

Campaign

Make peace great again!

CND General Secretary **Kate Hudson** writes about why it's important to protest at the upcoming NATO summit.



Our anti-NATO events take place on the 7th and 8th July. The demo will be on the Saturday afternoon and the counter-summit will be on the Sunday. It's just a short trip on the Eurostar so please do join us. Contact enquiries@cnduk.org for more information.

As the world becomes more dangerous by the day, the need for action for peace has never been more vital. This is the starting point for the activities of the 'No to War – No to NATO' international network of which CND is part. For over a decade we have been working together to highlight the dangerous role of NATO as it pursues expansionary and warlike policies on an ever-increasing global front. Its role as a nuclear-armed alliance is at the centre of CND's active opposition to it.

We've marched and organised together at every major summit, not confining ourselves to protest but organising 'counter-summits' to put forward the alternative policies that could bring about a very different world. This year the NATO

summit is taking place in Brussels again and the movement will be organising protest events at which CND will participate.

Since NATO's last summit in 2017 we have seen an escalation of nuclear rhetoric between Trump and North Korea and frequent talk of the possibility of world war three. There may be some improvement around that but now Trump is trying to trash the Iran nuclear deal. This is not a situation that is tolerable for humanity – to live on a roller-coaster of threat and counter-threat, in the shadow of annihilation, and we need to be active together to change this.

The international organising committee has issued an Appeal for participation under the slogan 'Make Peace Great

Again? They highlight the fact that NATO is pressing its members to spend 2% of GDP on military budgets to fund wars and aggression. This is a position that CND shares and which dovetails with our opposition to our government's decision to spend £205 billion on replacing the Trident nuclear weapons system.

The US has announced a \$1 trillion programme for nuclear weapons 'modernization' which includes more 'usable' weapons – outlined in its new Nuclear Posture Review which also increases the contexts in which nuclear weapons will be used. We continue to face the

danger of the US's B61 nuclear bombs – under the auspices of NATO - currently being upgraded and stationed in five countries across Europe – Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy and Turkey.

The Appeal pledges opposition to NATO's nuclear role and urges all governments to sign the nuclear weapon ban treaty and to work towards nuclear disarmament. This is a crucial demand because currently NATO states are being held to hard-line opposition to the treaty. It's time for us to get active against NATO – it really can make a difference.

Groups Spolight

This month: **Crawley CND**

National CND was delighted to recently attend Crawley CND's AGM. It was brilliant to hear about the group's activities over the past year, especially that they've secured a local trade union affiliation. The group's next challenge is to learn about facebook!

NPT PrepCom

Report by **Kate Hudson**, General Secretary

This year's nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) reflects the tension around the global political situation – think Trump, North Korea and Russia for starters. It is also internally conflicted over the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) – opened for signature since the last PrepCom.

The UK repeated its usual mantra that it is a 'responsible' nuclear weapons state that believes 'the best way to achieve multilateral disarmament, is a negotiated step-by-step approach, within existing frameworks.'

Whilst restating its commitment to Article VI it made clear that it would not sign the TPNW.

The UK also announced that it has reduced the number of operationally available warheads to no more than 120 and will further reduce its overall nuclear weapon stockpile to no more than 180 warheads by the middle of the 2020s.

This is all well and good, but whilst singing its own praises and chiding other countries for nuclear development, it completely failed to mention its ongoing Trident replacement programme – price tag £205 bn.



Crawley CND supported the CND tour stop at Brighton pier

If you're a CND member in Crawley or the surrounding area and interested in getting more involved with the group's activities, please get in touch: 01293 542853 or keaveney60@gmail.com.

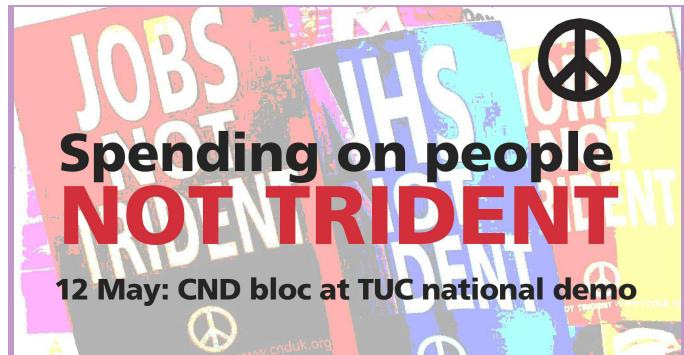
People not Trident

Campaigns Officer **Sara Medi Jones** calls on CND supporters to join the TUC national demonstration.

