**SWANSEA** Leaving Swansea Uplands Spa 7am Tickets £16 waged £10 unwaged. Contacts Swansea CND with Swansea Stop the War: Fred Fitton t:01792526405 or Brian Jones t: 01792830330 e: [jonebrin@pc.com](mailto:jonebrin@pc.com) [webmail.digitalbrain.com](mailto:webmail.digitalbrain.com)

**CARDIFF** Coaches leave 8am from National Museum steps

Tickets cost £16 waged / £8 unwaged

Contact - Adam Johannes Cardiff Stop the War t: 07940108146 e: [cardiff\\_troopsout@hotmail.com](mailto:cardiff_troopsout@hotmail.com) to reserve a seat

**PENARTH:** Coaches leave 8 am from Penarth calling at National Museum Steps, Cardiff if necessary Tickets cost £16 waged / £8 unwaged Contact - Adam Johannes Cardiff Stop the War t: 07940108146 e: [cardiff\\_troopsout@hotmail.com](mailto:cardiff_troopsout@hotmail.com)

## NEWPORT

To be confirmed : Contact - Adam Johannes t: 07940108146 e: [cardiff\\_troopsout@hotmail.com](mailto:cardiff_troopsout@hotmail.com)

**BANGOR, COLWYN BAY, CAERNARFON** and stops along the A55 Contacts: Linda Rogers or Phil Steele, Bangor & Ynys Môn Peace & Justice Group t: 01248 490 715 e: [phil\\_steele@btinternet.com](mailto:phil_steele@btinternet.com)

**WREXHAM & CHESTER** 6.20 a.m. from Malpas Cheshire 7.00 a.m. Delamere Street Prices: £22.00 waged £15.00 unwaged Tickets from: 'Rainforest' shop City Centre - Watergate Street row, Chester t: 01244-340 200 or please phone Frances or Richard t: 01244-349 048 (tickets by post and pickups from Oswestry and Wrexham)



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