



## Foot in the door

### Trident Non-Replacement – there's still hope

There are chinks of light around the edge of the disarmament door. While work on upgrading AWE Aldermaston continues and Trident is on patrol ready to launch a nuclear attack if so ordered; there is room for optimism. Trident does not need to be replaced; it is widely acknowledged that many assumptions of the cold war era (financial and military) have got us into trouble and that nuclear weapons are another 'old way' that must be stopped.

#### The Trident replacement decision

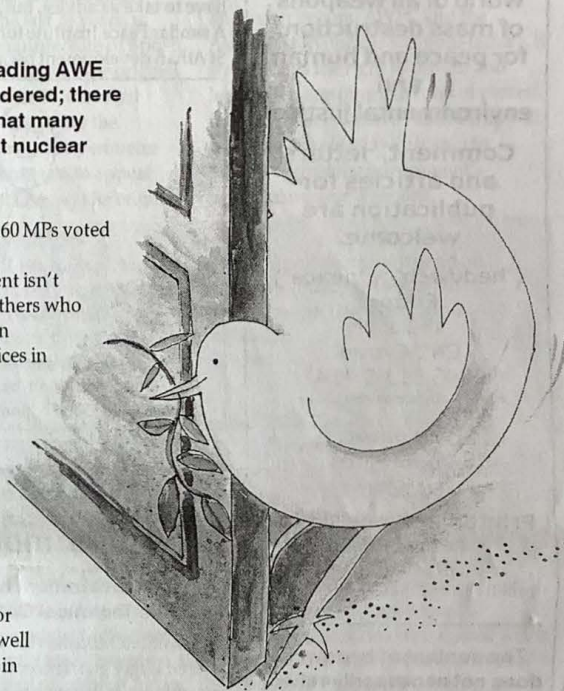
In March 2007 Parliament voted to endorse 'upgrading' Britain's Trident nuclear weapons system. Over 160 MPs voted against – having been promised that this was not parliament's final word.

The Defence Minister now says that the cabinet will take the decision in September 2009 (when parliament isn't meeting). Parliament had previously been promised a debate and vote on the issue and many MPs and others who supported Trident renewal 2 years ago may well have second thoughts about spending £billions during an economic crisis whilst people are losing jobs and homes and face the prospect of deep cuts in public services in future years.

Despite these glimpses of light, nuclear disarmament deserves and needs all the help it can get. Listeners heard on a recent BBC Radio 4 programme that the British Government would, despite international law, still be prepared to order the nuclear annihilation of millions of people. The Government has been giving contradictory signals. Encouraging nuclear proliferation by pursuing Trident replacement, and backing the new US missile defence systems is incompatible with a goal of zero nuclear weapons.

#### Get your foot in the door

Nuclear disarmament is so important that we dare not ignore any initiatives that might hasten the demise of these horrific weapons. Over the last year and since the election of a new US president, calls for nuclear disarmament initiatives (outlined below) have come from some unexpected quarters. They may well give us the foot in the door that we can use to push the issue wide open. It is clear that this is a moment in history that we as nuclear disarmers must seize.



## 12 months is a long time

The world has changed drastically since the Trident Replacement 'endorsement' of March 2007. That vote in the House of Commons was based on many assumptions that, since the advent of the 'economic crisis', are no longer relevant.

Below is listed just some of the initiatives taken by various figures and groups over the past year.

Please write to your MP, MEPs, the Ministers in Westminster, and your Assembly Members (although not directly an Assembly issue, nuclear weapons are a matter affecting all of the people of Wales both those here today and future generations, morally, economically and environmentally).

#### 1. February 2009

##### Former International Court Judge calls nuclear weapons 'uncivilised'

Judge Christopher Weeramantry, former vice president of the International Court of Justice backed attempts by the Scottish Government to remove nuclear weapons from Scottish soil, calling such weapons 'cruel, criminal and barbaric'. He said that nations such as Britain call themselves 'civilised' yet they are prepared to trample on international law and ignore human rights and cause damage to the entire global environment.

'...they claim the right to use a weapon that can exterminate all life in the target city down to the last microbe. Its use would automatically pollute the environment, not only of the victim state, but of all surrounding neutral states and cause damage that lasts for over twenty thousand years'

[www.robedwards.com/2009/02/trident-condemned-as-barbaric-and-illegal-by-leading-judge.html](http://www.robedwards.com/2009/02/trident-condemned-as-barbaric-and-illegal-by-leading-judge.html)

#### 2. January 2009

##### General calls for Trident rethink and 'act of political courage'

Former Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic for NATO General Jack Sheehan called on Britain to take the lead on nuclear disarmament by giving up the Trident nuclear weapons system. He told BBC Radio 4's 'World Tonight' (January 29th) 'I think the UK is very close to saying we're the first permanent member of the Security Council to do away with nuclear weapons. I think it is entirely possible that the British government, for a lot of good reasons, could do it and it would lead the world. Gen Sheehan said he believed such a move, were it to happen, would have a significant international impact on

attitudes towards nuclear weapons.

General Sheehan's comments echoed similar sentiments expressed by other retired senior military officers, such as Field Marshal Lord Bramall and Gen Sir Hugh Beach, who have argued that nuclear weapons are too costly and are of little use. [news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7859046.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7859046.stm)

#### 3. January 2009

##### Military Lords point out uselessness of nuclear weapons

In a letter to the editor of The Times newspaper entitled 'UK does not need a nuclear deterrent', Field Marshal Lord Bramall, General Lord Ramsbotham and General Sir Hugh Beach call for British nuclear disarmament saying: '.....Should this country ever become subject to some sort of nuclear blackmail - from a terrorist group for example - it must be asked in what way, and against whom, our

nuclear weapons could be used, or even threatened, to deter or punish. Nuclear weapons have shown themselves to be completely useless as a deterrent to the threats and scale of violence we currently, or are likely to, face - particularly international terrorism; and the more you analyse them the more unusable they appear.....'

[www.iht.com/articles/2009/01/09/opinion/edschmidt.php](http://www.iht.com/articles/2009/01/09/opinion/edschmidt.php) and [www.timesonline.co.uk](http://www.timesonline.co.uk) 16/01/09

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## heddwch

is the magazine of  
the Wales  
Campaign for  
Nuclear  
Disarmament  
(CND Cymru).

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

Comment, letters  
and articles for  
publication are  
welcome.

('heddwch' - 'peace')

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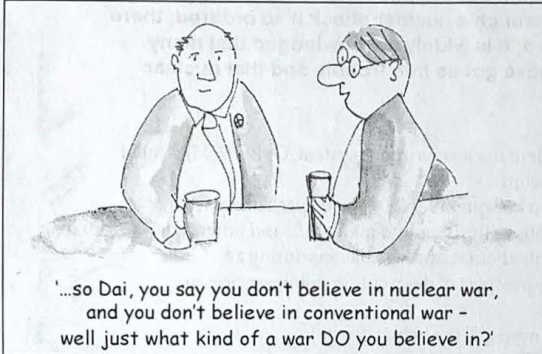
# A Peace Institute for Wales

'How could this happen?' was the question asked by many people when it was announced that the Metrix Consortium had won the contract for privatised military training at St Athan.