WE'VE experienced nearly a decade of government cuts to essential public services, but that doesn't mean they get any more acceptable. The most recent revelation is that cuts to the police budget may be partly responsible for an increase in violent crimes. We're also far too aware that our NHS is under-funded, that not enough homes are being built and that our social services are at risk of collapse.

But as for nuclear weapons? In this case, the available funds seem limitless. Work has started on new submarines for replacing Britain's nuclear weapons system, Trident, with a build-budget of £31 billion, with a £10 billion contingency fund. This is a fraction of the total lifetime cost of £205 billion.

This already generous contingency fund won't last very long however, with news of extra costs already leaking. *The Sunday Times* reported last month that a new part for the nuclear submarines will cost five times more than expected. Engineers have revealed that the trim and compensation system will cost £270 million – more than an entire warship. And while the



Assemble from 11am at Victoria Embankment between Hungerford Bridge and Blackfriars Bridge, London. Travel arranged from across the country – more info: information@cnduk.org / 020 7700 2393.

MoD may have been surprised, they will not even consider re-evaluating the project. In fact, the government has refused to disclose any more details in response to a parliamentary question raised by CND.

But CND won't stop confronting the government. That's why we'll be joining the Trades Union Congress national demonstration on May 12th, marching for 'A New Deal for Working People'. Thousands are expected to take to the streets to say the government must change its priorities.

CND will have a 'Spending on People not Trident' bloc. It's a chance to spread our message

that a new nuclear weapons system is a waste of money and that we should instead be spending on the NHS, homes and education. We will also be spreading the message that scrapping Trident's replacement does not have to mean job losses – far more jobs could be created if we invested in different industries.

Government cuts have a devastating human cost. Spending money on weapons of mass destruction which can kill millions could have an even deadlier cost. Let's show the government the support that exists for a different kind of society.

Nuclear power talk – Sheffield

May 9th 7pm-8:30pm,
Sheffield Quaker Meeting
House, 10 St James' St,
Sheffield S1 2EW
■ Contact 01274 730 or
795info@yorkshirecnd.org.uk

**Stop the Killing – Stand
Up for Gaza – 70 Years of
Nakba May 11th** 5:30pm-
7pm, Israeli Embassy, London
■ Contact 020 7700 or
6192info@palestinecampaign.

West Midlands CND AGM

June 2nd 10:30am
Cafe on top of House of Fraser,
Birmingham B2 5JS.
■ Contact wmcndl@gmail.com

Campaigning in the Age of Trump: CND at 60 public lecture

June 4th, 6:30pm-8pm
Wolfson Lecture Theatre,
London School of Economics,
London WC2A 2AE
■ Contact enquiries@cnduk.org
or phone 020 7700 2393

**Hereford Peace Council
Quiz June 8th**, 7pm,
Friends Meeting House, King



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CND 60th anniversary cake – made by Bristol CND

Street, Hereford HR4 9BX

■ Contact 01981 510223 or
carolanson@yahoo.co.uk

Trident and the Labour Party: Wallasey Public Meeting June 9th, 2pm

Venue to be decided.
■ Contact 01516 383967 or
barb.hardcastle@gmail.com

Yorkshire CND Spring Peace & Craft Fair

June 16th, Victoria Hall,
Saltaire, Shipley BD18 3JS
■ To book your stall contact
info@yorkshirecnd.org.uk or
01274 730795

Global Conference to Resist Nuclearisation of Space June 22nd-24th

Friends Meeting House, 43 St
Giles', Oxford OX1 3LW
■ Contact
globalnet@mindspring.com

Bradford vs the Bomb

July 4th, 7:30pm, The Wool
Exchange, Hustlergate, Bradford
■ Contact the venue for tickets.

**Faringdon Peace Group
Grand Fete July 7th**, 2pm-

5pm, Clock House, Coleshill.

■ Contact 01367 241707 or
01367 710308

Nae Nukes Anywhere: Demo at Faslane

September 22nd, Assemble
12 noon, Faslane nuclear base,
Helensburgh G84 0EH.
■ Contact:
hello@nuclearban.scot

Peace Camps Aldermaston Women's Peace Camp

Second weekend of every month.
■ Tel: 07946 676761
info@aldermaston.net
www.aldermaston.net
@Peace_women_AWE

Faslane Peace Camp

Permanent. A814,
Shandon, Helensburgh,
Dumbartonshire G84 8NT.
■ Tel 07376 188216
faslanepeacecamp@protonmail.com

Menwith Hill vigil

Every Tuesday 6-7.30pm.
■ For more info contact Sarah –
01765 600928 or
sswift64@gmail.com