I was discussing this very topic with my colleague from Flanders, former MEP Nelly Maes. Nelly understood only too well as it was in similar circumstances that the Flemish government set up a Peace Institute in 2004.

She is now the director. It is an independent institution but funded by the parliament and its role is to conduct research on peace issues and give advice to the Flemish Parliament and government. It collates information on peace and non-violence and makes it available to the public. The parliament does not have to take its advice, but it has to consider it.

A similar Peace Institute for Wales would not have prevented the St Athan development because that decision was taken in



'...so Dai, you say you don't believe in nuclear war,  
and you don't believe in conventional war -  
well just what kind of a war DO you believe in?'

Westminster. But the Assembly - and the public - would have been aware of and considered the full impact of this military academy on Wales - social, cultural and environmental. At the All Wales Peace Festival in Bangor in October and a meeting in

Aberystwyth in November the idea received enthusiastic support. With these endorsements of support, a delegation from Wales visited the Flemish Peace Institute in January. We were very impressed with what we heard.

I believe that the first step is to formulate a mission statement and then discuss it more widely, including with political parties. If we can get the support of all parties for the proposal it means we are sure of the support of the next Assembly Government. In the meantime we will bring together all the activists and academics who are interested in progressing the idea. A Welsh Peace Institute could help make Wales a real voice for peace in the world.

Jill Evans MEP  
CND Cymru Chair



## St Athan: Spend, Spend, Spend

Taxpayers' money to underwrite morally bankrupt military 'college'

With the Government hell bent on pushing through the St Athan Military Academy Project (recently renamed 'Defence Technical College'), now is the time to consider the human and environmental cost.

Government Ministers have quietly offered larger guarantees to contractors to try and rescue Britain's biggest £12bn private finance (PFI) project at St Athan in the Vale of Glamorgan. The British public will now be underwriting a further £32m of risk in order to push through the aspirations of the Defence Training Review - and that is in addition to the recently earmarked extra £1 billion promised by the government.

The offer was made as news was announced of government preparations to intervene in other big private finance deals from school building to road construction. Defence group Qinetiq is the lead contractor of the private consortium of arms companies and educational bodies (calling themselves Metrix) chosen to build and run the project to centralise military technical training for army, navy and air force personnel at St Athan.

The 25-year deal, as yet unsigned has already seen significant cost increases and suffered a big setback late last year after Trillium, an arm of Land Securities withdrew from the process. Doubts over its future were partly allayed when Sodexo, the French contract caterer, stepped in to replace Trillium in the Metrix consortium.

In an 'unnumbered command paper' which was 'slipped out to the Commons', the Ministry of Defence said that fresh guarantees could be exercised only if the

project was delayed and that the Treasury had approved the 'state guarantees' plan in principle as part of 'sensible and prudent business practice'. There has been no independent assessment of the claims and the

proposals made by Metrix, and still less, independent scrutiny of the figures. Those questioning the project have been countered with derision rather than reasoned arguments we may never know the full cost of this unwanted folly.

### St Athan Defence Technical College

A military training centre planned for location near the village of St Athan in the Vale of Glamorgan. The College is expected to provide training in the science and art of warfare not just to the British military, but to soldiers from armies all over the world. This training will be provided by a private consortium of arms companies and educational bodies at an estimated cost to taxpayers of £12 billion - public money that could be spent on addressing problems of climate change, alternative energy production, public health, sustainable food production, affordable housing and education. By far the largest single investment since devolution, the Defence Technical College commits the future of Wales to a culture and economy based on militarism, the making of weapons and the making of war.

1. We oppose St Athan Defence Technical College on principle, because we want Wales's long-standing commitment to justice and peace to be the basis for our international relationships. This Academy should not be built.
2. We oppose the St Athan Defence Technical College for violating the Welsh Assembly Government's specific commitments to sustainable development and responsible international citizenship.
3. We call for a firm and renewed commitment to creating a green, sustainable and ethical Wales.
4. We call for an open public debate over the militarisation of the Welsh economy, its education and society, and a full discussion of the consequences of this for us, as well as people throughout the rest of the world.

For more information about the campaign to Stop the St Athan Military Academy [www.cynefynywerin.org.uk](http://www.cynefynywerin.org.uk) and go to the 'militarisation' pages.



## Trident: not British, not independent

On the day after the House of Commons closed for Christmas 2008, it was announced that US companies now control two thirds of AWE Management Ltd, the company that runs the Atomic Weapons Establishment where warheads for Trident are made. One third of the company had been in the hands of Government-controlled BNFL and now this share has been sold to the US company, Jacobs Engineering.

The second share is already held by the US aerospace company Lockheed Martin and only the remaining third, owned by Serco, is still in the hands of a British company. There is not even any pretence now that Britain has an 'independent nuclear deterrent'. Don Cook, manager of AWE is a US citizen who previously worked at Sandia Laboratory, a US nuclear weapons facility also run by Lockheed Martin and where design work for the proposed

upgrade of the British Trident warhead is being carried out.

Nuclear scientists in Britain and America have been working closely together for

many years and the British Trident warhead includes several components bought from the USA. Transatlantic exchanges cover these components as well as design information, nuclear targeting and nuclear policy.

### Project MENSA

A planning application for a new factory to assemble nuclear weapons at Burghfield, near Aldermaston was submitted to West Berkshire Council in December and is currently 'being considered'.

This proposal is known as Project MENSA and is scheduled to enter service in 2016. The assembly of nuclear weapons is the most hazardous process carried out at any industrial site in Britain. It involves surrounding a hollow sphere of plutonium with high explosive to form the primary (fission) stage. The primary is then joined to the secondary (fusion) stage and the two combined

inside a metal case. Each warhead contains thousands of components. Many of these are radioactive, explosive and/or toxic.

The main Project MENSA building would measure 110 m by 130 m and will be 12.5 m high. The facility would be surrounded by a series of high masts and cables, to try to counter the effects of a lighting strike which could trigger a nuclear explosion. It is unlikely that the facility would provide any real protection

against terrorist risk.

Project MENSA will have an indoor loading-bay where the new warheads would be loaded onto

trucks for their long journey up to Scotland. The current facility at Burghfield has in the past produced nuclear warheads at a rate of 30-40 per year. Project MENSA is a key part of the Government's plan to build many more new nuclear weapons, all of which they would like to base on the Clyde.

### heddwch action:

The planning hearing for Project MENSA is likely to be in April. Please raise the issues of both Project MENSA and the US ownership of AWE with your MP/AM. This is also an environmental issue affecting Wales - Aldermaston and Burghfield are in our backyard as far as nuclear accidents or incidents are concerned. There is further information on: [www.banthebomb.org](http://www.banthebomb.org). Objections

## British and French Nuclear-armed Submarines Collide in Atlantic

In February, British and French submarines loaded with nuclear weapons collided in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. Both submarines are powered by nuclear reactors.

According to reports, the French submarine was able to return to its port under its own power; the British submarine was towed back to port.

British and French officials claim that this incident was a random accident caused by the extreme stealth capabilities of the submarine. However, the British submarine suffered significant damage to the propeller area at the rear, and the French craft was heavily damaged at the front. Some sceptics say that this could indicate a 'rear-ending' caused by the French chasing the British submarine. One British Member of Parliament called on the Ministry of Defence to 'explain how it is possible for a submarine, carrying weapons of mass destruction, to collide with another submarine carrying weapons of mass destruction, in the middle of the world's second-largest ocean.'

Regardless of the cause of the accident, the effect has been to draw the public's attention to the continuous movement of hundreds of nuclear warheads under the oceans, a policy left over from the Cold War.

## MoD defeated in freedom to protest case

A Ministry of Defence (MoD) byelaw banning camping outside the Atomic Weapons Establishment Aldermaston was quashed by the court of appeal in February. The Judicial Review followed the decision by the Secretary of State for Defence to introduce byelaws which would have criminalised camping as a form of peaceful protest.

The case brought by Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp-aign (AWPC) hinged on whether the government ban on camping violated their rights to freedom of expression and assembly guaranteed by Articles 10 and 11 of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).

The AWPC has been camping outside the Atomic Weapons Establishment every month for the last 24 years, in opposition to the manufacture of British nuclear weapons. Following the original hearing in February 2008, the court quashed a byelaw outlawing the attaching of banners to the perimeter fence. The MoD chose not to appeal. Today's judgement reverses the original

ruling that the ban on camping was justified.

In a unanimous verdict, the Court of Appeal rejected the Secretary of State for Defence's arguments saying, 'Rights worth having are unruly things'. The byelaw prohibiting camping was quashed and the women's peace camp is no longer criminalised. This ruling has an impact beyond AWPC and the Aldermaston nuclear weapons factory. It strengthens the right to protest and legitimises camping as a form of protest. Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp will continue to hold a lawful camp to protest against the government's unlawful nuclear weapons.

### AWPC camp dates

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April (evening) to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April (early afternoon).

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May (evening) to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May (early afternoon).

Please phone if planning to arrive on Friday as the core group of women sometimes don't get there until late.

m:07969 739 812 e: [info@aldermaston.net](mailto:info@aldermaston.net)

### Easter Vigil

Christian CND will be holding an Easter Monday (13<sup>th</sup> April) vigil at Aldermaston meeting 12.00 pm at Tadley Gate on the A340 (there is parking opposite). A liturgy will be followed by a walk around the Base with prayers at each gate. All faiths and none very welcome. Take suitable clothing and candles/flowers to leave at each gate.

## Nuclear sub dismantling in Plymouth

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament responded with grave concern to press reports that large amounts of radioactive metal from the reactors of nuclear-powered submarines are being cut-up in the Devonport dockyard, which sits at the heart of Plymouth, home to 250,000 people.

The nuclear reactor head, which was removed from the Trident nuclear weapons submarine HMS Vanguard during its 2002-04 refit is said to weigh up to 28 tonnes and represent around a sixth of the mass of the reactor. The 3ft thick, 9ft diameter steel dome was irradiated during the years in which it acted as the closure head of the reactor pressure vessel which powers the submarine. Local reports state that work to cut the dome into smaller sections began two weeks ago, in what a Navy source described as the first time a naval reactor had been cut up in Britain.

### More to come

Two identical reactor heads are also thought to be awaiting disposal, and a further one is due to be removed from HMS Vengeance - the next Trident nuclear weapons submarine to be refitted at Devonport. These are yet more examples of the hazardous work being undertaken in a deeply inappropriate location, literally a couple of hundred metres from primary schools and houses.

### Transport threat

For many years, local people have raised concerns over the growing submarine graveyard at Devonport, where there are

now seven decommissioned subs awaiting disposal, each with more than 160 tonnes of radioactive waste on board. High level waste will be transported to Sellafield or abroad for storage, but so-called low level waste is likely to be stored in warehouses at the dockyard.

### What price consultation?

The MoD had previously consulted Plymouth residents on the prospect of managing and storing nuclear submarine waste at Devonport as part of the ISOLUS Project (Interim Storage of Laid Up Submarines). The public had overwhelmingly rejected the option, but the MoD appears to now be carrying out similar work. Local campaigners are concerned that this may be a forerunner to large amounts of dismantling work.

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament called for an urgent inquiry into the reasons why work is going ahead when the results of the MoD's own local consultation were so emphatically against cutting up submarines in Plymouth. It is totally inappropriate to create a nuclear dumping ground in the middle of a city, the population of which already has above average of incidence of cancers.





# Gaza - the world watches

The massacre of 1330 Palestinians including over 400 children and the many hundreds injured in Gaza caused worldwide revulsion and protest. In amongst all the horrific stories and pictures of misery and destruction, it is now known that a health clinic funded by people in Wales was destroyed by an Israeli missile.

There are other unhealthy links between Wales and the bombing of Gaza. In 2006, the United States signed a \$1.3 billion contract with the arms manufacturer Raytheon for thousands of TOW, Hellfire, and 'bunker buster' missiles, to add to Israel's ever growing arsenal - which already included at least 200 nuclear warheads. Raytheon is a major player in Metrix, the Consortium which has won the contract to build a £12 billion privatised MoD 'Defence Academy' at St Athan in the Vale of Glamorgan. On January 22<sup>nd</sup> former CND Cymru Chair Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM spoke passionately in a National Assembly debate on Gaza. He emphasised that Israel's attacks on Gaza were illegal, grossly disproportionate and, in using white phosphorus weapons, breached the Geneva Convention. The first flight in civilian airspace of the Israeli

Hermes 450 unmanned aerial vehicle, used in many of the attacks on Gaza, took place originally at an aerospace 'demonstration' at Aberporth, Ceredigion. Ultimately, talking and negotiation is inevitable, many wonder and are asking, why not cut out the senseless bullying, cruelty, destruction, suffering and waste of life - which is exacerbating both the short and the long term situation, and just start the talking - now. The only beneficiaries of military violence are the arms manufacturers, traders and their shareholders. Responses to the bombing of civilians in Gaza took place across Wales, too many to mention in details here. If there is such strength of feeling against the bombing of men, women and children in their homes in Palestine, it is difficult to imagine that anyone could condone or endorse the use or threat of use of even one nuclear weapon which would have killed many more civilians.

## Bro Emlyn

Bro Emlyn for Peace and Justice has joined the world wide Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement to Boycott Israeli goods and encourage divestment from Israeli companies and campaign for economic sanctions against Israel. They have launched a public information campaign, leaving business card sized information cards drawing the attention of shoppers to goods of Israeli origin. They feel that if this simple task was undertaken country-wide it would have a significant effect and that while high profile protests have their place, an ongoing targetting of Israeli goods at the point of sale allows shoppers to make an informed choice.

See: <http://www.bepj.org.uk/bepj-joins-bds-movement>

If you live in the Newcastle Emlyn area, contact BEPJ: [jeremy@newcastle-emlyn.com](mailto:jeremy@newcastle-emlyn.com)

## Brecon

Assembly Member Kirsty Williams supported Brecon Peace and Justice Group's street campaign to help Palestinian children injured in the conflict. In the debate in the Welsh Assembly on Gaza, while condemning rocket attacks on Israel, she said: 'the action taken by Israel has been disproportionate. This overwhelming use of force does not do the Israeli position any good in the long run. It is self-defeating, and it is in danger of radicalising opinion throughout the Arab world. The aftermath is a humanitarian disaster. Some 4,000 buildings have been completely destroyed; 50,000 people are homeless; 400,000 people have no water; and medical services, which have struggled under the blockade, have been so badly damaged that they have found it impossible to provide the help needed. During this time, the international community's response, as so often in the Middle East, has been found wanting.' BPJG continues with its work for peace and justice in the Middle East and other conflict areas, as well as its support for refugees, protection of the environment and other issues.

Anyone interested in keeping informed or joining in activities in the Brecon area, contact e: [bpjg@phonecoop.coop](mailto:bpjg@phonecoop.coop)

## Wrexham

At a rally in the centre of Wrexham the crowd were told by a speaker that the Gaza strip is smaller in area than Wrexham Borough but holds 1.5 million people who are currently living in appalling conditions due to a three-year blockade by Israel. Three quarters do not have electricity and many do not have clean drinking water.

Wrexham people were urged to join a boycott of Israeli goods. More than half Israel's exports are to Britain and many are available in local supermarkets. Some activists went on from the protest to make their opposition to Israeli goods being sold locally known outside supermarkets.



## Caernarfon & Bangor

Protestors demonstrated in Bangor and Caernarfon to call on Israel to cease its attacks on the Gaza Strip. Local businessman Mr Chohan who joined the demonstration told the press: 'It's murder on a massive scale.' And while agreeing that some Palestinians in Gaza have attacked Israel he said: 'Handmade rockets are far outweighed by modern Israeli weaponry. The Israeli Government goes on TV calling people in Gaza 'terrorists'. But how can you be a terrorist if you have no electricity and nothing to eat?'



## Cardiff

Cardiff students backed up their demands that their university immediately divest from the arms trade, by occupying the Shandon Lecture Theatre, in Main Building, over several days in February and were consequently successful in encouraging the university administration to de-invest funds from those arms companies which supply the Israeli Government. The action at Cardiff was the twenty-eighth student occupation to have taken place in Britain since the New Year.

A Books not Bombs protest was also held where students brought along a book to signify their support for education, not war. Many schools and universities in Gaza had been reduced to rubble and Cardiff students announced that they acted in solidarity with those whose education has been jeopardised by the crisis.

Supporting groups included CND Cymru.. All students and non-students in the Cardiff area, are invited to participate in future events.

See <http://occupiedcardiff.blogspot.com> e: [cardiffstudentsagainstar@gmail.com](mailto:cardiffstudentsagainstar@gmail.com) m: 07970 311 943

Vigils and protests took place in Cardiff throughout the bombing of Gaza. CND Cymru vice Chair Ray Davies and Cor Cochion Caerdydd continue to keep a weekly Tuesday vigil in the centre of the city as they have done over many years. Jill Evans has proposed that Wales takes part in European efforts to offer medical treatment to Palestinian children injured in the Israeli invasion of Gaza. Other countries that have offered medical assistance include Luxembourg, Cyprus and Greece. Public meetings were held in the University.

The vigil continues every Tuesday 12 - 1 p.m at the Nye Bevan Statue, Queen St.

## BBC Wales

On the last day of 2008, Dee Murphy and Bob Cottrell of Swansea, both well known for their protest at Cardiff Castle in 2006 (amongst other actions), glued themselves to the entrance barriers of the BBC Wales building in protest at the BBC's refusal to promote the Gaza Appeal. A group of Welsh AMs also took a strongly worded letter of protest to BBC Wales in Cardiff.

## Swansea

Protests and Rallies in Swansea included a public meeting with speakers including John Rose (Jewish socialist author of 'Myths of Zionism'); Bethan Jenkins AM, Jill Evans MEP, Nia Griffiths MP and Mohammad al Matar (Palestinian Society).

The 'Tesco 2', Dee Murphy and Greg Wilkinson went into Tesco and filled up their trolleys with goods labelled as 'Produce of the West Bank', in reality produced by the illegal Israeli settlements which have driven Palestinians from their own lands. They then walked out of the store, tipped the trolleys up and waited to be arrested. Dee has been charged. The trial is pending.

Dee Murphy said: 'We never had any intention of keeping the goods or making a monetary gain from our action. It was done to draw attention to the issue.'

'We shouldn't have to do this,' said Greg. 'The Government is party to international agreements, yet it allows companies to sell goods produced on what is clearly recognised as stolen and occupied land. If the Government won't enforce international law, then it is up to good citizens to do it.' more at: [www.swanseaactionforpalestine.blogspot.com/](http://www.swanseaactionforpalestine.blogspot.com/)





## Jill in Gaza

Jill Evans MEP was a member of the delegation that travelled to Gaza in February to see the devastation. On her return she supported the European Parliament resolution for desperately needed humanitarian action. She called for the lifting of the siege and the reopening of all the crossing points and asked 'how can a densely populated area of 1.5 million people which has been bombed for 22 days - and in which over a thousand people were killed - even begin to recover when only 15 categories of items of humanitarian aid are allowed in - mainly food, some medicines and mattresses?'

She protested that despite the fact that the Israeli military had deliberately destroyed projects funded by the European Union, the Parliament had continued to talk about upgrading trade relations with Israel when conditions on human rights are clearly being breached under the current agreement.

## Not too late to act

Call on write to your MP, MEPs and AMs to do all s/he can to:

- \*End the blockade on Gaza
- \*Suspend the EU-Israel Trade Agreement
- \*Bring Israeli war criminals to justice
- \*End the arms trade with Israel
- \*Urge the Government to act to implement international law including an immediate end to Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories
- \*We want to see the British Government take action to ensure an end to the denial of peace and justice for the Palestinian and Israeli people.
- \*More information from: [www.palestinecampaign.org](http://www.palestinecampaign.org)

### Addresses:

Your MP,  
House of Commons, London SW1A0AA  
To email see: <http://www.parliament.uk> or [www.upmystreet.com/commons/](http://www.upmystreet.com/commons/)

### Your National Assembly Member/s:

Yr.E.Representative AM  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA  
[www.assemblywales.org/memhome](http://www.assemblywales.org/memhome)

To find contact details for your MEP go to:  
[www.europarl.org.uk/uk\\_meps/embersMain.htm](http://www.europarl.org.uk/uk_meps/embersMain.htm)  
also: [www.theyworkforyou.com/](http://www.theyworkforyou.com/)

Prime Minister Gordon Brown, 10, Downing Street, London SW1A 1AA  
Foreign Secretary David Milliband, Foreign & Commonwealth Office,

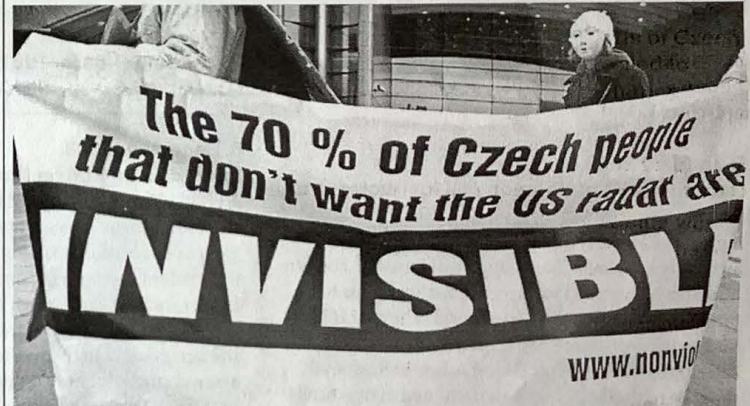
## Highly Visible Visitors in Brussels

CND Cymru sent a message of support to the three busloads of Czech protestors - many of them city and town mayors, who travelled to Brussels to join others from Poland, Germany and the Netherlands. They journeyed far in order to demonstrate outside the European Parliament (EP) buildings in Brussels on February 18<sup>th</sup> against the planned stationing of a U.S. missile defence radar base in the Czech Republic. The events were organised by the Czech League of Mayors against Radar and the Non-Violence civic group. Later, a debate was held in the Parliament on the planned stationing of elements of the U.S. missile defence system in the Czech Republic and Poland.

Organiser Jan Tamas said that due to the positioning of the Czech government 'it could seem from the outside that the country clearly supports the stationing of the radar. But it may be that most members of the European Parliament do not know that a majority of Czech population is against the plan.' Some MEPs did not know about the plans at all.

Two demonstrations took place, one a quiet 'March of Ghosts' was followed by another called 'Invisible'. Dressed in white protective overalls and wearing white masks the demonstrators circled the European Parliament building to highlight the fact that no one in the Czech Republic listens to their voice. Similar demonstrations against the radar were held at the same time in Madrid, Budapest, Berlin and Rome.

The project of the stationing of the U.S. radar base in the Brdy military district, 90 km southwest of Prague, was launched by the administration of former U.S. president George Bush that pointed to the need of protection against potential nuclear threat from Iran and other countries such as North Korea. The current U.S. administration of President Barack Obama has adopted a reserved position on the plan as he examines its technological efficiency and costs. It is part of US plans to spy, dominate and fight wars in and from space; sited on the doorstep of Russia it can only be seen as dangerous and destabilising in terms of international security.



### heddwch action:

A model letter to write to your MP and ask them to sign an Early Day Motion (no.366) on this issue can be found at <http://www.cnduk.org/index.php/get-involved/actions/lobby-your-mp-to-sign-edm-366.html>  
Or ask CND Cymru (see page 8) for a copy to be sent.  
For the latest on US Missile Defense issues and Britain, Menwith Hill and Fylingdales in England see: [www.cndyorks.gn.apc.org](http://www.cndyorks.gn.apc.org)  
t: 01274 730 795 e: [hannah@yorkshirecnd.org.uk](mailto:hannah@yorkshirecnd.org.uk)

## Chain reaction for peace

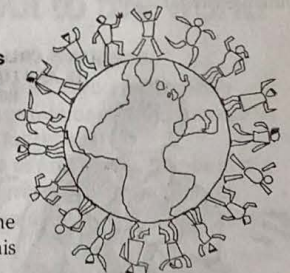
When Bridgend Town Councillor Suleiman Hawas discovered that an official in the Libyan Embassy had been his next door neighbour in Tripoli over thirty years ago, a train of events became possible, which through his efforts has resulted in positive action.

During his year as Mayor in 2004, Suleiman wrote to Colonel Gaddafi, welcoming the decision against the construction of nuclear weapons and suggesting ways of strengthening ties with communities in Wales. Bridgend Town Council backed the gesture, which had been prompted by Bridgend CND and Bridgend Coalition for Peace and Justice.

In 2006 the Secretary of Bridgend CND wrote again to the Libyan Embassy, praising once more the courageous decision to refuse to deploy nuclear weapons. Mention was made of the proud role that CND Cymru had played, in persuading all counties to join the association of Nuclear Free Local Authorities. As a result Wales was able to declare itself to be a Nuclear Free Nation in 1982.

Suleiman visited Libya in 2006 and while there he was interviewed on television and Colonel Gaddafi himself happened to be watching. He liked the programme and asked his son to meet the visitor. As a result extensive talks were held at this extremely high level.

Since then Bridgend based Libya Wales Exchange has been established.. It promotes links in the fields of education, culture and business. It has its own website - [www.libwex.com](http://www.libwex.com) . You can now forge your own link and add it to the chain.





# 12 months is a long time

4. January 2009

## The Obama nuclear pledge

US President Obama made an inaugural vow that 'With old friends and former foes, we will work tirelessly to lessen the nuclear threat'. This marked the start of a Presidency that many hope will bring profound change to America's nuclear policies. During his election campaign Obama outlined his intention to work with Russia to 'seek dramatic reductions in U.S. and Russian stockpiles', take missiles off hair-trigger launch alert and to seek to extend the provisions of the START I arms-control treaty, due to expire in December this year.

If Obama continues the development of the US National Missile 'Defence' system, which Bush was determined to place in Europe, the effect would be to destroy any chance of progress on disarmament. Obama needs to decide whether continuing with this destabilising programme is worth putting all his positive nuclear policies at risk.

The lowering of nuclear weapons operational readiness has been proposed for over a decade by a series of high-level commissions, and most recently was advocated as a first step toward nuclear disarmament by Kissinger, Nunn, Lugar and Perry.

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/foreign\\_policy/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/agenda/foreign_policy/) (In view of the welcome that Prime Minister Gordon Brown gave to Obama's 'break with the past', it is to be hoped that Britain could contribute to Obama's aim while supporting him and the US electorate by announcing that the British Government will also stop the development of new nuclear weapons by not replacing Trident.)

5. January 2009

## German elder-statesmen call for nuclear free world

A group of top level German political figures - including a former Chancellor, President and Foreign Minister have called for urgent practical steps to be taken towards a nuclear-free world. They said 'The vision of a world free of the nuclear threat, as developed by Reagan and Gorbachev in Reykjavik, must be rekindled. Negotiations aimed at drastically reducing the number of nuclear weapons must begin initially between the US and Russia, the countries with the largest number of warheads, to set an example to other nuclear armed states. The NPT must be greatly strengthened. America should ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) [and] all short-range nuclear weapons must be destroyed'. They also call for the US nuclear weapons, currently stored in Germany and several other European states, to be withdrawn. [www.iht.com/articles/2009/01/09/opinion/edschmidt.php](http://www.iht.com/articles/2009/01/09/opinion/edschmidt.php)

ONE MAN'S COLLATERAL DAMAGE IS ANOTHER MAN'S SON...



review

# Freedom Rides

This is the best 'movement' book that I have read for years, and I can highly recommend it. It tells the history of the 1961 attempts by groups of mixed race nonviolent activists to test the implementation of a US Supreme Court decision that racially segregated facilities on interstate travel was illegal. The author, Raymond Arsenault manages that rare feat of writing a book which is both scholarly (the 526 page narrative is followed by 154 pages of notes, bibliography, and a 'roster' of the 436 Freedom Riders) and gripping.

The very public conflict between the Freedom Riders and the segregationists, resulting in arrests and imprisonment at best, but all too often resulting in violent attacks upon the Riders, is created with heart-stopping immediacy. Also, all the 'behind the scenes' problems are discussed: personality clashes, organisational and strategy conflicts, lack of money and energy, attempts by the supposedly sympathetic government to change the focus of the movement, arguments about when to call a halt and when to push ahead, legal cases dragging on in some cases for 4 years ... all of which will be familiar to anyone who's been involved in any campaign for change. Perhaps the lesson for us is that despite all the internal problems, the US civil rights movement made huge progress in a relatively short period of time - so if we can remain focused, and keep all the internal stuff in perspective, then we too can achieve the changes for which we're campaigning.

On the 40th anniversary of the Freedom Rides, as part of a television documentary, some of the original Freedom Riders retraced their journey. One white activist sat next to a black teenager on a bus and engaged him in conversation. Sadly, perhaps, he's never heard of the Freedom Rides - but the positive sign of progress is that he cannot believe that there was ever a time when blacks and whites had legally enforced separate seating on buses. Reading this book as President Obama was being inaugurated, only reinforced how far the Freedom Riders' journey has come.

Brian Jones

'Freedom Riders: 1961 and the Struggle for Racial Justice' by Raymond Arsenault, Oxford University Press, ISBN 0-19-513674-8.



6. December 2008

## International Poll on Disarmament

A poll of 21 countries found that public opinion favours an international agreement for eliminating all nuclear weapons according to a timetable - 76% of respondents across all countries polled said that they favour such an agreement. The question specified that 'all countries would be monitored to ensure they follow the agreement'. In the five nations with large nuclear arsenals and advanced delivery systems, large majorities favour the plan - Russia (69%), the United States (77%), China (83%), France (86%), and Great Britain (81%). The poll, commissioned by Global Zero, was conducted by the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) at the University of Maryland. [www.globalzero.org/press-release](http://www.globalzero.org/press-release)

7. December 2008

## 'Global Zero' initiative for nuclear weapons-free world

100 international political, military, business, and civic leaders, launched a campaign for the abolition of nuclear weapons worldwide to be achieved through multilateral negotiations. These leaders, which included former Foreign Secretaries Margaret Beckett, Malcolm Rifkind, Douglas Hurd and David Owen, former President Jimmy Carter and Mikhail Gorbachev, called for a binding agreement to eliminate all nuclear weapons through phased and verified reductions. [www.globalzero.org/en/about-campaign](http://www.globalzero.org/en/about-campaign)

8. September 2008

## 'Abolishing Nuclear Weapons'

A newly published government-funded report on how nuclear disarmament could be achieved concludes that 'nuclear disarmament is firmly back on the

international agenda'. The report 'Abolishing Nuclear Weapons' explores the major technical issues which stand in the way of the goal of a nuclear free world and the steps that nuclear-armed states - initially the US and Russia, followed by others, could take in concert to dramatically reduce their arsenals. International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) report 'Abolishing Nuclear Weapons' by George Perkovich and James M. Acton, is available from Leah Charpentier at the IISS t: 020 7395 9112 e: [charpentier@iiss.org](mailto:charpentier@iiss.org). See: [www.iiss.org/publications/adelphi-papers/2008-adelphi-papers/abolishing-nuclear-weapons/](http://www.iiss.org/publications/adelphi-papers/2008-adelphi-papers/abolishing-nuclear-weapons/)

9. February 2008

## Browne calls for nuclear disarmament summit

Then Defence Secretary Des Browne, called for the eradication of global nuclear stockpiles, suggesting that Britain host a technical conference on the verification of nuclear disarmament measures before the next nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference in 2010. He expanded on the major shift in Government policy seen under Gordon Brown, and called for a twin-track approach for counter-proliferation and disarmament. This was different from the policy under Tony Blair, which focused solely on preventing further countries acquiring nuclear weapons. More information: 'Laying the Foundations for Multilateral Disarmament', Secretary of State for Defence, Des Browne addresses Geneva's Conference on Disarmament, 05/02/08. [www.mod.uk](http://www.mod.uk).

For excellent resources and further information see: [www.acronym.org.uk/us/index.htm](http://www.acronym.org.uk/us/index.htm) or under 'press releases' in [www.cnduk.org](http://www.cnduk.org)



# What's up at Wylfa?

It has been announced that management of the moribund nuclear power station at Wylfa, on the northern coast of Anglesey, is applying yet again to extend its operation, this time for a further 2 to 4 years. Construction of this Magnox plant began 47 years ago, and it has been operating (when not incapacitated by accidents and shutdowns) for 38 years. The proposed extension pushes credibility and poses a serious threat to public health and safety.

Even the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate has conceded that there are limitations to its ability to monitor these ageing plants, as evidenced by its failure to notice a 14 year-old leak of radioactive material from the sump of another Magnox reactor at Bradwell-on-Sea.

## Problems

Meanwhile plans to build a Wylfa B station move on apace – if you can call them plans. Government documents reveal that ministers are still flailing around as they try to get to grips with an escalating range of problems. A land auction is now starting for prospective consortia. Campaigners from PAWB (Pobl Atal Wylfa B/People Against Wylfa B) are especially concerned by issues around the storage of waste from any new reactors, as this would be far more radioactive than waste from existing plants (as confirmed in papers from EDF and other professional bodies), creating an increased hazard for future generations. The safety case against a nuclear 'renaissance' has been reinforced by a number of recent scientific papers regarding the leukaemia risk to nuclear workers, and to children living near nuclear power plants.

## Sold a pup

The showcase front-runner of European new-build is the Olkiluoto 3 EPR nuclear plant in Finland. Amidst growing acrimony, this is now running 3 years late and the original cost estimates have shot up by 50 percent to \$6.2 billion. The estimated additional cost to Finnish electricity consumers is estimated at \$4 billion. The Finnish nuclear authority has already identified 2,200 'quality deficiencies' in the work.

## Bonkers

Our politicians rarely seem to discuss or investigate issues such as health, safety or emergency evacuation from the island (beyond the current emergency zone of

just 1.6km!), let alone the vexed question of whether nuclear power really is any kind of answer to climate change. They rely instead on 'experts' who tell them all will be well in the best of all possible worlds (and wilfully ignore those experts who say that it probably won't and that the optimum cannot be relied on).

## Blinkers

To the politicians and the press, it is all about jobs. But here again, there is a great deal of blinkered thinking. Would a new consortium even employ local workers? Recent experience at the Staythorpe power station raises doubts on that score. And while employment continues through the decommissioning period, surely the desperate economy of northern Anglesey, especially in these hard times, needs economic diversification and a change of scale rather than these massively expensive monoliths. Planners should bear in mind that renewables create more employment in proportion to energy generated than nuclear.

Phil Steele

**PAWB has an email forum which posts all the latest nuclear news and campaigns correspondence for opponents of nuclear power. If you wish to subscribe to this list contact the moderator: huwjones7@googlemail.com For Facebook users, PAWB participates in a wider-based Stop Wylfa – No Nuclear in Wales site. Do join in. The PAWB website is at <http://www.stop-wylfa.org/>**

# Our Inspiring Cornish Cousins

Last year, three Cornish county councillors asked that the council reconsider its rejection of government requests that the county host a storage site for military and civil radioactive waste, following attempts to persuade local councils in Britain into accepting such waste by offering extra money as a 'sweetener'.

Had the county agreed to host such a site it could have received £billions of Government funds in return for the improvement of infrastructure and public facilities.

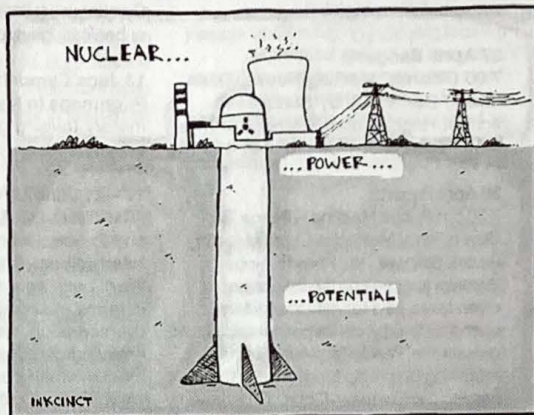
However, the councillors had not anticipated the strength of feeling against such an idea. Dozens of comments were left by readers at [www.thiscornwall.co.uk](http://www.thiscornwall.co.uk) in response to stories on the website and in its sister newspapers and it was these which have been cited as being responsible for a u-turn by councillors – the idea is now dead, done and dusted.

The nuclear waste proposals were described as 'absurd and irresponsible' by Cornish MPs. North Cornwall MP Dan Rogerson, determined that the plans would not be accepted said: 'We will not

accept the Government's bribes. Cornwall should not have to become a dumping ground for hazardous nuclear waste just to get the funding we need for local services. We deserve that as of right.'

'I absolutely oppose the expansion of nuclear power, precisely because it produces tonnes of this waste that nobody knows what to do with. Ministers should not seek to increase the number of areas they infect with this radioactive material; they should simply stop allowing it to be produced.'

The people of Cornwall took the opportunity and made a choice as to whether they preferred short term gain and monetary reward or a sustainable economy for their beautiful county for future generations. Those living around most other nuclear installations and waste sites in Britain have never had that opportunity.



*"Don't mind him. As we take out the coal, he fills in the spaces with nuclear waste."*

# Nuclear power? - that's Andy

In February the campaigning group 'Stop Hinkley' joined a protest outside Buckingham Palace as a formal dinner was being held inside for heads of the nuclear industry. The group joined with campaigners from Shut Down Sizewell, Nuclear Power People and CND. Hundreds of tourists stopped to watch the demonstration which drew attention to the royal family's controversial role in promoting a revival of nuclear power.

The queen's son, Andrew was hosting the event as Britain's 'Special Representative for International Trade and Investment'. Jim Duffy, Stop Hinkley Coordinator said: 'This promotion of nuclear power is a misjudgement which links the royal family with a controversial industry. Local communities are divided on the issue with many concerned about the long-term environmental and health consequences of reviving this previously moribund technology.'

When police searched several campaigners and confiscated a pair of scissors needed for a banner, they justified their zealous behaviour as a 'precaution against possible terrorist acts'. Jim Duffy commented '... building terrorist targets in the shape of nuclear power stations must surely be a much greater threat.'

# CND Cymru reaches out to the world

CND Cymru is in the process of updating their web site. You can now see which groups are in your area. If you represent a group and the details are incomplete, inaccurate or missing, please let the membership secretary know. (see p. 8 for details) We would like to add group e-mail addresses and phone numbers but will do this only with the permission of the group representative, so please let us know how much information you would like us to include on the site. Printable versions of the membership forms are now downloadable from the site. If you have any suggestions for additions to the web site, please let us know. see: [www.cndcymru.org/](http://www.cndcymru.org/) We are doing our best to make it totally bilingual as quickly as possible.



# diary dates

**1 April Central London**  
2:00pm **March and Rally - Tell the G20: Peace - Yes we can!** Join us to say 'Peace - Yes We Can!' to Barack Obama, Gordon Brown and other leaders when the G20 group of the world's most powerful states meets in London. Organised by CND, the Stop the War Coalition, Palestine Solidarity Campaign and the British Muslim Initiative.  
e: [campaigns@cnduk.org](mailto:campaigns@cnduk.org)  
t: 020 7700 2393

**2 April Presteigne**  
7.30pm (Assembly Rooms)  
Film: **The Age of Stupid** (see below)  
To book tickets t: 01544 260 577

**3-4 April Strasbourg**  
**Say No to NATO!** Join CND at the international demonstration marking the 60th anniversary of the founding of NATO. More details, including transport information [www.cnduk.org/index.php/campaigns/no-to-nato](http://www.cnduk.org/index.php/campaigns/no-to-nato)  
t: 020 7700 2393

**4 April Caernarfon**  
11am-1pm (Salem Chapel Vestry)  
**Non-violence course Taster Session**  
**Taster session.** Organised by Arfon Peace and Justice Group. e: [benica@gn.apc.org](mailto:benica@gn.apc.org) t:0286 882 134

**9 April Glascoed**  
**BAE Systems Weapons Factory**  
1.30pm **Maundy Thursday Prayer Vigil** to witness to and to promote the resolution of conflicts by peaceful, non-violent means., outside the main gate Glascoed Weapons Factory on A472 between Usk and Pontypool. Please bring flowers to place at the perimeter fence in memory of people killed by weapons of war. Organised by Penarth Christian Network of Campaign Against Arms Trade. t: 02920 711 943

**13 April AWE Aldermaston Easter Vigil** organised by Christian CND. 12:00pm Meet at Tadley Gate There will be a Liturgy followed by a walk around the base, with prayers at each gate. All are welcome  
[www.ccnd.gn.apc.org/](http://www.ccnd.gn.apc.org/)  
e: [christians@cnduk.org](mailto:christians@cnduk.org)  
t:020 7700 4200

**19 April Narberth**  
7.30pm Queens Hall Film:**The Age of Stupid** (see below) To book tickets **organiser-FoE Cymru** t: 01834 861 212 e: [boxoffice@thequeenshall.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@thequeenshall.org.uk)

**24 April Caernarfon**  
7.30pm The Institute, Pavilion Hill Film **The Power of Community.** Looking at how Cuba transformed its economy when its oil ran out, after the collapse of the Soviet Union in the early nineties. Free entry. From 7pm for a cuppa. Organised by the Wales Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign and Sylfaen Cymunedol. t: 01286 882 134 e: [benica@gn.apc.org](mailto:benica@gn.apc.org),

**24 & 25 April London**  
Imperial War Museum 09:30 onwards  
**Peace History Conference.** Lessons from the past and hope for the future. Registration fee: two days £30 - one day

£25 Full time students: two days £10 - one day £5 Organised by the International Peace Bureau and the Movement for the Abolition of War in association with the Imperial War Museum. Please send cheque payable to 'Movement for the Abolition of War' to: MAW History Conference, 11 Venetia Road, London N4 1EJ t: 01908 511 948 [www.abolishwar.org.uk](http://www.abolishwar.org.uk)

**27 April Bangor**  
7.00 (Friends' Meeting House, Dean Street) **Darfur Talk** by Sudanese activist Hagir Ahmed - Bangor & Ynys Môn Peace & Justice t: 01248 490 715

**30 April Penarth**  
7.30 pm **Public Meeting - Peace Tax Seven** Trinity Methodist Church Meeting Room, Starwell Rd., Penarth. Robin Brookes to speak on the campaign to divert taxes paid for defence/military spending to projects for peacekeeping. At present the Peace Tax Seven are focussing on raising funds to take their case to the European Court. Organised by Penarth Christian Network of CAAT (Campaign Against Arms Trade). t: 029 20 705 458

**28-30 April Mold**  
(Theatr Clwyd) 8pm. film: **Che II** (part two) Che Guevara's revolutionary life

**2 May Machynlleth**  
**All day event for the official launching of the 2009 Victor Jara Festival.** further details :Tony t: 01654 702 166

**15 May Cardiff**  
Conscientious Objectors' Day Event. National Assembly for Wales. Host Bethan Jenkins AM. More details:George Crabb (see contacts) Time to be arranged.

**15 May Brecon**  
(Bishop Bevan Hall) 7.30pm **Public Meeting: 'Peace for Gaza, Palestine and Israel'** with CND Cymru Chair, Jill Evans MEP who visited Gaza and the West Bank on an EU delegation in January. Mike Gatehouse t: 01874 658 564 e: [bpjg@phonecoop.coop](mailto:bpjg@phonecoop.coop)

**16 May Carmarthen**  
**Half an Hour for Peace.** Organised by the Carmarthen cell of Cymdeithas y Cymod. Details from Merend Hopwood t: 07855 868 077 [www.cymdeithasycymod.org.uk](http://www.cymdeithasycymod.org.uk)

**23 May Cardiff**  
10am-6pm **Cardiff Anarchists Book Fair**  
36 Cathays Terrace,

**26 & 27 May Newport (Gwent)**  
Film: **The Age of Stupid** (see below)  
7.45pm (The Riverfront) To book tickets t: 01633 656 757

**27 May London**  
11:00 am **NATO 'die-in'** at Northwood to draw attention to victims of NATO in Afghanistan. Meet outside Northwood tube station for a wedding procession to the gates of this 'military nerve centre' and NATO regional command. Wear symbolic wedding clothes. This day marks 2nd anniversary of a US attack on a wedding party at Haji Nabu, in which 47 civilians were killed. t: 0845 458 2564 [www.voicesuk.org](http://www.voicesuk.org) e: [voices@voicesuk.org](mailto:voices@voicesuk.org)

**29 May Caernarfon**  
7.30pm The Institute, Pavilion Hill Film **Favela Rising.** An inspirational tale of how one man, driven by the murder of his brother, seeks to transform the Brazilian favela using music and the community. Free. Arrive 7pm for a cuppa. Organised by Wales Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign and Sylfaen Cymunedol. t: 01286 882 134 e: [benica@gn.apc.org](mailto:benica@gn.apc.org) t:01286 677 117

**13 June Cymdeithas y Cymod**  
**Pilgrimage to Mynydd Epynt** (now a military training ground)  
e: [cymdeithasycymod@btinternet.com](mailto:cymdeithasycymod@btinternet.com)

**17 - 21 June Liverpool**  
(The Desmond Tutu Centre for War and Peace, Liverpool Hope University) **International Conference 'Cost of War'** Looking at the real costs of war in terms of social division, disintegration, personal loss, environmental, psychological and mental health consequences. [www.hope.ac.uk/costofwar](http://www.hope.ac.uk/costofwar)

**20 June Denbigh**  
8pm Town Hall **Latin America fund-raising Live Salsa Night.**  
t:01745 813 402.

**1-8 August Bala**  
**National Eisteddfod** Free entry to Welsh speakers and learners to help in the Peace Tent t: 01974 831575 e: [coney@gn.apc.uk](mailto:coney@gn.apc.uk)

**14-16 August Machynlleth**  
**Victor Jara Festival.** t: 01654 702 166

**For local group contact details and diary dates see [www.cndcymru.org](http://www.cndcymru.org)**

**please email or write to CND Cymru with any details of upcoming peace & justice related events in your area so that they can be included in our 'events' lists.**

## The Age of Stupid

**At venues around Wales (see above)**  
This new film from Director Franny Armstrong (McLibel) and producer John Battsek (One Day In September) stars Pete Postlethwaite as a man living alone in the devastated future world of 2055, looking at old footage from 2008 and asking: why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance? Sadly, there is only a passing and oblique reference to nuclear power as being undesirable. Highly recommended, entertaining as well as politically interesting - but if you go, do take a friend (or two) who might need convincing that human behaviour needs to be changed if we care about the future of the planet. This will be available as a dvd in May and is well worth showing to friends and relatives - but do try and catch it on the big screen!

Elenydd

Also see: [www.ageofstupid.net](http://www.ageofstupid.net)



**heddwch**  
is the magazine of  
**Wales'**  
**Campaign for Nuclear  
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(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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